

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

A year of AUSOM connections!



Celebrating the Ribbon Cutting for Patuxent Commons Housing (Nov. 2025) in Columbia, MD.



**Autism
Society**
Maryland

Howard | Montgomery | Anne Arundel

AUTISMSOCIETYMD.ORG



FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

2025 was a year of growth, connection, and impact for the Autism Society of Maryland. A major milestone was the opening of Patuxent Commons, a 76-unit affordable housing community envisioned by AUSOM more than a decade ago and realized with Mission First Housing Group and partners. The development now supports an inclusive, intentionally connected community of individuals with disabilities, seniors, and families.

Throughout the year, AUSOM strengthened community engagement through social events across three counties, educational webinars on critical topics, and expanded workforce initiatives through the Autism Hiring Program. Signature events—including the Superhero-themed Every Step Counts Walk & 5K, Autism in the Park celebrations, and our spring gala—brought record participation and honored outstanding housing and volunteer leaders.

Most importantly, we continued our core mission, providing information, resources, and support to more than 18,000 individuals and families, with over 280 events and 400 receiving one-on-one guidance from our special education consultants.

Building on more than 30 years of experience and informed by strategic planning and community input, AUSOM is expanding its reach to meet the growing needs of Maryland's autism community—advancing inclusive housing, employment, and local connection so individuals and families can thrive.

Thank you for your AUSOM support!

Andrew Stettner, President

Melissa Rosenberg, Executive Director



Scenes from the 2025 Every Step Counts Autism Walk & 5K Run - with a Superhero Theme! - held in October at Centennial Park in Ellicott City, MD.



Members of the AUSOM Board of Directors posed at the spring 2025 gala hosted at Cured/18th & 21st in Columbia, MD. The event recognized the organization's Housing Heroes and Volunteer of the Year.

AUSOM IMPACT 2025

18,000+ Individuals Served in 2025 by the Autism Society of Maryland

- 27 Swim Scholarships Awarded; 15 Swim Instructors Trained
- 84 New Graduates of the Autism Hiring Program
- 106 Social and Fitness Events for 3,518 Participants
- 163 Workshops, Support Group Meetings, Educational Webinars and Outreach Events for 11,955 Attendees
- 416 Hours of 1:1 Special Education Assistance for Families in English & Spanish
- 1,837 Responses to Requests for Information & Referral
- 16,000 Social Media Followers
- 35,000 Website Visitors
- 73,500 Touchpoints!

ALL PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND SUPPORT ARE PROVIDED AT NO COST!



Autistic jobseekers attend our Autism Hiring Program to interview with local employers.

OUR SERVICE FOOTPRINT

Howard, Montgomery and Anne Arundel Counties and the Surrounding Areas

DEMOGRAPHICS OF SERVICE FOOTPRINT	Anne Arundel	Howard	Montgomery	MD
Population	588,265	332,317	1,062,061	6,177,253
% White*	71.4%	53.6%	58.4%	57.3%
% Black/AA*	19.8%	21.3%	20.7%	31.7%
% Asian*	4.6%	20.5%	16.2%	7.1%
% Hispanic*	9.4%	7.9%	20.3%	11.5%
% Persons in Poverty*	6.4%	5.7%	7.9%	9.6%
Median HH Income *	\$116,009	\$140,971	\$125,583	\$98,461
Median Home Value*	\$432,000	\$551,300	\$588,900	\$380,500
Pop. in Civilian Workplace*	66.5%	69.2%	69.9%	66.6%
Special Education Students in MD Schools**	12%	11.3%	12.2%	12.8%
Autism Diagnosis-% of Students in MD Schools	12.35%	17.89%	16.97%	13.99%

*From 2022 U.S. Census

**MD Early Intervention and Special Education Census Data -Special Education (2022)

FINANCIALS

The Autism Society of Maryland strives to operate on a balanced budget and relies on the generosity of the community to support its programs and services. Revenue comes from grants, events, corporate and personal donations as well as workplace giving. The organization maintains a healthy reserve fund and annual net income is added to that fund to support future programming and operations. AUSOM has a board-approved investment policy. Finances are overseen by the Board Treasurer, Executive Committee, and Executive Director. Quarterly statements are reviewed by the full Board of Directors.

Major supporters (\$25,000+) included: Howard County Government, WorkSource Montgomery, Anne Arundel Workforce Development, Mission First Housing Group, US Department of Labor, Dart Group II Foundation, The Merrill Family Foundation, Kohl's, and the Autism Society of America.

2024 INCOME: \$886,565

Contributions, Gifts Grants & Events:	\$878,968
Investment Income:	\$ 12,002
Other:	\$ (4,405)

2024 EXPENSES: \$985,385

Program:	\$775,488
Management & General Expense:	\$177,132
Fundraising:	\$ 32,765

* BASED ON 2024 FORM 990



From Top: The AUSOM Team at Autism in the Park Howard County (April 2025); DD Day in Annapolis with Del. Stuart Schmidt (AA); and superheroes post with a guest at the Every Step Counts Autism Walk & 5K (Oct. 2025).



AUSOM BOARD & STAFF



2025 AUSOM BOARD

Andrew Stettner
President

Pamela Stiner
Vice President

Pamela Williams
Secretary

Theresa Ballinger
Treasurer

Donald M. Barrick
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Jimara Kocik

Suzanne Jenkins

Megan Langley

Nichelle Paisant

Matthew Plantz

Benjamin Smith

Jorge Tirigall

Mia Williams

2025 AUSOM TEAM

Lisa Alfred
Operations & Finance Manager

Beth Benevides
Special Education Consultant

Jessica Deadwyler
Resource Coordinator

Mark Dunham
Housing Consultant

Beth Ann Hancock
Special Education Consultant

Linda Hoyt
Autism Hiring Program

Amy Karfonta
Communications Coordinator

Liza Kibler
Administrative Assistant

Kelly Kryspin
*Family Navigator & Autism Hiring
Program*

Susanne Mason
Deputy Director

Catalina Ramos
*Spanish Language Resource
Coordinator*

Melissa Rosenberg
Executive Director

Melissa Scales-Hamilton
Autism Hiring Program

Sara Sommerville
Resource Coordinator

ABOUT THE AUTISM SOCIETY OF MARYLAND (AUSOM): The Autism Society's mission is to create connections, empowering everyone in the Autism community with the resources needed to live fully. Its vision is to create a world where everyone in the Autism community is connected to the support they need, when they need it. AUSOM is an affiliate of the Autism Society of America and a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.