

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, September 24, 2015

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BRIDGEWAY HOUSE TO LAUNCH PILOT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO BUILD SOCIAL SKILLS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH AUTISM WITH A COMPREHENSIVE SERIES OF WORKSHOPS

Eugene, Ore. – Bridgeway House recently announced the launch of a new pilot program entitled SHAPE to assist young people with autism and Asperger syndrome to gain a social understanding of compassion, respect, and social justice through an interactive curriculum.

SHAPE stands for sexuality, health, and personal exploration. Designed for young people from fourth grade through twelfth grade, the program will present 25 workshops focused on sexual health, personal responsibility, hygiene, and building relationship skills.

Bridgeway House will detail the program to interested parents with an open registration Thursday, October 15, 2015 at their Eugene office, located at 1551 Oak Street, Suite B. from 7 to 9 p.m.

“The SHAPE program will promote increased understanding, awareness, and respect for the diverse world we live in,” said Patricia Wigney, Bridgeway House executive director.

“These workshops will help our students gain confidence and avoid bullying and abuse which are much more prevalent in children diagnosed with autism,” Wigney said.

In collaboration with Kick for Autism, Taekwondo classes are provided as a part of the SHAPE program. Training in martial arts helps individuals with autism develop self-discipline, improve social skills, build confidence and reduce stress, Wigney said.

“This unique Taekwondo partnership will provide a way for participants to integrate the SHAPE lesson into purposeful movement,” Wigney said.

For more information about Bridgeway House and Bridgeway House School, please visit <http://www.bridgewayhouse.org>.

About the Bridgeway House

Bridgeway House is a nonprofit organization founded in 2002 to offer developmental therapies, enrichment courses, and support to children and families of all income levels with autism and related disabilities. Bridgeway House’s therapeutic programs are designed to help this diverse and ever-increasing group of children meet the challenges of autism and help their families with the emotional, financial, and social challenges they face. Services include therapies, social skills groups, summer camps, parent skills groups, family social events, an annual theatre production, and a private school for children with autism. Bridgeway House offers scholarships for all their programs so they are affordable to families from all walks of life.

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