



# Firefly Autism

## March Newsletter

### 2026

### Welcome to the March Newsletter!

As March comes to a close, we reflect on a season filled with growth, connection, and meaningful progress. At Firefly Autism, it has been incredible to watch our learners continue to build skills, gain confidence, and shine in their own unique ways. This month has been a powerful reminder that growth is a journey, supported by patience, consistency, and the strong relationships that uplift our learners each and every day.



### Vaccines & Autism: What's New?

There is a lot of information and misinformation surrounding vaccines and autism, which can make it difficult for families to know what to trust. This article breaks down the latest research and clarifies what we currently know, helping readers better understand the science and ongoing conversation.

[Read the Full Article Here](#)



Dr. Amanda Kelly  
President & CEO of Firefly Autism



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## Learner Success Stories

### **Learner Success Stories from the Training & Education Partnership with St. Joseph's of Cupertino:**

One of the goals of this program is to create meaningful opportunities for inclusion by bringing learners together and encouraging connection between peers with and without disabilities.

Recently, that goal came to life during a simple lunchroom interaction.

A group of general education learners noticed one of our learners and was curious about his speech device and began asking questions. The learner eagerly showed them how he communicates, even using his device to answer their questions. When they asked his name, he proudly selected it himself, turning a moment of curiosity into a genuine connection.

### **Learner Success Stories from a Training & Education Partnership:**

When one of our Training and Education partners began their journey with Firefly Autism, they were searching for tools to better understand their child's perspective and how to support them beyond their own experiences. Through the program, they gained meaningful strategies to connect and interact more effectively.

Just as importantly, their child developed communication skills that helped them better express their needs. For this family, Firefly provided exactly what they were hoping for, and they wholeheartedly recommend the program to other families navigating autism.

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## **Upcoming Events**



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## **15th Annual Firefly Autism Luminescent Gala!**

Firefly Autism is thrilled to share that the 15th Annual Firefly Luminescent Gala is just 23 days away! This year's celebration is bringing bold new energy and a dazzling new look that promises to light up the night like never before.

The excitement starts early with our silent auction opening on April 16th at 10:00 AM, giving you a head start on incredible items and experiences. Sponsorship opportunities are almost gone, so don't wait and secure yours now and be part of an unforgettable evening in support of our learners!

 **17** <sup>July</sup> Thursday, April 23, 2026

 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM

 Seawell Ballroom at the DCPA

✨ Don't miss this magical evening of inspiration, connection, and celebration. Buy your tickets now!



*15th Annual*  
**Firefly Autism  
Luminescent Gala**

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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  
[development@fireflyautism.org](mailto:development@fireflyautism.org)*

[Buy Your Tickets Here!](#)

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**Sign Up Now for Firefly Autism's Summer  
Camps!**

## ✨ Introducing Camp Spark, Firefly's 2026 Summer Camp! ✨

We're so excited to launch this new experience designed for neurodivergent learners to explore, create, and build confidence in a supportive, fun environment.

-  Small groups
-  Hands-on activities
-  Social skill building
-  Inclusive and safe space
-  Lakewood, CO
-  June 1 to July 31
-  Ages 3 to 14

Be part of our very first Camp Spark sessions. Spots are limited!



**FIREFLY  
AUTISM**



# CAMP SPARK

Designed for **neurodivergent** learners where curiosity, creativity and confidence are sparked.

**Ages: 3 - 14**

**June 1 - July 31**

Lakewood, CO

Each 2 Week Session

**\$850**

### Session Dates:

- June 1 - 12: Animal Adventures
- June 15 - 26 Spark Labs (STEM)
- July 6 - 17: Hero Academy
- July 20 - 31: Spark Studio (Arts and Music)

For more info, visit our website at the address below!

### Why Camp Spark?

- Small group sizes
- Staff experienced with neurodivergent learners
- Structured activities and play
- Build friendships and social confidence
- Inclusive, safe, supportive environment



**Registration : [fireflyautism.org](http://fireflyautism.org)**

**[info@fireflyautism.org](mailto:info@fireflyautism.org)**

**Sign Up Here!**



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Firefly Autism is partnering with the Colorado Department of Education to strengthen support for students across Colorado. Through this collaboration, school districts can access free behavior consultation, coaching, and professional development tailored to their unique needs.

Together, we're building stronger systems and more inclusive schools.



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www.fireflyautism.org

Firefly Autism & Colorado Department of Education

## Free Behavior Consultation Resource for School Districts

Provided by CDE Technical Assistance Center and Firefly Autism, this resource is empowering schools to better support autistic students and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, especially in rural Colorado communities.

### What We Provide:

- **Expert Consultation**
  - Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) deliver individualized consultation and coaching to teachers, support staff, administrators, and other personnel.
- **Customized Staff Training**
  - Targeted professional development aligned with identified needs, priorities, and systems improvement goals.
- **Systems Development & Support**
  - Guidance on strengthening schoolwide frameworks to promote values-driven and person-centered support.

### How it Works & Our Impact:

- School staff complete the Behavior Consult Request form (scan QR code below).
- A virtual consultation meeting is scheduled.
- Coaching, resource development, and support are provided as needed.
- Open to all Colorado school districts.
  - Focused on support for rural communities.
- Contact us for more information or with any questions.



Scan here for the Firefly/CDE Behavior Consult Request Form



info@fireflyautism.org

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

Visit Our Website



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## 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 April.

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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