

Contact:

Jessica Lapen

jessica@autismpensacola.org

850-434-7171

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Volume ONE hosts successful first sensory-friendly haircut event

GREATER PENSACOLA - Five-year-old Hastings began his haircut in the salon chair. But he very quickly moved to the couch. Then he was upside down in a chair. Then on the floor watching his iPad. But none of that phased his stylist, Gabby. She just moved when Hastings moved. And by the end of his time at Volume ONE, he left with a sweet haircut and a very happy mom.

Volume ONE, in partnership with Autism Pensacola and the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD), hosted its first sensory-friendly haircut experience Oct. 23. The private event offered the families who participated a quiet, personalized experience at the Best of the Coast salon.

Hastings's mom, Jena Sudderth, said, "The staff at the salon were so wonderful! They made our week by not only giving him (Hastings) a great haircut but by having the patience and smiles that made us so comfortable. Gabby is now someone we will see on a regular basis because of her kindness and professionalism."

For information on training for your salon staff, contact CARD at rita.lung@med.fsu.edu.

To set up a salon event, contact API at jessica@autismpensacola.org.

###

Autism Pensacola (API) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by autism. Established in 2002, API works to support and educate parents and professionals regarding the diagnosis and treatment of individuals with autism. API offers educational sessions and materials, support groups, training programs, and fundraising opportunities to increase awareness of autism and assist families and individuals living with autism. API serves both Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.