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Hello,

The Walter R. Musty Homes for Autism Foundation continues to create awareness for the many issues people with autism face every day, with a special focus on housing. Only 19% of autistic adults have ever lived outside their family home and waitlists for housing are inconceivably long. Over the next decade, an estimated 707,000 - 1,116,000 of teens with autism will age into adulthood and out of school-based autism services. Parents face an unimaginable feeling, know their child's options for education, healthcare, employment, housing, and social interactions are severely limited after 21 years old.

According to *Autism Speaks*, research demonstrates that job activities that encourage independence reduce autism symptoms and increase daily living skills. We are excited to announce WRM Homes for Autism is currently in the process of designing a farm environment that provides the community and its residents with lifelong opportunities for reciprocal partnerships. An inclusive farm setting offers rich, varied, and abundant opportunities for self-paced, distraction-free activities that are perceived as immediately meaningful. People are able to see the process of their work and are able to enjoy the product of their labor. It includes horticulture, classes and programs, jobs, housing, and so much more. We will continue to announce more information as the project progresses.

Our 8th annual charity golf tournament is being held on June 5, 2021 at Harvest Hill Golf Course in Orchard Park, NY to raise funds for the farm community project. We are asking for your support through monetary donations, event sponsorship, golf tournament registration, and/or basket raffle donations. On behalf of the Walter R. Musty Homes for Autism Foundation, we thank you in advance for your consideration and hope we can count on your support.

Sincerely,

Cindy Wetzl

Mother of 2 autistic sons

Board Member

