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## **Annual Fundraiser for Good Friend, Inc. Exceeds Goal**

*Team fundraisers, sponsorships, raffles, and online auction contribute to event success.*

WAUKESHA — [Good Friend, Inc.](http://goodfriendinc.com)'s (GFI) 13th annual Rockin' for Good Friend Autism Acceptance Bowling FUNdraiser, presented by Stark Pavement Corporation, surpassed its goal and raised over \$28,000 for the nonprofit. The bowling event, held on May 15, included both virtual and in-person participation, contests, an onsite raffle for attendees, and an online auction open to the general public. Funds from the event go directly to GFI's mission to create autism awareness, teach acceptance of differences, and foster empathy for individuals on the autism spectrum.

Contest categories included Top Fundraiser, Best Costume (Team and Child), and Highest Series Bowling Score. Teams and individuals were also encouraged to create a GoFundMe Charity page and ask for donations. The event's Top Fundraiser was again Camryn Rossa (Colgate), who raised over \$13,000 for GFI's autism awareness-acceptance-empathy mission.

"This event is our main fundraiser and we were so happy to be able to offer our in-person event this year," said Chelsea Budde, Executive Director. "We put protocols in place and changed our procedures for less touchpoints and more social distancing to keep all attendees safe. We thank our board members, volunteers, staff, and participants for shifting with us and helping make our event so successful. We are already planning next year's event at Village Bowl, scheduled for May 7, 2022."

### **About Good Friend, Inc.**

Autism is now diagnosed at a rate of 1 in 54 children, and is prevalent in 2.2 percent of adults in the U.S. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020). Since 2007, GFI has conducted services for students and professionals, explaining autism in age-appropriate, user-friendly terminology using positive, interactive tools to help others "step in the shoes" of someone on the spectrum. To date, the nonprofit has reached more than 54,000 people with its message of autism awareness, acceptance, and empathy. For more information, visit [goodfriendinc.com](http://goodfriendinc.com).

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