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Thank you for being part of something bigger than
all of us!

Arzu Forough
President, CEO
Washington Autism Alliance & Advocacy

Whaaat is WAAA?



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WASHINGTON AUTISM ALLIANCE & ADVOCACY | Standing Together for Change

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Find out how we're helping children and adults with ASD to thrive and succeed in life.

Learn more >



Guiding Principles

All individuals with ASD can learn.

Best practice guidelines recommend remediation programs that are effectively designed and delivered

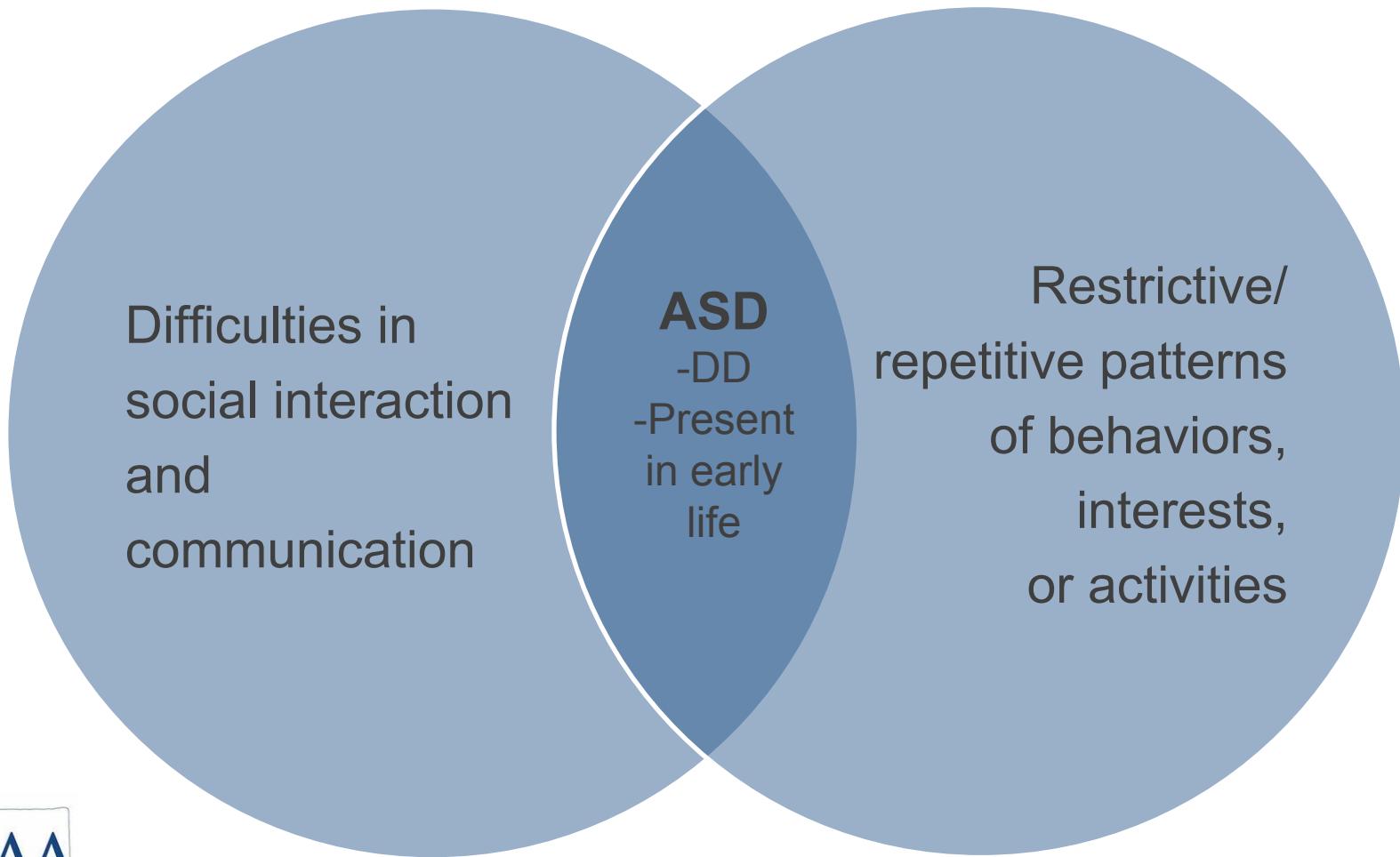


by the medical community,

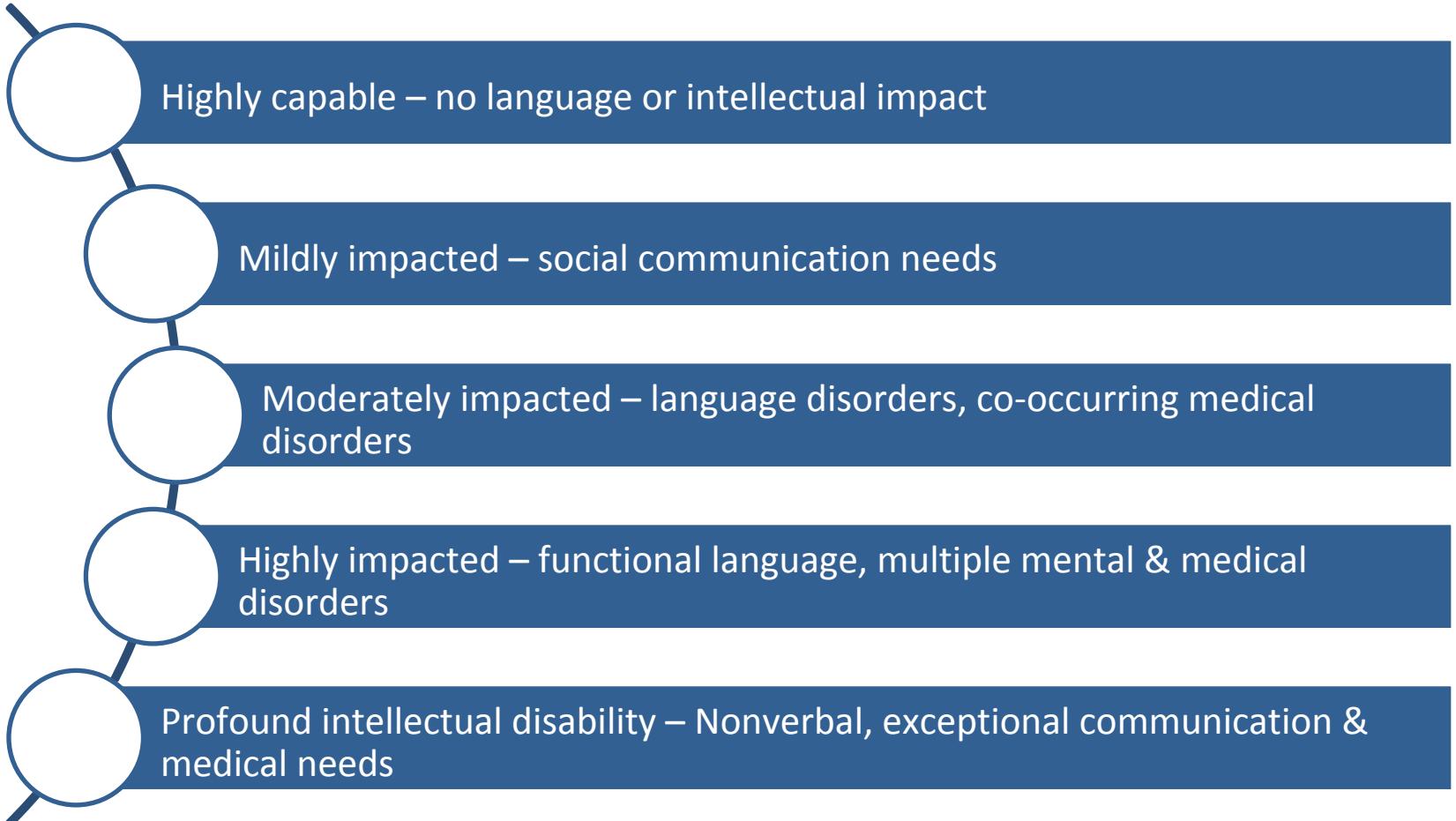
therapy providers, families, schools and other providers,

working well together & achieving consensus.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)



ASD is a Spectrum





“He’s opened up my world in ways I never knew would be possible!”

-Kaze and Miller, WAAA Story of Hope, 2016

Effects of ASD

- ASD affects virtually all aspects of everyday functioning to some degree
- Many people with ASD engage in behaviors that jeopardize their safety and health.

Common Co-Occurring Conditions

- Intellectual Disability
- Specific learning disabilities/executive functioning
- Tourette's Syndrome
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Bipolar disorder and related mood dysregulation
- Anxiety and/or depression
- Other medical conditions, including seizures, sleep disorders, and GI problems



Source: Seattle Children's
Autism Center

How is ASD typically treated?

- ASD is a highly treatable medical condition
- Treatments recommended by the national standards often significantly improve communication, social behaviors, self-regulation, and independence
- For some, the right help can make a big difference in their life

How is ASD typically treated?

“We work closely with Neurodevelopmental, Neurology, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Sleep Disorders, Genetics and Gastroenterology programs so that your child has complete and coordinated care.”



Seattle Children's®
HOSPITAL • RESEARCH • FOUNDATION

Autism Center



ABA – Meet Walter!

After One Year

Scale	T-Score	Percentile	Age Equivalent (Months)	Description
Gross Motor	43	24 th	23	Average
Visual Reception	74	99 th	40	Very High
Fine Motor	56	73 rd	30	Average
Receptive Language	62	88 th	34	Above Average
Expressive Language	62	88 th	33	Above Average

Pre Treatment

Scale	T-Score	Percentile	Age Equivalent (Months)	Description
Gross Motor	45	31 st	20	Average
Visual Reception	47	38 th	21	Average
Fine Motor	45	31 st	21	Average
Receptive Language	39	14 th	18	Below Average
Expressive Language	30	2 nd	14	Low

How WAAA Supports Families



Family Navigators



Training Workshops



Statewide Provider Networks- COE,NDC



Friendship Matters



Aspire Girls



Gift of Time -
Respite & Recreation



Statewide
Resource Directory



Insurance Appeal
Support



SPA - Supporting
Parents of Autism



Legislative
Advocacy



Resource &
Referral



Newsletter



How does WAAA Help

- When medically necessary services are denied or unreasonably capped by insurance WAAA staff help families appeal the denials or caps at no cost to the family.
- In addition, WAAA staff Provide pro bono guidance, counseling, coordination, training, resources, and legal support to families and professionals, to help them attain effective autism services and socially significant rehabilitative programs in schools and communities.



3182 people helped in 2017!





*"Like how a single word
can make a heart open
I might have only one match
But I can make an explosion
And all those things I didn't say
Wrecking balls inside my brain
I will scream them loud tonight
Can you hear my voice this time?
This is my fight song"*



#EmbraceAutism

How to reach us

Phone: 425.894.7231 Line 1, intake

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