



ACCEPTING EMPOWERING INCLUDING SUPPORTING

History

Autism South Africa was founded in 1989 by concerned parents and professionals as a lobbying and networking organisation. It is now the recognised national body for autistic people in South Africa. A;SA has a footprint representation in eight provinces.



Vision

A;SA aspires to achieve a society in which all autistic people enjoy all rights and opportunities to meet their needs and fulfil their potentials, throughout their lives, as equal members of their families and communities.

Mission

Celebrate and champion the diversity and creativity of autistic people
Partner with and be relevant to autistic persons, their families and communities
Identify and address the differing and changing needs of autistic infants, children, adolescents and adults
Promote and protect the rights and advance the interests of all those within the autism community
Lead autism awareness, inclusion, support and advocacy throughout South Africa
Draw on and contribute to national and international experience and expertise in the field of autism, while retaining a local and regional focus on its challenges and opportunities





Legal Status

NPO: 000-454
Section 18A and PBO Ref No: 130002213
Level 4 B-BBEE Contributor

Banking Details

Standard Bank Cheque Account, Sandton
Branch Code 019205
Account Name Autism South Africa
Account Number 2207 312 33



Corporate Governance and Accountability

For over three decades Autism South Africa has endeavoured to accept, empower, include and support autistic people, their families and the broader community. Autism South Africa has developed into the largest autism advocacy organisation in Southern Africa. Our primary benefactors have stood loyally by our side, even though South Africa experienced economic down-turns, and most notably, through the Covid-19 pandemic. This, we believe, is due to increased awareness of autism and Autism South Africa's well-respected financial track record within the CSI fraternity



Our Auditors

PKF Octagon Chartered Accountants.
Private Bag X02, Highlands North
Tel: 010 003 0150
Practice number: 944 351



Our National Executive Committee 2020 -2022



Dr Tumelo Leeuw
Chairperson

Paediatrician



Emile Gouws
Deputy-chairperson

Educator; Autistic
Self-Advocate; PhD Student



Charlotte Chipangura
Secretary

Journalist
Parent of autistic child



Annece Olivier
Treasurer

Disability Tax Specialist
Parent of autistic child



Dr Mbilaelo Tshamiswe

Fellow in the College of
Paediatricians of SA



Dr Shereez Simmons

Paediatrician working in
Developmental
Paediatrics



Dr Liezl Schlebusch

Lecturer, Centre for Autism
Research in Africa, UCT



Melt Olckers

Autistic Self-Advocate

"The history of Autism SA is a story of an organisation created out of need by parents with children who are on the Autism spectrum. At a time when little was known about the condition or done for it, they took the lead and established an organisation that became a strong advocate for those who truly needed it.

Today, it continues to exist strong in its foundation and diverse in the purposes it serves within the varied communities of our beautiful SA."

Tumelo Leeuw, 2019.

Autism South Africa Head Office



Juliet Carter
National Director
Ex-Officio member
of the NEC



Claudia Ceresa
Finances and
Resource
Development



Vicky Oettlé
National Education
Facilitator



Lerato Ntombela
Bookkeeper



Gloria Gkicas
Counsellor



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Regional Development Officers

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Gauteng and Head Office

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North West

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Our Strategic Direction: 2020 to 2023

To raise awareness about autism, and to encourage the acceptance and inclusion of autistic people

To identify the needs of, and support autistic people, across their lifespan

To advocate for the human rights and best interests of autistic people

To establish and maintain relevant and strategic partnerships with the state, civil, academic and other sectors

To research, develop, facilitate – and where relevant – accredit relevant quality training on autism to our stakeholders

To learn from, and contribute to local, national and international research experience and expertise on health, social development, legal, education and other matters related to autism

To ensure the sustainability of Autism South Africa

OPERATIONAL GOALS

SUPPORT GOALS

Some of our projects and activities

World Autism
Awareness –
and
Acceptance -
Day

Proud supporter of
Sam the
Hedgehog



Ongoing
dissemination
and
distribution of
information

Early
Childhood
Development
- EduBoxes

National
Outreach
Education and
Training
Programme

Guidance,
Information
and Support to
Parents and
Caregivers

IDT
Programme
with 177
participants

WHO Caregivers
Skills Training
Programme in
collaboration
with Autism
Speaks, WHO,
UCT and NDSD

Food and Bev
SETA
Learnership for
autistic young
adults

Autism Navigator
– research
participants with
the Centre for
Autism Research
at UCT