



Tulips & Juleps
DERBY PARTY
PRESENTED BY **STRiVE**
PEOPLE SUPPORTING PEOPLE
FOUNDATION BOARD

Greetings,

As a member of the steering committee for Tulips & Juleps Derby Party event benefiting STRiVE's children's programs, I am writing you to request your support for this worthwhile and fun day. This is the third year of the Tulips & Juleps party, and, we're proud to be hosting a Kentucky Derby viewing party at the Western Colorado Botanical Gardens. Proceeds support the very important work being done by STRiVE to provide service and support to children who have been identified as having developmental delays and disabilities. Funds will also be used for STRiVE's Audyssey program, which supports children and adults on the autism spectrum.

After last year's tremendous success, this year, we're excited to have expanded our event, to include pre-race gambling, Kentucky Derby viewing, cornhole tournament, and southern foods. Ladies will get the opportunity to don their festive derby hats and sun dresses, and gentlemen are encouraged to dress in their linen or seersucker suits.

By supporting Tulips & Juleps, you will be helping educate the public about the importance of early intervention services for children with developmental delays and disabilities, and providing services to families struggling to support children with autism. One hundred percent of the money raised through this event will stay right here in Mesa County. Sponsorship levels are attached for you to review.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you. I will give you a call next week to follow up.

MORE ABOUT MULTI DISCIPLINARY DIAGNOSTIC CLINICS

A typical diagnostic evaluation involves a multi-disciplinary team consisting of a behavioral therapist, psychologist, RN, educational specialist, speech and language pathologist and occupational therapist. These assessments will be used to discover how the child functions and the best approach to meet the needs of the child and the family.

MORE ABOUT EARLY INTERVENTION

(Home-based therapeutic intervention for children birth to three, identified as having a developmental delay or disability.) Services include occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy, parent education and early childhood development services. STRiVE served 201 children in EI services in 2010 and now serves 261, a 29.9% increase. All services for these children are provided at no cost to the families.

MORE ABOUT AUDYSSEY

Services include social concept groups for elementary, middle and high school children, case management, and educational support groups. There are six therapists/counselors; one board certified behavior analyst. Audyssey works closely with JFK Partners and the University of Colorado. Currently STRiVE's Audyssey program supports 78 individuals, but statistics show one in 68 children are born with autism. Very limited funding for Audyssey exists at this time. Studies show that it costs \$22,560 a year for special education. Only 56% of students with autism finish high school and only 21% of adults with disabilities participate in the labor force.