

The lifetime cost for caring for a child with autism is

\$3.5 to \$5 million.



VISIT THE AUTISM ALLIES WEBSITE AT WWW.AUTISMAILLIES.ORG TO:

- Learn more about autism
- Find a service provider
- Learn more about treatment options
- Download a family grant application
- Learn more about employment services
- Make a secure online donation
- Learn more about Autism Allies
- Learn more about research opportunities

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES:

Please write to info@autismallies.org.

Autism Allies
2400 Prairie View Lane
Buffalo, MN 55313-2450
612.384.4265



At Autism Allies, our mission is to improve the lives of individuals with autism and their families by providing support, education and research, helping them to reach their fullest potential. We are dedicated to the following programs:

- Aiding financially disadvantaged families who need assistance in caring for their children with autism
- Providing and supporting services for the continual care and development of individuals with autism
- Supporting and conducting education and informational activities to increase public awareness of autism
- Creating and maintaining programs at schools and care centers to help them effectively develop individuals with autism
- Funding research into the causes of autism and to discover new and better treatments
- Assisting members of the autism community in seeking employment opportunities and prospective employers/recruiters seeking qualified candidates to fill vacant positions

There are over 1.5 million Americans affected by autism and the number is increasing 12% - 17% each year. 60 families in America today will learn their child has autism.



SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH AUTISM



Autism is the **fastest growing** developmental disability in America, more common than **pediatric cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined.**



SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH AUTISM

WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism is a complex developmental disorder that usually appears before the age of 3. It impairs normal brain development in the areas of communication skills and social interaction. Individuals with autism typically have difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication, and leisure or play activities. Symptoms can range from mild to very severe.

In 2007, the Centers for Disease Control reported that 1 in 150 children are diagnosed with autism, and the number is increasing. It is more common in children than pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined. Autism is not influenced by racial, ethnic or social factors, and it is four times more common in boys than girls. It is part of a group of disorders known as autism spectrum disorders.

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SOME TRAITS OF AUTISM

- Speaks only one or two words
- Loses language or social skills they once had
- Little or no eye contact
- Excessively lines up toys or other objects
- Is attached to one particular toy or object
- At times seems to be hearing impaired
- Indifferent to other people and prefers to be alone
- Oversensitive to certain sounds or textures
- Resists attention, hugs or cuddling
- Laughs or cries for no apparent reason
- Repeated arm-flapping
- Walks on their toes
- Bangs their head



Although there is no known cure, studies have shown that early diagnosis and intervention is important, and that most children with autism respond well to highly structured, specialized programs. Acting early can help children with autism reach their full potential.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Autism Allies is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with autism and their families by providing support, education and research, helping them to reach their fullest potential.

FIND A PROVIDER

Before parents make decisions on their child's treatment, they will want to gather information about the various options available. They should learn as much as they can, look at all the options, and make decisions on their child's treatment based on their child's needs. We provide resources parents will find helpful in finding a service provider near them. They can search an online database of professional services and providers who work with individuals and families with autism spectrum disorders.

FAMILY GRANTS

Autism Allies offers family grants for services that are not otherwise covered by sources such as insurance, schools, or state programs. Our grants provide financially disadvantaged families with assistance in getting necessary evaluations, treatments, adaptive equipment and therapy services for their child with autism. Visit our website to download a family grant application.



EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Individuals with autism have the ability to become treasured employees. They think "outside the box" which can open doors to exciting and groundbreaking solutions. We connect companies with dedicated, passionate, hard-working employees.

RESEARCH

Autism Allies is committed to funding research and to discovering new and better treatments. It is our firm conviction that working together with the scientific community we will solve the mysteries of autism and eventually find a cure.



DONATION FORM

Children and families with autism need your financial help now more than ever. Your donation will fund autism programs, education, research, and help families who need assistance in caring for their children with autism.

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT OF:

- \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500
 \$100 \$50 Other: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Check Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Name On Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

To donate, please mail this form, or go to our website, www.autismallies.org, to donate securely online.

Mail form along with check or money order to:

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Autism Allies is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Thank you for your support!



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