



GROWING OUR IMPACT by providing quality services.

What are the community needs?

In South Florida, over 90,000 children and young adults receive an autism-spectrum diagnosis. The Agency for Persons with Disabilities has a waiting list of ~6,500 individuals. There's an enormous gap in the community between the growing demand and the need for therapy and education services.

How is ESSF uniquely positioned to address them?

One in 36 children are diagnosed with autism every year. Easterseals South Florida has recognized the rapid increase of this neurological disorder and believes that early intervention through therapy and education can promote individualized learning. We offer programs for children and youth with autism from birth through age 22.

What is our current and projected impact?

We currently provide 376,000 instructional hours to 209 children and young adults per year; 4,000 hours of pediatric therapy (occupational, physical and speech) per child per year, as well as 350 hours of summer programming per child per year. Due to the growing demand in the community, we want to grow our space and program offerings to address our community's needs for high-quality, developmentally appropriate, culturally competent education and vocational training to help students with autism and other disabilities. We want to be a solution provider in elevating our special needs community by enhancing education and expanding employment.

How can I help?

You can help by philanthropically supporting our mission and inviting your personal and professional network to select Easterseals South Florida as charity of choice.



Florida has one of the US's highest rates of diagnosed autism at 4.9%.

Autism Community Statistics

South Florida has 13,823 registered Autism constituents ages 0-22 years.

90 – 100,000 people in South Florida (Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties) have an Autism diagnosis.

In 2023, the CDC reported that approximately 1 in 36 children in the U.S. is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) – autism prevalence has increased 178% since 2000.

Across South Florida, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities has a waiting list of ~6,500 individuals.

"Daniela was enrolled in special education programs in the public school where she was eventually diagnosed with a learning disability. While attending the Easterseals South Florida summer camp, Daniela fell in love with the culinary program and found her passion for cooking. She transferred full time to our Culinary Arts High School where she has thrived academically, socially, and in the kitchen." - Mrs. Jacqueline Simeon (ESE Teacher)

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all abilities. limitless possibilities.