The long-term vision of the Autism Alliance of Michigan is to ensure high quality services, remove roadblocks and create opportunities for all individuals impacted by autism so that they may lead purposeful and fulfilling lives.

AoM is creating a combination website and call line known as Michigan Family Autism Navigator. It will be available to help families receive expedient access to services and resources as well as consultation opportunities. The Navigator will help families sort through the wide variety of options regarding diagnosis, evidence based interventions, insurance, educational options, guardianship, housing, employment, transition challenges, and more.

Other AAoM Navigator environments are being developed for insurance and medical referrals and for professional communities to seek information, resources and consultation.

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COMMUNITY

AoM coordinates statewide initiatives and partners with other autism-related organizations to offer educational trainings, seminars and workshops. Hundreds of these events have been held throughout the state. To date, AAoM’s workshops have been presented to over 15,000 school-age children, parents, and care providers.

AAoM provides autism safety trainings to police, fire, EMS personnel, businesses, and community agencies to help them learn how to safely and appropriately respond to difficult or potentially dangerous situations involving individuals with autism.

Data show that approximately two-thirds of individuals affected by autism will wander from their homes. AAoM has a GPS scholarship program, which assists families with low incomes to purchase GPS devices to enhance safety for their loved ones.

Over 9,000 children and teachers have listened to the powerful testimony given via the AAoM anti-bullying awareness program.

ADVOCACY

A key role for AAoM is to advocate for legislative change and reform, at both the federal and state levels. Staff of AAoM act as liaison between families, insurers, providers, and state departments to increase timely access to critical, early therapies known to create positive, long term outcomes.

AAoM’s efforts have resulted in over 25 state based and multi-national corporations and companies adopting a policy to offer autism insurance coverage as a benefit to their employees.

AAoM leadership and staff are working in varying capacities on the Michigan Autism Council.