



## Our Vision

A world where all people with autism can reach their full potential.

## Our Impact

Autism Speaks is enhancing lives today and accelerating a spectrum of solutions for tomorrow.

## Our Mission

Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the life span for the needs of individuals with autism and their families. We do this through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.

*Through partnerships and collaboration, we are committed to:*

**Increasing global understanding and acceptance of people with autism**

**Being a catalyst for life-enhancing research breakthroughs**

**Increasing early childhood screening and timely interventions**

**Improving the transition to adulthood**

**Ensuring access to reliable information and services throughout the life span**

## What is autism?

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. We know that there is not one autism but many subtypes, most influenced by a combination of genetic and environmental factors. Because autism is a spectrum disorder, each person with autism has a distinct set of strengths and challenges. The ways in which people with autism learn, think and problem-solve can range from highly skilled to severely challenged. Some people with ASD may require significant support in their daily lives, while others may need less support and, in some cases, live entirely independently.

## About Autism Speaks

Founded in 2005 and built on collaborations with other autism organizations, Autism Speaks has:

**Helped lead the genomic discovery of the biology of autisms**

**Invested in evidence-based research to decrease time to intervention and increase personalized care**

**Drove profound global increases in awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with autism**

**Championed multi-billion dollar increase in authorized federal research funding for autism**

**Led efforts to reduce the average age of diagnosis to enable earlier access to services and supports**

**Advocated for statewide autism health care coverage in all 50 states, affecting millions of people**

**Developed and distributed vital information and resources from diagnosis to through adulthood**

## We're here to help.

1-888-AUTISM2 | En Español (888) 772-9050 | [help@autismspeaks.org](mailto:help@autismspeaks.org)

To find resources, join a fundraising walk or make a donation, go to [autismspeaks.org](https://autismspeaks.org).

Connect with us [@autismspeaks](https://twitter.com/autismspeaks).