

30th National Autism Consciousness Week

Game Plan
19-25 January 2026



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Prepared by the Autism Society Philippines

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Overview

Duty-bearers from government agencies and rights-bearers from civil society organizations and advocate institutions are one with the nation in celebrating the Philippines' 30th National Autism Consciousness Week from 19 to 25 January 2026. President Fidel Ramos' Proclamation 711 of 1996 made this annual observance possible by fostering genuine, organic acceptance, accommodation, and appreciation of persons on the autism spectrum in our society and global community. The week's activities promote action by the public and private sectors towards enabling persons on the autism spectrum to live with dignity, enjoy equal rights and access, function independently, and contribute productively. Our society should strive beyond "consciousness" or "awareness" and inspire genuine inclusion—through acceptance, accommodation, and appreciation! Public and private institutions are encouraged to spearhead creative activities, events, and programs toward building opportunities for our neurodiverse population nationwide.

Focal Government Agencies, according to the proclamation: DOH, DEPED, DSWD, DILG, NCDA

Theme¹

This year's theme: **"Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines"** (English: "From Awareness to Action: Developing an Autism-OK Philippines") calls for moving beyond basic understanding of autism and committing to concrete steps that make everyday environments more inclusive, accessible, and supportive. It emphasizes shared responsibility across society—government, institutions, families, and communities—so that

¹ Themes from Previous Years

2026: "Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines"

2025: "Pag-angat ng mga Lider Para sa Pagsulong ng Lipunang Walang Naiwan"

2024: "Accessible Education and Economic Empowerment for Pinoys on the Autism Spectrum"

2023: "Building a Nation Powered by Transformative Inclusive Innovation"

2022: "Nurturing Public-Private Alliances towards an Autism-OK Philippines"

2021: "Pilipinong May Autismo: Kakaiba, Kasali, Konektado"

2020: (No National Working Committee Convened)

2019: "Pagtuon: Tugon sa mga Pilipinong May 'K' dulot ng Autismo" #Kakayahan #Kagalingan #Kakanyahan #Katalinuhan #Kapansanan

2018: "From Autism Awareness to Acceptance, Accommodation and Appreciation"

2017: "Onwards to an Autism-OK ASEAN"

2016: "Onwards to an Autism-OK Philippines"

2015: "Autism Inclusive Philippines: Aim High! Fly High!"

2014: "Katuparan ng Karapatan ng Pilipinong may Autismo: Isulong mo, Ngayon na!"

2013: "Autismo Alamin: Pagtanggap at Pag-unawa Palaganapin"

2012: "Making the Rights Real for Filipinos with Autism"

2011: "Autismo Paghandaan: Maagap na Deteksyon at Interbensyon Isakatuparan"

2010: "Giant Leaps ... Transcending Boundaries"

2009: "ASP @ 20 - Sharing HOPES. Building DREAMS"

2008: "Hope Abounds for Individuals Living with Autism Consciousness"

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Filipinos on the autism spectrum can thrive, participate meaningfully, and live with dignity.

The theme calls for turning autism "consciousness" into concrete action across schools, workplaces, communities, and public systems. It highlights accessibility, empathy, and the removal of barriers, emphasizing shared responsibility among government, institutions, families, and citizens to build an Autism-OK Philippines where autistic individuals are supported, included, and able to thrive.

Desired Outcomes

Desired outcomes give advocacy events a clear direction and measurable goals. These guide us in aligning stakeholders, focusing resources and messaging, enabling evaluation and accountability, and turning short-term visibility into sustained tangible improvements.

Each initiative in this plan shall address at least one of the following:



Outcome 1: Stronger systems for inclusion. Policies, programs, and services become more responsive to autism-specific needs, with improved implementation of existing disability laws. Public systems—from transport to healthcare—are made more accessible and inclusive.



Outcome 2: Autism-OK communities. Communities gain the knowledge and skills to support individuals on the spectrum in daily life and in emergencies. Public spaces and local systems are adapted to be safer and more inclusive.



Outcome 3: More inclusive schools and workplaces. Educators and employers adopt practices and accommodations that enable learners and talent on the spectrum to succeed. Pathways for education, skills development, and employment expand meaningfully.



Outcome 4: Broader public understanding and acceptance. Stigma and misinformation decrease as more Filipinos embrace autism inclusion. Everyday interactions become more respectful, empathetic, and supportive.



Outcome 5: Empowerment and leadership of Filipinos on the spectrum. Filipinos on the spectrum gain opportunities to drive their advocacy. Their talents, contributions, and lived experiences are recognized and valued.



Outcome 6: Stronger networks of care. Families, schools, LGUs, and organizations coordinate more effectively to provide consistent support. Access to services and community-based interventions improves across the lifespan.

Imagery and Branding

NACW 2026 Banner Editable template on Canva:

https://www.canva.com/design/DAG7KxuoEII/bzFJSJPRr898fllk1c3UuA/view?utm_content=DAG7KxuoEII&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink&mode=preview

The absence of puzzle imagery in materials used by the Autism Society Philippines is deliberate. The country's premier autism advocacy group does not support the use of the puzzle icon to represent autism, as persons on the spectrum should neither be illustrated as "mind-boggling" nor "incomplete."

The "Angels Walk for Autism" is the intellectual property of the Autism Society Philippines (ASP). It is a proprietary project of ASP and is registered under intellectual property rights with registration number 4/2024/00518897. The ASP requests that other groups refrain from using the name unless they are partnering with ASP or its accredited chapters.

Proponents and Supporters

The Autism Society Philippines (ASP) and its nationwide network of chapters, National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Philippine Information Agency (PIA), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Persons with Disabilities Affairs Offices and the rest of the National Working Group members in partnership with private organizations SM Cares, SM Cinema, SM Supermalls, ensure the commemoration is felt all over the country.

The commemoration is supported by the following media groups -- **TBD**.

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National Calendar at a Glance

Jan 19, Mon	Jan 20, Tue	Jan 21, Wed	Jan 22, Thu	Jan 23, Fri	Jan 24, Sat
8am Opening Ceremony + 1Bansa1Pangako (Online) 9am Opening ASP ARTismo sa Kongreso (Quezon City)	Placeholder	Placeholder	Placeholder	Placeholder	8am "Lights Up, Sounds Down" SFM (SM Cinemas) 10am AOK Pilipinas "Adulting Kapag Autistic" (Online)

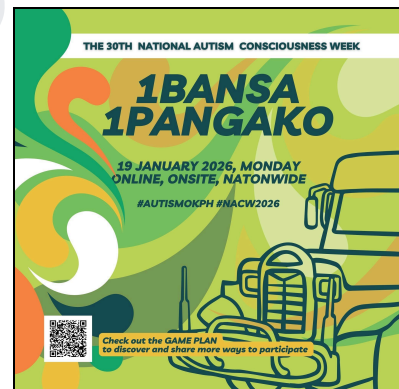
National Events and Campaigns

Virtual Opening Ceremonies: 1Bansa 1Pangako

19 January 2025, Monday, 8 am Via FB Live

The virtual opening ceremonies will be streamed live on the FB pages of ASP and NCDA. This kicks off the commemoration of the 30th Philippine National Autism Consciousness Week, with the following programme:

- Prayer - Grey Roxas (ASP Laguna)
- Philippine National Anthem - ASP Community
- Call for Kindness/ 1 Bansa 1 Pangako -
 - Message in Tagalog - Clarence Jacob Beredo (ASP Laguna)
 - Message in Ybanag - Khyv Arn C. Ofalza (ASP Tuguegarao)
 - Message in Hiligaynon - Joemel Bernard Arroyo (ASP Bacolod)
 - Message in Kapampangan - Ralf Aldhjren Fabian (ASP Angeles)
 - Message in Cebuano - Kerstian Menguito (ASP Cebu)
 - Message in Bicolano - Ralf Aldhjren Fabian (ASP Virac)
 - Message in Hiligaynon - Nico & Nathan Pedregosa (ASP Iloilo)
 - Message in English - Miguel Roberto Navida (ASP Paranaque)
- Messages of Hope:
 - Hon. Lorenzo Sumulong III, National President, ASP
 - Hon. Glenda Relova, Executive Director, NCDA
 - Michelle Dee, Goodwill Ambassador, ASP



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This initiative, organized by ASP, NCDA, in partnership with the NACW National Working Committee, addresses desired **Outcome 4 (Broader public understanding and acceptance)**.

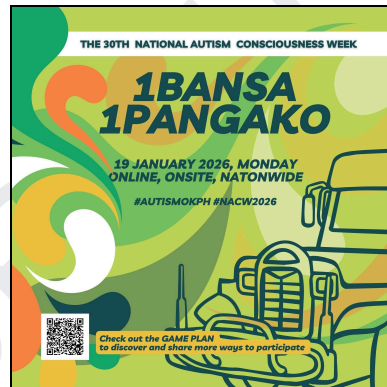
On-Site Opening Ceremonies: 1Bansa 1Pangako

19 January 2025, Monday, 8 am via government agencies and private groups

This initiative aims to encourage various government units and private groups to begin the week with flag ceremonies that raise awareness of autism as a human condition and inspire institutions to adopt autism-inclusive policies and procedures.

Participating agencies and private institutions are encouraged to conduct their flag ceremony with any of the following elements:

1. The Philippine National Anthem (c/o agency/institution, LGU, or ASP - see toolkit below)
2. The 1 Pangako pledge read by an agency/institution personnel or a person on the autism spectrum (clips available - see toolkit below)
3. A message from a high-ranking executive about the importance of National Autism Consciousness Week: please share this with the ASP for reposting and collation.
4. Use other assets from the toolkit.



1Bansa, 1Pangako Toolkit: <http://bit.ly/1bansa1pangako>

This initiative, organized by the NACW National Working Committee members and the general public, addresses desired **Outcome 4 (Broader public understanding and acceptance)**.

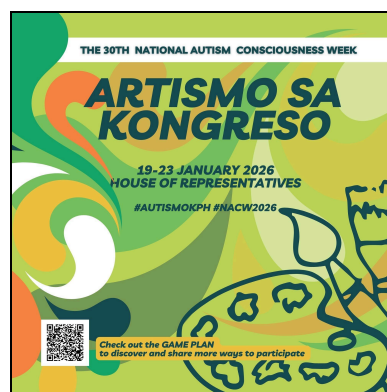
ASP ARTismo sa Kongreso

19-23 January 2025, Mon-Fri, House of Representatives

[POSTPONED due to Congress Break]

This exhibit is a special showcase of creativity, expression, and inclusion at the House of Representatives. Featuring artwork by artists on the autism spectrum, the event highlights their unique perspectives and celebrates their talents in a public space where national policies are shaped.

Leaders of the Autism Society Philippines will highlight the autism community's urgent legislative priorities. The meeting strengthens partnerships with lawmakers, advances inclusive policies, and



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reinforces the call for accessible services, meaningful participation, and long-term support for Filipinos on the autism spectrum and their families.

A highlight would be a collaborative mind map inviting passersby to answer the question, “What will you do TODAY to create an AUTISM-OK PHILIPPINES?” This would spark conversations about daily action and aspirations for inclusion.

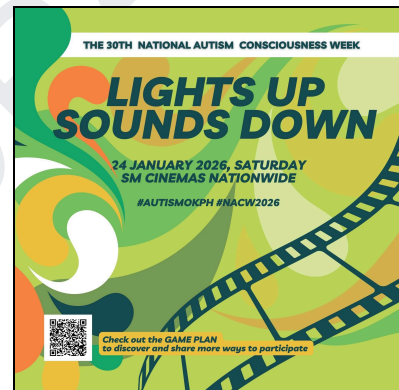


This initiative, organized by ASP, NCDA, in partnership with the NACW National Working Committee, addresses desired **Outcome 1 (Stronger systems for inclusion)**

Lights Up, Sounds Down:

24 January 2025, Saturday, 8 am in 6 cinemas in multiple cities in Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao

This event will allow the autism community to experience the magic of cinema with sensory-friendly screenings of “Zootopia 2” in multiple cities nationwide! Designed for individuals with visual or auditory sensitivities, these special showings feature adjusted lighting, softer sound, and a relaxed atmosphere to ensure an inclusive and enjoyable movie experience. This initiative aims to promote accessibility and create a welcoming space where families and individuals on the spectrum can bond and enjoy the power of storytelling without barriers. Beyond entertainment, the event fosters awareness and understanding of the autism community.



This initiative, organized by ASP, SM Cares, SM Cinema, SM Supermalls, Press Play Philippines in partnership with the NACW National Working Committee, addressed desired **Outcome 2 (Autism-OK communities)**.

Autism-OK Pilipinas: “Adulthood Kapag Autistic”

24 January 2025, Saturday, 10 am, ASP/NCDA Facebook

In this episode of the monthly web show, autism self-advocates Pia Cabanero and Raymarc Badillo discuss the highs and lows of adulthood on the spectrum and the challenges that might be uniquely Filipino. It features candid conversations with Riyan Portuquez, also known as the Millennial Psychologist on social media and on PTV-4's "Rise and Shine Pilipinas!".



This initiative, organized by ASP (specifically the ASP Self-Advocates Circle) and NCDA, in partnership with

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the NACW National Working Committee, addressed desired **Outcome 5 (Empowerment and leadership of Filipinos on the spectrum)**.

Autism-Friendly Disaster Response: Train the Trainer Workshop

20 January 2025, Tuesday, 9am to 2pm, Activity Center, QCX Museum, Quezon City

This initiative, conducted with the Office of Civil Defense, focuses on equipping first responders with essential knowledge of autism-specific needs, including sensory sensitivities and communication challenges. It will be carried out in coordination with LGUs, NDRRMC, the Philippine Red Cross, PNP, Coast Guard, and local DRRM teams to strengthen inclusive disaster-preparedness efforts nationwide.

This initiative, organized by NCDA, ASP, in partnership with the NACW National Working Committee, addresses desired **Outcome 1 (Stronger systems for inclusion)**.

Art Therapy

TBD

This initiative nurtures creativity and emotional expression through year-round weekly art therapy sessions in Manila, Baguio, and Kalibo, providing consistent support for artists on the autism spectrum. Complementing these programs are ongoing and upcoming nationwide art exhibits that showcase their work, raise public appreciation for neurodiverse talent, and create meaningful opportunities for visibility and inclusion.

Organized by Autism Hearts Philippines

Local and Regional Events

Date & Time	Event/Details	Organizer
Jan 19, Mon	1Pangako 0730H Eulogio Rodriguez Integrated School Mandaluyon City	PDAD Mandaluyong
Jan 19, Mon	1Pangako 0730H Bacolod City Government Center	ASP Bacolod (Negros Occidental)
Jan 19, Mon	1Pangako 0730H Davao City Hall	ASP Davao
Jan 16, Fri	1Pangako 0730H Alabang Elementary School	ASP Muntinlupa
Jan 19, Mon	1Pangako 0730H Barangay Alabang Muntinlupa City	ASP Muntinlupa

Media Coverage

Broadcast Media

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Station / Show /Link	Date & Time	Organization/Rep
Net 25 EBC	14 Jan 2026 0930H	ASP / Mona Veluz

Streamed Shows

Show	Platform/Link	Date & Time	Organization/Rep
Inklunasyon	FB Live	14 Jan 2026 1500H	E-Net Phils/Ljay Sumulong/Dang Koe
AOK Pilipinas	FB Live	24 Jan 2026 1000H	ASP /Pia Cabanero, Raymarc Badillo PAP / Riyan Portuguez
Eat Konek	FB Live	18 Jan 2026 1100H	Radyo Agila / Pia Cabañero
Ang Say ng Taumbayan	FB / YouTube	19 Jan 2026 0915H	DZXL RMN 558 / Ms Mona Veluz
Makabata	FB	19 Jan 2026 1600H	Council for the Welfare of Children / Ms Dame Barbosa
Nansy Cares	FB Live	20 Jan 2026 1000H	Nansy Cares / Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz
All About Women	FB Live	24 Jan 2026 0900H	DWBL/DOH / Ms. Karen Aujero

Print and Digital Media

Media Org / Article Title / Link	Date	Organization/Rep
Daily Tribune Davao City, SM Malls celebrate Autism Week	19 Jan 2025	ASP GMA Films SM Cares SM Cinema SM Supermalls

Social Media Posts

Organization / Article Title / Link	Date
Autism Society Philippines Banner National Autism Consciousness Week Lights Up, Sounds Down	7 Jan 2025
National Council on Disability Affairs Banner	17 Jan 2025

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WORKING DRAFT

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