

Press Release

Contact: Jennifer Frey
Email: Marketing@ASNCMeck.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
9 A.M. EDT, April 18, 2013

**AUTISM SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA – MECKLENBURG COUNTY
CHAPTER PRESENTS \$12,500 GIFT TO CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG
SCHOOLS AUTISM PROGRAM**

CHARLOTTE, NC, APRIL 18, 2013: April is Autism Awareness Month and the Autism Society of North Carolina – Mecklenburg County Chapter (ASNC-MCC) is excited to present a gift of \$12,500 to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) for the purchase of 22 iPads for the self-contained autism classrooms. Training and iPads will be in place this August for the new school year.

“We have already seen an amazing impact in our classrooms with the use of the iPads we currently possess. The areas of communication, behavior, social skills and academics have all been positively impacted by this device. Student engagement has proven to increase for many students while utilizing the iPad. We are so excited for this opportunity for our students,” says Carrie Stewart, Program Specialist for Autism with CMS.

Funding for the iPads is raised through the Chapter’s annual Autism Aware Fare, which will be taking place on Tuesday, April 23rd this year and is being presented by Levine Children’s Hospital. “We are humbled by the generosity of Charlotte area restaurants and business who have enabled us to present this donation to CMS for iPads in self-contained autism classrooms. Through this event we hope to raise more funds and awareness to help those families and individuals who live with autism every day,” says Kathy Snyder, Autism Aware Fare Chairperson.

For more information on the Autism Society of North Carolina – Mecklenburg County Chapter, please contact Jennifer Frey at Marketing@ASNCMeck.org. To learn more about Autism Aware Fare visit www.AutismAwareFare.org.



Pictured left to right: *Representing CMS' Autism Program - Alana Iannello, Teri Moffett, and Caroline (Carrie) Stewart. Representing Autism Society of NC – Meck County Chapter – Sumi Ganesh, Jennifer Frey, and Kathy Snyder. Shelby Hazelip, Blythe Elementary AU Teacher, Gina Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Programs for Exceptional Children, and Patricia (Patti) Johanson, Blythe Elementary Principal*

The Autism Society of North Carolina – Mecklenburg County Chapter is a non-profit local chapter of the Autism Society of North Carolina, which provides support and promotes opportunities that enhance the lives of individuals within the autism spectrum and their families.