



AUTISM INSTITUTE

The Florida State University College of Medicine



Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

Dear Family and Friends,

The holidays offer a special time for celebration, reflection, and showing appreciation to the people and organizations that have made a difference in our lives. Faculty and staff of the Florida State University Autism Institute would like to thank you for allowing us to be a part of your family's life. Over the last 30 years, your participation and support have enabled us to conduct research and develop therapies that have dramatically improved communication, social, and cognitive skills in children and adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

To date, our **research funding** has come from federal agencies including the *U.S. Department of Education*, the *National Institutes of Health*, the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, and *Autism Speaks*. The Florida State Legislature has provided the funding for the *Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)* for services to clients from infants to adults with ASD. Sadly, these funding sources have declined, leaving a pressing need for new financial support, additional staff and new volunteers.



As a CARD client, you are familiar with some of what we do. Eight years ago, the Institute was established in the College of Medicine to bridge the gap between science and practice. Research, community outreach, therapy, and referrals are some of the ways the Autism Institute addresses these growing needs. A **sampling of the free services** and current research projects provided by the FSU Autism Institute include:

- Free Screening and Early Diagnosis of autism and other communication disorders (*FIRST WORDS® Project*)
- Early Intervention Research (*Early Social Interaction Project*)
- School-Age Intervention Research (*Classroom SCERTS Intervention Project*)
- Job Interview Training and Social Skills for Teens & Adults (*Social-Pragmatic Treatment*)
- Web-based Tools (*ASD Video Glossary, Autism Navigator®*)

Learn more about these projects at www.FSUautism.com.

THROUGH OUR EYES



self-portrait by Mikaela Sheldt

Art is just one of the many forms of expression when words don't come easy for individuals with autism. For Mikaela, an adult with autism, her incredible artistic talent has become a successful career. Resources from the Autism Institute and the FSU CARD, can help all of our clients reach their full potential.

A gift to the Autism Institute is your opportunity to change lives—locally, nationally, and globally. Our funding comes from federal and state grants and donations—your donation can help us close the gap between grant funding and our growing need to meet new and evolving goals.

You can honor a friend, teacher, mentor, family member, or caregiver by making a donation in their name to the FSU Autism Institute. This makes a very unique gift for someone special during the holiday season or other special occasion.

We invite to you be a part of our growing efforts by making a contribution today. If you are not able to contribute financially, we welcome you to volunteer your time to help us meet the growing needs of the Autism Institute.

Warm regards,

Amy M. Wetherby, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Director and Distinguished Research Professor of Clinical Sciences
Laurel Schendel Professor of Communication Science and Disorders

AUTISM INSTITUTE THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE 2312 KILLEARN CENTER BLVD, BLDG A, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32309

FSU Autism Institute 2016 Holiday Gift Request

Yes! I want to help impact the lives of people with autism. Please find enclosed my gift to the FSU Autism Institute:

\$5,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Apt. # _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

email: _____

Would you like to volunteer? If yes, please provide your preferred contact phone # or email: _____

Pay by Credit Card: \$ _____ MasterCard VISA American Express

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name as it appears on Card: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

You can also make your donation online with a credit card by going to www.FSUautism.com. Select "Giving" from the left side of the page and then select "Autism Institute" in the designation drop-down menu.

All data collected online or by mail is confidential.

My gift is in Honor or Memory of: _____

Mail an acknowledgement on my behalf to:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Apt. # _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Pay by Check: Make payable to the FSU Autism Institute
Mail your check in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

FSU Autism Institute
2312 Killlearn Center Blvd, Bldg A
Tallahassee, FL 32309
800-769-7926 or 850-644-4367

As a part of Florida State University, the Autism Institute is a non-profit organization and may receive tax-deductible contributions.