



August 29, 2005 Newsletter

US Autism and Asperger Association needs your help! In view of the tremendous needs of families with children on the autism spectrum in the Gulf area hit by Hurricane Katrina, Unlocking Autism, [www.unlockingautism.org/](http://www.unlockingautism.org/), has set up their website to accept donations for these specific needs. Shelley Reynolds, Unlocking Autism President, lives in Baton Rouge as well as several other UA volunteers. They also have a UA State Representative who lives just outside of New Orleans. If you would like to specifically help these families you may do so donating specifically to the Gulf Disaster Relief program at the Unlocking Autism web site at [http:// www.unlockingautism.org/](http://www.unlockingautism.org/).

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#### Help Is Needed For Autism Families Hit By Hurricane Katrina

For more information about helping families with children on the autism spectrum in the Gulf area, visit the Unlocking Autism web site at <http://www.unlockingautism.org>

#### Ten Things Every Child with Autism Wishes You Knew

Some days it seems the only predictable thing about it is the unpredictability. The only consistent attribute, the inconsistency. There is little argument on any level but that autism is baffling, even to those who spend their lives around it.  
Read on...

#### TIP of the week - Recognize distractions in and around the clinic.

I spent many nonproductive hours in physician's waiting rooms. I noticed many distractions at various clinics. Four of these distractions are considerable and demand attention: 1.Lack of physical accommodations for children with special needs. 2.Unfamiliarity of office staff working with autistic children. 3.Fluorescent lighting producing "flickering" that may become a severe distraction to an autistic child. 4.Lengthy and cumbersome physician forms. (excerpt from "Diagnosis Autism: Now What?" (Step 2)

Read on...

#### Visit the USAAA booth at DAN! Conference



Join us at the DAN! Conference in Long Beach, California October 27-30, 2005. We will have updated information on the USAAA conference scheduled for August 10-13, 2006. Be sure to stop by the booth and learn about membership benefits with USAAA.

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