LEAN CANVAS: AUTISM ADVISOR

1. HIGH-LEVEL CONCEPT

AI-powered platform for special education management empowering autism caregivers

4. SOLUTION

Augmented AI agents parse IEPs to extract goals, visualize progress via real-time dashboards, and enable secure, multilingual collaboration for families, psychologists, and counselors, turning jargon into actionable insights and fostering equitable support networks for autism care.

5. UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITION

Unlike basic platforms, our agentic AI solution integrates proprietary state-specific knowledge graphs encoding IEP laws and regulations, ensuring accurate, jurisdiction-compliant recommendations beyond generic LLMs. Multilingual, neurodivergent-friendly design and an already published iOS app validates national scalability.

2. PROBLEM

Overwhelmed autism families struggle with 100+ page IEP jargon, while expensive education advocates exclude working households. With autism diagnoses rising 383% over two decades, 7.3 million U.S. students and their caregivers are desperate for accessible IEP support.

6. SUSTAINABLE ADVANTAGE

Proprietary state-specific knowledge graphs encoding IEP laws create significant barriers to entry that competitors cannot replicate without extensive legal research and data engineering. Partnerships with California school districts, continuous user feedback loops, and patent-pending analysis algorithms establish defensible competitive moats.

7. CUSTOMER SEGMENTS

Primary: Parents/caregivers of children with autism requiring IEP support (7.3M U.S. students, 16% California special education population). Secondary: School psychologists, special education teachers, pediatricians managing multiple IEPs. Tertiary: Educational advocates seeking efficiency tools. Demographics: Working families, immigrant communities, multilingual households.

3. EXISTING ALTERNATIVES

Families rely on printed IEPs and costly advocates ($1,500+), while schools use compliance-focused tools like IEP Direct, ClearTrack, or e-IEP PRO. Psychologists and counselors juggle manual reviews; free forums like Reddit offer patchy advice but no personalized insights.

10. KEY METRICS

Monthly Recurring Revenue (MRR) and Annual Recurring Revenue (ARR) from subscriptions. Customer Lifetime Value (LTV) versus Customer Acquisition Cost (CAC). Documents processed monthly. Conversion rate from free tier to paid. User retention rate. Number of school district partnership agreements signed.

8. EARLY ADOPTERS

Southern California families with autistic children in public schools. We piloted with 10 families across 5 schools and 2 physicians' offices. Initial focus on Spanish and Korean-speaking immigrant communities facing language barriers. Partnering with 5 school districts to validate demand.

11. COST STRUCTURE

Variable costs: OpenAI API usage per document analysis, Supabase database hosting, Pinecone vector database, Neo4j graph database. Fixed costs: Apple Developer Program ($99/year), AWS hosting for web version, domain/SSL certificates. Scaling costs increase proportionally with user growth.

9. CHANNELS

Distribution via Apple App Store (launched) and planned web platform for desktop users. Marketing through school district partnerships, special education conferences, autism advocacy organizations, and parent support groups. Physician referrals and word-of-mouth within autism communities. Direct outreach to California regional centers.

12. REVENUE STREAMS

Freemium model for families: Free analysis for 3 documents, then tiered subscriptions based on volume. Value based subscriptions for school districts, bulk pricing for counselors and psychologists, and white-label partnerships with autism organizations. Future grant funding from autism research foundations.

Additional Information: *Compliance:* Working on compliance with FERPA and COPPA privacy standards for children's educational data. *Social Impact Alignment:* Supports the Autism Family Caregivers Act of 2025 (H.R. 4086) by providing evidence-based tools for families. *Pilot Results:* 10 families tested across Orange County. Key feedback drove feature additions: historical trend analysis, multilingual expansion beyond English, and web platform development. Users consistently asked when it would be available in the App Store, demonstrating strong market demand.