



Firefly Autism

October Newsletter

2025

Welcome to the October Newsletter!

The colors of October remind us how change can be beautiful—and that growth is always possible. At Firefly Autism, that spirit is alive in every success story and every new skill learned. We're excited to share this month's highlights, upcoming events, and the continued impact of your support.

There's so much happening at Firefly—be sure to read on for all the fun events and opportunities ahead!



Firefly Success Stories



A Moment of Bravery on the Playground

One of our learners had been quietly watching another child on the playground for weeks, always wanting to say hello but feeling too shy. Then, one day, he took a deep breath, turned to his teacher, and said, “I think I’m gonna be brave.”

With a smile, he called out across the fence, “Hi! I’m shy!” — a sweet, funny, and wonderfully courageous moment that captured the heart of everyone who saw it.

At Firefly, we celebrate these moments of courage—big or small—that light the way toward growth and connection. 



Upcoming Events



Firefly Autism's Open House!

You're invited to Firefly Autism's Open House! Join us to explore our programs, meet our dedicated team, and discover the impact we're making together. Enjoy refreshments, connect with our community, and see firsthand how we help every individual shine.

- Saturday, November 15th
- 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Firefly Autism, 2001 Hoyt Street. Lakewood, CO 80125

Join us for this informative and welcoming event to learn more about Firefly Autism, our programs, and the people behind our mission—please **RSVP by November 10th**.



FIREFLY AUTISM

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OPEN HOUSE



Saturday, November 15th, 2025

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

2001 Hoyt St. Lakewood, CO 80215

- Tour Firefly Autism
- Learn about our programs
- Meet our staff
- Ask questions



For more info:
303-759-1192



Email us:
info@fireflyautism.org

[**RSVP HERE!**](#)

Upcoming Events



Firefly Autism's 4th Annual Sensory Friendly Pictures!

Firefly Autism is excited to host its 4th Annual Sensory Friendly Pictures!

- Saturday, December 6th
- 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Firefly Autism, 2001 Hoyt Street. Lakewood, CO 80125

Families are invited to take pictures with Santa, the Grinch, and/or a Winter Wonderland backdrop in a calm, sensory-friendly environment. Guests can also enjoy a hot chocolate and cookie bar, explore resources from our community partners, and watch a holiday movie.

Don't miss this festive, family-friendly celebration—please **RSVP by November 22nd**.



RSVP HERE!

Volunteer with Us!

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make our 4th Annual Sensory Friendly Pictures event a success! From greeting families and assisting with activities to serving hot chocolate and cookies, there are plenty of ways to get involved. If you'd like to spread holiday cheer while supporting our Firefly community, sign up today!

[Volunteer Signup!](#)

Upcoming Events



We are excited to announce the..

15th Annual Firefly Autism Luminescent Gala!

Firefly Autism is excited to announce the 15th Annual Firefly Luminescent Gala—back with a fresh new energy and dazzling new look that will light up the evening in every way!

 Thursday, April 23, 2026
 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM
 Seawell Ballroom at the DCPA

This year's celebration will feature an exclusive live performance by Kodi Lee, the extraordinary America's Got Talent winner, whose inspiring voice and story will make this night truly unforgettable. Guests will enjoy live and silent auctions, a paddle raise, and more—all in support of Firefly's mission to illuminate the path for individuals with autism.

 Don't miss this magical evening of inspiration, connection, and celebration. Stay tuned to RSVP next month!



15th Annual Firefly Autism Luminescent Gala

Thursday, April 23, 2026
5:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Seawell Ballroom at the DCPA

An evening of inspiration, connection, and celebration.

*For more information, please contact
Craig Baldwin at cbaldwin@fireflyautism.org*



Happy Halloween!

From Firefly Autism



Firefly's Speech-Language Pathologist and Occupational Therapist share
their top tips and tricks to help make this your best Halloween yet!

Halloween fun can sometimes bring big sensory and communication challenges—but a little preparation can make all the difference! Our Occupational Therapists (OT) and Speech-Language Pathologists (SLP) share their favorite ways to make this spooky season a success for every child.

Sensory-Friendly Halloween Tips

1. Keep Comfort First:

Choose soft fabrics, remove tags, and consider adaptive costumes.

2. Plan sensory breaks:

Bring noise-canceling headphones or comfort items, and take quiet breaks as needed.

3. Stay safe:

Add reflective tape or glow sticks and visit well-lit, accessible areas.

4. Try alternatives:

Trunk-or-Treat or at-home trick-or-treating can be great low-sensory options.

5. Practice interactions:

Role-play “trick or treat” and “thank you” at home before heading out.

6. Use visuals:

A simple schedule helps kids know what's next and reduces anxiety.

7. Prepare communication tools:

Program Halloween phrases on AAC devices ahead of time.

8. Go early:

Trick-or-treating before dark can make it calmer and more engaging.



With a little planning, Halloween can be fun, empowering, and full of connection for everyone. Have a happy—and sensory-friendly—Halloween from all of us at Firefly Autism!



Get Involved

Every person deserves the chance to thrive—and at Firefly, we're committed to making that possible through donor support. Many of our learners face up to a \$2,000 monthly gap between the cost of care and what insurance covers. Thanks to generous donors, children who arrived nonverbal and overwhelmed are now communicating, regulating emotions, and engaging with the world.

Monthly gifts of \$50, \$100, or \$250 help us continue delivering this life-changing care, regardless of a family's financial situation. Your support powers programs like Transition to Work, our sensory garden, and community-based adult services. Help turn barriers into breakthroughs—one Firefly at a time. Donate to Firefly today by following the link below:



[**Donate HERE!**](#)



MAKE A WISH COME TRUE!

You can support Firefly Autism by helping to provide our center with niche items our regular funding does not provide. Curious about what we need? Check out our newly curated wish list.

[WISHLIST](#)

HAVE A GREAT MONTH!

Thanks for being part of our community. We truly value our supporters, our readers, our staff, and our community.

We hope you have a great month and we will check in again with you in November.

As always, you can make a one-time or recurring donation to Firefly through our giving partner, **ColoradoGives**, anytime. Thanks for everything!

[DONATE](#)



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