



CORPORATE AUTISM AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

The following is a suggested list of ways your company can celebrate **World Autism Awareness Day** (April 2).

World Autism Awareness Day is a great way to show your company's commitment to Autism Speaks. You can also use World Autism Awareness Day to kick off activities in your company for April, which is Autism Awareness Month.

1. Register as a Corporate Walk Team for your local Walk

- a. Set up your team fundraising page.
- b. Upload a photo and a story about why you are committed to raising funds for autism research.
- c. Challenge your colleagues to register and raise \$100 by the end of the work day on April 2.
- d. Hold an additional event to support your Corporate Walk Team on April 2, such as:
 - i. Bake Sale
 - ii. Potluck Lunch
 - iii. Dress Down Day

2. Distribute Autism Facts

- a. Create and place paper puzzle pieces with autism facts throughout the office building or complex - recruit employees to help.
- b. Create flyers and distribute throughout your office complex.
- c. Ask a family member affected by autism to write a story and submit to your company intranet or newsletter.
- d. Host a "lunch and learn" or autism awareness table in your break room.
 - i. Request materials from Autism Speaks.

3. Use your Voicemail

- a. Change your outgoing voicemail message to include information about autism and your company's involvement. Refer them to your team page for more information.
- b. Encourage team members to change their voicemail message to promote autism awareness.
- c. Ask your CEO to record a message on the router for incoming calls.

4. Send E-mail

- a. Send an e-mail containing trivia questions about autism to all of your colleagues - buy lunch for the person with the most correct answers.
- b. If your team is walking in honor of a colleague who is affected by autism, e-mail their personal story to your colleagues and include the link to your team page. Ask them to join your team and make a donation.
- c. Ask employees/walkers to send an e-mail about autism to all of their contacts.
- d. Include a link to the **World Autism Awareness Day** web site or your team page in your e-mail signature.

5. Utilize your Website

- a. Set up a link to the Autism Speaks or **World Autism Awareness Day** site on your company website, blog or personal networking page.
- b. Link the Walk or **World Autism Awareness Day** logo in your newsletter, intranet, blog, bulletins, etc. to the Autism Speaks or Walk Now for Autism website.
- c. Post autism facts (<http://www.autismspeaks.org/whatisit/index.php>) on your intranet.

6. Advertise, Advertise, Advertise

- a. Balloons - Request Autism Speaks balloons from your local Autism Speaks office to adorn your building.
- b. Pins - Encourage co-workers and friends to wear their Autism Speaks puzzle piece pins.
- c. Banners - Hang an Autism Speaks banner inside or outside your office building (available from your local Autism Speaks office).
- d. T-shirt - Wear a walk or autism awareness t-shirt.