



BOYS KNIGHT OUT

Benefiting Marcus Autism Center

Kefi Atlanta

Friday, April 17th 2020 | 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Benefiting



Children'sSM
Healthcare of Atlanta

kefi.

BENEFITING


Marcus
AUTISM CENTER

**NIH Autism Center
of Excellence**

WWW.CHOA.ORG/BOYSKNIGHTOUT

Dear Marcus Autism Supporter,

Thanks to partnerships with local businesses and our committed community of donors, Marcus Autism Center has been able to reach more families than ever, expand our research efforts and help to brighten the lives of so many children diagnosed with autism every year. However, our work is not yet done. 1 in 59 children in the U.S. are living with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). **Did you know boys are almost five times more likely than girls to be identified with ASD in Georgia?**

With these staggering statistics in mind, please help us continue to care for these children and their families by being a part of our Inaugural Boys Knight Out at Kefi on Friday, April 17th benefiting Marcus Autism Center. We would like to invite you to show your support by being a sponsor at our event. This mother-son event will include a kid-friendly dinner and exclusive, after-hours access to Atlanta's hottest new interactive play space, Kefi. Our "knights" will enjoy themed activities while the "ladies" will be treated to pampering and a silent auction. Moms will enjoy a date night with their sons while helping us raise money for Marcus Autism Center during Autism Awareness Month. Aunts, grandmothers and special friends are invited to participate as well!

Marcus Autism Center is a not-for-profit organization and subsidiary of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta that treats over 5,000 children with autism and related disorders every year. As one of the only centers in the southeast for treatment of autism and related disorders, Marcus Autism Center offers families clinical care in diagnosis, language and learning, severe behavior and feeding disorders. Support from donors helps Marcus Autism Center develop programs, investigate new treatment options and make services available to children with these disorders.

Autism is an immense issue that affects thousands of families, and we need to continue our efforts towards early detection and intervention. Thank you for your consideration of this special opportunity. Your support as a sponsor will help continue the excellent work of Marcus Autism Center. A list of sponsorship levels and benefits, together with a commitment form, is enclosed for your convenience. We look forward to hearing your response by **March 6, 2020**.

With gratitude for your consideration,

Meredith Underwood
Boys Knight Out Chair, 2020

Meredith Snapp
Boys Knight Out Sponsorship Chair



EVENT CHAIR

Meredith Underwood

SPONSORSHIP CHAIR

Meredith Snapp

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MARCUS AUTISM CENTER



MEET CHARLIE

Right now in the U.S., autism affects nearly 1 in 59 children. For the Carter family, they noticed almost immediately after Charlie was born that something wasn't quite right. His vocabulary was extremely limited, he was sensitive to sound and he was not engaging in eye contact with his family.

By the age of 3, Charlie was taking private speech therapy and beginning a special needs pre-K. By that point, the Carters had gotten more information about autism, and they didn't feel like they could wait the extra few years to get Charlie evaluated in the school system.

So, they turned to Marcus Autism Center. Right from the start, they knew they were in the right place. "The staff treated us so kindly," Katherine said. "The warmth that Charlie felt made him feel like he could try and open up and communicate as best he could."

After several visits, the family received Charlie's official diagnosis—classic autism. They were heartbroken. "He wasn't any different from the day before when he didn't have the diagnosis—but now everything was going to have to change," Katherine said. "It made me realize that things are going to be different. Not bad, but different, and we were going to have to adapt."

Armed with his diagnosis, Katherine made copies of his report and brought enough for everyone at Charlie's school who works with him. She wanted them all to know everything about Charlie. The family also enrolled in a 12-week behavior analysis therapy program. Each week, a clinician would come out to the Carter's house in Conyers. Together, they would work on how to deal with situations that would come up at home, like snack time and picking up toys, and how to avoid temper tantrums and bouts of frustration.

"We've learned to give him choices—like asking him to pick up only red Legos, or working in shifts, Katherine said. "It's made it more manageable for him." For Katherine and her husband Stacy, it's also been important, because Charlie needed to see that they could be stern with him while still being caring, nurturing parents.

Charlie is not solely defined by his autism. Like other kids, he loves playing outside, watching videos on YouTube and talking about video games. He plays sports with a non-profit group called Exceptional Kids Athletics. When they go to family gatherings, everyone knows there's a chance Charlie may become overwhelmed—but they just make sure he has an escape route, a place where he can feel safe and can sit quietly by himself or watch TV.

His family doesn't know what Charlie's life will be like when he gets older. Katherine hopes that whatever possibilities are out there for him, he will be able to take advantage of them. Part of it becomes a daily task—just tackling each obstacle that you can, at each turn and curve in their journey together. "You just have to keep doing the next right thing," Katherine said.

BOYS KNIGHT OUT

Sponsorship Opportunities

Presenting Sponsor - \$3,000

- 15 tickets to Boys Knight Out
- Most prominent name placement on Boys Knight Out materials: website, electronic invitation and marketing materials.
- Social media recognition on Friends of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Facebook Page
- Prominent logo placement on signage at event.

King & Queen Sponsor - \$1,000

- 10 tickets to Boys Knight Out
- Prominent name placement on Boys Knight Out materials: website, electronic invitation and marketing materials.
- Logo placement on signage at event.

Lord & Lady Sponsor - \$500

- 8 tickets to Boys Knight Out
- Name placement on Boys Knight Out materials: website, electronic invitation and marketing materials.
- Recognition on event signage

Knight & Dame Sponsor - \$250

- 6 tickets to Boys Knight Out
- Name placement on Boys Knight Out materials: website, electronic invitation and marketing materials.
- Recognition on event signage

The tax-deductible portion of your Boys Knight Out contribution is equal to the excess of the dollar amount over the good faith estimate of the fair market value of the goods or services provided. Fair Market Value for each ticket is \$35.

BOYS KNIGHT OUT

Sponsorship Commitment

NAME: _____
(as you wish to appear in printed materials)

Please use my logo. (Send .jpg and high-resolution logo to lynn.leslie@choa.org)

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting Sponsor (\$3,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lord & Lady Sponsor (\$500) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> King & Queen Sponsor (\$1,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Knight & Dame Sponsor (\$250) |

PAYMENT

Please charge my credit card:

NAME ON CARD: _____

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXPIRATION: _____

Pay online: www.choa.org/boysknightout

Check enclosed for \$ _____ made payable to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Please complete this form and return with payment to:

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation
Lynn Leslie / Boys Knight Out
3395 NE Expressway, Atlanta, GA 30341

Thank you for your generous support! Email Lynn Leslie with any questions.

Lynn.Leslie@choa.org

*To guarantee your sponsorship listing will appear on The Boys Knight Out electronic invitation,
your commitment must be received by March 6, 2020.*