



ANNUAL REPORT **2015**

DEAR FRIENDS



Back in October 2000, an email was shared to invite families to the first TACA meeting for families living with autism that would take place in November. That one email has sparked families to find other like-minded parents to find hopeful treatments and therapies for their children.

Since that very first meeting, TACA has grown from having touched the lives of 10 families to almost 48,000 nationwide. Thousands of meetings have been held by volunteers across the United States utilizing the same principles of driving families to effective therapies & treatments. One thing we didn't expect was the need for community and with TACA we all found our community of strong parents. All of this started from my little living room.

The families we serve continue to motivate TACA staff and volunteers to deliver programs and services. When TACA began as an organization, autism affected 1 in every 1,000 children. Today autism affects 1 in every 68 children.

TACA's objective remains to provide education, support, and empowerment to the families of children diagnosed with autism, and to allow all individuals diagnosed with autism the prospect of a best future possible, with the hope of recovery. At TACA, we continue to provide programs that ensure families affected by autism have access to the support, treatments and therapies they need to live quality lives.

TACA's success would not be possible without the selfless dedication and generosity of over 500 volunteers that every day deliver TACA's mission to families in need. The thousands of donors across the country that continue to support our good work and the countless unheralded friends that are always there. Because of this extraordinary team of people who believe in our mission, TACA continues to take every step possible to assist families, wherever they are on their journey of autism.

We still have tremendous work ahead of us, to ensure that all families living with autism have the tools they need. But with the steadfast commitment of our community, we will continue to fight to provide compassionate support for all children and families living with autism.

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa'.

LISA ACKERMAN
Executive Director



AT A GLANCE

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2000

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Lisa Ackerman

EMPLOYEES 14 Paid Staff Members (10 Full-time, 3 Part-time)

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS Over 500 Volunteers Delivering TACA's Mission

CLIENTS SERVED 48,000 Families Served

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Monthly Meetings & Coffee Talks
Parent Empowerment and Support
Autism Youth Ambassadors
Parent Mentor Program
Autism Education Events and
Conferences

Autism Journey Guides and Blueprints
Website, E-Newsletters and Event Listings
Scholarship Programs
Education, Outreach and Services in
Spanish
Legal Advocacy

MAJOR ANNUAL EVENTS

9th Annual Ante Up for Autism
TACA National Conference

12th Annual TACA Family Picnic
Gladiator Rock 'N Run

WEBSITE www.tacanow.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: [talkaboutcuringautism](https://www.facebook.com/talkaboutcuringautism)

Twitter: [@tacafoundation](https://twitter.com/tacafoundation)



TACA

TALK ABOUT CURING AUTISM

2015

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MEMBERSHIP



48,000
FAMILIES
SERVED

{ growth of 4,200 families }

VOLUNTEERS

OUR **500** AWESOME
VOLUNTEERS SPENT
30,128 HOURS



HELPING PEOPLE
AND DELIVERING
OUR MESSAGE

SUPPORT



WE HAVE RESPONDED
TO A
TOTAL OF **29,895**
SUPPORT CALLS & EMAILS

2,796
JOURNEY GUIDES
HAVE BEEN GIVEN AWAY



62 SCHOLARSHIPS
GIVEN OUT



EVENTS & MEETINGS



30 FAMILY EVENTS
20 CITIES
4,871 ATTENDEES



85 MEETINGS
& SEMINARS
325 COFFEE
TALKS
4,500 ATTENDEES

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

ALMOST
1,000,000
UNIQUE VISITORS

{ an average of 80,000 per month }



1.6 MILLION
PAGE VIEWS

48,000 FOLLOWERS
NATIONAL FB PAGE



JUST ADDED **INSTAGRAM**

CONFERENCE

2 CONFERENCES
859 ATTENDEES

329% INCREASE
OF ATTENDEES
@ OC CONFERENCE



CHAPTERS



+



2 NEW CHAPTERS
NOW **30** CHAPTERS IN **24** STATES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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DR ROBERT SEARS



DR ANJU USMAN

MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION

Talk About Curing Autism (TACA) is a national non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to educating, empowering, and supporting families affected by autism. For families who have just received the autism diagnosis, TACA aims to speed up the cycle time from the autism diagnosis to effective treatments. TACA helps to strengthen the autism community by connecting families and the professionals who can help them, allowing them to share stories and information to improve the quality of life for people with autism.

OUR VISION

TACA believes in early diagnosis, intensive therapies and medical intervention for children affected by autism. Through early intervention, medical treatment unique to each person's needs and necessary support services for families, many children can improve greatly and some can recover from their autistic symptoms. We believe the future is not defined for many children affected by autism. Hope and recovery is possible.



Escape Into Play™

100's of games | great food | cool drinks



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

TALK ABOUT CURING AUTISM
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 and 2014

| | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| General Contributions | \$ 820,058 | \$ 861,141 |
| Special event revenue | \$ 575,442 | \$ 537,788 |
| Direct benefit expenses | <u>\$ (183,995)</u> | <u>\$ (145,904)</u> |
| Net special event revenue | \$ 391,447 | \$ 391,884 |
| | | |
| Program revenues | \$ 75,623 | \$ 49,259 |
| | | |
| Product sales | \$ 22,673 | \$ 20,838 |
| Less cost of goods sold | <u>\$ (16,165)</u> | <u>\$ (16,615)</u> |
| | \$ 6,508 | \$ 4,223 |
| | | |
| In-kind contributions | \$ 250,931 | \$ 280,215 |
| Other | <u>\$ 571</u> | <u>\$ 381</u> |
| Total revenue | <u>\$ 1,545,138</u> | <u>\$ 1,587,103</u> |
| | | |
| Costs of services | | |
| Program | \$ 1,139,759 | \$ 1,118,321 |
| Supporting services | | |
| Administrative | \$ 110,879 | \$ 107,531 |
| Fundraising | <u>\$ 266,560</u> | <u>\$ 270,907</u> |
| Total Supporting services | \$ 377,439 | \$ 378,438 |
| | | |
| Total costs of services | <u>\$ 1,517,198</u> | <u>\$ 1,496,759</u> |
| | | |
| (Decrease)increase in net assets | <u>\$ 27,940</u> | <u>\$ 90,344</u> |

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

**TALK ABOUT CURING AUTISM
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

ASSETS

| | December 31, | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 282,562 | \$ 212,414 |
| Investments | \$ 2,941 | \$ 3,733 |
| Accounts receivable, net | \$ 82,464 | \$ 115,212 |
| Inventories | \$ - | \$ 2,000 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | \$ 20,746 | \$ 14,303 |
| Fixed/Intangible assets, net | \$ 33,570 | \$ 18,991 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>422,283</u> | <u>366,653</u> |

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | \$ 81,837 | \$ 56,617 |
| Other liabilities | \$ 19,973 | \$ 17,503 |
| Total Liabilities | <u>\$ 101,810</u> | <u>\$ 74,120</u> |
| Unrestricted | \$ 243,919 | \$ 232,176 |
| Temporarily restricted | \$ 76,554 | \$ 60,357 |
| Total Net Assets | <u>\$ 320,473</u> | <u>\$ 292,533</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | <u>\$ 422,283</u> | <u>\$ 366,653</u> |

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50.000+

Warne Family Charitable Foundation

\$25.000 - \$49.999

DevTo Support Foundation
Hawaii Autism Foundation
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George Ohsiek Jr
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