

# What is a Crop?

## How Can I Help?

A crop is an event where people interested in scrapbooking get together to work on their scrapbooks to preserve their special memories for generations to come.

Similar to a charity walk, our participants are gathering at the Crop for Autism Awareness and Research to help raise money for the Santa Clarita Autism Asperger Network (SCAAN). Instead of their feet doing the walking, these participants are using their hands, hearts and minds to support families affected by Autism.

The Santa Clarita Autism Asperger Network's mission is to provide Santa Clarita Valley families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders with the tools they need to thrive. These tools include monthly support group meetings, monthly newsletter, conferences, quarterly social events, information on local resources, including treatment providers, recreational activities, schools, Regional Center, respite and periodic educational seminars. For more information about SCAAN, please check out their website at [www.scaan.org](http://www.scaan.org).

According to the Autism Society of America, Autism

- *Affects 1 in 150 births*
  - *Affects 1 to 1.5 million Americans*
  - *Fastest-growing developmental disability*
  - *Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3 with early diagnosis and intervention*
- [http://www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer?pagename=about\\_what\\_is\\_factsstats](http://www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer?pagename=about_what_is_factsstats)

*"California is now averaging over 9 new cases of full syndrome autism entering California's DD system a day, seven days a week. 78% of the autism population in the system is under the age of 18, with 84% under the age of 22 years old. We currently have 1,223 more 3 to 5 year olds in the system than we have for ALL ages from 22 years old to 62 years old and beyond. 20 years ago in 1987 there were 2,273 persons with autism in California's system. Today, 20 years later, there are 32,809." - Rick Rollens, Co-founder M.I.N.D. Institute UC-Davis*

All of the Crop for Autism Awareness and Research participants are looking for sponsors to help them raise money to help families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders.

If you would like to sponsor a participant or give a general donation to the Santa Clarita Autism Asperger Network, please complete a donor form which can be downloaded at <http://www.cropforautism.com/donor.pdf> or donate online at [www.cropforautism.com](http://www.cropforautism.com). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@cropforautism.com](mailto:info@cropforautism.com) or speak to Sara Meissner at 661-296-9531.

*Thank you for making a difference in the lives of families affected by  
Autism Spectrum Disorders*