

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2019

## SUPERHERO SATURDAY BRINGS INCLUSIVE FUN FOR ALL FAMILIES

Capes and costumes are both welcome and encouraged!

**Sault Ste. Marie, MI** - Everyone deserves to feel like a superhero. This weekend, <u>Centria Autism</u>, a division of <u>Centria Healthcare</u> and a leading national provider of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for children with autism, is hosting a sensory-friendly Superhero Autism Activity Day at Sault Area High School. The event is open to the entire community, whether or not children have autism. Attendees are encouraged to dress up as their own favorite superheroes.

During the event, kids can test their superpowers at a Superhero Training Course, make their own superhero masks, solve puzzles, play games, and meet a few of their favorite superheroes in person. Superhero Saturday is designed to recognize and honor all the heroes who walk – or fly – among us.

"Who doesn't daydream about having X-ray vision, flying through the air, or flexing super-human strength?" asked Carrie Gray, Regional Clinical Director at Centria Autism. "We're dedicating an entire day to exploring what it means to be a real life superhero. We've got lots of fun events and activities planned. It will be sensory-friendly and judgement-free. The kids can be themselves while having fun and working on socialization skills."

# Activities include:

- Meeting Superheroes
- Bounce House
- Superhero Training Course
- Sensory Stations
- Face Painting
- Kite Making
- Scavenger Hunt
- Photo Booth

Local law enforcement and other community partners will be on-site. Kelli Fenlon from Project SEARCH, an internship program through War Memorial Hospital for students of transition age with disabilities, will be available. Maggie Merchberger, representing the Chippewa County 4-H, will be there to let parents know how their children can enjoy the benefits of 4-H inclusive programs.



The event is free and open to the public. Families are encouraged to secure their spots ahead of time. Reservations can be made right up to the time of the event using the following link:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/superhero-autism-activity-day-sault-ste-marie-mi-presented-by-centria-autism-tickets-55424988633?aff=ebdssbdestsearch

Media is invited to the event. Community leaders, Centria executive staff, and clinical experts will be in attendance. Please reach out if you need prior access or b-roll from other Superhero Saturday events. Please tag stories with @centriaautism.

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2019 Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Sault Area High School - 904 Marquette Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

#### **Quick Facts**

- 1 in 59 children have autism
- Centria Autism helps parents of children with autism navigate through the complex system of insurance, care and just knowing that they are not alone.
- Centria operates in ten states, over 3,500 experienced and trained staff and services over 2,700 children.

### About Centria Autism:

Centria Autism, an operating division of Centria Healthcare, is a leading national provider of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for children with autism and their families. With its national headquarters in Michigan, and more than 3,500 clinical staff working in ten states, Centria's Optimal Outcomes approach combines child-centered, evidence-based ABA with best practices to help children with ASD have the best developmental experience possible and acquire the skills to live independently and succeed in the world on their own terms.

For more information, please visit http://www.centriaautism.com

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