

## 2013 Community Fund Community Grants Online Application

Prior to submitting the response, you may wish to review or print your answers. Your answers are shown below.

Question	Answer
Organisation name	Autism Community Network
Postal address	PO Box 188
Town/suburb	Riverwood
State/Territory	NSW
Postcode	2209
Position held at organisation	Strategic Manager
Phone number (include area code)	0420669281
Fax number (include area code)	
Web address (if applicable)	www.autismcommunity.org.au
Number of full-time equivalent employees	1
Has the nominated organisation previously received a grant from the Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund?	No
Does your organisation bank with the Commonwealth Bank?	Yes
If so, who is your Relationship Executive or Local Branch contact?	
Branch: (if applicable)	Riverwood
How did you hear about the Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund Community Grants program?	Other
Other website	
Please enter further details for the 'other' item you entered above	Lions Club of Lugarno
Their name	
Their position	
Their Business Unit/Branch	
Briefly outline what your	The Autism Community Network is a parent to parent support network for families that have

Briefly outline what your organisation does	<p>The Autism Community Network is a parent-to-parent support network for families that have children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). We provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information and support to parents and carers.</li> <li>2. Social skills building activities for children with an ASD and their siblings.</li> <li>3. Community education and community development programs for mainstream service providers to assist them to integrate our children into their programs.</li> </ol> <p>For parents - We provide regular support group meetings in 6 regions across Sydney as well as a website and monthly e-newsletter. We also offer "Common Ground" groups which enable families with similar issues to link up.</p> <p>For children - We have run very successful drama and art classes in 2013 which we are hoping to build on with new music and fitness programs in 2014 to build social, communication and cognitive skills.</p> <p>For service providers - We work in partnership to pilot new services and develop strategies to enable inclusion.</p>
Issues addressed by your organisation	Childhood illness or disability
Please enter further details for the 'other' item you entered above.	
State the title of the nominated organisation's proposed community activity/initiative	Autism Kids Fitness Program - Baseball
What is the street address where your project will occur?	Various parks across Sydney.
What suburb will your project occur in?	Campbelltown; Castle Hill; Chipping Norton; East Ryde
What is the postcode?	2,560
What is the State?	NSW
Provide a summary of the proposed community activity/initiative	The program will enable up to 88 children with an ASD and their siblings aged 8-17 to participate in weekend sporting activities across the whole Sydney Metropolitan Area. The format will include a league against league, T-ball competition for novices and a concurrent Zookerball (Mechanical Pitch) for more skilled players commencing December 2013. It will complete with a gala day in April 2014. Benefits will include increased access to mainstream sporting activities, improved social skills and increased community awareness.
Outline the details of the timeline for implementation of the community program. The program must be implemented within a one year period.	<p>The program will commence December 2013 and complete with a gala day in April 2014.</p> <p>The Australian Baseball League, coordinated by the Ryde Hawks, have established infrastructure that will enable the training and supervision of children and volunteers. ACN will assist by advising on special needs.</p>
Provide an itemised budget (income and expenditure) for the project or activity.	<p>PLAYER CONTRIBUTION Uniforms \$5,720</p> <p>LEAGUE CONTRIBUTION Uniforms \$3,080 Equipment \$4,000</p> <p>Training \$5,600 Venue \$6,400 Capitation \$1,760 SUB-TOTAL \$20,840</p> <p>FUNDS REQUIRED Uniforms \$6,000 Equipment \$5,144 Insurance \$2,200</p>

ACN admin \$600  
SUB-TOTAL \$13,944

TOTAL \$40,504

What is the amount of funding sought? (maximum \$10,000)

\$10,000

Is this a new program?

Yes

If not, how long has the program been running?

Describe the children or youth who will benefit from this program.

This program is designed for children 8-17 years of age with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their siblings. Children with ASD suffer from a triad of impairments including language, social and cognitive barriers to participation. Sensory processing issues also impact heavily on many of these children, limiting their access to mainstream activities. Many of these children are overweight due to their restricted eating habits and sedentary lifestyle or have co-morbid ADHD which increases their need for physical activity to assist with emotional regulation.

How many children or youth will the program positively impact over the course of a year?

88 children will participate.

What are the community benefits of this project?

The cost to families and to society of raising a child with an ASD and providing for their health needs into adulthood are high. Engaging children in this program will enable them to build social skills and improve their motivation toward physical activity which can impact on these costs over the long term. This program will also assist these children to participate in other mainstream settings, reducing the need for individualised programming. In addition, this program will enable us to promote the achievements of children with ASD as a community education program.

Describe how the proposed program will be measured and/or evaluated to determine whether it has been successful in achieving the proposed outcomes?

Participation levels will be documented, both in terms of the number of children participating and their level of engagement and skills development. Children and their parents/carers will be asked for their feedback during and at the conclusion of the program. New contacts (web and phone) received from media coverage will also measure the general community response to the community education program.

Does your organisation have a need for Volunteers?

Yes

Please demonstrate how your organisation benefits from the use of volunteers and briefly outline the various volunteer roles available?

We have a volunteer Board with skills in Strategic Planning; Operations Management; Compliance; Finance; IT; HR; Teaching; Journalism; Community Welfare.

We also have volunteers who assist with fundraising; project management; program evaluation etc.

Would your organisation be interested in implementing Volunteer roles in the future?

Yes

Please outline these roles, responsibilities and qualifications that would be necessary.

We are looking for a volunteer to advise us on legal matters. We will also be recruiting volunteers to support engagement at all of our social skills groups. These volunteers may have skills in creative or sporting areas and some experience of children with an ASD.

## Declarations and acknowledgements

I declare that the information given on this form is complete and correct, and I have authority to submit this application on behalf of the above named organisation. If successful, funds will be only used for the community program/purpose outlined in this application. By submitting this request I understand and accept on behalf of the above named organisation, the [Grant Guidelines](#) of the Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund Community Grants program.

Commonwealth Bank (in respect of the Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund) may collect personal information so that it may administer the 2013 Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund Community Grants. If the information requested is not provided, the application for a grant may not be considered. Commonwealth Bank (in respect of the Commonwealth Bank Staff

Community Fund) may disclose personal information to its related bodies corporate, agents or external service providers only for the purpose of administering the grants.

I have read and accept the declarations and acknowledgements above and the [guidelines](#) for the 2013 Community Grants program.\*

Yes

Name\*

Claudia Stevens

Email address\*

funding@autismcommunity.org.au

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