

# PCE Press Newsletter

March 2021

## PCE Celebrates Autism Awareness and Acceptance

This is the fourteenth annual World Autism Awareness Day which is recognized each year on April 2nd. It challenges all of us to raise awareness about people with Autism Spectrum Disorders as well as accept them for who they are. Awareness without acceptance allows for stigmas and stereotypes to linger. This year, PCE is partnering with Essex County Community Businesses to help us share some facts about autism.

## LIGHT IT UP BLUE THIS MONTH WITH ALL OF YOUR AUTISM KNOWLEDGE!

•DID YOU KNOW APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH AND APRIL 2ND IS WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY? •PCE SERVES OVER 300 YOUTH WITH AUTISM. •ACCORDING TO THE CDC, IN 2018, 1 IN EVERY 59 CHILDREN WERE DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM. •BOYS ARE FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM THAN GIRLS. •AUTISM DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE AND AFFECTS ALL ETHNIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS. •EARLY INTERVENTION GIVES CHILDREN DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM THE BEST CHANCE TO SUPPORT HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THEIR LIFESPAN.

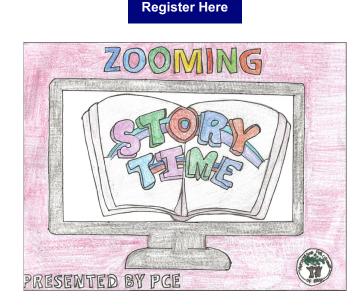
If you are interested in partnering with us to educate the community, we would love to hear from you! Please email us at resourcedpt@pcenj.org for more information.

## **Zooming Story Time**

Looking for a free and relaxing after-school activity for youth ages 4-10?

JOIN US for a ZOOMING STORY-TIME

In celebration of "Read Across America", PCE staff will read to youth every Tuesday in March as well as Wednesday, March 31st at 4pm. On Tuesday, March 30th we will have a very special Story-Time reading in Spanish! All are welcome!



**PCE Gives Back** 



MLK Day of Service - Care Of The Park

In honor of MLK Jr. Day, PCE joined Jersey Cares in giving back to the Essex County community and assisted in revitalizing Branch Brook Park in Newark!



#### We Care

Due to the current circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic it is important to remain connected. In an effort to bring some positivity to a youth's day, PCE sent every youth a Valentine's Day postcard highlighting the youth's strengths and greatness.

### **Keeping You Informed**

#### **Utility Shutoff Moratorium Extended**

The State's moratorium preventing New Jersey residents from having their gas, electric, and water utilities disconnected has been extended through at least June 30th, 2021. Also, providers cannot disconnect internet services in households that have one or more school-age children that may be using the internet for educational purposes. In addition, providers cannot disconnect internet or voice services to any New Jersey resident with an existing account without first offering to enroll the customer in an interest-free payment plan of at least twelve months.

Moratorium Information

Here's What Families Are Saying About PCE

