

## What are Autism Spectrum Disorders?

Autism is considered to be a spectrum disorder, meaning that the symptoms and characteristics of autism can present themselves in a wide variety of combinations, from mild to severe. This is why the term “autism spectrum disorder” (ASD) is sometimes used. Although autism is defined by a set of specific behaviors, children and adults can exhibit any combination of them with any degree of severity.

### **ASD includes Autism, PDD-NOS and Asperger’s Syndrome.**

More than 4 million people in the U.S. have some form of autism, and over 72,000 in South Carolina. The newest prevalence rate now places autism as one of the three most common developmental disabilities, much more common than Down Syndrome. Yet the majority of the public, including some professionals in medical, educational and vocational fields are still unaware of how autism affects behavior. Progress is being made in developing more effective teaching methods and other interventions for individuals with autism.



### **Contact us**

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Participant

# Case Management

## Enhancing lives of individuals with ASD

# **What is Case Management?**

Case Management Services are intended to assure that individuals who are eligible for SCDDSN services have access to a full array of necessary services that will enable them to live in community settings rather than in institutional settings. Case Management Services are provided by trained professionals, called Case Managers, who have knowledge of the medical, social, educational, and other services that are available. Case Managers learn about each individual's specific needs, through assessment, so that he/she may plan for and facilitate the delivery of specific services to meet those needs. Case Managers assure that services are appropriate and effective and, as needed, make referrals and/or link people to appropriate service providers.

## **SC Autism Society**

The South Carolina Autism Society is a non-profit organization that has been advocating for and supporting individuals with ASD and their families in South Carolina for over 46 years.

## **The Service**

Case Management is a program of the South Carolina Autism Society. SCAS will provide case management to individuals with autism spectrum disorders who have been found eligible for SCDDSN Case Management Services with an autism diagnosis.

## **Eligibility for Services**

Persons who meet the following criteria are eligible to receive services.

- Certified by SCDDSN as having autism or other related disability.
- Have a need for case management services as documented by the consumer's Single Plan or Individual Family Service Plan.
- Does not reside in a group home licensed as an Intermediate Care Facility for the Intellectually Disabled.
- Consumers or potential consumers (persons going through the eligibility process) of the SCDDSN.

## **Role of the Case Management**

The case manager helps you and your family get services or things your family may need.

- Provides an independent advocate for individuals with disabilities and their families
- Assists individuals with disabilities and their families with residential placement and day services
- Assists individuals with disabilities and their families in addressing needs and problems
- Assists individuals with disabilities and their families in finding and maintaining appropriate programs
- Monitors satisfaction
- Identifies and obtains needed services
- Monitors and evaluates services
- Provides information and support
- Creates and develops opportunities
- Coordinates resources
- Assures plan achievement
- Educates the broader community

## **South Carolina Autism Society Mission Statement**

**The mission of the South Carolina Autism Society is to equip those affected by autism spectrum disorders with knowledge and supports to maximize their quality of life.**