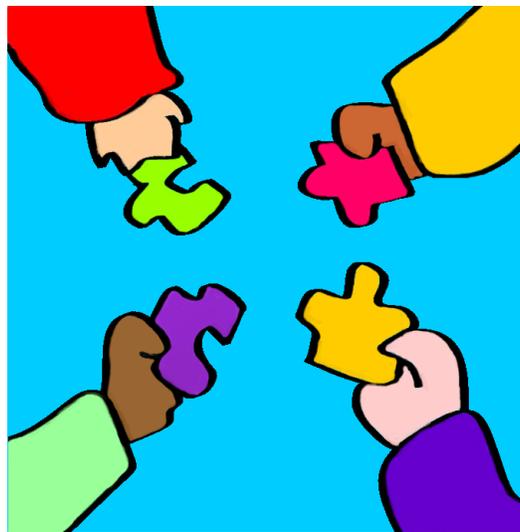


# Marquette Area Autism Resource Guide



April 2012

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This guide is a product of the Marquette Area Autism Summit held January 20, 2012 at the Marquette Women's Federated Club. The summit was organized by Ellen Moore, Kate Kenney, Barb Nelson and Pam Kimble and attended by the following:

Luanne Peterson, MARESA, Dir. Of Special Education

Ann Gendron, Early On Co-coordinator

Dr. Laura Reissner, NMU Department of Education

Sarah Peura, SAIL/SPAR

Kirsten Matthews, OT, sensory processing certified

Mary Swift, Recipient Rights Supervisor, Pathways

Peter Holliday, Director Student Support Services, NMU

Karin Hansard, SEPAC president, Lose the training wheels coordinator

Nancy Conklin, Ishpeming Special Ed. Coordinator

Tara Gluski, Bay Human Services

Steve Lindberg, Michigan House of Representatives

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow's representative, Kane Beauchamp.

Discussion and suggestions from summit attendees were used to compile this guide.

Production of this guide was overseen by Ellen Moore, founder of the Marquette Area Autism Spectrum Support Group. Final decisions of what to include were made by her alone. Inclusion of a service in the guide does not mean that service has the approval or recommendation of the summit attendees or the organizational committee. Any additions or corrections to this guide may be sent to Ellen Moore at [marquetteasd@gmail.com](mailto:marquetteasd@gmail.com).

The most current version of this guide is available for download at

<http://marquetteasdsupport.blogspot.com/>

## **Table of Contents**

Comprehensive Resources .....	1
Advocacy .....	3
Early Childhood Services .....	4
Health Services .....	5
Out-patient Therapy .....	5
Support Groups .....	6
School-based Services .....	6
Recreation and Leisure Activities .....	9
Family Supports .....	10
Transition, Employment and Adult Training .....	11
Housing Options.....	12
Services Pending .....	12
Resource Needs.....	13

## **Comprehensive Resources:**

### **Pathways**

Pathways services are comprehensive for children and adults who qualify. They include case management and supports coordination services. The initial assessment is followed by an Individualized Plan of Service.

Speech, Behavior, and Occupational Therapy services are available based on individual needs. These services include assessment, treatment plan development, treatment plan monitoring, family training, and skill building.

Other services include outpatient therapy, community living supports, respite, vocational services, out of home non-vocational services, adult drop-in center, and psychiatric evaluation and medication review.

To Access Services: Please call 1-888-906-9060. This is a confidential call in which you will be asked questions by a professional clinician. Based on your needs, you may be scheduled for an assessment at Pathways or you will receive information about resources that are available in your community.

Marquette County:

200 West Spring, Street, Marquette, MI. 49855  
(906) 225-1181, fax (906) 225-7204

Alger County:

601 West Superior Street, Munising, MI. 49862  
(906) 387-3611, fax (906) 387-4212

Crisis support line: (888) 728-4929

<http://www.pathwaysup.org>

### **MARESA (Marquette Alger Regional Education Service Agency)**

MARESA is the local Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) and serves as the local Intermediate School District, or ISD. It supports all the local school districts in Marquette and Alger counties, providing services such as special education training and expertise that might not be available in the smaller districts, and it provides programs such as Early On (Michigan's birth to three program), and Transition I and II programs as children approach high school completion.

#### Early On

226-5154, <http://1800earlyon.org/>

Early On assists families with infants and toddlers, from birth until they turn 36 months or 3 years of age, who may be experiencing delays in their development or if they have a

diagnosed disability. Anyone can refer a child to Early On, including a parent. Early On staff can provide screening to see if there is a need for services (they do not diagnose). They can provide in-home therapy if there is a need and other supports such as a weekly playgroup and referrals to other agencies as needed. Weekly playgroups are scheduled throughout the year in Marquette and Negaunee.

#### SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Committee)

Parents have a voice in MARESA through SEPAC. They meet monthly 10 months of the year with the MARESA's Superintendent of Special Education and a member of the MARESA board of education. Twice a year, SEPAC produces a newsletter that goes to all parents of a child with an IEP. They provide to support and organize events for families. Most meetings feature a guest speaker.

#### Autism Consultant

The autism consultant observes children in the classroom and provides support and resources to parents and educators.

#### Transition Programs

MARESA offers two transition programs for eligible students ages 14-26 to help ease the transition from student to adult living. These programs include job training and placement, life skills, and vocational guidance.

#### Sports Camp

The U.P. Sports Training Camp provides a five-day residential camp experience for children with special needs in Marquette and Alger Counties. Preference is given to prior *Sports Training Camp* participants and to youth who meet special education eligibility, are between 10-26 years of age at the beginning of camp, and who have been ineligible or unable to attend another summer camp. Free to Marquette –Alger students who meet special education eligibility.

### **SAIL (Superior Alliance for Independent Living)**

SAIL offers comprehensive services to adults with disabilities and their family members. Recreation programs are for both adults and children. SAIL also offers referrals for services they are not able to provide in-house. They can assist with the following:

Employment: Entering the workforce or returning to work after an injury.

Housing: Finding affordable, accessible housing.

Transportation: Identifying transit solutions to get to work, medical appointments, grocery shopping, or social activities.

SSI/SSDI: Navigating the system by helping individuals with disabilities fill out all the paperwork needed to receive the public assistance to which they are entitled.

Education/Transition: Connecting high school students with topics such as disability awareness, self-advocacy, problem solving, self-esteem, social skills, learning preferences, and career exploration through SAIL's LIFE (Learning Independence From Experience) program.

Community Support: Securing services and supports to live as independently as possible in the community. Partnering with Wayne State's Developmental Disabilities Institute, SAIL has trained two Community Liaisons for the Michigan Family Support Initiative. More information at <http://ddi.wayne.edu/mfsi.php>.

Assistive Technology: Matching individuals with technology to increase or maintain independence and assisting with acquiring funding for technology.

Recreation: Assisting individuals of all ages with social and recreational activities in the community through the **SPAR** (Single Point for Activities and Recreation) program. SPAR activities include but are not limited to adaptive cross country skiing, dances, movies, kayaking, fishing, cooking classes, bowling and art classes.

Individuals interested in receiving quarterly newsletters can call or sign-up online.  
1200 Wright St., Ste 3, Marquette, MI 49855  
Phone/TTY: 906-228-5744, 800-399-7245, Fax: 906-228-5573  
<http://www.upsail.com>

## **Advocacy**

### **Great Start Collaborative**

The purpose of the Great Start Collaborative is to assure a coordinated system of community resources and supports and to assist all families in Marquette and Alger Counties in providing a "great start" for their children from pre-birth through age five.

Core responsibilities of the collaborative include: Enhancing existing early childhood collaboration and coordination; engaging parents, schools, businesses, faith-based organizations, state agencies and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation and coordination of services; promoting community awareness of early childhood issues; and advocating for quality early childhood programs and services.

### ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire)

Free online developmental screening tool for children from birth to five.

Playgroups that are staffed by child development specialists are offered in Ishpeming, Nice, Gwinn, Superior Central and Wells School Districts. Call 226-5247 for the playgroup schedule.

104 Coles Drive, Suite F, Marquette, MI 49855

906-228-3362 OR 877-614-7328

[www.greatstartma.org/](http://www.greatstartma.org/)

### **Marquette-Alger Resolution Service**

Marquette-Alger Resolution Service contracts with the [Michigan Special Education Mediation Program](#). Their volunteer mediators serve as neutral facilitators to help resolve issues that arise between the schools and families. There are no fees for the school or parents for Special Ed mediation or IEP facilitation.

715 W. Washington Street, Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855

(906)226-8600 or (800)873-7658

<http://www.marsmediation.org>

### **Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation**

OFIR is the State of Michigan agency responsible for regulating Michigan's insurance companies. The agency is dedicated to protecting Michigan consumers by ensuring the companies that it regulates are safe and sound, follow state and federal law, and are entitled to the public confidence.

OFIR Consumer Hotline 877-999-6442

<http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,1607,7-154-10555---,00.html>

### **RICC (Regional Interagency Consumer Committee)**

Funded through the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council, A RICC is a local, grassroots, group of people with developmental disabilities, their friends and family members. RICCs have four main functions: (1) to provide a forum for addressing local issues; (2) to outreach to diverse populations of people with developmental disabilities and their families; (3) advocating for needed changes in the community, and (4) to inform the DD Council about local conditions for persons with developmental disabilities.

[http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2941\\_4868\\_4897-14646--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2941_4868_4897-14646--,00.html)

Marquette/Alger RICC meets 2nd Thursday of the month from 1:00-3:00pm.

Location: Call SAIL @ 228-5744 for location as it varies, Contact: Sarah Peura.

## **Early Childhood Services**

### **AMCAB**

Amcab is a local Community Action Agency serving residents of Alger and Marquette Counties in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Amcab provides a wide array of human services that are funded by federal, state and local governments including

- Childcare Partnerships
- Early Head Start
- Head Start
- Michigan School Readiness

1125 Commerce Drive, Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: (906) 228-6522 or (800) 562-9762, Fax: (888) 906-7488

<http://www.amcab.org/>

**Early On** (see MARESA p. 1)

## **Health Services**

### **Dentist:**

Marquette Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Erika Tyler

1025 N. Third Street, Marquette, MI 49855

906-226-3600

### **Marquette General Hospital, Specialty Clinics**

Phone: (906) 225-4777, (800) 562-9753, Ext. 4777

<http://ww4.mgh.org/wcc/SitePages/Speciality%20Clinics.aspx>

### Developmental /Multidisciplinary Assessment Clinic

- Serves children experiencing developmental delays or problems involving learning, behavior and/or development.
- Staffed by a pediatrician with special clinical interest in developmental/behavioral pediatrics, a nurse, and other team members as needed, including a physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech/language therapist and psychologist.
- Offered two to four times a month.

### Genetics Clinic

- Staffed by a team from the University of Michigan that includes a medical geneticist and a genetic counselor.
- Offered three times a year.

## **Outpatient Therapy**

### **Rehabilitation Services, Pediatric Therapy at Bell Teal Lake**

1-906-486-4431 | 1-800-258-8594

### Occupational Therapists (OT)

Kirsten Matthews, MA, OTRL, USC/WPS Certified in Sensory Integration

Joanna Nicholas, OTRL, USC/WPS Certified in Sensory Integration

### Speech Language Pathologists (SLP)

Katherine Kenney, MA, CCC-SLP

Jayne Beall, MA, CCC-SLP

### Physical Therapist (PT)

Dawn Gregory

## **Milestones and Mobility Center**

Pediatric Physical Therapy (PT)

Susan Parker P.T. ATP

1414 W. Fair Ave., Suite 348, Marquette, MI 49855

Ph: 906-225-7960, Fax: 906-225-7983

[saparker@penmed.com](mailto:saparker@penmed.com), [www.milestonesandmobilitycenter.com](http://www.milestonesandmobilitycenter.com)

## **Clinical Psychologists:**

Dr. Karl Hill

107 W. Main St., Marquette, MI 49855

(906) 361-3985

Dr. Ralph Olson

Background in clinical Applied Behavioral Analysis, formerly of Pathways.

220 W. Washington, Ste 420, Marquette, MI 49855

225-5462

Dr. Gary Wautier

Behavioral Health Department, Marquette General Hospital

Marquette, MI

225-3985

**Pathways: Outpatient OT, Speech, Applied Behavioral Analysis** (see p. 1)

## **Support groups**

### **Marquette Area Autism Spectrum Support Group**

<http://marquetteasdsupport.blogspot.com/>

An independent, grassroots support group that looks to the needs of the Marquette autism community. Support meetings are held periodically at the Peter White Public Library and often include a guest speaker. Events sponsored by this group have included playtime at the children's museum, family picnic at a local park, sensory friendly films at Peter White Public Library, and autism awareness movie in April.

**SEPAC** (Special Education Parent Advisory Council) (See MARESA p. 2)

## **School-based Services**

Children ages 3 through high school graduation or age 26 (whichever comes first) are eligible for evaluation and individualized accommodations as needed through their local school district. Needs are determined through the IEP (Individual Education Plan) process.

Young children may be eligible for an ECDD (Early Childhood Developmentally Delayed) preschool program.

Accommodations may include the following: social skills and pragmatics training with a Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapy, sensory breaks in a resource room, one on one aid, extra time for completing assignments.

The contact information for the Special Education Coordinators for each local school district in the Marquette-Alger county region is as follows:

**Autrain-Onota Public Schools**

Special Education: Mary Jane Helton  
P.O. Box 105, N8790 Deerton Road, Deerton, MI 49822  
Telephone: (906)-343-6632, Fax: (906)-343-6633  
<http://autrainonota.maresa.k12.mi.us/>

**Burt Township Schools**

Superintendent: Penney Barney  
P.O. Box 338, Colwell Ave., Grand Marais, MI 49839  
Telephone: (906)-494-2521 or (906)-494-2543, Fax: (906)-494-2522  
[http://grandmaraischools.org/?page\\_id=989](http://grandmaraischools.org/?page_id=989)

**Gwinn Area Community Schools**

Special Education: Kristen Peterson  
50 W. M – 35, Gwinn, MI 49841  
Telephone: (906)-346-9283, Fax: (906)-346-3616  
<http://www.gwinn.k12.mi.us>

**Ishpeming Public Schools**

Special Education: (906) 485-1066 ext. 111  
319 E. Division Street, Ishpeming, MI 49849  
Telephone: (906)-485-5501, Fax: (906)-485-1422  
<http://www.ishpemingschools.org>

**Marquette Area Public Schools**

Special Education: Sandra Barnes 225-4206  
1201 W. Fair Ave, Marquette, MI 49855  
Telephone: (906)-225-4400, Fax: (906)-225-5340  
<http://www.mapsnet.org/DistrictDepartments/SpecialEducation.aspx>

**Munising Public Schools**

810 M-28 West Suite B, Munising, MI 49862  
Telephone: (906)-387-2251, Fax: (906)-387-5416  
<http://www.mps-up.com>

**Negaunee Public Schools**

Kellie Boase, Coordinator of Special Education Programs 906-475-7842

101 South Pioneer Avenue, Negaunee, MI 49866

Telephone: (906)-475-4157, Fax: (906)-475-5107

<http://www.negaunee.k12.mi.us/>

**NICE Community Schools**

Tonya Perry, Special Ed Coordinator, (906) 485-3176

300 Westwood Drive, Ishpeming MI 49849

Telephone: (906) 485-1021, Fax: (906)-485-4095

<http://www.nice.k12.mi.us>

**North Star Academy**

Chief Executive Officer: Karen Anderson

Gene Champagne, Special Education, Telephone: 906-226-0156 X 40

3030 Wright St., Marquette, MI 49855

Telephone: (906) 226-0156, Fax: (906) 226-0167

<http://www.nsacd.com>

**Powell Township School District**

Superintendent: Sam Oslund

101 Deutsch Ave./ PO Box 150, Big Bay, MI 49808

Telephone: (906)-345-9355, Fax: (906)-345-9936

<http://powell.maresa.k12.mi.us/>

**Republic-Michigamme Schools**

Superintendent: Paul Currie

Special Education: Emily Harmon

227 Maple Street, Republic, MI 49879

Telephone: (906)-376-2277, Fax: (906)-376-8299

<https://sites.google.com/site/republicmichigammeschools/>

**Superior Central School District**

Superintendent: Pamela Morris

P.O. Box 148, E2865 Highway 94, Eben Junction, MI 49825

Telephone: (906)-439-5531, Fax: (906)-439-5734

<http://www.superiorcentralschools.org>

**Wells Township School District**

School Administrator: Jackie Cole

P.O. Box 28, Arnold, MI 49819

Telephone: (906)-238-4200, Fax: (906)-238-4200

<http://wells.maresa.k12.mi.us/>

## **Recreation and Leisure Activities**

### **Young Athletes**

A developmentally appropriate play program for children with special needs ages two to eight and their families. Meets at Sandy Knoll Gymnasium from 6:30-7:30 on scheduled Monday evenings during the school year.

Contact Heidi Dougan 225-4322 or Barb Nelson 226-5176 for more information.

### **Willow Farm Therapeutic Riding**

Group riding and individual hippotherapy sessions available during spring and fall for youth ages 4-26

5048 U.S. 41 South

Marquette, MI 49855

906-228-4666

<http://www.wftriding.org>

**SPAR** (See SAIL p.3)

**Early On Playgroup** through (see MARESA p.1)

**Great Start Playgroups** (see Great Start p.4)

### **Lose the Training Wheels**

Lose the Training Wheels (LTTW) is a week-long bike camp that teaches children and adults with special-needs how to ride a conventional two wheel bike without training wheels. The bike camp has been held in the U.P. for several years and has been a huge success each year with about 95% of the bikers riding a two wheel bike independently by the end of the camp. Bike camp for 2012 will be held June 11-15, 2012 at the Lakeview Arena. Information and registration is available online.

<http://losethetrainingwheelsmqt.org/>

### **Superioland Aktion Club**

(Kiwanis program) run like a regular Kiwanis club by people with disabilities—they do their own fundraising and select causes in the community they wish to support. They meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 1:30-2:30pm in Marquette. Contact: Elicia Herkert @ SAIL 228-5744

### **YMCA of Marquette County Special Needs classes**

Gymnastics for children ages 3-6, karate, and swimming for ages 3 and up. Call program director at 227-9622 for more information.

1420 Pine Street, Marquette, MI 49855

**Sports training camp** (ages 10-26) (see MARESA p.2)

**Lake Superior Theatre Drama and Dreams Playscape Summer Camp**

The camp is designed to help children, ages 8-14, work on socialization and communication skills as they learn about theatre, costume and set design, stage make-up, facial expression, voice projection, team building and leadership. Dates for 2012 are August 20-23. The cost is \$40 per camper, with some scholarships available. For more information and to enroll, contact the staff at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center: (906) 228-0472 or [arts@mqtcty.org](mailto:arts@mqtcty.org).

### **Camp R.E.A.C.T.**

This weekend-long camping experience for children on the autism spectrum is organized by the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD and held each May at Bay Cliff Health Camp. The cost is \$65 each per camper and per staff person. A staff person who is already familiar with that camper's needs must accompany each camper. For more information contact Tim Bradley at 906-687-2356 or Bay Cliff Health Camp P.O. Box 310, Big Bay, MI 49808 • (906) 345-9314 • Fax (906) 345-9890 • [baycliff@baycliff.org](mailto:baycliff@baycliff.org) • [www.baycliff.org](http://www.baycliff.org)

## **Family Supports**

### **Sibshops, Marquette General Hospital Women's and Children's Center**

Brothers and sisters of children with autism and other special needs meet monthly and talk with each other. They'll have an opportunity to talk about the good and not-so-good parts of having a sibling with a disability. At *Sibshops*, siblings will share these complex feelings with others who truly understand. Most importantly though, *Sibshops* are fun! Participants play new games, cook lunches, and make new friends. Small participation fee. For more information call : 906-225-3081.

### **Michigan Dept. of Community Health:**

[http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2941\\_4868\\_7145---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2941_4868_7145---,00.html)

Has a number of programs to help families. Some are based more on income and some are based more on the severity of the disability. Resource information includes specifics on who qualifies for subsidies to parents and other resources such as respite for parents who don't otherwise qualify for their services, and Insurance Advocacy for home-based programs.

Below is some of the information found there:

The Family Support Subsidy (FSS) Program provides financial assistance to families that include a child with severe developmental disabilities. The intent is to help make it possible for children with developmental disabilities to remain with or return to their birth or adoptive families. The program provides a monthly payment of \$222.11. Families are able to use this money for special expenses incurred while caring for their child.

Qualifications:

- Child must be younger than 18 years of age and live in the family home in Michigan.
- The family's most recently filed Michigan income tax form must show a taxable income of \$60,000 or less.
- The Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team of the local public or intermediate school district must recommend the child for an educational eligibility category of severe cognitive impairment, severe multiple impairment or autism spectrum disorder. Children with autism spectrum disorder must be receiving special education services in a program for students with autism spectrum disorder or in a program for students with severe cognitive impairment or severe multiple impairments.

The Children's Waiver Program (CWP) is a federal entitlement program that provides Medicaid funded home and community-based services to children (under age 18) who are eligible for, and at risk of, placement into an Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR).

## **Transition, Employment and Adult Training**

**Transition I & II** (see MARESA p.2)

**L.I.F.E. program** (see SAIL p.3 )

**Pathways** (see p.1)

### **Michigan Rehab Services (MRS)**

MRS works with eligible customers and employers to achieve quality employment outcomes and independence for individuals with disabilities.

Marquette Main MRS Office

1498 O'Dovero Drive, Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855

906-226-6578, 800-562-7860 (Toll Free), 906-226-6458 (TTY/Voice)

[http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-25392\\_40237\\_40239-15709--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-25392_40237_40239-15709--,00.html)

### **Michigan Works**

1498 O'Dovero Dr., Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: (906) 228-3075, Fax: (906) 228-4372

<http://michiganworks.org>

### **Northern Michigan University Disability Services**

NMU can help direct its students with autism through their disability services department (part of Student Support Services). They offer tutors, advising and special outings to help integrate these students into the college experience.

2001 C.B. Hedgcock, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: 906-227-1700, Fax: 906-227-1714

E-mail: [disserv@nmu.edu](mailto:disserv@nmu.edu), Web: <http://webb.nmu.edu/DisabilityServices/>

## **Housing Options**

### **LARC (Living as a Real Community) Marquette**

A community of supported living homes for adults with developmental disabilities. The structure of each home consists of residents who pay monthly rent and housing expenses, and full time assistants. Residents and assistants share in the daily planning and decision making for the home.

PO Box 487, Marquette, MI 49855

<http://www.larcmarquette.org/>

### **Sundara Non-profit Housing Corp.**

401 Lincoln Ave, Marquette, MI 49855

Tel: (906) 225-0848

### **Bay Human Services**

Contracts with Pathways to provide housing options and independent living training

119 W. Baraga Ave., Marquette, MI 49855

273-1198

### **Adult Learning Systems U.P.**

Contracts with Pathways to provide housing options and independent living training

290 Rublein St. Suite F, Marquette, MI 49855

(906)228-7370

<http://www.adultlearningsystems.com>

## **Services Pending** (check back later this year or next)

### **Great Lakes Recovery**

This organization is looking to expand their services to include comprehensive autism resources.

**Peer to Peer supports** in the schools have been approved but still need to be established.

### **Lakestate State Industries**

This company currently employs well over a hundred people in Delta county who would otherwise have barriers to employment. Currently they are looking to expand their business into Marquette. If you are interested in helping to make this happen, contact Cheryl at [cherylo@laketateindustires.org](mailto:cherylo@laketateindustires.org).

P.O. Box 279

1830 N. 21ST Street

Escanaba, MI 49829

906/786-9212.

<http://www.lakestateindustries.org/>

## **Resource Needs**

The Autism Summit not only identified existing resources, but also those we would like to see added to our community. If you are a professional interested in expanding services in this community, we invite you to become involved in the Marquette Area Autism Support Group and to consider the following needs:

- Funding for services other than Medicaid
- Advocacy
- Increased awareness
- Education/Awareness within Medical field
- Training for parents
- Identify websites/services to outlying areas
- Knowledge of how to work system (such as 2<sup>nd</sup> opinion option at Pathways)
- Summer programs
- Daycare
- Training for community service providers
- Baycliff summer camp
- PALS @Pathways (reinstate)
- Programs for kids ages 4-8 and 12-16
- Additional support for community services
- Create appropriate staffing ratio for programs that want to be inclusive
- Training for aides
- Employment opportunities
- Transportation
- Training for employers on how to utilize individuals with ASD
- Community living supports
- Housing options
- Opportunities for productive living
- Medical transition
- Tracking system through local law enforcement
- Life planning for special needs