



Autism Speaks – Family Grant Resources:

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities>



National Service Dogs (NSD)

Since 1996, National Service Dogs (NSD) has been training Labrador and Golden Retrievers to assist children and families living with autism. NSD is proud to be the first school in the world to provide this service to families with children who have autism.

<http://www.nsd.on.ca/programs/certified-service-dogs-for-autism/>



From Autism Speaks:

Children with autism frequently have difficulty focusing, responding to sensory stimuli, and communicating with others. Research tells us that pet therapy can be particularly effective in addressing these issues. More than a decade ago researchers were intrigued when they found that children with autism tended to prefer pictures of animals to pictures of people, and that they also tended to be less responsive to human voices than to other sounds. Additional research studies looked more closely at the animal connection, and recent studies show that introducing a dog to children with autism reduced stress, anxiety, and irritation and resulted in a more relaxed environment for everyone.

Source:

<http://blog.stageslearning.com/blog/powner-of-pets>

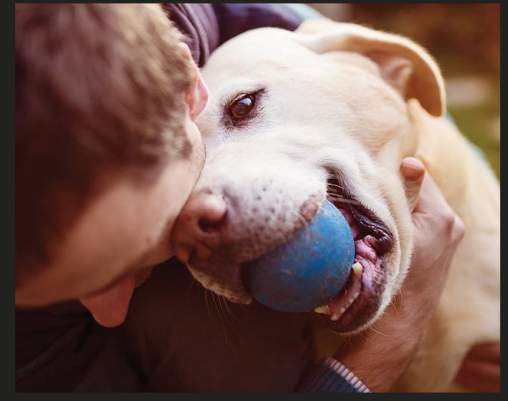
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Autism & Dogs



Children with disabilities present a unique challenge to parents. Autism presents even more unique challenges than other more prevalent disabilities.

The child with Autism does not connect well with his or her environment. Sometimes, but not always, dogs can be the answer...



We hope you will find this gathering of resources helpful in deciding if adopting a dog for your autistic child is something you are considering.





TLC FOR YOUR FURRY FAMILY

Bringing a dog into any family is a big step, but for families of children with autism, getting a dog should be a decision that's taken very seriously.

For example, a child who is easily agitated or has sensitivities to noise may have great

difficulty with an extremely active dog or one that tends to bark. Puppies are not usually good ideas.

4 Paws for Ability is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to place quality service dogs with children with disabilities and veterans who have lost use of limbs or hearing; help with animal rescue, and educate the public regarding use of service dogs in public places.
[http://www. http://4pawsforability.org/](http://www.4pawsforability.org/)

*TLC (Tiny Loving Canines) does not train puppies or dogs for therapy work or with those dealing with disability issues. We **STRONGLY** encourage you to seek out and find an organization that specializes in this kind of work. Puppies and dogs are 'forever' kinds of commitments whether they are doing therapy or not.*



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**Some Angels
Have Wings,
Others Have
Tails**
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North Star Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization. Their mission is to help children who face social, emotional or educational challenges with the help of animal assisted therapy, school visits and assistance dog placements. They have been incorporated for 15 years and have created over 250 assistance dog partnerships with children all over the world.
<http://www.northstardogs.com/>

Blessings Unleashed Foundation is a national, life-changing program designed to help unlock the puzzle of autism by turning rescue dogs into heroes for children.

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

7 Tips for Getting a Service Dog for an Autistic Child -

<http://www.autismdailynewscast.com/7-tips-getting-service-dog-autistic-child/25116/dawnmarcotte/>



Canine Companions for Independence is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships. Headquartered in Santa Rosa, CA, Canine Companions is the largest non-profit provider of assistance dogs, and is recognized worldwide for the excellence of its dogs, and the quality and longevity of the matches it makes between dogs and people. The result is a life full of increased independence and loving companionship.

Website has a map that you can find local resources to aid in your search for the perfect canine companion for your unique situation:

[http:// http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.3978475/k.BED8/Home.htm](http://www.cci.org/site/c.cdKGIRNqEmG/b.3978475/k.BED8/Home.htm)