



Center for Autism and  
Related Disabilities

# CARD Seeks Funding to Support Growing Community Needs

## What is CARD?

Seven CARD centers across the state serve more than 49,000 families in every county, city, and locality in Florida.

- ❑ CARD provides direct service to people with autism and related disabilities in their homes, schools, communities, and workplaces.
- ❑ CARD offers training and technical assistance to individuals, families, teachers, caregivers, employers, and community members.
- ❑ CARD prepares children and adults to become successfully employed and productive citizens of Florida.

## Investing in CARD now is good business for the State of Florida.

- ❑ Research shows early identification and family support have long-term benefits for children with autism.
- ❑ CARD continues to reach out to underserved (low-income, minority, and rural) populations so they can benefit from early identification and services.
- ❑ Longstanding CARD constituents are more likely to succeed as productive citizens who join the workforce or enter higher education and live independently.
- ❑ Without CARD, the state would likely pay more for costs associated with direct care, housing, disability, and unemployment.

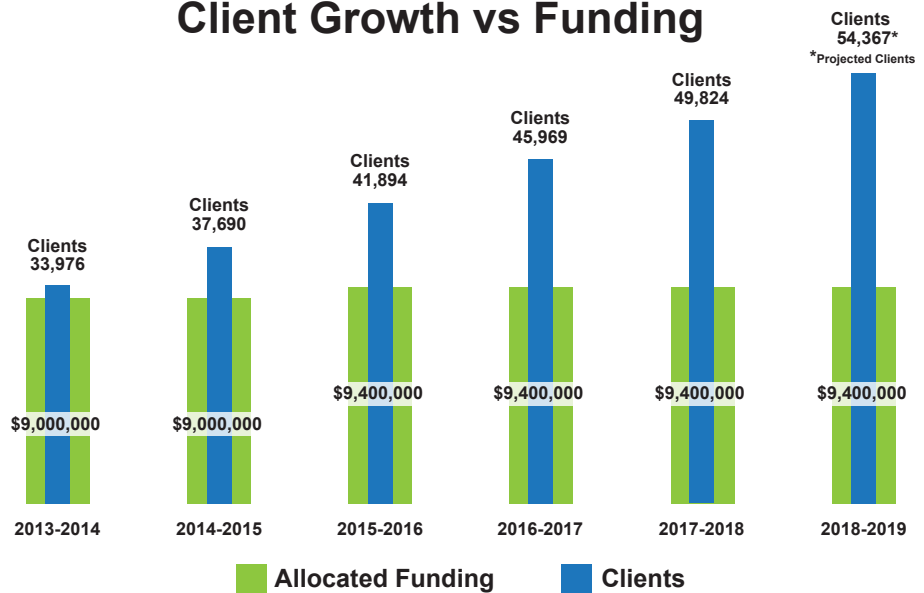
The number of CARD clients **has increased 47% since 2014** while the allocated funding has increased 4%.

Help close the gap between client growth and allocated funds so CARD can continue to provide quality services throughout Florida.

Autism affects 1 in 59 people.

Lifetime costs to society range from \$1.4 to \$2.4 million per person with autism.

## Client Growth vs Funding



### Statewide CARD Request for 2019-2020

	Counties	Clients	2018-19 Funds	New Funds Requested	Total Request 2019-20
Florida Atlantic University - Boca Raton	5	5,027	\$1,056,776	\$285,384	\$1,342,160
Florida State University - Tallahassee	18	4,761	\$1,224,008	\$252,438	\$1,476,446
University of Central Florida - Orlando	7	13,033	\$1,721,639	\$536,464	\$2,258,103
University of Florida - Gainesville	14	4,060	\$1,077,893	\$256,006	\$1,333,899
University of Florida - Jacksonville	6	4,415	\$1,072,732	\$146,787	\$1,219,519
University of Miami - Miami (including \$500,000 for Nova Southeastern University)	3	11,562	\$1,802,195	\$346,721	\$2,148,916
University of South Florida - Tampa	14	6,966	\$1,444,757	\$276,200	\$1,720,957
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>49,824</b>	<b>\$9,400,000</b>	<b>\$2,100,000</b>	<b>\$11,500,000</b>

The seven Florida CARD sites developed an equitable funding formula that all CARD sites support. This formula applies a weighting for number of counties served, number of clients, population of each region, and the ratio of clients reached to the population. CARD is funded by General Revenue in the Department of Education's K-12 non- FEFP budget. \*Data from 2017-18 Annual Report.



Florida's First Choice for Autism Support

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## CARD supports individuals, families, schools, and communities by providing services across the lifespan.

### Infants & Toddlers

- ❑ Promoting early identification and diagnosis to improve child and family outcomes
- ❑ Teaching families to become more self-sufficient in managing their child's care, reducing burden on other state-funded agencies

### Pre-School

- ❑ Working with teachers and early childhood providers to create classrooms that promote success for young students with autism

### School-Age

- ❑ Supporting our schools in the delivery of evidence-based practices to enhance student outcomes and improve graduation rates
- ❑ Providing high-quality professional development and systematic classroom support to educational teams who serve students with autism

### Transition to Adulthood

- ❑ Providing support to constituents after they graduate so they can enter the workforce, enter higher education, and live independently

### Adults

- ❑ Stimulating the development of businesses and the creation of jobs designed to tap into the unique abilities of people with autism
- ❑ Facilitating relationships between employers and adults with autism and related disabilities to create productive and successful work environments

### All Ages

- ❑ Educating law enforcement officers to understand how to interact with people with autism
- ❑ Serving low-income, under-served, and minority groups

