



# WHAT IS Autism?

- A developmental disorder.
- Affects a person's social communication and interaction.
- A person with autism may have restricted and repetitive behavior, interests and activities.
- A life long journey.
- Something that affects the whole family.

**Most children with autism can be diagnosed between 18 and 24 months of age.**

## FIRST SIGNS OF AUTISM:

- No babbling by 12 months
- No pointing or gesturing by 12 months
- No single words by 16 months
- Loss of previously acquired skills, especially language
- Child does not respond to his/her name

## NUMBERS IN AUTISM

- 1 in 45 children in NJ have autism
- 1 in 68 children have autism nationwide
- Boys are four times more likely to have autism than girls

*The CDC will be reporting on updated prevalence numbers in the spring of 2016. Visit [www.autismnj.org/prevalence](http://www.autismnj.org/prevalence) for more information.*

## AUTISM AWARENESS IS IMPORTANT

- Many families with autism are living very isolated lives. Communities that learn about autism and show acceptance and understanding not only help these families but also strengthen the entire community.
- When children turn 21 and leave school, there are not enough programs to meet their adult needs .
- There is no known cause or cure for autism. Fortunately family support and treatment are a phone call away.



The Power of Connection

[www.autismnj.org](http://www.autismnj.org) | 800.4.AUTISM

April is National Autism Awareness Month. Contact us to get involved.



Autism™  
NEW JERSEY

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Supporting New Jersey's autism community for more than 50 years, Autism New Jersey has been a dependable resource for parents and professionals.

Autism New Jersey offers assistance at all stages of an individual's life.

## **AWARENESS**

We strive to build community acceptance

## **PUBLIC POLICY LEADERSHIP**

We are the community's voice in state government

## **INFORMATION SERVICES**

We are a clearinghouse of valuable information and referrals

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

We share our clinical expertise with parents and professionals

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### **NJABA aspires to excel as:**

- The major catalyst for growth dissemination of behavior analytic science and practice in NJ
- A unifying agent for NJ behavior analysts and students of behavior analysis
- The primary professional resource for all NJ behavior analysts
- A comprehensive resource for the media on matters related to our profession and practice



**The New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis**

**Promoting the Science of Behavior Analysis**

[www.njaba.org](http://www.njaba.org)