Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication, and behavioral challenges. 1 in 5 four-year-olds has ASD.

HRSA’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau implements the Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education and Support Act—Autism CARES Act—through grant programs. The Autism CARES Act seeks to improve the health and well-being of children and adolescents with ASD and other developmental disabilities (DDs).

**TRAINING**

- Over 11,600 continuing education events reaching over 600,000 health professionals
- Over 229,000 individuals receiving over 340,000 children
- Over 6,000 training events reaching over 66,000 health professionals collectively trained from a variety of disciplines

**RESEARCH**

- National research networks and projects conduct studies to advance the evidence base on effective interventions
- Over 51 research sites focused on physical, medical, social and behavioral interventions
- 19 toolkits for healthcare/educational professionals, families and caregivers
- Over 13 medical and behavioral treatment guidelines
- Over 276 new investigators and trainees supported and engaged in autism research projects
- Over 200 articles published

**STATE INNOVATION**

- 4 State Innovation Grantees

**INCREASING AWARENESS OF ASD/DD**
- Developed shared resources to support care coordination and case management of ASD
- Shared ASD materials through media outlets targeting immigrant and refugee communities

**TRAINING PROFESSIONALS & FAMILIES**
- Developed in-person family leadership training
- Developed educational materials for providers, practices and parents

**REDUCING BARRIERS TO ACCESS**
- Established family navigator programs
- Piloted telemedicine projects in rural communities
- Developed strategies to address cultural and linguistic disparities in ASD service delivery

Get more information on how HRSA works to address autism.


*All data is from FY 2014 – FY 2016