



# Media Advisory:

## Caesars Windsor Cares Announces Pledge of \$10,000 to Support Autistic Adults Attending the Bruce Awad Summer Program

*For Immediate Release: Tuesday, August 6th, 2024*

**What:** Caesars Windsor Cares has pledged a \$10,000 donation to support adult attendance at the Bruce Awad Summer Program provided by **Autism Services Incorporated of Windsor & Essex County (ASI)**. ASI has been delivering quality summer programming to autistic individuals since 1984. Our one-on-one format allows for maximum support and individualized opportunities to learn both in the classroom and community.

**Who:** **Jillian Fenech**, Executive Director, Autism Services Inc.  
**Mary Riley**, Vice-President of Marketing & Resort Operations, Caesars Windsor  
**Bruce Awad**, Past President of the Board of Directors at Autism Services Inc.

**When:** **Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm.**

**Where:** **Bruce Awad Summer Program – Windsor Location**  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Help School**  
**775 Capitol St., Windsor, ON (Front Entrance)**  
Media may park on site for free. Additional parking can be found across the street at the park or on Capitol Street.

For media representatives who plan to be in attendance, please **RSVP via email by contacting Sheena Bechard at [asifunddeveloper@gmail.com](mailto:asifunddeveloper@gmail.com) or by phone at 519-966-7283.**



## **Caesars Windsor Cares announced pledge of \$10,000 to support Autism Services Inc. summer programming for autistic adults**

**For Immediate Release:** Thursday, August 8th, 2024

**Windsor, ON** - On the morning of Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Caesars Windsor Cares announced their support of a summer program benefiting local autistic adults through Autism Services Incorporated of Windsor & Essex County (ASI). \$10,000 from Caesars has made it possible for ASI to continue to offer summer program opportunities for autistic adults ages 18-21 years of age. A small group of attendees, representative of a 'gap' in services available in Windsor-Essex, will continue to have activities that support community-based learning and skill-building, reduce social isolation, and enrich the lives of local autistic young-adults at the Bruce Awad Summer Program.

"Through the generosity of the Caesars Windsor Cares donation, ASI can ensure these young adults are provided with individualized opportunities to enhance their skills and increase their sense of belonging in the community," says Jillian Fenech, Executive Director of ASI. "Many autistic students remain in school until age 21, so ASI's program is providing continuity across those summer months. Without consistent opportunities to practice their skills, some individuals might struggle to transition back to their routine in September. Attendance at ASI's Bruce Awad Summer program allows young adults to build life skills that will increase independence and community involvement."

ASI expresses gratitude to Caesars Windsor Cares for their support of this vital community resource for this vulnerable, and often overlooked group. Future programs presented by Autism Services Inc. will be available on our website at [autismservicesinc.com](https://autismservicesinc.com).

"We are honoured to partner with Autism Services Inc. to provide not only a summer filled with fun and play, but also opportunities for community-based learning and skill-building, all the while reducing social isolation. Windsor-Essex is where we call home and we are proud of our strong legacy of volunteering and investing, right here in our community." - Mary Riley, VP of Marketing & Resort Operations.

### **About Autism Services Inc.: Bruce Awad Summer Program**

Since 1984, Autism Services Incorporated has provided a Summer Program for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). This unique program offers daily support in the months of July and August to autistic individuals up to 21 years. Qualified and specially trained staff consisting of directors, supervisors and support workers oversee the program. As a show of appreciation to Bruce Awad, the creator of the program, the Board of Directors of ASI officially named the program “The Bruce Awad Summer Program” on June 14, 2010.

Students are supported one-to-one, which is critical to the success of the program. The number of persons accepted into the program each year depends on the amount of funding received from provincial and federal government grants, donations and proceeds from various fundraising events. Due to the tremendous need in the community, there is often a waiting list of families who wish to enroll their loved one into ASI’s Summer Program.

### **About Caesars Windsor Cares**

Caesars Windsor Cares proudly supports local organizations that work toward building a better future for our community. Through corporate giving, volunteering, and fundraising, we work to continually enrich the community by contributing in long-lasting, sustainable ways. Since 1994, funding and in-kind resources have been allocated to support missions that positively impact the greatest number possible across the Health and Wellness, Environment Sustainability and Conservation, Community Enrichment, and Senior sectors.

### **For further information or any questions about ASI’s Bruce Awad Summer Program and partnership opportunities, please contact:**

Sheena Bechard – Fund Development Coordinator, Autism Services Inc. Email: [asifunddeveloper@gmail.com](mailto:asifunddeveloper@gmail.com)



**Media Event Agenda: Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 12:30pm**  
(Our Lady of Perpetual Help School: 775 Capitol Street, Windsor, Ontario)

Autism Services Incorporated of Windsor & Essex County announces Caesars Windsor Cares' support of Adult Summer Programming.

<b><i>Time</i></b>	<b><i>Activity</i></b>
12:30 pm	Arrival of media and invited guests
12:35 pm	Opening remarks from <b>Jillian Fenech</b> , Executive Director, ASI
12:40 pm	Remarks from <b>Mary Riley</b> , Vice-President of Marketing & Resort Operations, Caesars Windsor
12:45 pm	Remarks from <b>Bruce Awad</b> , Past President ASI Board of Directors
12:50 pm	Closing remarks from <b>Jillian Fenech</b> , Executive Director, ASI
12:55 pm	Photo Opportunities followed by tour of program