



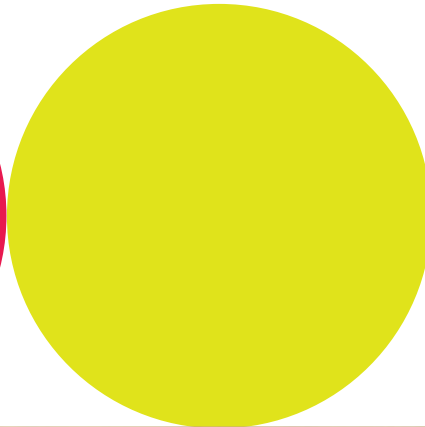
GENEVA
CENTRE
FOR
AUTISM

Impact Report | 2024-2025

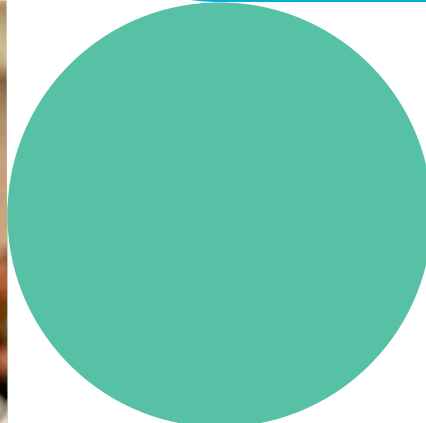
A YEAR OF GROWTH AND EXPANSION



THE CENTRE
IN THE
COMMUNITY



WE MEET
YOU WHERE
YOU ARE.



SYMPOSIUM
CELEBRATED

NEW LOCATION

3036
DANFORTH AVE

Message from our Centre's Board President



This past year was one of real momentum and renewal for the Geneva Centre for Autism. In one of our most significant achievements of the past two decades, we opened our new location at 3036 Danforth Avenue, thereby expanding programming into Toronto's east end. We were thus able to improve access to autism services for families who have waited far too long for local options, and where our Entry to School program has been very popular.

In a new crossover initiative between the Centre and Sonderly – our on-line educational platform for educators – we were able to build capacity to enhance support for individuals who are both on the autism spectrum and who have ADHD.

This past year also brought changes at the Board level. We said good-bye to Linda Kenny and Marieta Mendoza, who served the Centre with both compassion and commitment. We also welcomed two new Board members who bring a strong mix of professional expertise and lived experience of autism or other disabilities. Together, we focused on strengthening governance; modernizing our bylaws, complying with the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act, and refining our oversight to support GCA's continued growth. As a Board, we continued our close and collaborative working relationship with our CEO, Abe Evreniadis, and the executive leadership team.

Looking ahead, we're shaping a new capital deployment plan and a new strategic plan to guide GCA's next stages of development. It's an exciting time for the Geneva Centre for Autism, and the collaboration across our staff, Board, committees, and community continues to remind me what's possible when people work together with a shared purpose.

Judy Welikovitch, President,
Geneva Centre for Autism
Board of Directors

Message from our Foundation Chair



This year has been one of incredible progress and meaningful connections for the Foundation. Our focus remains clear: to strengthen the resources that make a difference for families, while building lasting relationships with the donors and partners who make it all possible.

The return of our in-person Symposium last fall was a true highlight. For three days, educators, clinicians, and self-advocates came together to share ideas, research, and creativity—including art and jewelry hand-crafted and showcased by entrepreneurs on the spectrum. It was an inspiring reminder of how collaboration fuels impact.

We also saw continued enthusiasm for our popular Summer Camp program, which gives children and adults unforgettable experiences every year. Thanks to the generosity of funders like the Les & Kae Martin Foundation, we've enhanced programming with enrichment activities and excursions, and expanded to support even more families on our waitlist.

The opening of our new 3036 Danforth Ave. location represents another exciting milestone. It will extend GCA's reach into an underserved community in East Toronto and provide new opportunities for awareness, engagement, and partnerships. I'm deeply proud of what we've accomplished together and grateful to everyone who helps us grow our mission year after year.

Jennifer Tremblay, President,
Geneva Centre for Autism
Foundation Board of Directors

Board of Directors

JUDY WELIKOVITCH PRESIDENT	PAUL JACHYMEK SAGAR KANCHARLA
BEATA MEHTA VICE PRESIDENT	DARREN WILLIAMS GORDON WONG
DAVID GILLESPIE TREASURER	RANDY COVENS YOHAN D'SOUZA TERRENCE ZHENG

Foundation Board of Directors

JENNIFER TREMBLAY PRESIDENT	GEOFF WRIGHT JUDY WELIKOVITCH
NINA VALENTIC VICE PRESIDENT	BEATA MEHTA TERRY TYLER
DAVID GILLESPIE TREASURER	

Executive Leadership Team

ABE EVRENIADIS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	RENITA PARANJAPE VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS & SERVICES
ANDREW DAVIS VICE PRESIDENT, SONDERLY	KIM TAKATA CHIEF OPERATIONS & PEOPLE OFFICER
MARIE DESMARTEAU VICE PRESIDENT, FOUNDATION	STEPHANIE WARNER VICE PRESIDENT, MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Our mission is to enable people on the autism spectrum to live, learn and engage in their communities.

We will do this by providing leading-edge and inclusive programming, education, and training.



90% 

SATISFACTION RATING FOR SYMPOSIUM



864

ATTENDEES JOINED AT SYMPOSIUM

Impact at a Glance

267
NEW
CLIENTS



2,751
CLIENTS SERVED



WE SUPPORTED

370

CAREGIVERS IN TORONTO THROUGH OUR PARENT WEBINARS



3036 Danforth Avenue *Bringing Vital Services Close to Home*

3036 Danforth Avenue is the centre's first permanent expansion east of the Don Valley, and reflects a direct response to gaps in local access.

"We were seeing families from Scarborough and East Toronto travelling a long way to our midtown location," says Renita Paranjape, Vice President of Programs. "There was clearly a gap in services. This new location makes our families' lives a bit easier."

3036 Danforth allows the Entry to School program to expand beyond just Merton Street. Designed for preschool-aged children preparing to enter kindergarten, the program helps build foundational skills such as following routines, transitioning between activities, early communication, and emotional regulation. For many participants, this is their first experience in a classroom-like environment.

GCA's approach is grounded in understanding the full context of a child's life, including their cultural background, daily routines, and specific needs. "Autism is complex, and no two children are the same," Paranjape says. "We build our programs around what works for the family, not just what works on paper."

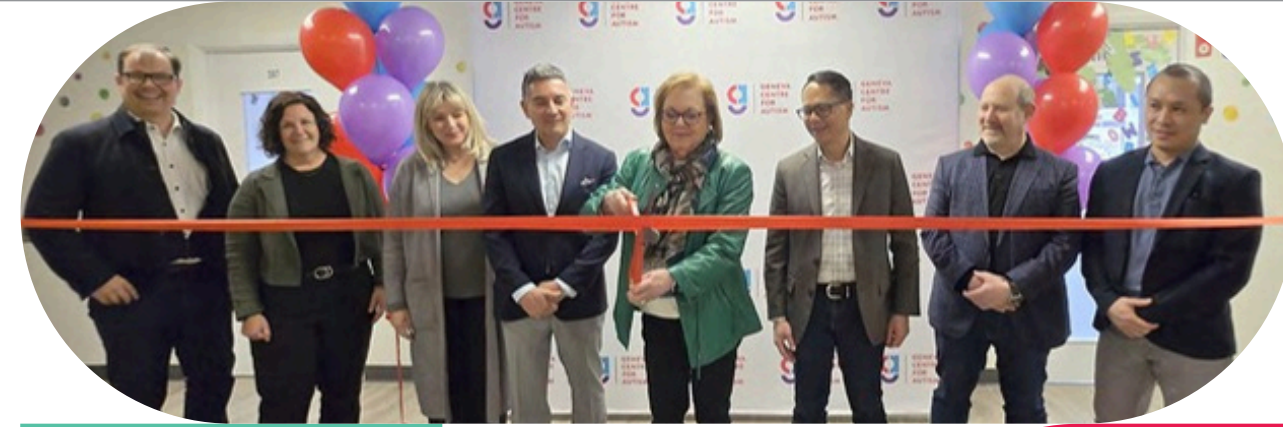
While the Danforth site is currently focused on early years, the space was acquired with expansion in mind. Paranjape notes that: "We want to grow based on community priorities. The more we hear from families, the better we can shape what comes next."



A Story of Growth and Inspiration

One recent graduate began the program without making verbal requests. With consistent support, she found her voice, surprising a former educator, who had never heard her speak, by making a verbal request for the very first time. The moment brought joy to her family and teachers, highlighting the program's lasting impact.

"It's about preparing both the children and their families. We support the children in the classroom and help caregivers during the transition to school, so it's a very coordinated approach." - JOYPETER, PROGRAMS SUPERVISOR



CELEBRATING A NEW CENTRE IN THE EAST

94% AGREE

THEIR CHILDREN ARE BETTER
PREPARED AFTER THE ENTRY
TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

“ Thank you for the incredible work your organization is doing, especially during these challenging times. We truly value our partnership and your unwavering commitment to making a difference. ”

JOAN CHRISTEL,
STATE STREET FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



Child and Teen Programs

ABA Social Skills

SUPPORTING CONNECTION, CONFIDENCE AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Every child wants to connect, play, laugh, make friends, and feel understood. But for some, social moments can feel confusing or overwhelming. That's where our ABA Social Skills program comes in.

Each session combines structure with fun to help children develop and strengthen communication, emotional regulation, and relationship skills that last well beyond the classroom.

Children learn at their own pace in a safe, supportive space where every success counts – whether it's taking a turn, joining a group, or managing a tough feeling. Families share that they value that the program supports them and their child.

Every child's journey is unique. These stories are examples of the kind of growth we often see.

◆ **A child who used to play quietly on their own began asking other kids, "Can I play with you?" Confidence, friendships, and joy built in shared play.**

◆ **After completing our Emotional Regulation group, another child surprised their family by using deep breaths and gentle hand squeezes to stay calm during a stressful moment at home. A small but powerful moment of independence.**

We celebrate every win, from the first smile shared between friends to the first self-calming moment.

[WATCH A SOCIAL SKILLS VIDEO](#)

Essential Skills

SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING REAL-LIFE SCENARIOS DESIGNED FOR REAL-LIFE PARTICIPATION

For our 7-10 year olds, we recreate real-life scenarios from haircuts to doctor's appointments. By immersing children in mock environments that mirror community and home settings, we equip them with the skills and confidence needed to navigate these experiences.

317
ADULT & CHILD
CAMP
ATTENDEES



MORE THAN 3,000
PEOPLE ACCESSED OUR FREE
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
RESOURCES

“ At ICON Digital, we are proud to stand alongside GCA, an organization leading change with heart, vision, and purpose. Together we can achieve our shared goal of building a more inclusive world. ”

ALEX CHRISTOPOULOS, CEO, ICON Digital



44
CAMP
COUNSELLORS

Adult Programs

Support

At GCA, adults are provided inclusive opportunities for skill-building, social connection, and community engagement. The goals are independence, enhanced quality of life, and meaningful relationships. In 2024–2025, hundreds of adults and their caregivers were supported through employment training, social experiences, camps, and respite opportunities.

Employment

Through coaching, skill-building workshops, and employer partnerships, participants built confidence and independence while gaining the interpersonal skills needed to succeed in the workplace. In 2024–2025, the program supported 40 clients in skill building, securing employment, and continuing education.

Day Support

GCA continued to enhance community engagement and skill development by providing opportunities tailored to unique interests and individual needs. Each day is designed to include a blend of personal and group based activities that help participants build practical life skills, explore their personal interests, and form meaningful social connections. From learning to be a thoughtful roommate and a confident shopper, to finding joy in music, movement, and art, every moment is a chance to grow, connect, and thrive.

Social Club

Our adults bring energy and connection to every event. 186 participants partied at events like a spooky Halloween bash, a festive Holiday Party, and a high-energy Spring Fling Dance Party. Every gathering sparks laughter, friendship, and belonging. The program creates fun, inclusive spaces where adults can be themselves and build lasting connections.

Respite and Camps

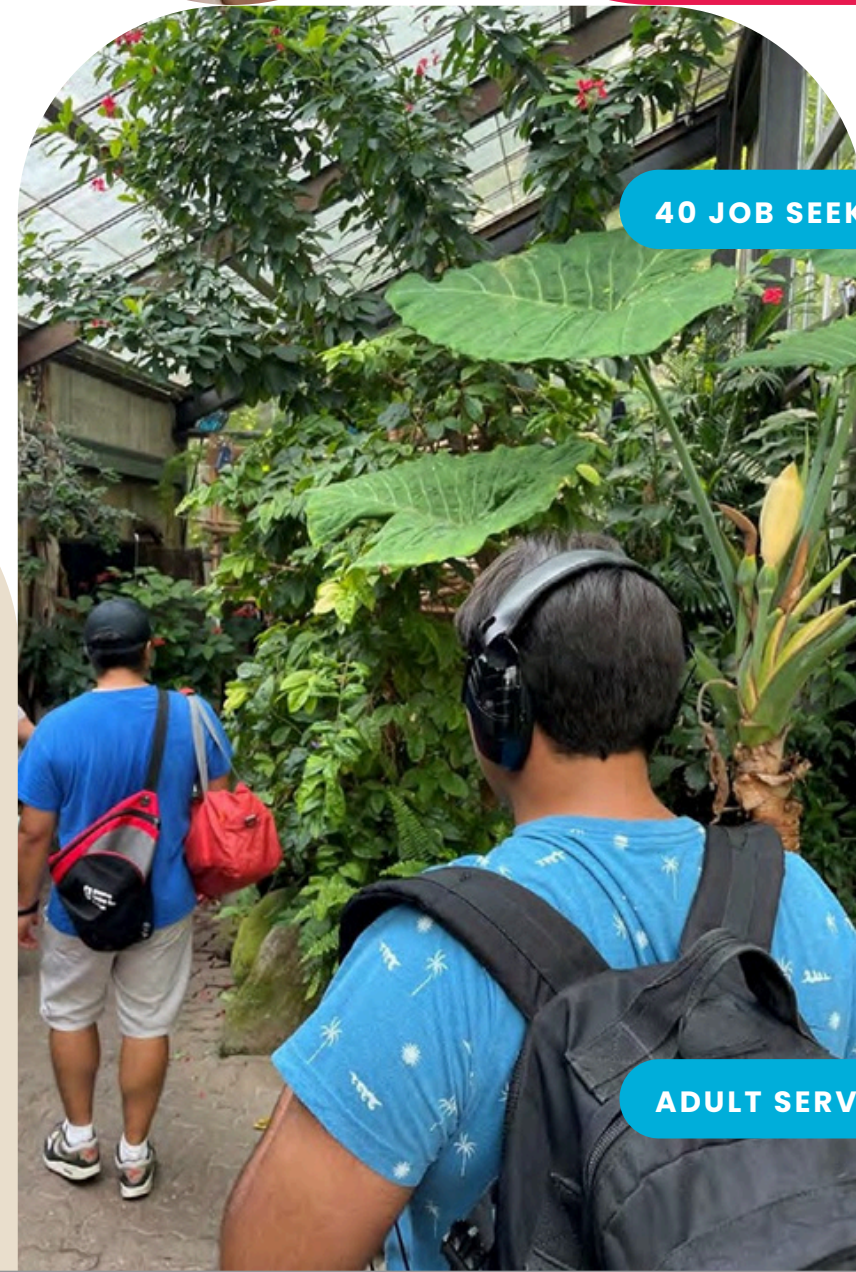
Designed to provide enriching experiences and trusted support, these programs offer caregivers a planned break while adults connect and participate. This year, in addition to local outings, we visited the Toronto Zoo, AGO, Toronto Islands, Woodbine Beach, Arcadia Earth, Little Canada, and Christie Pits Outdoor Pool. These field trips explored client interests, created new opportunities for engagement, and were fun for everyone involved.

186
SOCIAL
CLUB
ATTENDEES



“ I just wanted to thank you for the sessions and for the patience you show to all the participants, especially my son. This is truly appreciated. ”
CAREGIVER

40 JOB SEEKERS SUPPORTED



248
ADULTS SERVED

ADULT SERVICES & RESOURCES



Symposium 2024

A REMARKABLE SUCCESS

What a phenomenal experience! For the first time in 6 years Symposium was back in person and the wait was worth it.

Almost 1000 attendees, volunteers, and exhibitors gathered for 3 days of learning and inspiration at the elegant Sheraton Centre Toronto. Inspiring speakers, passionate exhibitors and artists, and an energetic community created an event filled with powerful insights and unforgettable connections.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED

Love on the Spectrum stars Dani, Abbey and David as well as Abbey's mom, Christine Romeo, giving us an intimate look at their lives before and after their Netflix hit.

Keeping with the theme of Past Present and Future Drs Greg Hanley, Bridget Taylor, Kerry Magro and others spoke passionately about the history and promising future of ABA, treatment of severe behaviours, and the perceptions and misperceptions of those with autism.

23 artisans, working in different media, showcasing and selling their art and multiple exhibitors interacting and working with attendees in all sort of areas of expertise.

We can't wait to do it all again in November 2026. Please join us!

LEARN MORE ABOUT SYMPOSIUM

Overall, amazing symposium! I have made recommendations to colleagues and peers in the field. As an employer and clinician, I felt so thankful to be in a space with such inclusivity. I feel energized and excited about our community **PARTICIPANT**



17
EXHIBITORS



23
ARTISAN
BOOTHS

864
ATTENDEES,
VOLUNTEERS

AND
EXHIBITORS



Save
the
Date

FOR THE NEXT

Symposium

NOVEMBER
12-13 /
2026

DR. GREGORY HANLEY AND ABE EVRENIADIS, CEO, GCA



STRENGTHENING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION ACROSS CANADA

As the Geneva Centre for Autism’s self-funded social enterprise, Sonderly provides practical, evidence-based training for educators and professionals supporting neurodiverse learners.

2024-2025 HIGHLIGHTS

Sonderly’s mission is to build skills within the educational community that allow for greater acceptance and support for neurodivergent students. This year we are proud to announce that we delivered training to more educators than ever before.

We also reached more learners through our new library of online free “learning bites” that was made possible through a grant from the Government of Ontario.

Sonderly’s courses and resources have been accessed by people in almost every country across the globe.

Internally, Sonderly completed a digital modernization which strengthens the organization’s ability to deliver seamless, user-friendly training experiences and better capture data on learner outcomes. With a stronger digital foundation, Sonderly is now well positioned to scale its reach, serve new sectors, and extend its impact.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the coming year, Sonderly will focus on expanding, building new partnerships across Canada and the US and in the childcare and early-learning sectors. Continued investment will be made to strengthen our ability to deliver high-impact training, amplifying Sonderly’s reach and preparing more communities to support individuals of all neurotypes.

A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE COMMITTED TO BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE COMMUNITY

30% MORE COURSES TAKEN

10% REVENUE INCREASE

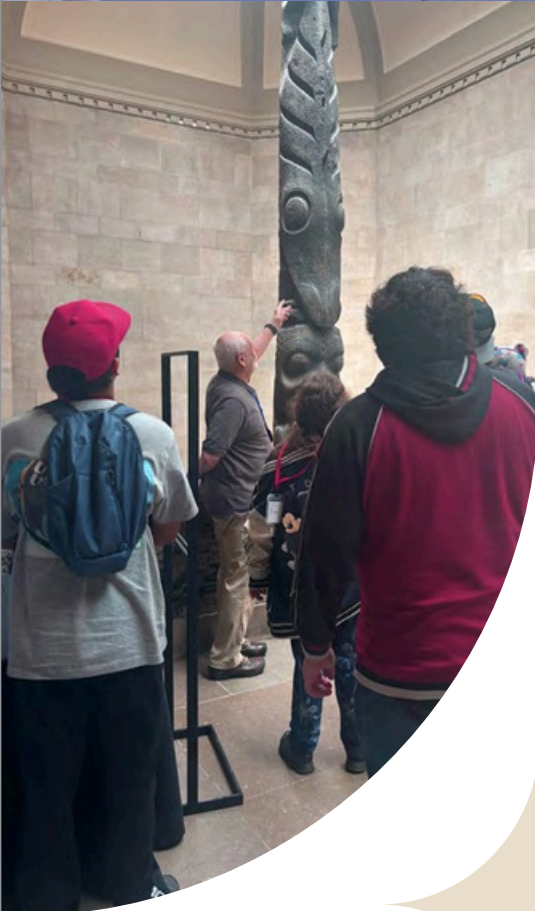
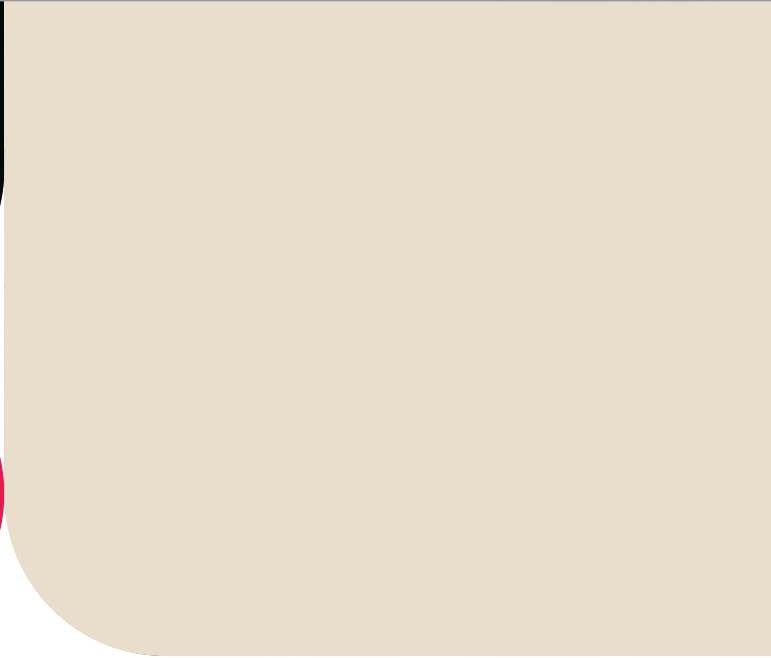
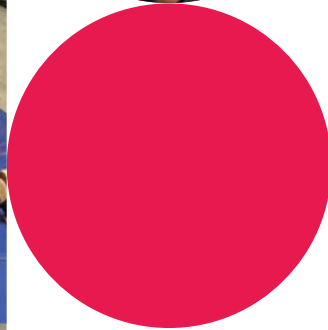
MORE THAN 3,100 PEOPLE VIEWED, READ OR DOWNLOADED THE FREE RESOURCES, THANKS TO FUNDING FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO.

“ This year, we reached more educators than ever before, proof that the need for practical training on inclusive education is stronger than ever. ”

ANDREW DAVIS, VICE PRESIDENT, SONDERLY

EXPLORE SONDERLY COURSES



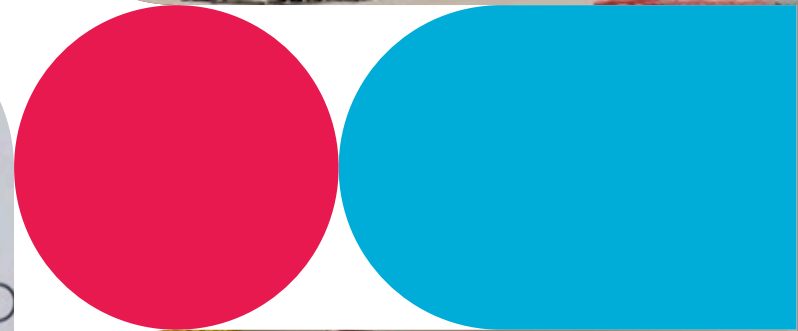


The Centre *In Action*

STAFF AND CLIENTS LOVE BEING OUT IN THE COMMUNITY.

Events like our annual golf tournament, the ICON fundraiser, and Symposium give us a chance to meet supporters and socialize as a team.

Our clients get out and about to the Zoo, the ROM, and local parks. A great way to generalize skills learned in the Centre and break with routine.



**GENEVA CENTRE'S STAFF, SPONSORS,
AND CLIENTS LIVING, WORKING, AND
ENGAGING IN THE COMMUNITY.**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

RESPITE STAFF | **DANI BOWMAN** | GCA GOLF TOURNAMENT
SYMPOSIUM | **ADRIANA KARKA, RENITA PARANJAPE, ANDREW DAVI**
ABA CLASSROOM | **ICON DINNER PARTY** | ADULT CLIENTS AT THE ROM



3036 DANFORTH AVE.
 164 MERTON ST.
 112 MERTON ST.
 GENEVACENTRE.CA
 TELEPHONE: (416) 322-7877

CENTRE CHARITABLE
 REGISTRATION NUMBER:
 123989030 RR 0001

FOUNDATION CHARITABLE
 REGISTRATION NUMBER:
 868664640 RR 0001

Thank you

Geneva Centre for Autism is deeply grateful to the individuals, foundations, and organizations who share our vision for a world in which people on the autism spectrum are able to access beneficial opportunities in order to achieve their personal best. We could not provide these opportunities without your generous contributions, especially those from longstanding champions like the Les and Kae Martin Foundation, and BMO, the presenting sponsor of our Annual Golf Classic for 25 years.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and belief in our mission. Together, we are making a profound difference in the lives of those we serve.

We look forward to continuing this journey of impact and growth with you by our side.



Moments of Joy Start with You

YOUR DONATION TO GENEVA CENTRE FOR AUTISM HELPS PROVIDE CRITICAL PROGRAMS TO CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY AUTISM. WHETHER FUNDING CLINICAL CARE, RESPITE, OR EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS, YOUR GIFT WILL DIRECTLY IMPROVE LIVES.

[PLEASE DONATE](#)

