

Reaching Out to Families of Children with Autism!

The Association For Community Living Receives \$13,300 Grant from The Community Foundation

One out of every 150 children is diagnosed with Autism. Often-times, the road that follows this diagnosis can be confusing and difficult for families. The Association For Community Living is always searching for ways to help local parents and children navigate this road.

Thanks to a \$13,300 grant from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, The Association will create a dynamic project that will help these families . . .

Community Resources for People with Autism, a division of The Association, will use this grant to fund a project to assist parents in advocating for their child in our complex educational systems. The project, *Autism Special Education Project for Parents*, will provide educational advocacy training. This training will be unique because in addition to the workshops that are provided, the training will also be available on DVD – so information is conveniently accessible to parents who cannot travel long distances or leave their children at night.

Community Foundation funded the award with the Albert Steiger Memorial Fund and the Board Discretionary Grantmaking Fund. The Community Foundation was founded in 1991 and serves Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties.