



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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S.A.F.E. Inc. (Supporting Autism and Families Everywhere) and Dan Brown Memorial Fund Unite for the 2025 Drive for Autism Charity Golf Tournament

Wilkes-Barre, PA – S.A.F.E. Inc. is proud to announce a powerful collaboration with the Dan Brown Memorial Fund to address the critical intersection of autism and mental health. Together, they will host the **2025 Drive for Autism Charity Golf Tournament** on **Friday, October 10, 2025**, at **Blue Ridge Trail Golf Course**, 260 Country Club Drive, Mountain Top, PA.

This event will shine a light on the increased risk of suicide and self-harm among individuals on the autism spectrum, aiming to:

- **Raise Awareness:** Educate the public about mental health challenges faced by autistic individuals.
- **Improve Support and Intervention:** Promote autism-friendly suicide prevention strategies tailored to this community's needs.
- **Promote Mental Well-Being:** Provide resources to address co-occurring conditions such as anxiety and depression, reduce social isolation, and foster inclusion and acceptance.

TO PARTICIPATE or SPONSOR:

Registration: First-come, first-served basis at \$500 per team of four golfers

- **Schedule:**

- Registration opens at 11:00 AM
- Shotgun Start at 12:00 PM
- Cocktail Hour following play
- Dinner and Awards Reception to close the evening

Proceeds from the event will support programs dedicated to autism awareness, suicide prevention, and mental health resources for autistic individuals and their families.

Join Us: Be part of this important cause while enjoying a day of golf, networking, and community support. Registration is now open—secure your team today!

To become a sponsor, golfer, or to contribute a monetary donation, please visit:

<https://app.eventcaddy.com/events/drive-for-autism-2025>

For additional information, contact:

S.A.F.E. Autism Awareness

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30 Years of Impact: The Story of S.A.F.E.

Co-founded in 1995 by **Clair and George Shadie and Patricia and Joseph Gans**, inspired by their son's autism diagnosis, S.A.F.E. became the first and longest-standing autism support organization in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Their vision catalyzed services such as early intervention programs, ABA therapy, wraparound funding, and community education.

With support from leaders like Senators Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum, and the efforts of the Shadie and Gans families, S.A.F.E. helped fund groundbreaking therapies and advocated for statewide support networks. Their initiatives led to partnerships with Wilkes University, Children's Service Center, and Luzerne and Wyoming County MH/MR services, among many others.

Looking Ahead

S.A.F.E. continues to collaborate with universities, therapists, and medical professionals to enhance the quality of life for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. This 30th anniversary Gala is not just a celebration—it's a reaffirmation of the organization's ongoing mission to support, empower, and include.

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