



**Sycamore
Services,
Inc.**



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First Wings for All® event to be held in Indianapolis

Indianapolis, IN - On March 10 from 5pm-8pm Sycamore Services, American Airlines and the Indianapolis Airport will co-host the first Arc of the United States' **Wings for All®** event to be held at the Indianapolis International Airport (IND) in the program's history. This event will be held in partnership with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), American Airlines and Sycamore Services, with the support of The ARC of the US. Originated by the Charles River Center, a local chapter of The Arc in Massachusetts, and the Massachusetts Port Authority, Wings for Autism®/Wings for All® program is an airport "rehearsal" created to alleviate some of the stress that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families experience when traveling by air.

Wings for All® at IND will be the fifth event to be held in the state of Indiana and the second Indiana-based event sponsored by Sycamore Services and American Airlines. As part of their "It's Cool to Fly American" program, American Airlines will play a key role in providing an aircraft and trained flight crew to greet and support families during a "flight" experience.

During the event, participants will check in to receive their boarding passes, pass through the TSA security checkpoint, wait in the boarding area and board the aircraft. The program will feature a presentation on the aircraft's features, in-flight safety protocols and take-off procedures. This opportunity will provide a real experience navigating the airport and exploring the terminal, including the parking process. Wings for Autism®/Wings for All®

also gives airport, airline, TSA professionals and other personnel the opportunity to observe, interact and deliver their services in a structured, learning environment.

While space is limited, this event is open to all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who seek a safe but realistic experience of traveling through a busy airport. More than 120 individuals (individual with disabilities and one family member/support person) will have the opportunity to participate in the event. Due to safety guidelines, only the participant and ONE support person will be able to go through the security checkpoint. Registration is required and seats will be available on a first come, first served basis. The registration link will be available on Sycamore Services' website (www.SycamoreServices.com) beginning 2/16/2018.

MEDIA RSVP REQUIRED: Provide full name (as it appears on government-issued I.D.) and date of birth to Michelle Kirk at mdkirk@SycamoreServices.com and IND media relations at mediarelations@ind.com no later than 12 p.m. on March 5th. Media is required to bring government issued I.D. and to follow [TSA guidelines](#) for other items, as participants will be clearing security to cover this event.

Sycamore Services, Inc. - Sycamore Services, Inc./Hendricks County Arc is a 501(c)3 agency that has been providing quality services to individuals with disabilities in central and southern Indiana since 1961. Sycamore strives to make a difference by promoting and fostering talents, celebrating accomplishments and empowering individuals to feel valued and support them in achieving necessary skills to be independent in their own communities. To help individuals obtain goals, Sycamore Services provide a variety of programs that include, but are not limited to, Children's Therapy Services, Respite, Behavior Support, Community Integration, Employment Services, Recreational Therapy and Residential Services. For more information, visit www.SycamoreServices.com.

American Airlines Our goal is to create an environment with all of the sounds and sensations an individual could experience in flight – without ever leaving the ground. In addition, it also gives American Airlines team members, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) professionals and other personnel the opportunity to observe, interact and deliver their services in a structured learning environment.

Indianapolis Airport Authority: Indianapolis Airport Authority owns and operates Indiana's largest airport system in the Indianapolis metropolitan area. In addition to the Indianapolis International Airport (IND), its facilities include the Downtown Heliport, Eagle Creek Airpark, Hendricks County Airport-Gordon Graham Field, Indianapolis Regional Airport and Metropolitan Airport. IND generates a \$5.4 billion total annual economic impact for Central Indiana – without relying on state or local taxes to fund operations. More than 10,000 people work at the airport each day, and 22,600 area jobs have a connection to the airport. IND serves more than 8.5 million business and leisure travelers each year,

averaging 145 daily flights – seasonally and year-round – to 51 nonstop destinations. IND is consistently ranked, year after year, as the best airport in North America and the nation, based on ease of use, passenger amenities, customer service, local retail offerings and public art. The airport is home of the world’s second largest FedEx operation and the nation’s eighth-largest cargo facility. IND is committed to becoming the airport system of choice for both passenger and cargo service. For more information, visit IND’s Facebook page at [Indianapolis International Airport](#) and Twitter page at [@INDairport](#).

The Arc - The Arc advocates for and serves people with I/DD, including Down syndrome, autism, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, cerebral palsy and other diagnoses. The Arc has a network of more than 650 chapters across the country promoting and protecting the human rights of people with I/DD and actively supporting their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes and without regard to diagnosis.

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