Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges. 1 in 58 EIGHT 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
- nearly 6,000 INDIVIDUALS providing community pediatrics and other health professionals on early screening, early diagnosis and early intervention
- over 66,000 CHILDREN received diagnostic evaluations from these programs
- over 340,000 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
- 51 RESEARCH SITES focused on physical, medical, social and behavioral interventions
- 19 toolkits for healthcare/educational professionals, families and caregivers
- 13 medical and behavioral treatment guidelines
- 276 new investigators and trainees supported and engaged in autism research projects
- over 200 articles published

**STATE INNOVATION**
- 4 State Innovation Grantees
- worked toward INCREASING AWARENESS OF ASD/DD
- TRAINING PROFESSIONALS & FAMILIES
- REDUCING BARRIERS TO ACCESS

Grantees:
- Developed shared resources to support care coordination and case-management of ASD
- Shared ASD materials through media outlets targeting immigrant and refugee communities
- Developed family leadership training
- Developed educational materials for providers, practices and parents
- 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.