

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Children’s Book About Autism Published To Explain Disorder to Kids, Parents & Teachers

Advocate Mom Needs Support Through Kickstarter Campaign to Spread the Word

BURLINGTON, ONTARIO – A local mom of three is asking for support from the community and beyond to help raise awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorder, something she has been advocating for since her son Carter was diagnosed at age 3. Park published a picture book called “Clever Carter: A Story About Autism” last year after libraries and bookstores turned up empty on resources of this kind.

“We didn’t tell many of our friends and family about Carter’s diagnosis at first. It felt as though no one could really understand what we were going through and I was frustrated at the lack of awareness in our community,” said Park. “But then I thought, how can I be angry at society for their lack of awareness if I myself was unwilling to talk about it?”

Motivated and inspired to create her own educational tool, Park came up with the “Clever Carter” concept. She started by reading the story to her son’s preschool class. “I wondered if they were too young to understand, but a few kids had already asked me why Carter flicked his fingers and why he didn’t talk very much,” said Park. “This seemed like a perfect opportunity to educate them about some of the common behaviours and misconceptions of Autism Spectrum Disorder. His teachers, therapists and other parents convinced me that the story would be a cherished resource to any family or educator that is trying to spread awareness and understanding about autism, and that’s when I pursued publishing it.”

The ultimate goal is to educate and create awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorder. “I want people to understand that children and adults with autism want to feel accepted and understood, just like everyone else does,” said Park. “I believe we should be teaching about diversity and encouraging inclusion from as early a time as possible.”

Media is encouraged to share the Kickstarter fundraising campaign link:
<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1067812886/clever-carter-a-story-about-autism>.

Follow Sara Park on Twitter @CRCRsMommy and read her blog
<http://crersmommyblog.wordpress.com>.

For more information and a full digital press kit, visit <http://www.clevercarter.ca>.

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For information and interviews, please contact:

Erin Alvarez
Media & Public Relations
erin@erinalvarez.com
647.221.1998
@Erin_Alvarez