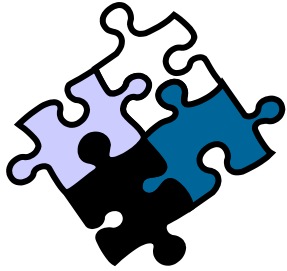


How can YOU help an Autistic Child?



*You can help a child with
Autism and Early
Intervention by donating
to the
Lapeer Autism Family
Relief Fund.*

*Take a couple moments to read this brochure
and for more information visit the website below:*

www.lapeercountycommunityfoundation.org

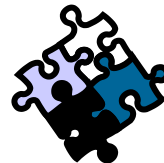
*Help make a difference in a
child's future .*

**Lapeer Autism
Family Relief Fund**

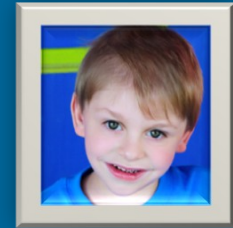
**funded through the
Lapeer County Community Foundation.**

Phone: 810-664-0691

**Lapeer Autism Family Relief Fund is #45 on form.
www.lapeercountycommunityfoundation.org**



**LAPEER AUTISM
FAMILY RELIEF
FUND**



EARLY INTERVENTION
made a big impact
on this Lapeer County
child's life.

IMAGINE THIS.....

You find out you will have a child...*you are overjoyed*

You hold your child for the first time...*you are in love*

Something doesn't seem right...*you are scared*

You search and search for answers....*you are frustrated*

You are given a diagnosis of Autism....*you are terrified*

You find and start treatment that helps your child.....
you are hopeful and empowered

You can't afford to continue helping your child...
you are devastated

You are unable to improve the life of your child....

Unacceptable

...THIS IS WHAT the
FUND STRIVES to PREVENT

AUTISM

What is Autism?

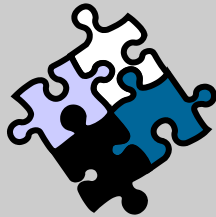
Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first 3 years of life. It is the result of a neurologic disorder that affects the normal functioning of the brain, impacting development in areas of social interaction and communication skills.

This affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause for autism.

Autism affects 1 in 91 children and 1 in 58 boys (US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention October 2009).

While autism is one of the most common developmental disorders American children face, many professionals in the medical and educational fields are still unaware of the best methods to diagnose and treat the disorder.

What is known is once a diagnosis is made initiating early intervention services significantly improves outcomes for people with autism and can reduce the level of funding and services needed later in life.



*The more we ignore Autism
now the more it will cost all of
us in the future.*

THE FACTS.....

What is the Lapeer Autism Relief Fund?

This is an endowed fund through the Lapeer County Community Foundation.

What is an Endowed fund?

This is a permanent fund.

The endowment portion is invested along with other Lapeer county community foundation funds. The income earned from the fund can be distributed annually to applicants. Since the endowment portion is always invested and never spent your dollar invested today will give year after year. If you would like your donation to be available to be put to use immediately you can request your donation is given to the income portion of the fund. The Lapeer County Community Foundation receives 1% of the funds for operational expenses. There are no other operational expenses.

Why we support and started the fund?

Research has shown that intensive early intervention yields a tremendous amount of progress. By the time these children reach kindergarten it can often reduce the level of funding and services needed for intensive support. Therefore reducing the amount of funding needed for additional support from the schools

How will the fund help Lapeer County Autistic Children?

Once the fund is able to give out income yearly, we will focus on early intervention. Including but not limited to:

*Behavioral Therapy such as ABA (applied behavior analysis)
Speech Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Diet modification
Sensory Integration Therapy
Biomedical Treatment
Play Therapy*

How do parents ask for financial assistance through the fund?

Once funding is available:

Applications will be available at the Lapeer County Community Foundation office.

What are the signs of Autism?

*Does not respond to his/her name
Lack or delay of speech
Repetitive behavior
Little or no eye contact
Lack of interest in peers
Lack of spontaneous play
Persistent fixation on parts of objects
Over sensitivity or under sensitivity to pain
Unresponsive to normal teaching methods
Uneven gross/fine motor skills
Does not point to objects
Tantrums*

Even if you are not personally touched by Autism now, just wait...you will be in the future when a staggering amount of children are adults needing financial assistance and care. This amount could be greatly reduced by investing in intensive early intervention now.

What types of intervention are there (limited list)?

Behavior modifications—i.e. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) requires intensive one on one therapy

Sensory Integration Therapy—helping to cope with sensory stimulation

Play Therapy—used to improve emotional development

Speech Therapy—includes sign language and the Pecs System

Biomedical Treatment— diet modification and supplements

Occupational Therapy

Physical Therapy

Medication

What is the Lapeer Autism Relief Fund future goals?

Form a pool of speech, occupational, behavioral, ABA and other specialists that parents have access to for continuing intensive early intervention for their children with autism.

Helping all families with autistic children have access to supplement the currently available intervention they may be receiving at the schools, by bringing therapists specializing in treating autism from other areas to Lapeer.

What is the cost for a child with Autism?

Lifetime per capita cost \$3.2 million (that's per person)

The cost to society is at least \$35 billion per year.

Treatment can cost in upwards of \$0,000 annually.

Here are some interesting facts on insurance companies....
Most insurance companies **do not** cover treatment for autism.

The federal government **does not** cover its own employees.
States have to pass their own insurance bills.

If insurance companies covered behavioral treatment for autism or we had funding for families to receive treatment, we would see more children receiving treatment. This would increase the demand for behavioral and other therapists here in Lapeer to treat our children therefore increasing the need for jobs in this field.

Who can benefit from the fund and ask for help?

Any resident of Lapeer county undergoing treatment for autism can apply for funding, **excluding** Grant Johnston and his family members.

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