



Autism Network International

presents

Autreat 2009

“Living Life the Autly Way”

June 29 – July 3, 2009
(4 p.m. Monday to 1 p.m. Friday)

Bradford, Pennsylvania



Autreat is a retreat-style conference run by autistic people, for autistic people and our friends.



Autreat focuses on positive living with autism, NOT on causes, cures, or ways to make us more normal.



How Autreat is different from typical autism conferences

Typical autism conferences are *about* autistic people, but are primarily *for* the benefit of researchers, service providers, or families. Autreat is an opportunity for autistic people and those with related developmental differences, our friends, and supporters to come together, discover and explore autistic connections, and develop advocacy skills, all in an autistic-friendly environment. Family members and professionals are welcome to attend, but the structure and content of this event are determined by the interests and sensibilities of autistic people.

Things you will *not* find at Autreat:

- Crowded, noisy hotel or conference center
- Exhausting, intensive schedule
- Inescapable sensory bombardment
- Pressure to interact if you don't want to
- Focus on "celebrities"
- Focus on causes, cures, or ways to make us more normal

Things you *will* find at Autreat:

- Small college campus with plenty of outdoor space to get away and be alone or with friends.
- Smoke-free, perfume-free environment
- Opportunity to explore autistic social contacts, if desired
- Respect for the choice to be left alone, if preferred
- Focus on positive aspects of autism
- Child care for autistic and non-autistic children ages four and up
- Four days of continuous immersion in an autistic-friendly environment

The Facility

Autreat is held in the Bradford campus of University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, approximately 80 miles from Buffalo. The nearest major airport is in Buffalo, New York. There is a small regional airport in Bradford that receives incoming flights from Cleveland, Ohio. The campus has plenty of open space for walking, recreation, and enjoying the outdoors. It has *air-conditioned lodging* in apartment-style residence halls. Apartments have three bedrooms, with two twin-size beds per bedroom. Each apartment also has two bathrooms, a lounge, and a kitchenette with a small refrigerator and a microwave oven. A limited number of apartments have a single queen-size bed instead of two twin-size ones. Private rooms are available at an extra cost and as space allows. Wheelchair-accessible facilities are available.



A special note about social interactions

For some ANI members, meeting other autistic people and having a chance to socialize with others like ourselves is an exciting and wonderful experience. Others are not interested in social contacts and may come to this event just for the presentations. Some of us are interested in socializing some, but need to be able to take time out from interacting. Autreat is meant to provide opportunity, but not pressure, for social interactions.

If you are coming to meet other autistic people, please understand that some people will also want to meet you, but some will not be into meeting people, and their own choice must also be respected.

If you want to come but do not want to meet or talk to people, you are still welcome to attend. You will be given a color-coded badge which you can use to indicate if you want to be approached only by people you already know, or don't want to be approached at all by anyone.

If you are a parent, a teacher, or service provider, and are bringing an autistic child or student or client because you hope the person will make social connections with others, please adopt the same position of providing opportunity, but not pressure.

Program

PRESENTATIONS

We have an exciting lineup of presentations on a variety of subjects of interest to the Autistic community, including disclosure, relationships, parenting, research, advocacy, and more. Check our web site for detailed presentation information.

OPTIONAL CERTIFICATE TRACKS

You may earn a certificate by attending a group of seven presentations chosen to reflect a certain theme. Certificates that will be offered this year: Advocacy, Autistic living and Professional development.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

Autreat has been approved to offer Continuing Education Units through University College, Syracuse University. 1.8 CEUs may be earned by attending all ten presentations, or 1.2 CEUs for attending any seven presentations of your choice.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Autreat participants have access to the campus indoor pool, game room and outdoor sports facilities.

Popular activity leader Larry Lott will be back once again to teach African drumming and dancing, and make-your-own-kalimba.



Partial Registration Options

Fee adjustments are available if you live nearby or wish to stay in a motel off-site and commute to Autreat during the days, or if you wish to provide your own meals instead of having meals in the Autreat dining hall. We can provide a list of nearby motels and restaurants.

If you want to attend only part of Autreat, not all four days, you may register for days only (no lodging). Please see comments in the registration fees section.

If you need personal assistance

ANI is not able to provide personal assistance for people who need help caring for themselves or participating in this program.

If you need help with self-care, communication, orientation, or behavior management, please make your own arrangements to have someone with you to assist you.

Contact ANI or check our web site for more information about this policy.

Community events

Joel and Alauda, both previous Autreat attendees, have chosen to celebrate autistic community through holding their wedding at Autreat. All Autreat attendees are invited to be part of this unique ceremony.

The Autreat community will acknowledge and celebrate our newly adult members. Young adults ages 18-22, or whose 18th birthday will occur during 2009, are invited to participate in this ceremony. All Autreat attendees are invited to attend and celebrate with us.

Child care and activities for kids



The rate for children and teens includes a supervised activity program for all children under 18. Staff:child ratio is approximately 1:6. If your child needs more support than this, please make your own arrangements for an aide.

REGISTRATION FEES

The sums below are in U.S. dollars.

Advance registration is required to attend Autreat. Registration form **MUST** be received before June 15, 2009.

Full registration includes lodging Monday through Thursday nights, and meals from Monday supper through Friday lunch.

FEE CATEGORY	ANI member	Non-member
A Adults with full-time jobs⁽¹⁾	440	460
B Adults without full-time jobs	385	405
C Youth 12-17⁽²⁾	385	405
D Children 6-11⁽³⁾	265	285
E Children under 6, with bed^(2,3)	205	225
F Children under 6, without bed^(2,3)	105	115
G Adults living on disability or public assistance	240	260
H Full-time support people⁽⁴⁾	220	240

Room Key Deposit : \$25 per key (can be included in fee payment, or paid in cash at check-in).

Daily rates: Fees in this table are for DAYTIME ATTENDANCE ONLY and include all meals for a full day, but do not include overnight lodging. People wishing to attend only part of Autreat, and to reserve overnight lodging for less than the full four nights, may contact ANI to check availability and rates.

FEE CATEGORY	ANI member	Non-member
A Adults with full-time jobs⁽¹⁾	91.50	98.50
B Adults without full-time jobs	76.50	81.50
C Youth 12-17⁽²⁾	76.50	81.50
D Children 6-11⁽²⁾	46.50	51.50
E Children under 6⁽²⁾	31.50	36.50
G Adults living on disability or public assistance	40.50	45.50
H Full-time support people⁽⁴⁾	35.50	40.50

Note 1: We realize that not all full-time jobs are high paying. If you have a full-time job but can't afford this rate, add a note explaining this, and you may register at the rate for adults without full-time jobs.

Note 2: The rate for children and teens includes a daytime activity program for children under 18. Staff:child ratio is approximately 1:6. If your child needs more support than this, please make your own arrangements for an aide.

Note 3: For children under age 6, families may bring their own portable cribs or cots, so a young child can sleep in the same room with two other family members. In that case, the child would be charged the Category F rate. If the child is sharing the room with only one other family member, Category E applies.

Note 4: This rate is for people who are attending Autreat for the purpose of providing support for a disabled person who could not participate without a FULL-TIME helper. Examples are personal care attendants for adults and 1:1 aides for children.

Work Shift Rebate

Adults and teens paying for the full 4 days, meals, and overnights may earn a \$20 work rebate. Pay the full cost when registering. The rebate will be given upon completion of a work shift during Autreat. Full-time support people are not eligible for work shift rebates; their rate is set \$20 lower than anyone else's because we don't expect them to have time to do a work shift while also providing full-time support for another person.

Partial Registration Options

For full-time registration: If attending days only, but making your own lodging arrangements off-site: Subtract \$25 per person per day (except children in category F). Please indicate **Days only** on registration form.

If making your own meal arrangements and not eating meals provided by Autreat: Subtract \$27.50 per person per day for ADULTS and YOUTH; subtract \$13.75 per person per day for CHILDREN 6-11; no fee adjustment for children under 6. Please indicate **No meals** on registration form.

Room Options

Standard room: single bed in a 2-bed room, with one roommate (included with registration, no extra fee).

Option for couples: queen-size bed instead of two single beds (no extra fee, just indicate preference on registration form).

Private room: standard room with 2 single beds, but no roommate (add \$25 per night).

Private room with queen-size bed and private bathroom (add \$40 per night).

On-site Camping

Tent spaces are \$10 per night (bring your own tent!), and do not include any hookups. *Parking spaces for RVs* are \$18 per night without hookups, or \$33 per night with electrical hookups. Campers have access to bathroom/shower facilities in a residence hall.

REGISTRATION FORM

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND AUTREAT. REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 15, 2009

Please fill in both sides of this form, and send it together with payment, in US dollars, to:

Autism Network International, P.O. Box 35448, Syracuse, NY 13235-5448, USA

Please list names of all family members who will attend, and ages of any children under 18.

Name	Age (If under 18)	Days attending (Specify which days, or write "All")	Fee category (A-H, see above)	Special requests (Days only, no meals, camping etc.)

Make sure the reverse side is filled in, too!

Autism Network International
P.O. Box 35448
Syracuse, NY 13235-5448
USA

For more information...

ANI can provide information about transportation to Bradford from the Buffalo airport, train and bus stations, and about pre-Autreat lodging for people who need to arrive before Monday to get lower airline fares. Check the web site or contact ANI for details.

For additional information on Autreat 2009:

Email registration@autreat.com

Phone 315-476-2462 (leave message)

or for ongoing Autreat updates and discussion online, join:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/autreatinfo>

For general Autreat information via Internet, check out our web site:

<http://www.autreat.com>

ANI thanks



Center on Human Policy, Law, and Disability Studies

for its sponsorship and support of Autreat

REGISTRATION FORM (continued)

Address _____

City/State or Province/Zip or postal code _____

Country _____ Email _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____

ANI member household? yes no (If one person in the household is an ANI member, *everyone* in the household is eligible for the ANI member rate.)

If no, would you like to join? Add \$15 (for residents of United States, Canada, or Mexico) or \$20 (for all other countries) to total.

Optional additional donation _____ (This will be used for scholarships and Autreat program enhancement.)

Total enclosed: _____

If alternate materials format is needed, please indicate: Braille Large Print Tape Disk

If wheelchair accessible lodging is needed, please indicate: _____

If you have any other accessibility needs, please indicate them on an additional sheet.

Upon receipt of your registration, you will be sent a packet containing additional information including directions, a map to the campus, and menu information.