2014 Annual Report
The Autism Society of America continues to be the largest national grassroots organization serving all impacted by autism within the United States. Founded in 1965 by courageous parents who said no to placing their children in state institutions, today, 101 local and state affiliates are serving families and individuals impacted by autism within their own home community.

The Autism Society of America also continues to be a highly efficient and effective organization in helping individuals with autism maximize their quality of life each and every day. From helping a family secure needed early intervention programs for their child with autism so he or she can be ready for school to helping a graduating high school student with autism find his or her first job, the Autism Society is there.

This report highlights some of the numerous accomplishments of both the Autism Society of America and our local and state affiliates that occurred in 2014.

Sincerely,

Scott B. Badesch, President/CEO
Mission and Vision

**Mission:** Improving the lives of all affected by autism

**Vision:** The Autism Society envisions individuals and families living with autism are able to maximize their quality of life, are treated with the highest level of dignity, and live in a society in which their talents and skills are appreciated and valued.

**Guiding Principles:** The Autism Society and its affiliates are committed to these core principles:
- We provide services without regard to a person’s age, race, religion, sexual orientation, income level or level of need on the autism spectrum.
- We provide families, professionals and individuals living with autism with opportunities to participate in our governance, on our committees, and as staff members.
- We partner with others to advance the well-being of all living with autism.
- We promote individual choice and self-determination of individuals living with autism, aided by parental and guardian advocacy.
- We recognize a person living with autism can and should be able to maximize his/her quality of life and oppose any denial of their opportunities.
- We oppose any discrimination and harm directed towards individuals living with autism and their families.
- We are transparent, responsible and accountable to those we serve, those who support us, and the general community in our stewardship of funds.
- We assure the confidentiality of our services – and adhere to required confidentiality laws, and regulations pertaining to such services.
- We strive to ensure our programs, services, and decisions are outcome-driven.
- We maintain independence from political partisanship and commercial interests.
- We respect the work of our affiliates and do not engage in actions that enhance one organization at the expense of others.
- We support data and evidence-based analyses of options informed by broad knowledge of educational, research, clinical, government, business and program services experience.
- We support an options policy and provide information on all options so individuals can exercise freedom of choice in their decision-making.
Answering the Call for Help

In 2014, the Autism Society of America’s National Contact Center, which operates from 9 am to 9 pm Eastern Standard Time, seven days a week and AutismSource™, our national resource database accomplished the following:

Answered calls live 86% of the time.
Maintained a less than 1-Day response time for calls and e-mails.
10% Increase in daily contacts
48% Increase in e-mail inquiry volume
Comprehensive quality assurance surveys - average ratings of 4.8 to 5.0 for all established criteria
Increased resource database listings by 10% to 35,000
Increase volume of information/resource searches on resource database by 14% to over 200,000 annually
80 affiliates nationwide set up on our inquiry and resource database to serve their local communities

1-800-3-Autism;  www.autismsource.org
Advocating for All Impacted by Autism

The Autism Society of America continued to advocate and represent the needs of all impacted by autism. To this end, in 2014, the priority advocacy efforts of the organization were:

***Advocating for the Autism Care Act (formally called Combating Autism Act) which was signed into law in 2014.
***Advocating for the ABLE Act (which was signed into law in 2014).
***Advocating for fairness in wages paid to individuals with a disability.
***formed a public/private partnership to examine how best to address the growing need for adult services.
***Commenting on numerous public policy efforts and regulations
Informing all with Autism

In 2014, the Autism Society of America continued the ongoing efforts of making sure that individuals and families impacted by autism were informed about issues impacting their well being.

***Published editions of the Autism Advocate, the nation's oldest specific autism magazine.
***Provided daily facebook information posts to over 550,000 facebook friends.
***Provided daily twitter posts to over 30,000 Twitter friends.
***Maintained an over 30,000 listing of resources on www.autism-society.org
***Sent out information updates each month to over 100,000 people.
Training to help all with Autism

In 2014, the Autism Society of America held its 45th Annual Conference in Indianapolis. With over 1,000 people in attendance, this three day conference provided individuals, families and professionals an opportunity to hear keynote speakers such as Temple Grandin and attend over 80 breakout sessions on topics of interest to those impacted by autism.

The evaluations from those attending the conference once again showed that this conference, the oldest and longest running national conference is highly valued in terms of networking, information gathering and learning.

Detailed information about past conference sessions and recordings are available at:
https://asa.confex.com/asa/archives.cgi

Attend the 2015 Conference in Denver, Colorado from July 8-11, 2015
http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/conference/
Helping in the Community

As the nation’s oldest and largest grassroots autism organization, help is provided to individuals in their community in which they live. Working with over 100 highly skilled and effective local and state Autism Society affiliates, adhering to the highest written standards of accountability, transparency and responsiveness, local and state affiliates are each day helping individuals maximize their quality of life by:

***Providing information to individuals and families impacted by autism.
***Advocating for those impacted by autism within their community.
***Helping families and individuals navigate lifespan planning.
***Helping families and individuals thru support groups and programs.
***Educating their community about autism and the need for services.
***Helping parents and individuals with addressing responsive plans and services to help during school, transition to adulthood and in adulthood.

A LISTING OF THE LOCAL AND STATE AFFILIATES CAN BE FOUND AT www.autism-society.org
Hussman/ASA Grant Funds

In 2014, the Autism Society of America partnered with the Hussman Foundation to award mini grants to local and state affiliates. The following local and state affiliates received such funding:

- Autism Society Kern to develop an "adult based vocational training program"
- Autism Society Inland Empire a program on their local PBS station titled "Autism: Employment and Looking Forward"
- Autism Society Colorado to create a program to support families in understanding the IEP process, attend the IEP meetings and train families
- Autism Society Palm Beach Martin County for Autism Initiative 2015, a day long mini-conference
- Autism Society Indiana to provide respite services for families
- Autism Society Heartland to assist in marketing and production of the film "Just Like You-Autism"
- Autism Society Howard County for their 2nd annual transition symposium
- Autism Society Minnesota to develop their Emergency Preparedness Program training materials for non-English (Spanish, Hmoob (Hmong), Somali) speaking families with ASD
- Autism Society North Carolina for their Employment Supports program
- Autism Society of Greater Capital Region for their adult programs: college success program, gig match, live work train, peer advocacy, autistics aware
Hussman/ASA Grants

Autism Society Nassau Suffolk for a swimming program
Autism Society Greater Cleveland for a S.T.A.R. Summer Camp
Autism Society Ohio for state autism awareness license plate
Autism Society Greater Cincinnati to support their Adult Networking Group
Autism Society Greater Akron for I & R, community outings, parent-professional exchange network, sensory storytime, asperger's boot camp, ican bike, autism awareness day at the international soap box derby, caring bunny & santa
Autism Society Lehigh Valley for Summer Camp for teens with Aspergers or higher functioning autism
Autism Society Rhode Island for their participation in a two day symposium on Autism, with a focus on the rising adult population and their needs
Autism Society Central Texas for Safe and Sound training program
Autism Society Northern Virginia to continue their 2014 pilot program "The Autism Partnership (TAP)", program supports varies needs of adults on the spectrum
Autism Society Central Virginia for Marketing tools, sib-shops materials and special outings, and to get Jennifer O'Toole to be a speaker at their first autism awareness month conference
Hussman/ASA Grants

Spokane Affiliate of the Autism Society Washington for a variety of support groups, Sensory Friendly Movies, Social outing specifically for women on the spectrum, and for a talent show with community college Autism Society Wisconsin for support their fall conference, specifically to bring Dr. Peter Gerhardt to speak Autism Society South Central Wisconsin for a new one day workshop for teens & adults to obtain successful employment Autism Society Southeastern Wisconsin for air travel training program

THANK YOU TO THE HUSSMAN FOUNDATION
Accountability and Transparency

The Autism Society of America is a highly accountable and transparent organization. To this end, the organization is committed to:

1. Providing copies of its annual audit and IRS 990 form on its website (www.autism-society.org)
3. Assuring the confidentiality of all individuals seeking help from the Autism Society.
4. Adhering to HIPPA requirements regarding protection of client and user information.
5. Assuring that a volunteer non paid board of directors oversees the organization.
6. Committed to having a fund raising and administrative cost below 20% of funds received.
7. Assuring the confidentiality of each donor and never selling or renting any donor information to any entity or group.
8. Requiring all of our staff and board members to adhere to a very strong written conflict of interest and ethics reporting requirement.
9. Assuring the proper check and balances are always in place as required by general accounting and finance standards.
Volunteer Driven

The Autism Society of America is governed by a volunteer non paid board of directors who meet at least four times a year to assure the proper governance and oversight of the organization. The board of directors hires a qualified President/CEO to oversee the day to day operations of the organization.

Board Officers:
Executive Board Chair: James Ball, Ed.D, BCBA-D
Incoming Chair: Sergio Mariaca
Vice Chair: Anne S. Holmes, M.S., C.C.C., BCBA
Secretary: Lars Perner, PhD.
Treasurer: Joseph P. Joyce, CPCU, CWCA

Other Board Members:
Jon Basinger  Kevin Custer  Andres Filippi  Donna Andrus (Leave of Absence)
Michael Brown, Esq.  Lori Ireland  John P. Hussman, Ph.D.  Ronald Simmons (Leave of Absence)
Denise Sawan Caruso  Terry Murphy  Richard Wolf  Scott Badesch, Ex Officio
Cathy Cherry  David Colclasure  Tracey Staley

Copies of board of directors meeting minutes are available upon request.

Information about each board member, including their bio, can be found at:
Results Oriented

The Autism Society of America wants to do more than just help a person. We want the help we provide to enable a person to maximize his or her quality of life. That means we want that person to increase his or her independence, self-sufficiency, health status, socialization, communication, friendships, and so much more.

In 2015, the organization will begin an effort to track the increases of qualify life advancement by those we proudly serve. We know now that we are doing this, but we want to further demonstrate to those we serve and those we support that when you are served by the Autism Society, your quality of life increases.
Donors and Supporters

The Autism Society of America is supported by thousands of donors. From the donor who provides us $100 bake sale they had for the Autism Society to a national foundation providing over $100,000 to help support programs locally and statewide, we can never say thank you enough times to our donors.

The Autism Society of America does not list its donors since it wishes to assure the confidentiality of each donor. If the donor allows us to recognize them as a contributor for purposes of identifying donor funds, we do so only upon full acknowledgement of the donor for us to use such information publicly.

THANK YOU DONORS.  THANK YOU DONORS.  THANK YOU DONORS.
## 2014 Financial Highlights

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
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<td>(79% public support; average donation $40)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Service Expense:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autism Core Services:</td>
<td>$930,190</td>
<td>(34%)</td>
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<td>Education &amp; Awareness:</td>
<td>$702,630</td>
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<td>Advocacy:</td>
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<td>Total Program Services:</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>Administration</td>
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<td>Total Operating Expenses</td>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
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<td>Beginning Net Assets</td>
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<td>Ending Net Assets</td>
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