

AUTISM SOCIETY OF OREGON

*Improving the Lives of All
Affected by Autism*

Call us at: 1-888-AUTISM-1 (toll-free)

E-mail: Info@AutismSocietyOregon.org

Website: www.AutismSocietyOregon.org



OUR VISION:



To be Oregon's leading organization providing resources, education, advocacy and support for individuals and families living with Autism.

What is Autism?

- Autism is a neuro-developmental disability
- Characteristic difficulties with:
 - Communication
 - Social interaction
 - Repetitive/Stereotypical behaviors
 - Restricted interests
 - Sensory processing challenges
- *“When you’ve met one person on the autism spectrum, you’ve met one person on the autism spectrum”*
- Autism is a life-long disability
- Early identification and supportive therapies are key



Rate of Diagnosis:

1 in 68 children diagnosed with ASD by 8

- Across all ethnic, racial and economic groups
- Cancer in children is found at 1-2: 10,000
- From CDC report, March 2014
 - 2012: 1 in 88
 - 2010: 1 in 110
 - 1994: 1 in 2,500
- **Over 9,000** children in Oregon schools have an autism identification



Let's talk money!



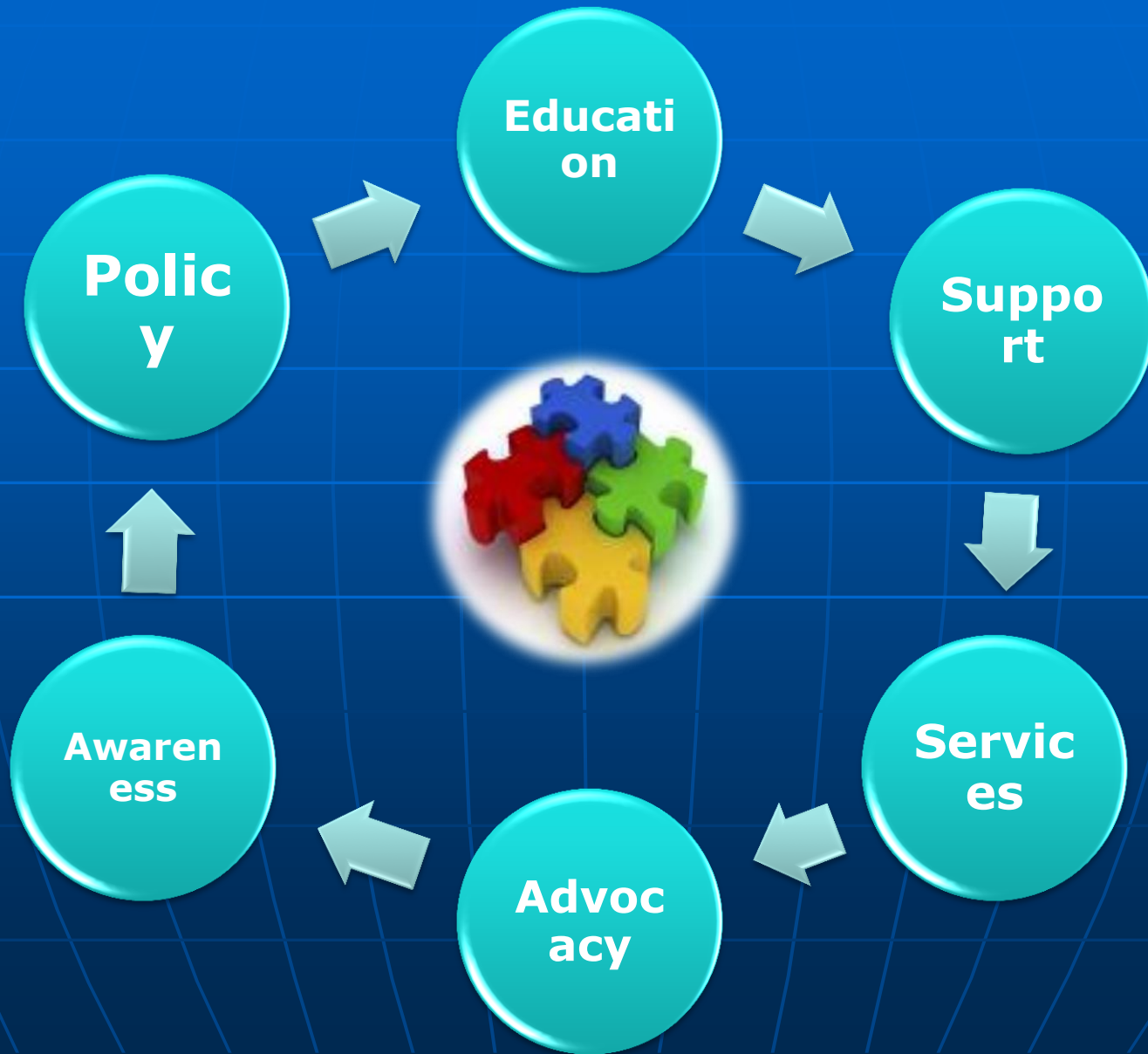
- \$4,000 - 6,000 MORE per year in medical expenses
- Behavioral therapy: \$25,000 - \$40,000 per year
- Oregon schools: \$200 million per biennium on autism services
- Adult care services
- Economic costs

What is ASO?

- Established in 1981 by parents of children on the autism spectrum
- State affiliate of Autism Society of America
- Serving the entire state of Oregon
- Address needs throughout the lifespan and across the autism spectrum
- 11 volunteer Board members, 24 regional volunteers & 1 full time Executive Director
- 501(c)(3) organization – privately funded



CORE AREAS OF SERVICE



Education:

■ WORKSHOP SERIES:

- Potty Training
- Sleep Issues
- Puberty
- Special Education
- Anger Management
- Transition to Adult Services
- Housing
- Employment
- Law Enforcement Training



Support:



- 22 Support & Activity Groups throughout State:
 - Parents, Grandparents, Siblings
 - Game Clubs
 - Children, Girls, Teens, Adults on spectrum
 - Online support networks

- On-line Resource/ Referral Guide:
 - From therapists to camps to hair cuts!

Service:

- “Take a Break on ASO!” Program
- Autism-Friendly Family Events
- Summer Camp Support
- Sensory Friendly Films
- Gas card program
- Respite programs



Awareness:

April is Autism Awareness Month!

- Autism Awareness Walk in Portland is the largest autism awareness event in Oregon
 - New walks in Central Oregon and Clatsop County!
 - Over 3,000 people standing together to support Oregon's autism community!



Resources in Oregon:

County and State services:

- County Developmental Disability Services (all ages)
- Early Intervention/Early Childhood Education (up to age 5)
- Special Education (ages 5-22)
- Brokerages (Adults)
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (Adults)

Private services:

- OHSU's CDRC
- Swindell's Center for Children
- Many private therapeutic practitioners and some private schools
- Other Non-Profit Organizations
 - FACT
 - ARRO
 - Northwest Autism Foundation
 - Autism Empowerment

Do you have concerns about a child's development?

- Contact the county for a free assessment- this leads to early intervention services and individualized educational plans
 - County Developmental Disability Services
 - Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education
- ASQ Oregon- Ages and Stages questionnaires: University of Oregon's premiere parent questionnaire/assessment that leads to specific direction on intervention.
 - www.ASQOregon.com
- Outside Assessments: speech therapy, occupational therapy, behavioral consultation, medical, psychological evaluation.
 - Resource list at www.AutismSocietyOregon.org

Questions?



(503) 636-1676

1-888-AUTISM1

www.AutismSocietyOregon.org

Tobi Rates, Executive Director