

## Our Mission

Rock Bridge Family Services is a faith-based, non-profit organization committed to improving the lives of families within our community by assisting those impacted by Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). We strive to provide family service, education, and future residential care for adolescent boys in a group home setting.

## Our Vision

Rock Bridge Family Services strives to create a community where people within the autism spectrum and their families can:

- Live with and receive respect, services, and support based on individual differences, needs, and preferences;
- Be enabled to function with autism as meaningfully and as independently as possible in the community;
- Be provided exemplary service throughout Rockbridge County to individuals with autism and their families.

## Who We Are

We are the parents, family, and friends of children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and the professionals who serve them. Our ministry will provide necessary resources for those affected by ASD, and a future group home setting to provide a focus on therapy, growth, vocational training, programs, and support groups that are always open to the general public.

*Dear Children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.*

1 John 3: 18

## What is Autism?

*Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that affects a person's ability to properly understand what they see, hear, and otherwise sense. ASD primarily affects communication. People with ASD typically have difficulty understanding verbal and nonverbal communication and learning appropriate ways of relating to people, objects, and events.*

*Autism spectrum disorders are the third most common developmental disabilities following intellectual disabilities and epilepsy. Autism spectrum disorders occur in 1 of every 110 people. It is four times more prevalent in males than females. ASD occurs in all races and socioeconomic classes—family income, lifestyle, or education do not affect whether or not a child will be born with ASD.*

### Board of Directors

- James Cook - Executive Director
- Patti Cook - Grants
- Tim Donald - Director of Volunteer Services
- Carol L. Entsminger - Secretary/Graphics
- Dr. Greg Gertz - General Board Member
- Rickie Goodbar - General Board Member
- Clyde Harden - General Board Member
- Cheryl Watts—Treasurer

**Rock Bridge Family Services**

**P.O. Box 878**

**Lexington, VA 24450**

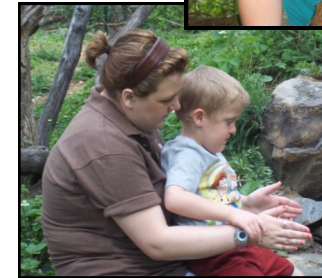
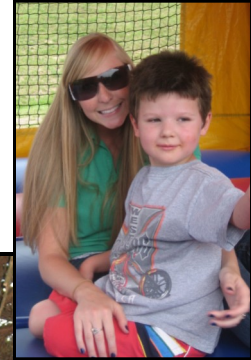
**Home: (540) 319-3542**

**E-mail: [James.Cook@rbfs.org](mailto:James.Cook@rbfs.org)**

**[www.RBFS.org](http://www.RBFS.org)**



**Rock Bridge Family Services helps those with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in Rockbridge County, and their families, by raising awareness and support.**



**Today 1 in every 88 people will be diagnosed with autism, and the rate is increasing yearly!**

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### What is PRISM?

Rock Bridge Family Services hosts Parent Resource Information Support Meetings (PRISM) for families of loved ones with Autism, presenting experts and speakers serving the ASD population on the second Tuesday of selected months.

Dates are **11 September 2012, 13 November 2012, and 12 March 2013.**

### 2012 PRISM Speaker Schedule

(to follow)

Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at Lexington Baptist Church, 75 Old Farm Road (Houston Street extension) Lexington, VA

### What is PNO?

Rock Bridge Family Services hosts quarterly Parents Night Out (PNO) for parents of children with developmental disabilities. **Upcoming dates will be in October, December, February and April.**

This essential ministry provides a needed break to family members of those diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Care is provided by experienced volunteers.

*Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. Make level paths for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.*

Hebrews 12: 12-13



Rock Bridge Family Services (RBFS) was founded in 2009 as a faith-based, non-profit support organization committed to improving the lives of families in Rockbridge County who are dealing with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) by providing education and support.



Rock Bridge Family Services and BRAAC partnered to bring the Blue Ridge Autism & Achievement Center (BRAAC) to Rockbridge County in 2009.

The Blue Ridge Autism and Achievement Center (BRAAC-BV), a local school for children with ASD, is dedicated to providing families and individuals with quality Autism education, meaningful communication, resources, and life skills that are necessary to succeed in society.

In addition to BRAAC-BV, RBFS's programs also include PRISM (Parent Resource Information



Support Meetings), PNO (Parents Night Out), as well as providing other information and resources to parents, families, public schools, and professionals.

For more information, visit our website at [www.RBFS.org](http://www.RBFS.org).

### OUR FUNDRAISING EVENTS INCLUDE:

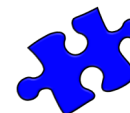
**CAR SHOWS**

**FARE SHARE**

**A GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**WINDOW PLACARDS**

**APRIL WAS  
AUTISM  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**



### How Can You Help?

Become a sponsor for our upcoming yearly fundraising efforts. Contact James Cook at [James.Cook@rbfs.org](mailto:James.Cook@rbfs.org), (540) 319-3542 OR go to our website

at [www.rbfs.org](http://www.rbfs.org)

To donate by PayPal