Dear Friend,

Grant a Gift Autism Foundation (GGAF) began ten years ago as a place where children with autism could receive needed services including therapies, social opportunities and support for siblings and parents. Through leadership and philanthropy—and by simply not taking "no" for an answer—parents in the autism community have dedicated themselves to changing the narrative for their children with autism. The legacy of those passionate parents drives us to this day.

I am excited to share this annual report with you, highlighting just some of the accomplishments we made this year with our supporters and partners.

According to the CDC 1 in 59 children in the U.S. are diagnosed on the autism spectrum. On a local level, there are over 10,000 individuals with autism under the age of 21 in Nevada. This means that an estimated 800,000 children with autism in the U.S. will age out of the school system and transition into adulthood in the next 10-15 years. GGAF has grown into an organization that provides job training, internships and employment in Clark County. Assisting these members of our community is our priority.

As we close the first chapter of our history and celebrate 10 years of service, we are concerned by how much work is still to be done. For example, while we know that early diagnosis and intervention afford the best outcomes for children with autism, most are not diagnosed until after age 4 and minority groups are diagnosed even later and less often. We also know that applied behavior analysis (ABA) is the most researched and successful behavioral intervention for autism. Unfortunately, there are not nearly enough qualified ABA providers in Nevada to meet demand for services.

GGAF exists to support families as they navigate their autism diagnosis and seek resources. We act as a community safety net by funding services not covered by state and federal resources or insurance. We achieve this through collaboration with other organizations, state agencies and providers to give children with autism growing up in Southern Nevada a brighter future.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and amazing staff, I ask you to join us as we work to change the narrative—from a story about despair to a story about hope.

Sincerely,

Terri Janison
President & CEO
Grant a Gift Autism Foundation
A YEAR IN REVIEW

This year GGAF marked its 10th birthday. We kept the party going all year long by celebrating major accomplishments with our clients, providers and philanthropic partners.

ACKERMAN CENTER PARTNERSHIP TURNS THREE

In 2016 GGAF and the UNLV School of Medicine jointly opened the UNLV Medicine Ackerman Autism Center, combining cutting-edge care, vocational training, social support programs and education for families, all in one outpatient setting. This year, our partnership served 1,268 patients. The chart below shows the services they received:

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER OPENS ON RANCHO

GGAF cut the ribbon on a Family Resource Center in our current building on Rancho Drive this year. The space is used to deliver vocational programs to young adults with autism. It also houses family empowerment workshops, program orientations, case management and other activities.

The project pulled together $8,750 in donated goods and services and 269 volunteer hours.
MORE HIGHLIGHTS

From early intervention for preschoolers to job training for highschoolers—your investments in GGAF powered everything we did this year. Our community partners gave time, talent, in-kind gifts and cash donations. Every dollar we raised benefited families in Southern Nevada affected by autism in transformational ways.

ANNUAL SUPPORT

GGAF raises funds through foundation and government grants, individual contributions, special events and program fees. The chart below shows support over the past six years:

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**ANNUAL SUPPORT**

- 2014: $707,320
- 2015: $1,291,140
- 2016: $2,411,086
- 2017: $1,195,792
- 2018: $3,007,715
- 2019: $2,365,472

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The 10th Anniversary 5K Race for Hope raised $112,549 during Autism Awareness Month in April.

National Finals Rodeo brought the cowboy spirit to children at the Ackerman Center for the fourth year in a row. GGAF partnered with Las Vegas Events to make the visit possible.

Our 2019 gala in October raised over $1 million thanks to a generous multi-year matching contribution by Randy and Kathy Black.

Twenty-one-year-old Antuan R. (above) and 42 other young adults received job training through our vocational program.
2019 MAJOR SUPPORTERS

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Arroweye Solutions
Bennett Family Foundation
Delise & Blake Sartini
Blue Man Vegas LLC
Dawn & Brian Eddy
Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto Architects
Charles Schwab Bank
Christopher & Company, LLC
Dior
Donna Curry
Engelstad Family Foundation
Findlay Toyota
FMG Findlay Management Group, Inc.
Gaudin Ford Motor Company
Gaughan Family Foundation
Gavin Ernstone
Golden Entertainment
Ivan Sher
Jackson Family Foundation
James Yost
John Lincoln
Karin Humphrey
Linda & Tony Bonnici
Lucille’s Smokehouse Barbeque
Marcela Gutierrez

SPOTLIGHT: FINDLAY FAMILY

New board member Sandy Findlay mobilized her social circle to raise over $100,000 in honor of her son.

SPOTLIGHT: SHEAR FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Shear Family Foundation provided for a post-doctoral student and a nurse practitioner for the Ackerman Center.

April & Matt Becker
Mondays Dark
Nevada Made Marijuana
Nevada Medical Center
Oakland Raiders
Penn National Gaming Foundation
Peter Krauss
Kathy & Randy Black
Rodger & Kate Graef Family Foundation
Rosenblum Family Foundation
Ruvo Family Foundation
Samir Patel
Shear Family Foundation
Sletten Construction of Nevada
Southwest Gas Corporation
Steve Bautista
Stitched
The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas
The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation
Dr. Tracy Wurm
Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC)
US Bank Foundation
Wells Fargo Bank Foundation
William and Wendy Hornbuckle
Wynn Resort
LOOKING AHEAD

In the coming year, we will invest an additional $617,911 in programs and services. By pursuing growth in our focus areas (Clinical Services, Vocational Training, Case Management & Awareness and Social Programs) we hope to serve 60% more families in 2020.

SPARK program participant and Vegas Golden Knights fan Leo (second from left) dropped the puck at an autism awareness hockey game in April. GGAF strives to give clients and their families memorable social experiences all year long.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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STAY IN TOUCH

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