

Unique as Pete: How Autism Does Not Mean Different

BIOGRAPHY

Autism Society of North Central Indiana, South Bend Chapter

The Autism Society of North Central Indiana, South Bend Chapter (ASNCISB) consists of a group of parents who have autistic children and who want to share their knowledge and success stories so that others may learn how to meet the challenges associated with autism. Statistics show that one in every 150 children is affected by autism and hundreds of these children don't receive the scientifically proven educational services they need and deserve. The ASNCISB works with the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College students who provide them with quality services at a minimal fee. Through that relationship and each member family's personal experiences, the group has learned a lot about how to better understand and treat autism.

Using that knowledge, the group hopes to raise awareness on how autistic spectrum disorders and developmental disabilities affect children and families. They want to bring doctors, health professionals, therapists, teachers, care givers and educational institutions together to help identify and treat individuals affected by these disabilities. The group works to combine a variety of innovative and proven methods of therapy to aid in the understanding and treatment of autism and developmental disabilities.

The Appreciating Autism book series has been developed to help raise funds so that the ASNCISB can realize its goal of opening an Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) center where even more families can learn how to better treat autism and work through some of the struggles that come with it.