Privacy Policy

Advocates For Autism, Inc.

Protecting your private information is important to Advocates For Autism, Inc. ("Advocates For Autism," "AFA," "we," "us," or "our"). This Privacy Policy applies to our website, advocatesforautism.org, and describes how we may collect, use, share, and protect information when you visit our website, contact us, register for programs or events, make a donation or payment, or otherwise interact with our services. By using our website, you acknowledge the practices described in this policy.

Collection of Personal Information

We may collect personal information that you voluntarily provide to us, including:

- First and last name
- Mailing address
- Email address
- Phone number
- Information about your role or connection to autism or related developmental disabilities
- Information you choose to provide when requesting information, registering for a program or event, completing a form, or communicating with us

When you make a donation, register for a paid activity, or purchase a service, payment-related information may be collected and processed as needed to complete the transaction. Payment information may be handled by third-party payment processors rather than stored directly by AFA.

We may also collect demographic or community information when voluntarily provided, such as age, language, and other information relevant to program accessibility, outreach, evaluation, or services. We do not require you to provide personal information simply to browse our public website, although certain information may be required to register for or receive particular services.

Sensitive and Health-Related Information

Because our work serves autistic individuals, people with related developmental disabilities, families, and caregivers, you may choose to share disability, health, benefit, family, or support-related information when seeking assistance. We use such information only as reasonably necessary to respond to your request, provide the service you requested, support program administration, or meet applicable legal or funding requirements. Please do not submit sensitive information through general website forms unless it is reasonably necessary for your request.

Use of Personal Information

We may use personal information to:

- Respond to questions and requests for information
- Register participants for programs, classes, workshops, and community events
- Provide navigation, education, community connection, and other requested services
- Process donations, registrations, or other transactions
- Send confirmations, service-related notices, newsletters, surveys, fundraising communications, or organizational updates
- Improve our programs, website, accessibility, and community outreach
- Maintain records, evaluate program participation and outcomes, and satisfy lawful reporting or grant requirements

- Protect the security and integrity of our website, services, participants, and organization

Sharing Information with Third Parties

AFA does not sell, rent, or lease personal information collected from individual website visitors or program participants to third parties.

We may use trusted service providers to support functions such as website hosting, email communications, registration, data storage, payment processing, technology support, or other services performed on our behalf. Those providers may receive information only as reasonably necessary to perform the services for which they are engaged and are expected to protect the information they handle.

We may also disclose information when required by law or legal process, or when we reasonably believe disclosure is necessary to protect the rights, property, safety, or security of AFA, our participants, website users, or others.

When feasible, AFA may use aggregated or de-identified information for evaluation, reporting, planning, education, or funding purposes. Such information is intended not to identify an individual.

Website Usage and Automatically Collected Information

Our website or the services used to operate it may automatically collect limited technical information, such as Internet Protocol (IP) address, browser type, device information, access times, referring pages, and pages visited. This information may be used to operate and secure the website, understand general website usage, maintain service quality, and improve the user experience.

Cookies

Our website and third-party services used to operate it may use cookies or similar technologies. Cookies can help a website remember settings, understand website traffic, and support site functionality. Most browsers allow you to manage or decline cookies. Disabling cookies may affect the availability or operation of some website features.

Links to Other Websites

Our website may contain links to websites operated by other organizations. AFA is not responsible for the content, security, or privacy practices of those sites. We encourage users to review the privacy practices of any external site that collects personal information.

Security of Personal Information

AFA seeks to use reasonable administrative, technical, and organizational safeguards to protect personal information from unauthorized access, use, alteration, or disclosure. Information transmitted through websites or electronic communications, however, cannot be guaranteed to be completely secure. Users should exercise appropriate care when sending sensitive information electronically.

Retention and Requests Concerning Your Information

We retain personal information only for as long as reasonably necessary for the purposes for which it was collected and as needed to meet legal, financial, grant, reporting, contractual, safety, or recordkeeping obligations.

You may contact AFA to request access to, correction of, or deletion of personal information you previously provided. We will consider and respond to verifiable requests as appropriate and as required by applicable law. We may need to retain certain information when necessary to complete a transaction or service,

maintain required records, protect against fraud or security incidents, comply with a legal obligation, establish or defend legal rights, or for another lawful purpose.

Children Under Thirteen

Our website is not directed to children under 13, and AFA does not knowingly collect personal information online directly from children under 13 without appropriate parental or guardian involvement. A parent or guardian should complete registrations, inquiries, or other submissions on behalf of a child when personal information is requested.

Email Communications

AFA may contact you by email regarding programs, events, services, announcements, fundraising, surveys, confirmations, or other organizational communications. Marketing or promotional emails will include a method to opt out or unsubscribe when applicable. Service-related communications may still be sent when necessary to administer a registration, transaction, or requested service.

External Data Storage and Service Providers

Information may be stored or processed using third-party technology, hosting, registration, communication, payment, or data-storage providers that support AFA operations. We seek to use such services in a manner consistent with this Privacy Policy and applicable requirements.

Changes to this Privacy Policy

AFA may update this Privacy Policy from time to time. When changes are made, the revised policy may be posted on our website. If significant changes materially affect how we handle personal information, we may provide additional notice when appropriate. Continued use of the website after an updated policy is posted constitutes acknowledgment of the revised policy.

Contact Information

Questions, concerns, or requests regarding this Privacy Policy or AFA's handling of personal information may be directed to:

Advocates For Autism, Inc.
Website: www.advocatesforautism.org
Email: contactafainc@gmail.com

This policy is intended to describe AFA's privacy practices in plain language. It is not intended to create contractual rights or to replace obligations imposed by applicable law.