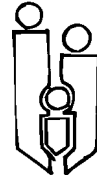


# AUTISM AND FAITH

Task Force



Please help us to better understand the faith needs of the autism community by sharing your stories and returning this brief survey.

## Survey

Does your family member with autism currently participate in a congregation?  YES  NO

If YES, in what ways?

- attends religious education classes  attends youth group meetings  
 choir  attends church/mosque/synagogue/temple services  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

If they *DO NOT* currently participate, and you would like them to do so, in what ways would you like to become involved?

\_\_\_\_\_

What supports or measures, if any, do you feel would be necessary to make this happen?

\_\_\_\_\_

What sort of information would help you to facilitate the inclusion of people with autism and their families in your congregation's life and worship? Please rank in order of importance.

- recommendations for religious educational materials suited to learners with autism  
 resources to share with congregational leaders on the value of inclusion  
 tips and strategies for successful inclusion  
 training opportunities for clergy and/or religious educators  
 other (please be specific) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Call for Stories

Do you know an individual with autism who has been welcomed by your religious community? Was there a special moment when your congregation embraced someone with autism? Have you helped a person with autism achieve an important religious milestone (Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or something else) and witnessed your congregation's celebration of this success? What other ways have your congregation and/or clergy or religious educators been helpful? Perhaps your experience has not been positive. We would love to hear your story.

We are an interfaith group of professionals and parents from a variety of religious communities and from the autism advocacy community. We are working toward producing a resource book and a conference that would help a wide range of religious congregations welcome people with autism. We are looking for stories and strategies to help families, clergy and congregations work together for successful inclusion.

Please return this survey and send your stories (*include your name and contact information*) to:

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