

*We are family!* ★

Stone Soup Group ★

Supporting families who care for children with special needs



SUPPORTING  
FAMILIES  
*for over*

20  
YEARS

# We are family! ★

**S**tone Soup Group is Alaska's **statewide** resource center serving **families who care for children with special needs** from birth to age 26. For over 20 years Stone Soup Group has been providing information, support and resources to ensure every child who experiences special needs receives quality coordinated care and support.

Stone Soup Group's *We are family* CAMPAIGN AND SPONSOR/DONOR catalog provides **an opportunity for community members, businesses and organizations to become recognized supporters of Stone Soup Group** and the work we do with families every day.

In this catalog you will see how you can make a meaningful difference by sponsoring an activity or event or by donating directly through the *We are family* campaign.

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## MISSION:

STONE SOUP GROUP EXISTS TO SUSTAIN THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALASKAN CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES. THROUGH LISTENING TO THE STORIES OF FAMILIES, WE IDENTIFY AREAS OF NEED AND WORK WITH COMMUNITIES TO FIND SOLUTIONS.

# Family Resource Center

Your support benefits **children, family members** and the **community**

**T**HERE IS NO WAY TO DESCRIBE what it feels like to find out your child will grow up with a disability that will affect them the rest of their life. You are thrown into a world of specialists, therapists, bureaucracy, insurance and evaluations. You need to learn a whole new language of disability acronyms and have to miss work for medical appointments and to find specialized childcare. This is only the beginning...

Later, when your child is old enough to enter school you face a whole new set of challenges, including setting up an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), classroom modifications, after school activities and bullying prevention strategies. The school doesn't seem to be listening. You know you and your child have rights but what are they? How do you advocate for your child outside of home?

Finally, you've made it through school, but now your child is graduating and needs assistance transitioning into more independent living. New guardianship and SSI papers need to be filled out, vocational rehab needs to be set up and you are unsure if you and your child are ready for this next step.

**T**hese are scenarios we see every day at Stone Soup Group. Navigating the systems and resources is an overwhelming and complicated process. Families just want to find the best options for their children.

Stone Soup Group Parent Navigators work closely with families throughout Alaska by **providing resources, information, and training** that help parents understand the numerous systems required to get their children



assistance when they need it most. In addition they offer emotional support to families who feel overwhelmed or scared. The majority of staff at Stone Soup Group are parents or family members of a child with special needs so they know the journey and can help others as they navigate through the process. Here at Stone Soup Group **WE ARE FAMILY!**

In Alaska it is estimated that there are over 18,000 children who experience a disability.

You can help us provide critical supports and services by selecting a sponsorship opportunity in the following pages or giving a donation.

- **\$500 can provide one Bullying Prevention training to parents and professionals.**
- **\$1,000 can provide one travel stipend to a rural parent seeking training and resources in Anchorage or the lower 48.**
- **\$2,000 can provide 40 hours of assistance to parents navigating the disability system**
- **\$2,500 can provide the facility and materials to facilitate a support group for 3 months.**
- **\$5,000 covers the costs of providing distance learning through webinars, conference calls and a toll-free number for an entire year.**
- **\$10,000 can contract one parent navigation provider in rural Alaska for one year.**

**LAST YEAR STONE SOUP GROUP SERVED OVER 1,000 FAMILIES IN OVER 40 COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ALASKA.**

# Join the Stone Soup Group family

THIS YEAR, YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE STONE SOUP GROUP FAMILY OF SUPPORTERS BY SPONSORING A TRAINING/ACTIVITY, PROVIDING A MATCH OR DONATING DIRECTLY TO THE **WE ARE FAMILY** CAMPAIGN.



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## SPONSOR AN ACTIVITY, TRAINING OR EVENT

You can minimize the financial burden to families and gain public exposure by sponsoring an activity, training or event for the community. Activity and training sponsorships include: Bullying Prevention, Teen Friendship and Dating, Wii Club, Brainwise and FASD into Action. Event sponsorships include Santa Party, the Parent Conference and the Family and Community Picnic. More information about events can be found on page 6 and 7.

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## PROVIDE A MATCH

Many individuals and companies are creating opportunities for the public to donate with greater impact. For the next year Stone Soup Group is seeking matching sponsors for the **We are family** campaign. You can choose to match all donations up to a certain amount or over a specified period of time.

For more information or to set up any of these opportunities, please contact Stone Soup Group at 561-3701 or [victorias@stonesoup.org](mailto:victorias@stonesoup.org)

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## OFFER AN INCENTIVE

It's a fact, sometimes we need that little extra push to entice us to donate for the first time. Businesses can provide that incentive by offering a "grand prize" to one lucky donor. Become a supporter of Stone Soup Group and families who care for children with special needs by donating a gift valued at \$500 or more to be given to one random donor. Stone Soup Group will organize the lottery and your business will be promoted each time we tell the public they have an opportunity to win when they donate!



**Become part of the family and see some of the many benefits!**

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## DONATE DIRECTLY

Everyone needs a little extra help at different times in their life. Stone Soup Group counts on public support to provide assistance to families during their time of need. You can help provide that support by donating year-round in a variety of ways including monthly giving, workplace giving, leaving a gift in a will or trust or dedicating a gift in honor of someone. Donate directly online or contact Stone Soup Group for more information on any of these options.

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## INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Sponsorship is not limited to businesses and corporations! **Individual donors** have been supporting Stone Soup Group for a number of years and we offer a variety of levels at which individuals can show support. You will be recognized and honored for your generosity



YOUR IMPACT CAN BE SEEN **STATEWIDE...** WITH HEADQUARTERS IN  
ANCHORAGE AND REGIONAL PARENT NAVIGATORS IN FAIRBANKS AND JUNEAU

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## THE BENEFITS

Aside from that happy feeling you get from doing a good deed, your business or corporation can be recognized for supporting families statewide. Over the next year there will be a number of opportunities for Stone Soup Group thank you publicly for being a supporter. The varied levels of giving allow you to decide how you would like to become part of the Stone Soup Group family.

Depending on the level of giving, **you can receive brand exposure via:**

- Training/event programs and signage
- Website banners
- Social media
- Stone Soup Group newsletters and blog
- Our Annual Report
- Media coverage: television, radio, and local newspapers and magazines

For more information or to discuss sponsorship opportunities contact us at:  
**(907) 561-3701 or [victorias@stonesoupgroup.org](mailto:victorias@stonesoupgroup.org)**

# Choose the right fit for you...

Sponsorships offer a positive way to promote your organization while providing a valuable service to the community. Each of these activities, training and events have been requested by families who care for children with special needs, and by choosing to support Stone Soup Group through the “We are family” Campaign, you are sending a message that this is a cause that matters to you and your company.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities contact us at 561-3701 or [victorias@stonesoupgroup.org](mailto:victorias@stonesoupgroup.org).

## Activities & Training



### WII CLUB

Our most popular activity is Wii Club, a monthly opportunity for kids and teens who experience developmental differences to socialize and have fun in a safe and supportive way. Funding for this program helps support staff, snacks, game/equipment maintenance and getting more clubs started throughout the state.

### TEEN FRIENDSHIP AND DATING

It is essential for youth with developmental disabilities to learn how to manage intimate relationships. Teen Friendship and Dating offers this in a format specifically designed for youth with cognitive delays. Over the course of 10 weeks youth learn new relationship skills and go on group dates with their peers. Stone Soup Group staff facilitate and monitor these activities.



### FASD INTO ACTION

Alaska has one of the highest rates of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in the nation. This training brings together adoptive, foster and birth parents, and offers an overview of FASD, behaviors associated with the diagnosis and techniques for dealing with them. Through this class participants gain a better understanding of the diagnosis and become more effective caregivers and advocates for children who experience FASD.



# Santa Party

DECEMBER



Each year millions of children across America participate in the tradition of sitting on Santa's lap to whisper Christmas wishes in his ear and take a picture - a memory most of us and our parents cherish as a part of childhood. Unfortunately, this is an activity that many families who care for children with special needs cannot experience.

The mall environment, where Santa is usually found, does not cater to the special needs community. The lights, lines and sounds of Christmas shopping can be over-stimulating and uncomfortable for children with disabilities. In this situation, meeting Santa is no longer a magical moment. Instead it is stressful and overwhelming for the child and family.

Because of this, each year in December Stone Soup Group offers children with special needs and their families the opportunity to have this experience in a safe, comfortable environment. We transform our office into the North Pole, complete with Santa's Workshop and the "Claus Home". Families reserve a time to sit with Santa and tell him what they want

for Christmas and get their picture taken. Supplies for pictures, food and crafts are needed. Be part of making this event possible by donating and becoming a recognized sponsor of the Santa Party.

# Parent Conference

JANUARY

Stone Soup Group hosts a Parent Conference as a one-stop shop to prepare for the upcoming school year. This two-day event features keynote speakers, workshops and pragmatic tools for families who care for children and youth with special needs. Past Stone Soup Group Parent Conferences have received rave reviews from both parents and providers, and has been identified as not only a great place to get resources but also an invaluable way of building relationships and connecting with other families. Become a named sponsor of this event and have your business associated with quality resources and support for families.



# Family & Community Picnic

AUGUST

The Family & Community Picnic honors families and community partners who contribute to the wellbeing of children who experience disabilities in Alaska. For a few hours one afternoon we come together to socialize and recognize the hard work and dedication of others through the Annual Soupy Awards. The picnic also provides an opportunity for families to create social support networks and build connections, while the children participate in activities. This truly is a "Soupy" event! Community partners, leaders and organizations making a difference for Alaska's special needs community get a firsthand opportunity to meet and listen to the families they are directly supporting. Sponsor the picnic and learn why families appreciate what it means to be Soupy!





\$2,000 - Provides 40 hours of assistance to parents navigating the disability system



\$2,500 - Provides facility and materials to facilitate a support group for six months



\$1,000 - Provides one travel stipend to a rural family



\$500 - Provides one two hour bullying prevention training to the community



# Stone Soup Group

Supporting families who care for children with special needs



\$5,000 - Provides distance learning for one year throughout Alaska



\$10,000 - Provides rural support services in one location for a year

**Stone Soup Group**  
**307 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Ste. 100**  
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**(907) 561-3701**

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