

What is the Autism CARES Act?

- Signed into law in 2006 as the Combating Autism Act, the Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act of 2019 (Autism CARES Act – S.427/H.R. 1058) provides for a coordinated federal response to autism.
- Creates main source of federal funding for autism research, services, training, and monitoring.
- Dedicates over \$3.1B to autism through the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

1 in 59 children has autism...that's over 7,000 Ohio kids 0-4. (CDC)

What does Autism CARES accomplish?

- Establishes Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) to align federal efforts and advise Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) on autism.
- Funds Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P), a national system of programs offering comprehensive, coordinated medical care for children/youth with autism.
- Trains future leaders to improve the health of children who have or are at risk of developing neurodevelopmental disabilities through the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Training Program.

Ohio's Interagency Work Group on Autism was modeled after IACC.

How does Autism CARES impact Ohio?

- Supports the AIR-P site at Nationwide Children's Hospital – advancing research, developing tools for families, and leveraging additional funds.
- Funds two LEND training programs in Ohio – University of Cincinnati/Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Ohio State University Nisonger Center -- increasing the number of professionals providing evidence-based screening, diagnosis, and treatment.
- Allows Ohio to access technical assistance and training from around the nation, and participate in special projects focused on program impact and technology.

Ohio's efforts focus on evidence-based practices and underserved populations.