**PRESS RELEASE**

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**First Annual Autism Acceptance and Resource Fair**

Hemet, Calif. — As we wrap up Autism Acceptance Month, Join us in our first ever Autism Acceptance and Resource Fair on **Saturday, April 27th** from **1:00PM-5:00PM** at **200 N. Harvard Street** (rear of the Hemet Public Library). This is a free-community event in support of Autism Acceptance, and helping the community find local resources. This event will include demonstrations, sensory activities, crafts, vendors, resources and prizes.

The Hemet Police Department prides itself in supporting members of our community and hopes to bring awareness. We will have an on-scene special needs registry booth at the event. It is designed to assist the Police Department during contacts with members of the community who have disabilities such as, but not limited to; Autism, Schizophrenia, Dementia, deafness or any other mental/developmental disabilities. The registry promotes communication and gives police quick access to critical information about a registered person with special needs. The Registry can provide police with emergency contact information, detailed physical descriptions, known routines, favorite attractions, or special needs of the individual who is registered. This information can assist officers in communicating with, locating a residence for, or handling an emergency involving an individual with special needs.

The goal of the program is to give police quick access to critical information about a registered individual with special needs in the community in an emergency situation.

For more information about our Autism Acceptance and Resource Fair, please contact jgibson@hemetca.gov

