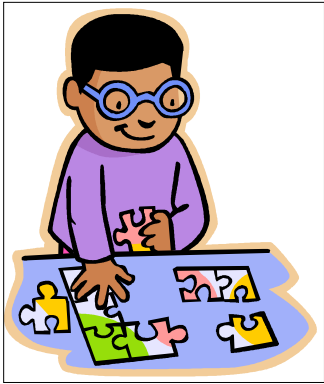


Identifying Autism



Autism is highly treatable, particularly if detected early. However, it's never too late to begin treatment.

Here's what to look for:

- Prefers playing or working alone.
- At times seems hearing impaired.
- Difficulty understanding or imagining another person's point of view.
- Difficulty regulating emotions; this can lead to "rages."
- Uses a high-pitched or sing-song voice, especially when anxious.
- Extreme need and demand for order and predictability.
- Over-reacting to certain smells, textures, noise, or tastes.
- Obsession with a toy or subject.
- Not recognizing or responding to social cues, such as a smile, wink, or idioms.
- May be highly skilled in some areas, but behind his/her peers socially.

If you suspect autism, please see a doctor for proper diagnosis.

For more information:

Your doctor is the best source for diagnosis and treatments. You can help the doctor by researching reputable sources. Here are a few to get you started.

www.AutismND.org

www.Autism-Society.org

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/>



AutismND

628 Sixth Avenue

Alice, ND 58031

Email: Info@AutismND.org



Autism Society of North Dakota

Our goal As the Autism Society of ND, our goal is to work with interested parents and professionals regarding Autism. Before we can call for change, we must make the public aware of the needs of the autistic community.

Who has autism? Autism is a neuro-biological disorder that affects 1 out of every 110 children. It is four times more common in boys than girls, and is found in people in all walks of life.

What is Autism? Autism is a Pervasive Developmental Disorder, meaning that it affects every aspect of a person's life. Classic autism is usually diagnosed in the first three years of life; however, "high functioning autism," or Aspergers Syndrome, may not be diagnosed until years later.

The Prognosis

Many people with autistic traits lead happy, healthy lives. How many of these names do you recognize?

- Temple Grandin
- Thomas Jefferson
- Henry Thoreau
- Vincent Van Gogh
- Isaac Asimov
- Emily Dickinson
- Thomas Edison



Each of those people displayed at least some autistic traits and may well have been on the autism spectrum. Some of them, particularly Ms. Grandin, have been formally diagnosed with autism.

At AutismND, we can connect you with parents and professionals in your area. Having someone to talk to can make all the difference. Many people with autism have an array of doctors they work with. We can offer you resources to make the doctoring process easier.

AutismND strives to help families help the autistic people in their lives to reach their full potential as responsible, active members of society.

Our dreams

"I want to raise money to search for a cure for autism." – Christine

"We need a school for children with autism in North Dakota." – Madonna

"Why aren't there any day camps for autistic children in my area?" – Mark



Did you ever wish you could just go to one place to find the answers to many of your questions about autism? AutismND strives to be that place for you.

With AutismND, families and professionals work together to improve the lives of those we love and care for. Together, we collaborate and share information about medications, school, various therapies, etc. We are all here to help our autistic loved ones, and yours!



What's next?

Learn Read as much as you can about Autism Spectrum Disorders. Please visit www.AutismND.org for many valuable links that will assist you in advocating for your loved one.

Surround yourself with support Most people will need the care and support of others to make it through the storms caused by autism. Whether the struggle is school, doctors, or even home, AutismND can help connect you with others in your area struggling with similar issues.

Join By joining AutismND, you will be joining a knowledgeable group of parents and professionals. We can help answer your questions about Autism disorders, and point you towards the resources and services your family needs.

Each of us holds a piece to the puzzle called Autism!

