



Our Monthly Newsletter - July 2023



Our team of volunteers and organizers did an amazing job at this event!

A Busy Bee...

Our main inspiration, Shawnie has been very busy and occupied achieving milestones in just a few months. From receiving his high school diploma to attending his prom, to being certified in CPR plus earning his first paycheck this young man seems to be unstoppable and we couldn't be prouder, Congratulations Shawnie!



Pieces Of Autism

<https://www.piecesofautism.com>

We like to thank Pieces Of Autism for their generous donation to the Team Shawnie Advocacy Group.

Their mission is to be loving, patient, supportive, and to advocate for all those living with autism. Their promise is to donate/give quarterly, a minimum 10% of all profit earnings to organizations that directly help autism families. Whether that be financially, therapy, sensory, or for parents who need advice to help their child or themselves.

Please visit their website to learn more about this great organization.



July 1st Concert

The much anticipated Elvis concert fundraising event was a success. Thanks to all of the volunteers as well as the organizers, donors, vendors, and last but not least Don Fontaine III and The Memphis Sun Mafia who delivered a phenomenal performance to a great audience. Thank you all.



Team Shawnie
ADVOCACY GROUP

Our Founder's Corner

www.teamshawniegroup.org

Shane, Shawnie, and Cheryl Halajko



GRADUATION & PROM NIGHT

The much anticipated day finally arrived. Shawnie graduated from Seekonk High School through the Judge Rottenberg Center program. His determination, hard work, and resilience have led him to this milestone, and we celebrate his accomplishments with overflowing pride and joy.

Shawnie also got to attend his own prom which he was extremely excited about. This has been a year full of achievements for this young man and he is only getting started.



CPR CERTIFIED

Congratulations to Shawnie on acquiring his CPR certification as well as his first work-related paycheck.

His accomplishments serve as an inspiration to us all, reminding us of the boundless potential and strength within the autism community. May his success continue to inspire others on their own journeys of triumph.





Team Shawnie
ADVOCACY GROUP

Shawnie Bill News Update

www.teamshawniegroup.org



Legislation that supports the autism community is of paramount importance as it plays a crucial role in ensuring equal rights, access to resources, and improved quality of life for individuals on the spectrum. Through well-crafted laws, we can foster greater inclusion, remove barriers to education and employment, and promote early intervention and support services. Such legislation not only empowers individuals with autism to reach their full potential but also cultivates a more compassionate and understanding society, embracing the unique strengths and contributions of every individual.

This month, our Senior Advocate Shane Halajko Jr. along with State Representative Steven Howitt and State Representative Alan Silvia advocated two Bills for the Team Shawnie Advocacy Group.

HERE ARE THE PROPOSED BILLS

- BILL H.502 - An Act relative to independent child protection
<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H502>
- BILL H. 503 - An Act relative to special education reimbursement programs
<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H503/Bills>
- BILL H. 183 - The Shawnie Bill (Ongoing legislation)
<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H183>



Team Shawnie
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The Shawnie Story

Podcast Episodes 1-6

<https://teamshawniegrou.com/podcast-series/>



The Story of How It All Started

This podcast is a 6 part mini-series based on true events & documented incident reports which expose the neglect and abuse that our son Shawnie went through to get proper treatment and education. Over the span of just a few years, there were more than 400 police and institution reports filled out, some of which demonstrated clear negligence from the staff of numerous institutions.



For this reason, we put together a piece of legislation called "The Shawnie Bill". Once this bill becomes law, this type of inhumane treatment will end for the thousands of other children & adolescents that continue to live through this on a daily basis.





Team Shawnie
ADVOCACY GROUP

Team Shawnie Online Store

www.teamshawniegroun.com/store

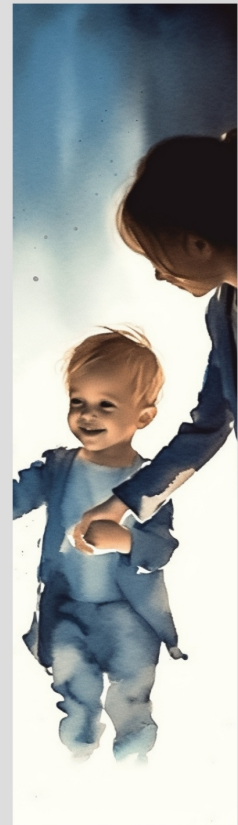
Clothing

Hats

Accessories

Wall Art

(Not actual sizes)



Wall Art

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Use the code

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Team Shawnie
ADVOCACY GROUP

Our Heartfelt Thank You

www.teamshawniegroup.org

Shane, Shawnie, and Cheryl Halajko



We once again extend our sincerest gratitude to the Law Offices Of Michael C. Lima for their generous monthly contribution to the Team Shawnie Advocacy Group. Their continuing support is essential in helping us to continue our mission of promoting not only acceptance but also support, and inclusion for individuals on the Autism spectrum.

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STEVE KUT & MELANIE SANTOS



A heartfelt thank you to Steve & Melanie for their incredible support and generosity in organizing a successful fundraiser, and donating the proceeds to our Autism Advocacy group! Their dedication and kindness have made a significant impact, empowering us to continue our mission of promoting acceptance, understanding, and support for individuals on the Autism spectrum. Together, we are making a difference!

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