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Autism Activist and Author to Speak Nov. 1 at Cal Poly

Autism activist and author Dr. Barbara Firestone will speak, sign books and give an update on autism-related legislative efforts Nov. 1 at Cal Poly.

Firestone is the founder and president of The Help Group - a Southern California nonprofit serving children with autism spectrum disorders and other special needs. Under her leadership, the group has become nation's largest and most comprehensive nonprofit of its kind. She also is the author of "Autism Heroes." And she is the vice-chairwoman of the California Legislative Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism.

Sponsored by Cal Poly's College of Education, the Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center and The Help Group, the talk is intended primarily for families and professionals who deal with autism spectrum disorders.

Firestone will discuss her book, a description of the journey families experience through autism. Following the discussion, there will be a question-and-answer session and an opportunity to purchase the book and have it signed. A portion of proceeds from book purchases will be donated to the Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center.

The event is planned for 2 to 4 p.m. in the Business Building, Room 213. It is free and open to the public. Seating is very limited. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to Denise at 714-321-9657 or rsvp.ccascc@charter.net by Oct. 29.

For more information about the Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center, visit www.autismspectrumcenter.com.

For more information about Firestone, log on to www.autismheroes.org or www.thehelpgroup.org.

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