



Spectrum Connections

preparing youth on the spectrum for workplace and college success

THE CHALLENGE

FOR SOMEONE ON THE SPECTRUM

What will happen after
I finish high school?

FOR THE COMMUNITY

What can an organization
do to help build the
services needed for
students after high school?

FOR FAMILY

What can I do to help my
child have a good life as
an adult?



“Stephen” - a young man on the spectrum

“I’m at a precipice. I’m so high-functioning that I don’t really register as disabled, but I’m not high-functioning enough that I can easily utilize anything social.”

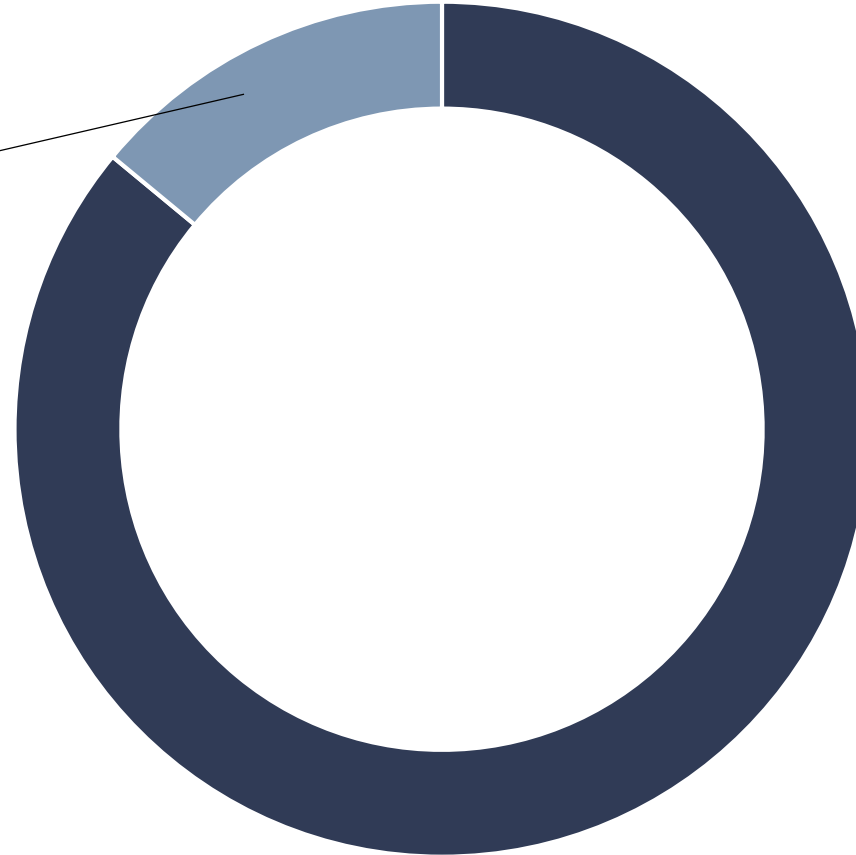


The Tricky Path to Employment Is Trickier When You’re Autistic: Autistic children grow up to be autistic adults. Our society doesn’t give them the support they need.

Sarah Carr, Slate Magazine, 9/22/2017

THE BIG PICTURE

Just **14%** of adults
using state disability
services held paid jobs
in their communities
(2014 - 2015)



Two percent of all autism
research funding is used
to understand adulthood
and aging.

THE CURRENT SERVICES LANDSCAPE

- Most funding supports cookie cutter programs that don't meet the needs of youth with less visible challenges
- Little research is done to understand the service needs of young adults, especially those who could hold jobs and live on their own in the community

OUR GOALS

- Young adults fully participate in their work and social communities
- The service gap is reduced for young adults transitioning from high school to life as independent community members

HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE OUR GOALS?

- Help individuals develop key social and executive function competencies through
 - Innovative services
 - Best practice strategies



OUR TEAM

THE TEAM

We are committed
to creating long-
term success for
young adults on
the spectrum

Melva
Judy
Alicia
Amanda
Leah
Susan

WE ARE
Teachers
Parents
Autism Advocates
Nonprofit Management
Professionals

A person is sitting at a desk, writing on a notepad with a yellow marker. A laptop is visible in the background. The image has a blue overlay.

THE PROGRAMS

Get Ready to Work
Interview Skills Training
Post-Secondary Navigation

GET READY TO WORK

Learn social competencies needed to get a job

- Self awareness and professionalism
- Communication
- Teamwork and conflict management

INTERVIEW SKILL TRAINING

Refine job interview presentation skills

- Managing anxiety
- Active listening
- Conversation
- Honesty vs. Diplomacy

POST SECONDARY NAVIGATION

Build organization and advocacy skills for college success

- Assertiveness
- Managing schedules
- Connecting with Classmates and Campus Resources

FUNDING MODEL

START UP

Service Fees

Organization Contracts

Community Contributions

RAMP-UP

Service Fees

Organization Contracts

Community Contributions

Collaborative Partnerships

MAINTENANCE

Service Fees

Organization Contracts

Community Contributions

Collaborative Partnerships

Foundation Grants

ROCKIN' THE SPECTRUM

fundraising goal - \$5000 in community contributions for start-up phase

Would you consider a contribution to help us reach our goal?

\$25

\$50

\$75

\$100+

With your support, we can fund work readiness and college support services to help young adults achieve their goals for success in the workplace and at school.

Spectrum
Connections needs
partners like you to help achieve
our goals and we'd greatly
appreciate your support.

THANK YOU!