



## Social Group Lead Facilitator

The Lead Facilitator for social groups is a **contract** position with the Autism Society of Colorado. **Must reside in Grand Junction or Western Slope area and work some weekends.**

### Job Summary:

As a Lead Facilitator for in-person social group outings, your primary responsibility is to facilitate and oversee social outings and activities for individuals on the autism spectrum. You will create a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environment that promotes social interaction, skill development, and community engagement. This role combines therapeutic support with recreational and social opportunities to enhance the lives of participants. Your role is instrumental in providing a supportive and enjoyable experience for participants while establishing community connections and building essential social skills.

### Primary Duties and Responsibilities:

- Develop a calendar of social outings and activities suitable for participants. Select venues, activities, and events that align with the interests and needs of individuals with autism pertaining to your city/area assigned.
- Ensure logistics and accommodations are in place for each outing. Collaborate and communicate with co-facilitator and ASC program manager to make sure outings operate smoothly.
- Implement safety measures and emergency protocols as needed.
- Foster a positive and inclusive atmosphere during outings. Encourage participants to engage with one another via activities or ice breakers and offer emotional support to participants when needed.
- Address any behavioral challenges that may arise, utilizing effective strategies for de-escalation and communication.
- Familiarize yourself with emergency procedures for various situations, such as medical emergencies, lost participants, or behavioral crises. Report incidents, injuries, or unusual occurrences to proper authority or partnered organization.
- Communicate with participants' families, caregivers, and community partners.
- Maintain records of outings, including attendance, participant behaviors, and any notable achievements or challenges.
- Attend **mandatory** ASC quarterly meetings. Optional to attend events (i.e. Annual Walk, Socials, Community Partner Events, etc.) throughout the year.

### Requirements for the Position:

1. Knowledge of autism spectrum disorders and experience working with individuals on the spectrum.
2. Experience in planning and organizing group activities or outings.
3. Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
4. Understanding of sensory needs and sensory-friendly strategies.
5. Patience, empathy, and the ability to build rapport with participants. Sensitivity to cultural and individual differences.
6. Familiarity with neurological, developmental, and behavioral management techniques and de-escalation strategies.
7. Pass a criminal background check.
8. Can have a bachelor's degree in psychology, social work, counseling, or a related field/ a certification in counseling or related field (optional but beneficial).