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## Autism Society of Mahoning Valley Expands Board Leadership

### *New board members and 2026 officers strengthen support across the lifespan*

**YOUNGSTOWN, OH** — The Autism Society of Mahoning Valley (ASMV) is pleased to announce the appointment of **three new members to its Board of Directors**, strengthening the organization’s leadership as it continues its mission to support Autistic individuals and their families across the lifespan.

“We are proud to welcome these new board members at an important moment for our organization,” said **Aundréa Cika Heschmeyer, Board President of the Autism Society of Mahoning Valley**. “Each brings professional expertise, lived experience, and a deep commitment to *being the connection* for individuals and families from diagnosis through every stage of life. Their leadership will help guide ASMV forward with strength, transparency, and compassion.”

#### Meet the New Board Members

**Ashley Douglas** is a Youngstown native and Small Business Banking and SBA Closing Officer with WesBanco Bank, bringing nearly two decades of experience in financial leadership and retail management. Her extensive community involvement includes serving as President of Alta Head Start’s Policy Council and continued board service with Alta Head Start and Behavioral Health. Ashley’s advocacy for individuals with autism began at an early age through volunteer work in local schools.



**Deonna Lampley** is a Youngstown native and licensed social worker with degrees from Youngstown State University and Our Lady of the Lake University. Her professional experience includes advocacy, clinical and crisis work, and child and adolescent development. Deonna has been a volunteer with the ASMV for several years and brings a strong passion for community-centered support and family advocacy.



**Julie Santha** is the Accounting Supervisor at Alta Care Group, Inc., with more than 10 years of experience in accounting, supervision, and organizational leadership. A graduate of Youngstown State University, Julie brings a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparency. As the mother of a child on the autism spectrum, she offers both professional expertise and lived experience to her role on the ASMV Board.



#### 2026 Board Officers

The Autism Society of Mahoning Valley also announces its **2026 Board Officers**, who will serve alongside the Board of Directors in advancing ASMV’s mission:

- **President:** Aundréa Cika Heschmeyer
- **Treasurer:** Ashley Roberts
- **Vice President:** Dr. Laura McBride
- **Secretary:** ShoMoré Wright

Together, ASMV’s Board of Directors and leadership team remain committed to creating connections and empowering everyone in the Autism community with the resources needed to live fully. For more information about the Autism Society of Mahoning Valley and its programs, visit [www.autismmv.org](http://www.autismmv.org) or contact [info@autismmv.org](mailto:info@autismmv.org).

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