



Dear Valued Community Member,

My name is Stacy Bernal and I am a proud Ogdenite, active in the community as an Ogden Marathon Ambassador, a board member of the Weber State University Alumni Association, and founder of a small 501(c)(3) nonprofit. I am also mom to three amazing kids, one of whom is **awesomely autistic**.

As you may know, April is Autism Awareness Month. Did you know that the CDC statistic for autism in the state of Utah is 1 in 54 children, which is higher than the national average of 1 in 68? Chances are you know someone who is autistic or has a family member with autism. Because the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder is just that (a spectrum) ASD people can range from very high functioning to extremely low functioning and non-verbal. With the right resources, acceptance, and love, though, they can live pretty extraordinary lives.

We are excited to announce the Second Annual Awesome Autistic Ogden event which will be held at the **Ogden School District 1950 Monroe Blvd, Special Education building in the Shiny Gym** on Saturday April 11th, 2020 from 11a-2p. There will be vendors, door prizes, food trucks and sensory-friendly activities for kids. We would love to have your participation as a vendor to set up a table, hand out any of your marketing materials, and to inform community members of the services your organization offers. There will be **no cost** for your participation but we do ask, if your budget allows, for a door prize valued at no more than \$50.

We appreciate your consideration and help to make this the successful event we know it will be. Our 2019 event saw about 300 guests and we anticipate the 2020 event will be even bigger. The ASD and differently-abled communities deserve to have their voices heard, their stories told, and the love and appreciation of the amazing people of Ogden. Our hope is to bridge the gap for special needs families so that they feel supported and have access to information and resources, and that the community can grow awareness, acceptance, and appreciation for our special needs friends.

If you have any questions for me or want to hop on this crazy train and help with this event, please don't hesitate to call 801.675.0534 or email stacy.bernal@outlook.com.

Keep it weird,

Stacy Bernal