

# San Diego Race for Autism FACTS



**The purpose of this event is to raise funds for programs to benefit children diagnosed with Autism in the San Diego community. Proceeds of the event support the following efforts:**

- ◆ Early detection & intervention
- ◆ Education materials, equipment, & technology
- ◆ Educational workshops and training
- ◆ After-school activities
- ◆ Teen/young adult programs.

For more information,  
please visit our website at [www.NFAR.org](http://www.NFAR.org)  
or call us at 858-679-8800

## FACTS ABOUT AUTISM...

- ◆ Autism is the fastest growing and most common childhood disorder today. Once considered rare, autism is more prevalent in children than Cancer, Down Syndrome, Cystic Fibrosis and Diabetes *combined*.
- ◆ Today 1 in **110** children are diagnosed with Autism
- ◆ Autism affects children of all races and economic levels, affecting boys 4 times more frequently than girls.
- ◆ No one knows how to prevent autism or how to determine who is “at risk”.
- ◆ In San Diego there are thousands of children and their families living with Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- ◆ Autism is a complex developmental disorder that severely impairs a child’s ability to communicate and socialize with others.
- ◆ Children with autism often have sensitivities to touch, sounds, smells and visual stimuli. They may have difficulty processing information in the world around them, making it a stressful and, at times, frightening place. To cope, many children with autism become ritualistic and intolerant of change.
- ◆ Many believe autism occurs due to a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but there is still no proven cause.

*No parent wants to have their child diagnosed with autism.*

*However, many of the symptoms of autism are treatable. The earlier a child with autism starts treatment and interventions, the better the outcome for that child.*

### ***The National Foundation for Autism Research***

*The National Foundation for Autism Research is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the development of innovative treatment programs and options that improve the quality of life for children living with Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders. Proceeds of the San Diego Race for Autism are used to support local research, and educational programs as indicated above.*