

## Asperger's Society of Ontario Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon Charity Challenge

5km Walk/Run, Half or Full Marathon on Sunday September 27, 2009

**Help make a difference - Walk/Run 5km and Fundraise or Donate!**



At 9 years old, "Joey" had already had enough of the isolation, bullying, and feelings of worthlessness. He truly believed his family would be better off without him, so he asked his mom to kill him because he didn't know how to do it himself....

As tragic as it is, Joey's story is all too real and common for people struggling with Asperger Syndrome.

### ***What is Asperger Syndrome (AS)?***

Asperger Syndrome (AS) is an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) that inhibits a person's ability to function in society. The key characteristic of children and adults with AS is a significant impairment in social interaction.



Although children and adults with AS have average to above average intelligence, they find it difficult to function well in school, make friends or find stable employment. Without diagnosis, treatment, support and intervention, an AS individual can be marginalized and withdraw from society — they face higher rates of unemployment, as well as suicide and drug abuse, often at a very young age.



AS individuals can flourish with focused intervention, particularly in childhood. Some individuals have become leaders in their chosen fields and even Nobel Prize winners!

**Please visit [www.aspergers.ca](http://www.aspergers.ca) today to register to walk/run 5km. Wear a purple shirt for Asperger Syndrome!**

**For more information, contact Michael Busuttil, Team Captain at 416 819 4505 or [mbusuttil@rogers.com](mailto:mbusuttil@rogers.com). Follow us on Twitter: aspergerontario**