



For Immediate Release
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Kyle's Treehouse Launches Autism151.com for Autism Awareness Month
150 Stories. One community of hope.

April 6, 2009 - Philadelphia, PA —**Kyle's Treehouse**—an online resource for families living with autism, announces their new initiative for April's Autism Awareness Month: **Autism151**, *150 stories of hope, strength and inspiration*. Autism151 focuses on the positive side of the autism experience by creating a single location where families can share stories of strength, inspiration and success with one another, giving them even more reasons to hope.

Where does the name Autism151 come from?: 1 in 150 children are diagnosed with autism. Until now, there have been few resources for those living with autism to come together as a community to share ideas, resources and most importantly—success. Autism151 is about inspiring families with stories of success. It is a vital resource reminding families that they are not alone in their struggles and helping them celebrate their achievements. The campaign's goal is to gather 150 inspirational stories by April 30, 2009 and post them online. These will be real life videos of children and families who are thriving in spite of autism and even some that have conquered it.

To kick off this initiative, Autism151 is starting with the story of Kyle, Jenifer and Jeff Westphal —founders of Kyle's Treehouse—and their story about dealing with autism. Jenifer and Jeff discovered that Kyle had autism when he was about 3 1/2 years old, but through hard work, trial and error and a lot of love from many people, they were eventually able to bring Kyle out of his autism.

Autism is difficult but there is beauty in it -- While it's important for us to continue to look for answers, the most important thing today, right now, is to find a way to celebrate our children - create your own kind of hope and love in the every day. You are not alone! Being one of the "1 in 150" makes you special and part of a very large community. And while living with autism or having a child with autism can be a challenge, there is a special kind of hope, love and enlightenment that comes from the experience. For people in the autism community, I believe Autism151.com is the voice of hope in a room full of gloom.

- Jenifer Westphal

The Westphals, Kyle's Treehouse, and Autism151 are calling upon you to tell someone you know coping with autism to share their story of hope and join the movement at www.autism151.com. There are wonderful stories of hope everywhere. Kyle's Treehouse and Autism151's goal is to bring them together in order to share them with each other and the world.

Visit. Upload. Share. Autism151
150 Stories. One Community of hope.

About Kyle's Treehouse

Kyle's Treehouse, a 501 (c) 3 organization, is dedicated to empowering all people touched by autism to make effective choices. The organization and website was founded by Jenifer and Jeffrey Westphal, whose son Kyle was diagnosed with autism in 1998, The Westphals spent the next three years trying to navigate the often conflicting ways to approach and cope with the diagnosis. Their journey amounted to a self-directed investigation. In the end, they implemented The Son-Rise Program® for 3 ½ years in combination with dietary, sensory and alternative therapies, which have proved to be highly effective. Today, Kyle functions as a communicative, creative and engaged teenager.

The frustration the Westphals experienced on this difficult journey led them to launch www.kylestreehouse.org, a website that helps newly diagnosed families sift through the mountains of autism information, learn about a wide range of treatment options and share their questions, concerns, and experiences with other families through online community forums.

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