TESTIMONIALS

“Thanks so much for designing and presenting two valuable sessions on ASD for MnDOT staff. They were enormously well received and deemed valuable by attendees - in other words, you were AuSM! Congratulations on growing the Society into such a valuable resource for our state! We look forward to further collaboration with you.”

- Lynnette M. Geschwind, AAO Director and ADA Coordinator, Office of Affirmative Action, MN Department of Transportation

“I appreciate how AuSM’s employment training directly related to perceptions in the workplace and understanding the need for accurate information about autism as well as the tools that benefit both the individual and the employer.”

- Ginger Beatty-Jawish, SES Lead Staff, Merrick, Inc.

ABOUT AuSM

Since 1971, AuSM has offered individuals with autism from birth through retirement a place to learn, access services, and develop skills for navigating what can initially be foreign emotions and information. AuSM helps individuals build a community – one that acts without judgment, searches for new possibilities, and connects families, professionals, and the world to each other.

AuSM offers membership, educational workshops, the annual state autism conference, AuSM Skillshops, the Life with Autism Series for newly diagnosed and specific life stages, summer camps, interest-based social skills classes, Navigating Autism with the Metropolitan Airports Commission, mental health services, free support groups, an Autism Direct Support Certification program, family-friendly fundraisers, advocacy, information and resources, and customized autism training.

Contact the Autism Society of Minnesota to set up a customized training. To view a list of businesses and organizations that have received AuSM’s autism training, visit the AuSM website, www.ausm.org.

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“Without autism, there would be no computers, no electricity, no internet.”

- Temple Grandin, PhD, world-renowned autism advocate
Autism In the Workplace

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in Minnesota and the U.S. With roughly half a million individuals with autism reaching adulthood in the next decade, it is now more important than ever to learn how these individuals with singular focus, loyalty, high productivity, and innovative thinking can help you grow your business.

Untapped Talent Within Reach

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 16.8 percent of the population with disabilities is employed. Individuals with autism offer solutions to many employers’ struggles with productivity and retention.

Yet getting in the door and dealing with the social issues of the workplace often keep those solutions out of reach for businesses. AuSM wants to change this.

Change Fosters Results

At AuSM, we understand the unique needs and benefits individuals with autism bring to the workplace. AuSM will give you the tools to harness the untapped talent of individuals eager to work for you.

Benefit Your Business

AuSM gives you strategies to successfully hire and retain individuals with autism as well as tactics for enhancing your colleague and customer relationships. AuSM’s education team works with you to meet your business or organization objectives and helps you understand the needs of individuals with autism, allowing you to offer a positive, supportive environment for this growing population.

Services for Employers

For hiring managers, diversity and inclusion groups, human resource professionals, management, and employee resource groups.

- Autism education workshops, awareness sessions, and resource materials
- Situational consultation/one-on-one session(s) with management and employees
- Employed individuals with autism share firsthand accounts of their employment successes

Services for Employees

For employees who have children or family members with autism and other learning differences.

- Business diversity lunch and learns, employee wellness, mindfulness strategies
- Home/work balance resources and on-site classes

Tools Available with Training

- Employment Guide written by employers for employers on hiring and working with individuals with autism
- Employment videos featuring strategies for interviewing, acclimation, and accommodations

“Autism is a key factor in my success. It gives me singular focus and perseverance.”

- Michael Allan, a successful computer drafter and technical illustrator who has autism

Diligent, Reliable, Meticulous

Research suggests that individuals with autism have a stronger than normal aptitude for technical positions, where careful attention to processes and procedures is important.

From computing to technical design, and engineering to online research, individuals with autism are valuable contributors.

Many employees with autism stay with their employers over time and gain added responsibilities. Turnover is well below the industry average.