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Autism Village launches crowd funding campaign with Kickstarter to create a FREE Specialized 'Ratings and Review' APP for the Global Autism Community

CHESTER SPRINGS, Pa. —Autism Village, is a new not for profit organization, that is using the crowdsourcing fundraiser, Kickstarter, in order to launch a FREE, cross- platform, ratings and review "App" to uniquely serve the growing autism community. Their goal is to launch a "Yelp for Autism" app in the next quarter.

Currently 1 in 68 children are born with an autistic spectrum disorder. Topher Wurts founder and father of his autistic son Kirby, founded Autism Village to create practical day-to-day tools to help parents and families that are caring for Autistic children. The first tool Autism Village will release is the "The Autism Village App" which is a free service for all users where community members help to build the unique database of Autism Friendly services and places. This database will include ratings and reviews on businesses, organizations and places for "autism friendliness".

"We launched on Kickstarter to help us raise funds and to also raise awareness for this really practical tool. Our goal is to improve the daily lives of autistic children and their families through the use of this app." says Topher Wurts, Autism Village founder. "We say it's like 'Yelp for autism' because it will provide autism parents and the autism community with the capability of finding, adding, rating and reviewing businesses, organizations and places specifically for autism friendliness."

The App is already in development but Autism Village plans to use The Kickstarter funds to finish and release the app. Autism Village hopes to overachieve the initial Kickstarter goal for the iPhone version so that an Android and Web version can also be launched.

From technical and marketing points of view, the Kickstarter funds will, among other things, finalize the back-end of the of the database and delivery system, complete the user interface design, complete the graphics for the screens, and finalize the development of the apps.

"From personal experience I know that if you're an autistic parent, you are always looking for a good place to go with your autistic child that is safe, won't freak the child out, where people understand and are helpful instead of staring and sneering," Wurts says. "Also, we are always looking for a place where we—the parents—can feel comfortable and can have fun being ourselves."

Eventually, Autism Village will need to fund the ongoing operation of the apps, and is in the process of forming a 501c3 non-profit entity to manage the free service.

"Many of the great rewards we've planned for our donors are one-of-a-kind items signed by my son, Kirby Wurts such as silver puzzle piece charm assembled by Kirby and handmade autism awareness candles made by autistic adults. We even have a VIP dinner and dance party with the Autism Village team and Kirby as a unique reward. We are confident that our campaign on Kickstarter is going to be a great success and a great stepping stone in helping to change the day-to-day experience of autistic families everywhere," says Wurts.

Autism Village is looking for help getting out the word about our new Kickstarter campaign. Please go to www.autismvillage.com or go to Kickstarter.com and search for Autism Village to pledge a donation to the campaign.

About Autism Village

Autism Village, is a not for profit organization, that is developing the world's first suite of mobile and online tools to help manage life on the autism spectrum. Autism Village's practical services aim to improve life for everyone with autism and for those who love them. Autism Village was founded by Autism dad, Topher Wurts in 2013 as a passion project and is now launching a mobile ratings and review app that will improve the way autism families all over the world find places and services that are autism friendly for their children.