



Sunday, April 24 at Somerset Collection

7:30am – 11:00am

Walk 4 Autism – What to Expect....

We understand the more information you have going into a new experience or activity, the better your overall experience will be. This event is more than just a Walk event; it's an opportunity to truly celebrate our loved ones touched by autism. You can let your guard down, relax, and enjoy a family outing. If there is a meltdown or transitional issue, don't worry about what everyone is thinking, because we all "get it." Thank you for being active in improving the lives of those impacted by autism spectrum disorders.

Sincerely,

The Autism Society Oakland County Walk Planning Committee

The Day of the Walk

One of the benefits of holding our event at Somerset Collection is the ease in getting to the venue. The address is 2800 West Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48084 for your GPS. Parking will be available in the parking garage attached behind the North Building.

Arrival

Registration will be held from 7:30 - 8:45 am

There will be three Registration/Check-In tables

- On-site registration - for people who have not already registered online for the walk
- Check-In for A-L - make sure you check-in when you arrive
- Check-In for M-Z - make sure you check-in when you arrive

Anyone who registers on the day of the walk will need to fill out a Release form for each person who is walking. This form will be on the back side on the on-site registration for them to complete.

We will have soft ear plugs available at check-in/registration if you would like to use them to reduce the noise from the mall.

Our registration area, craft area, item raffle, live music, micro-businesses, resource fair, sensory area are all on the first floor of Somerset North. They will all be open at 7:30 am.

Team Donation/Payment

Bringing in a donation for your team? Did you check "pay at the door" when you registered? Please visit our cashiers to give your donation or pay for the walk. We will accept cash, credit and checks.

Tshirts

If you registered before April 8, 2016, you chose a t-shirt. After you have checked in, you can pick up your shirt. If you would like to show your pride, you are welcome to wear your own special Team t-shirts. Unfortunately, if you did not register before April 8th you will not be guaranteed to get a shirt. We will be setting out the remaining shirts and some Autism Society ball caps at 10am for any of those who have not received a shirt.

Raffle

We will be selling raffle tickets for a chance to win 8 different items. The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. There will be a sign telling you where you can purchase the tickets and boxes in front of each of the raffle items for you to choose from. You can put one ticket in each box or all of your tickets in one box.



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Stretch

There will be a yoga stretch lead by the Far Flyers Hockey Team from 9am – 9:15am. They will be leading from up on the stage in the main courtyard. They will use a microphone to give instructions so you can follow them even if you cannot see them. You do not need to take part in the stretch just have fun.

Where is the Walk route?

Our walk will begin at 9:15am. The Walk will take place on the first floor of Somerset north. We will begin in the middle and move clockwise around the mall following all four corners of the lower level.

Vendors will be offering information on a wide variety of topics in our resource area along the walking route. You can stop by to visit them whenever you would like.

There will also be micro-businesses operated by individuals with special needs who will offer their goods and services for sale during the walk. You can stop and purchase items from them at any time during the walk. The vendors will stop selling items by 10:45am, so make sure you stop by before they close.

What entertainment will be at the event?

Our entertainment will begin just around 7:30 am, and you won't want to miss it!

Get loose!

The Far Flyers Hockey team will lead us all in an adaptive yoga stretch before the walk.

Bring on the music!

Our Walk Day tunes will be provided by DJ Mikester. We do understand that some of our guests may experience some sensory discomfort to sound, so we will keep the music at a reasonable level. There are also ear plugs available at the registration area.

There will be live music from the Far drummers in the area in front of Macy's.

The Kaufman Children's Center Sensory Room will be on the main floor. There will be signs to direct you. The sensory room will be open at 7:30 am. You can visit there at any time during the walk to relax and have some fun or if you are feeling overwhelmed and need a break.

Get crafty!

The Art Experience will be bringing items for a craft area on the main floor in the area in front of Nordstrom. You can stop by and make a craft whenever you are ready.

How will it end?

We will gather back in the center atrium at 10:15am. If you are still visiting the vendors, micro-businesses or sensory area just make sure you can hear the announcements we will be making from the stage or have someone from your group come to the center atrium to hear the announcements for your group.

At this time to item raffle winners will be announced. Those with winning ticket numbers can go to the raffle table to claim their prize.

We will also announce the top 4 fundraising teams. Each member of these 4 teams will receive a walk medal. All of the teams who have taken part in the walk will receive a team certificate. Whether you are on one of the top 4 teams or have come by yourself, know that we are thankful to have you there and are honored to have your support.

Once we have acknowledged the walkers and sponsors, we will thank all who have taken part and conclude our walk for this year.



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Will there be photos taken?

Yes! We can't wait to see all our wonderful walkers!! Photographers will be walking around and taking Team photos throughout the walk. Have a great time and smile on!!

Will there be food & beverages?

The North Face will offer a bottled water station and light snacks available (gluten and casein free) and these are FREE for all walk attendees. If you have a special diet, please feel free to bring something.

Are pets allowed at the walk?

Sorry, but pets are not allowed at the walk. The mall has strict rules regarding bringing pets inside.

Are strollers and wheelchairs allowed at the Walk?

Yes. Strollers, wheelchairs, and even wagons for the little ones are all welcome.

Are bikes, rollerblades, scooters or skateboards allowed at the Walk?

For everyone's safety, the mall does not allow any of these items.