



Firefly Autism

January Newsletter

2026

Welcome to the January Newsletter!

As we step into a new year, we are filled with gratitude and excitement for what lies ahead. At Firefly Autism, the beginning of 2026 is a time for fresh goals, renewed energy, and continued growth as our learners build on their strengths and reach new milestones. Each day brings new opportunities for learning, connection, and joy.

As we welcome the year ahead, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to you. Your ongoing support, encouragement, and trust make everything we do possible. Thank you for being an essential part of the Firefly community and for helping us create brighter futures, one meaningful moment at a time.



Access Barriers to Day Treatment Services for Autistic Adults

Dr. Kelly writes about Colorado's ongoing challenges in ensuring timely access to services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She highlights the state's long-term strategic plan, the introduction of person-centered assessment tools, and the progress made in

reducing waitlists. At the same time, she underscores that thousands of individuals are still waiting for critical adult waiver services, pointing to persistent gaps that continue to impact individuals and families across Colorado.

Want to read more about Access Barriers to Day Treatment Services for Autistic Adults? Click the link below to read the full article.

[Read the Full Article Here](#)



Dr. Amanda Kelly
President & CEO of Firefly Autism

Handwritten signature of Amanda J. Kelly.



Firefly's Training & Education

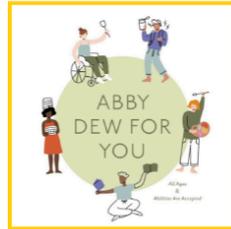
Firefly Autism's recent success in securing new contracts for training and education marks an exciting step forward in our work and impact. These partnerships allow us to expand access to high-quality, neuro-affirming learning opportunities while strengthening the systems that support autistic individuals and the professionals who serve them.

By growing our training and education footprint, we continue to live out our mission of empowering autistic individuals experiencing access barriers to thrive, ensuring more

communities have the knowledge, tools, and confidence to create inclusive, supportive environments.



✨ Together, We're Expanding Access ✨



Interested in learning more about training and education through Firefly? Follow the link below!

[Visit our Website to Learn More!](#)

Upcoming Events



You are invited to 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. Buy your tickets now!



The poster features a dark blue background with a faint piano keyboard pattern. In the top left corner is the Firefly Autism logo, which consists of a colorful, multi-petaled flower shape above the text "Firefly" and "AUTISM" in smaller letters. The text "Firefly Presents..." is written in a white, elegant cursive font at the top center. Below this is a portrait of Kodi Lee, a young man with dark hair, wearing a black shirt, looking upwards with a slight smile. To the left of the portrait, the date "April 23, 2026" is written in white, underlined. To the right, "Seawell Ballroom" is written in white, also underlined. At the bottom of the poster, the name "Kodi Lee" is written in a large, white, flowing cursive font. Below the name, the text "AMERICA'S GOT TALENT SEASON 14 WINNER!" is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

[Buy Your Tickets Here!](#)



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 learner 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 February.

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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