



TURNING POINTE

A U T I S M F O U N D A T I O N



FALL 2009

Naperville City Council Approves Plans 9-0

Turning Point Autism
Foundation
PO Box 9203
Naperville, IL 60564
1-800-518-5099
1-630-815-3358
contact@turningpointeaf.org

Executive Board of Directors

Randy Wolf
Kim Wolf
Kevin Gallaher
Russ Paluch
Gary Vonck

Project Partners

Nyberg & Cassioppi, LLC
System 27 Corporation
Triangle 2 Resource
Development Group
Newman Architecture
Hitchcock Design
V3 Companies

IN THIS ISSUE

Unanimous Project Approval	1
Camp Access 2009	1
Development Team Progress Report	2
Turning Pointe Receives a \$2 Million Donation from Canadian National Railway	2
Naperpalooza 2 Raised Funds for Turning Pointe	2
Thank You	2

The Turning Pointe Project went before the Naperville Plan Commission for the first time on June 17th. Neighbors expressed concerns about the size of the buildings and the impact the project would have on their property values. After several meetings with the commission and staff, the Turning Pointe plan was finally approved by the Naperville Plan Commission on August 5th and the plans went to the Naperville City Council for review.

The project went before the Council on Tuesday, September

15th, with no neighbors voicing objections. The Naperville City Council unanimously approved the plans to build both the school and recreation center on our 6.44 acre site west of Naper-Plainfield Road, between Saratoga and Hamlet roads on the city's south side.

The campus will be constructed in 2 Phases. The school and recreation center will open in the fall of 2011. The residential facilities, which will be Phase 2 will open in 2012.

Kevin Gallaher, president of

Turning Pointe Autism Foundation stated at the council meeting, "If we can be part of the solution and help build awareness and help strengthen the education programs...I think that will benefit our community and our society."

The Turning Pointe board is very pleased with City Council recognition of the need for our facility and for their unanimous support to make it a reality for the children with autism in our community.

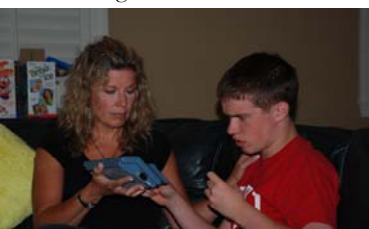
By Kim Wolf

Camp Access 2009

Camp Access was designed to support those individuals who have a diagnosis of ASD and are impacted in their ability to self regulate, communicate verbally and tend to need 1:1 support to complete directions, activities and remain focused.

Camp Access, uses trained staff to organize and support the campers, we provide a highly structured program, use visual schedules, supports and multi access methods for communication. Some of our campers use augmentative devices but we also provide language boards, icons and point boards so our campers can fully communicate their needs and wants.

We recognize that challenges related to communication and regulation can lead to behaviors. So we ensure that our campers have behavior supports in place. Token economy plans, positive reinforcement and escalation interventions when it all gets too much!



Camp Access is unique, because it offers our campers a small camp environment (no more than ten campers) with a high staff to student ratio.

The campers have an individual visual schedule and a daily program that specifically meets their needs, for example, if a camper requires frequent sensory input then their schedule will reflect this need.

We work on skill mastery by defining each part of a routine, and defining what skills the student will need to master in order for them to access the whole routine, it could be dressing, toileting, making a snack, packing their backpack at the end of the day.

Each student has an individual behavior support plan; we ask that parents disclose all behaviors, frequent or less apparent so we can be fully aware of the supports we need to provide the student.

The students are supported by a variety of staff; a speech and lan-

guage pathologist, a special education teacher, an Autism program support specialist, a recreation therapist and ABA therapist. We are all familiar and experienced in TEACCH supports, Social Stories, PECS, ABA, communication through typing, Sensory Integration and positive behavior support plans.

The students are not only well supported but our main goal is to increase their independence skills, through their ability to understand what triggers anxiety/behavior and what strategies they can use to decrease the need for avoidance/meltdown behaviors.

CAMP ACCESS provides those students who benefit from a high degree of adult/environmental supports a positive and fun filled Camp.

- Session 1: August 3-7**
- Session 2: August 10-14**
- Session 3: August 17-21**



Development Team Progress Report

By Drew Glassford

This summer has been very busy for the Turning Pointe development team. Our firm, System 27 Corporation, was engaged as the Owner's development manager to begin the development process. Newman Architecture was selected as the project architect, V3 was selected as the project engineer, and Hitchcock Design was selected to provide land planning and landscape design services. We are very excited about working with all of these excellent project partners toward making the Turning Pointe campus a vibrant and functional educational and recreational facility.

Over the summer, Newman began finalizing the schematic design drawings for the Board of Director's approval. System 27

worked closely with Newman on the schematic design to insure that the project's budget is met. We researched mechanical system and lighting options to be sure we are providing the best learning environment possible for our students. We will also be researching Green Building materials and systems in the coming months for incorporation into the project's design. V3 will be obtaining Will County approval of our access drives and coordinating the final site drawings with Newman.

The City approval process included many staff and three Plan Commission meetings. We addressed concerns raised by neighbors and the commissioners and received Plan Commission approval on August 5th. We

then received full City Council approval on September 15th.

The operational budget has been refined to reflect projected expenses as experienced by other private autism schools in our area. We have also been in contact with the Illinois Department of Human Services and determined an accurate value for the per diem we will be receiving from the school districts for the students, as well as identifying the licensing timeline and requirements.

The coming months will see the refinement of our building design, collaboration with other care providers and school districts on the design and programs, and continued work with the City's development team.



Turning Pointe Receives a \$2 million Donation from Canadian National Railway

By Drew Glassford

Turning Pointe Autism Foundation is excited to announce that it has signed an agreement with Canadian National Railway to secure a \$2 million funding commitment for our Autism Academy. The agreement sets specific milestones and timelines for the funds to be issued, some of which has been met and the funding received. We are very

grateful to Canadian National for their commitment to provide support for making a difference in the lives of children and families impacted by autism. Founded in 1832, Canadian National Railway is a transportation company that offers integrated transportation services including rail, intermodal, trucking, freight forwarding, warehousing

and distribution throughout North America. In 1999 Canadian National took control of the Illinois Central railway, giving it a local presence in the Naperville Community. Canadian National is committed to building safer and stronger communities and supports the efforts of Turning Pointe Autism Academy.

Naperpalooza 2 raised Funds for Turning Pointe

By Donna Mathewson

On February 7th Naperville's Sunrise Rotary Club held Naperpalooza 2. Presented by Dan Wolf Automotive Group, this unique Rock & Roll Party featured the world famous Afrodisiacs disco band. Those who attended the event were treated not only to fantastic music but also to a buffet



of gourmet food from Naperville's finest chefs.

Naperpalooza 2 was a great success raising funds for the Turning Pointe Autism Foundation. Turning Pointe was among a number of recipients which benefited from the generous donations made by the citizen's of Naperville.

Camp Access thanks all our generous supporters

It is through the continued support of our donors and business supporters that Camp Access and Turning Pointe are fulfilling dreams. A special thank you to all the businesses who helped support of Camp this summer and helped to make it so successful.