

## "Don't Talk at the Dinner Table" "Let's Talk About IT"

ASD: Autism Spectrum Disorder

Panelists: Troney Small and Ida Winters, Milwaukee Autism Project Leah Jepson, Milwaukee Coalition for Children's Mental Health (CCMH)

Presented by Table of the Saints, Inc.

Please join us at our monthly discussion Wednesday, September 12, 2018 Doors open at 5:30 pm

6:00 – 8:00 pm.

Welford Sanders Enterprise Center 2821 N. Vel R. Phillips Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Community Room



Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that affects an individual's ability to communicate (e.g., the ability to use language to express one's needs) and the ability to engage in social interaction (e.g., the ability to engage in joint attention). Additionally, the individual may have a restricted range of interests or repetitive behavior. Skill deficits and challenges associated with ASD will vary greatly from child to child. No two children with autism are the same. Each will have his/her own individual strengths and challenges associated with autism.

Autism is considered to be a spectrum disorder because some individuals may have autism with cognitive limitations, while others are only mildly affected by autism. Although ASD is a life-long disability, many individuals show significant progress with treatment, and have the ability to independently participate in learning, social, and community activities with typically developing peers (e.g., attend typical learning environments). For some individuals with autism, early intensive behavioral intervention (EIBI) can result in growth and learning so that, eventually, the individual no longer meets the criteria for autism.

## **Autism Facts**

- ASD is 4 times more common in males than females.
- As of 2016, ASD affects 1 in 68 children. 1 in 42 boys and 1 in 189 girls.
- Autism is found throughout the world and amongst all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- The cause of autism is unknown.
- Individuals with ASD have a normal life span.
- ASD runs in families. The level of impairment can vary significantly between family members.

## Table of the Saints, Inc.

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