



ERNIE ELS
ELS FOR AUTISM



ELS FOR AUTISM FOUNDATION



COMMUNITY REPORT
2018-2019

Community Report

2018-2019

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AUTISM

THE FACTS

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that is caused by differences in how the brain functions. People with ASD may communicate, interact, behave and learn in different ways. Signs of ASD begin during early childhood and usually last throughout a person's life.

Prevalence

- About 1 in 59 children has been identified with ASD.
- ASD is about 4 times more common among boys than among girls.
- ASD is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups.

Risk Factors & Characteristics

- Studies have shown that among identical twins, if one child has ASD, then the other will be affected about 36-95% of the time. In non-identical twins, if one child has ASD, then the other is affected about 0-31% of the time.
- A small percentage of children who are born prematurely or with low birth weight are at greater risk for having ASD.
- ASD commonly co-occurs with other developmental, psychiatric, neurologic, chromosomal, and genetic diagnoses. The co-occurrence of one or more non-ASD developmental diagnoses is 83%. The co-occurrence of one or more psychiatric diagnoses is 10%.

Economic Costs

- The total costs per year for children with ASD in the United States were estimated to be between \$11.5 billion – \$60.9 billion (2011 US dollars). This significant economic burden represents a variety of direct and in-direct costs, from medical care to special education to lost parental productivity.
- Children and adolescents with ASD had average medical expenditures that exceeded those without ASD by \$4,110–\$6,200 per year. On average, medical expenditures for children and adolescents with ASD were 4.1–6.2 times greater than for those without ASD.
- In addition to medical costs, intensive behavioral interventions for children with ASD cost \$40,000 to \$60,000 per child per year.

Source: Center for Disease Control's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network.

Dear Friends,

Each year we are pleased to report on the progress we are making at the Els for Autism Foundation™ and on The Els Center of Excellence™ campus. This year we celebrate the Foundation's ten-year anniversary, and with this milestone, there is no doubt we are positively impacting the lives of people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Ensuring a safe and secure environment for all the students, teachers, staff and visitors to the campus has always been at the forefront of our priority, but in 2018, additional safety measures became a focal point of our efforts. We will continue to work throughout 2019 towards being a model campus of safety for individuals with developmental disabilities. While too often we are notified of tragic events happening on school campuses across the U.S., we have been putting plans into place to manage unplanned events should one ever arise. These events can come in many forms, natural events such as hurricanes and tornadoes or man-made events such as an intent to cause injury or disrupt operations. The Foundation staff has worked diligently with the schools, law enforcement and many organizations to establish safety plans which include campus evacuation, safety equipment, internal and external communication systems, and campus-wide training.

The Programs and Services team continued to expand their impact and reach by touching over 6,336 individuals and families in the ASD community. We are proud of the major announcement we made in April 2018 -- a partnership with Mount Sinai Health Systems of New York to create "The Seavers Els Institute". This new research institute provides the opportunity for students, clients and families at The Center to participate in research that will help advance the understanding of ASD.

The Development team raised \$3 million in the eighth annual Els for Autism Golf Challenge making the total raised to date \$21.4 million. We could not do this without the remarkable partnerships with our Presenting Sponsor, SAP, and the Organizing Sponsor, Wine Spectator, regional sponsors, and the dedicated fundraising teams.

The Foundation's goals remain to build-out the campus including the Adult Services Center, Medical & Research Services and Sports facilities. We continue to drive a capital campaign to finance this construction.

Through the Foundation's vision, we are a game-changing resource, delivering and facilitating programs that are leading examples of what can be available to people with ASD. Over the past ten years, this vision has become a reality. We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together over the next ten years.

Marvin R. Shanken, Founder and Chairman

Ernie Els, Founder

Liezl Els, Founder and Secretary



ABOUT THE Foundation

Els for Autism Foundation was established in 2009 by Liezl and Ernie Els. The Els' son, Ben, is impacted by the disorder which affects 1 in 59 children in the U.S. The world class pro golfer and his wife have devoted their efforts to a game-changing, philanthropic project—The Els Center of Excellence.

“Els for Autism Foundation has been changing the landscape of global autism services since its inception.”

- Michael Alessandri, PhD, Clinical Professor of Psychology and Pediatrics and Executive Director, Center of Autism and Related Disabilities, University of Miami



The Foundation offers innovative, evidenced-based programs for families and individuals across the life-span in six focus areas:

ADULT SERVICES

Providing life-span service programs to help adults successfully transition to all aspects of life including employment, independent living, and recreation.

EDUCATION

Providing learning opportunities for individuals with ASD as well as parents, university students, and professionals, both onsite and online.

GLOBAL OUTREACH

Serving as a hub for the autism community to disseminate best practices, while providing direct services to families from around the world.

RECREATION SERVICES

Delivering and disseminating fitness and therapeutic arts programs developed for people with ASD.

RESEARCH

Supporting the continued understanding of effective interventions for individuals with ASD.

THERAPY SERVICES

Delivering best practice support and services beginning with early intervention through adulthood.

For current and comprehensive information on the Foundation's Programs and Services, please go to www.ElsforAutism.org.

THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE CAMPUS

THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE™

Jupiter, Florida

The Els Center of Excellence campus hosts world-class, leading-edge programs and services that are accessible to families and caregivers around the world. The 26-acre campus provides on-site education for over 250 students who attend The Learning Center and The Learning Academy. With all the essential components in one location, the campus is the perfect hub for a variety of global outreach activities. This ensures that The Els Center of Excellence campus' positive influence is felt far beyond the boundaries of its walls.

THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Hosts the Foundation staff offices, 305-seat auditorium, meeting rooms and spaces to conduct therapy sessions.

THE PAVILION

A multipurpose classroom/studio for art shows, and other gatherings.



THE LEARNING CENTER AT THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

A tuition-free, nonprofit, Palm Beach County public charter school, serving students with autism ages 3-14. The school's curriculum is based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and provides quality special education programs that are tailored to meet the unique needs of each student. The goal for every student is to maximize his or her potential using evidence-based practices.

www.thelearningcenter.org



THE LEARNING ACADEMY AT THE ELS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

A tuition-free, nonprofit, Palm Beach County public charter high school serving students with autism ages 14-21. The Learning Academy's mission is "Preparation for Life After School" and the school helps individuals with ASD in the areas of academics, vocational, functional life skills, social and communication skills.

www.tlacad.org

Additionally, the campus contains

Golf Course Practice facility

Three greens & nine holes—
perfect for running the Ernie Els
#GameON Autism™ Golf Program

Play Court

Outdoor, covered
basketball/tennis court

Courtyard

26,000 square feet, fence
enclosed, central area with grass
and sidewalks

Sensory Arts Garden

A therapeutic and educational
destination for children and
adults of all abilities

Statement of Financial Position

*12/31/2018

Assets:	
Cash	\$1,289,152
Investments	\$6,825,202
Accounts receivable	\$158,825
Due from other	\$97,661
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$166,157
Property and equipment, net	\$29,221,758
Total assets	\$37,758,754
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$44,335
Deferred revenue	\$644,585
Building note payable	\$9,503,874
Total liabilities	\$10,192,794
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	\$26,349,975
Temporarily restricted	\$1,215,985
Total net assets	\$27,565,960
Total liabilities and net asset	\$37,758,754

* *unaudited*

At the end of calendar year 2018, Els for Autism Foundation ("Foundation") had net assets totaling over \$27 million, up 3.8% from 2017.

The Foundation continues to grow its programs to improve the lives of those with autism and 86% of every dollar of revenue generated goes toward those offerings. We received \$1 million, a generous donation which will be dedicated to providing more services for adults.

In April of 2018, The Seaver Els Institute began a research project to enhance our understanding of the causes of autism and over 3% of our revenue generated is allocated to this initiative.

Looking forward, the Foundation will continue to invest in:

Providing high quality information, intervention, education and support to local, state, national, and international families of diverse cultures

Providing programs based on best practices and developing innovative interventions through investigative study and analysis

Engaging in research to further knowledge in the field of ASD

Establishing funding required to sustain the mission and program goals through grants, donations, and events

Foundation Vision & Mission

VISION

Els for Autism is a game-changing resource, delivering and facilitating programs that are leading examples of what can be available to people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

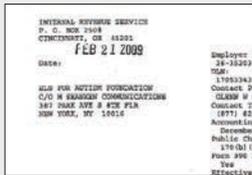
MISSION

We are committed to better understanding the aspirations of people with autism spectrum disorder and helping them to fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives, through:

- Understanding the nature of ASD and facilitating the development and delivery of treatment therapies, educational programs, training programs, recreational programs and independent living programs
- Ensuring the development of global outreach that will facilitate the sharing of best practices and programs
- Raising awareness and promoting the value, acceptance and inclusion of people with ASD



The Vision FOR A Brighter Future



02.2009 | Els for Autism Foundation was granted 501(c)(3) status by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service



Ben, Age 7

2009

03.2009 | The inaugural Els for Autism Pro-Am Raises \$725,000



03.2009 | Liezl's fundraising Tea Party celebrates the culture of England



03.2010 | Liezl's Tea Party celebrates the culture of Africa

2010

03.2010 | Ernie Els receives the Charlie Bartlett Award from the GWAA for his commitment to autism and the betterment of society

10.2011 | The inaugural Els for Autism Golf Challenge raises over \$1.7 million



2011

10.2018 | Els for Autism Golf Challenge raises \$3 million



04.2018 | Mount Sinai of New York and Els for Autism Foundation create a partnership to establish a research institute on The Els Center of Excellence campus - The Seaver Els Institute



03.2018 | Liezl's fundraising Tea Party celebrates its tenth year with the culture of Morocco

03.2018 | Annual Els for Autism Pro-Am celebrates its tenth year and raises \$1,060,000 for the Foundation



12.2017 | The Heisman Trophy Trust awarded the 12th Heisman Humanitarian Award to Ernie Els

2018

2017

04.2017 | 175 Autism experts share the latest in research at the Autism Innovations & Global Impact Conference: The State of the Science, the inaugural conference held at The Els Center of Excellence



11.2017 | The Els Center of Excellence campus expands with the opening of the Sensory Arts Garden and Pavilion

Ten years ago, Els for Autism Foundation was established, and The Els Center of Excellence was only an idea, a vision of what could be. Over the last decade, a capital campaign was launched, land was purchased and concrete was poured as the administration building, upper and lower education wings were built. At the end of 2017, the Sensory Arts Garden and Pavilion were completed.

The significant impact the Foundation has made provides the inspiration and impetus to finish the remainder of the campus. The second ten-year goal is to complete the Adult Services Center, Medical & Research Services and Sports Facilities. Once finished, the campus will be the model to the world of what can be available to individuals on the autism spectrum.

10.2012 | Els for Autism Golf Challenge raises over \$2.2 million



04.2013 | Els for Autism Foundation put on its first Craft Beer and Food Pairing fundraising event



03.2014 | Els For Autism Foundation breaks ground to mark the start of construction for The Els Center of Excellence

03.2015 | Els for Autism launches a pilot series for its Ernie Els #GameON Autism™ Golf Program, a specialized program for individuals on the autism spectrum



2012

2013

2014

2015

08.2015 | Ernie and Liezl Els lead a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the opening of the first two buildings, the Administration building and the Rupert Education Wing that hosts The Learning Center. Students attend The Learning Center at The Els Center of Excellence for the 2015-16 school year

2016



11.2016 | The Foundation launches its Adult Services Work Experience Program in partnership with PGA National Resort and Spa



03.2016 - At the annual Els for Autism Pro-Am Rickie Fowler's \$1 million hole-in-one capped a fundraising record for Els for Autism Foundation



11.2015 | Els for Autism Foundation presents the inaugural Autism Spectrum Award to Joshua Deer

04.2016 | The inaugural Awe in Autism Conference and Expo was kicked off to celebrate the diverse talents of individuals with autism

08.2015 | Ernie Els is the recipient of the 2015 Payne Stewart Award for his devotion to improving the lives of those with autism spectrum disorder (Els for Autism) as well as development of junior golf talent in South Africa (Ernie Els & Fancourt Foundation)

| CAPITAL CAMPAIGN |

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Els Center of Excellence campus is a world-class facility designed to serve as a model for the nation and the world of what services should be available to individuals on the autism spectrum. To deliver on this, a capital campaign is underway to complete the construction of the campus by the addition of:

ADULT SERVICES CENTER

SPORTS FACILITY

MEDICAL & RESEARCH FACILITY



ADULT SERVICES

Many adults with autism have a difficult time gaining paid-employment, exiting high school with a continuing education plan, obtaining independent living, participating in community activities and events, and getting access to services.

The Foundation's Adult Services team has developed programs to address two critical segments; independent living and employment. Since the inception of these programs in 2016, 80 adults have participated in the independent living programs and 90 in the employment programs.



INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAMS

Special Adults Life Skills Academy (SALSA) Cooking & Fitness: The SALSA program builds on each participant's individualized strengths to develop communication, social, culinary and fitness skills while working towards independent skill performance.

Social Group: Led by individuals with ASD, Social Group is a network of peers that allows members to showcase their individual strengths and strive for greater independence.

Community Access Training: Building on each participant's individualized strengths, this training program helps participants engage in new community experiences, practice social skills, engage in independent living skills, and obtain valuable safety skills required to access their community.

About half a million youth on the autism spectrum will age into adulthood over the next decade.

- National Autism Indicators Report, Drexel University

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

Work Experience: Prepares adults with autism and other related disabilities seeking employment in the municipality, hospitality and healthcare industries. This training program, offered in partnership with PGA National Resort & Spa, Jupiter Medical Center and the Town of Jupiter, allows participants to learn industry specific work skills in order to demonstrate their ability to add value to core business operations.

Bridge: For individuals needing additional skills before training in the community, Bridge provides a path for participants to matriculate into the off-campus Work Experience Program once specific criteria are met. Participants must

CONNECT Mentor: Designed to facilitate strong, positive and meaningful relationships to empower young adults with ASD and other developmental disabilities, through a shared connection, inclusive activities, and professional development seminars.

“The noble goal of helping adults with autism to get meaningful employment experience and purpose in their lives is truly inspirational. Ernie Els and his Foundation deliver countless blessings to families around the world and we here at PGA National are more than happy to help in any way we can.”

- Sheila Hills, PGA National's Human Resources Training Manager/CGSP



ADULT SERVICES CENTER

The Foundation's plan is to include an Adult Services Center, an on-campus, life span service building for transition-aged students and adults who have exited the school system. The Adult Services Center will be the focus for:

Supported Employment

Providing job assessments, job training/coaching and job employment opportunities.

Business Partnerships

Partnering with area businesses, the Foundation will work to employ trained individuals with autism.

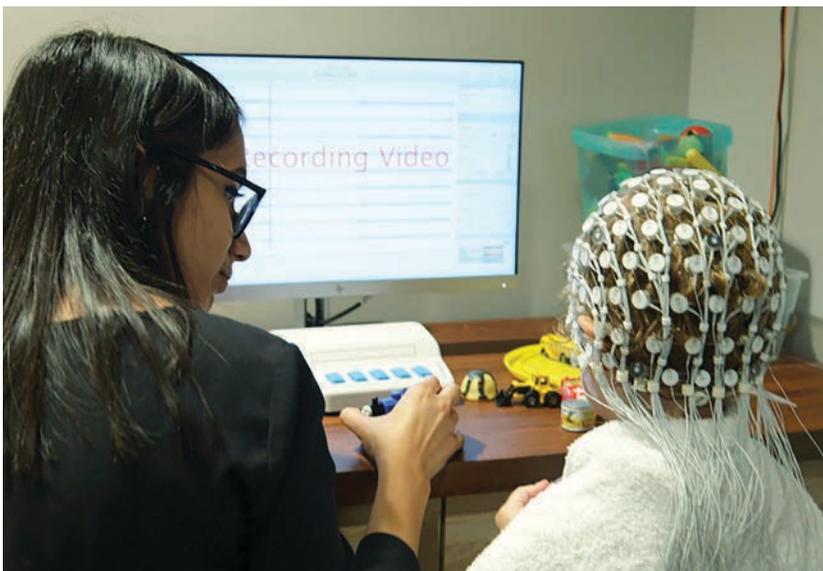
Self-Advocacy

Working with individuals to create "individual life plans," the Foundation staff conducts regular reviews with the individual and family to track goal progress.

Recreational and Social Services

Administering activities including recreation services, therapeutic arts programs, and other programs to promote social interaction and health goals.

RESEARCH



The Foundation's research is designed to support continued understanding of effective interventions for individuals with ASD. Research topics include early identification and intervention, sports and fitness, and the application of evidence-based interventions for adults.

In April 2018, the Foundation announced a joint research initiative with Mount Sinai Health System of New York to create The Seaver Els Institute. The research institute is located on The Els Center of Excellence campus in Jupiter, Florida and provides the opportunity for students, clients, and families at The Els Center of Excellence campus to participate in research that will help advance the understanding of autism spectrum disorder.

"It is an honor to be working with the remarkable people from the Els for Autism Foundation who work tirelessly to create programs that make a positive impact on the lives of individuals on the spectrum."

- Joseph D. Buxbaum, PhD, Director of The Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment at Mount Sinai of New York

MEDICAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES FACILITY

The construction plan includes an on-campus building to host medical services, research the nature of ASD, and study leading-edge treatments. The Foundation will continue to create partnerships with prestigious medical and research institutions, and through these partnerships will deliver indispensable research and solutions for improving the quality of life for individuals with ASD. The facility will be the focus for:

Medical Services

Working with experts in neurology, speech & language therapy, occupational therapy, mental health consulting services and behavior analysis, the Foundation will provide a continuum of treatment services for individuals with ASD from birth through their lifetime. Telemedicine suites will allow access to top experts in various fields of medicine including; gastroenterology, immunology, and psychiatry.

Research

Developing practical and real-time solutions to improve the quality of life for those with ASD.

Global Outreach

The Foundation will extend the work accomplished, nationally and internationally, beyond the campus boundaries.

RECREATION

The Foundation offers Recreation Services in the areas of fitness and therapeutic arts.

Fitness

Physical activities are vitally important for individuals with and without disabilities to improve quality of life. Participating in sports, games, and exercise all involve greater levels of independence and choice-making and these activities can increase self-worth and confidence while providing new opportunities to develop friendships and deeper ties to the community. Keeping our campus' clients active and healthy, through golf, fitness, soccer, tennis, and yoga is our key goal.

Therapeutic arts

Exploration of art, dance, music, and theater can facilitate personal growth for people on the spectrum in many areas, including gross and fine motor skills, speech and language through song, memory and mental agility, social skills, confidence, and self-expression. Individual and group sessions are available to the students on campus as well as the wider autism community—both young and old.



SPORTS FACILITY

The future campus construction plan is to include a Sports Facility which will feature an air-conditioned gymnasium, athletics field, play courts and a swimming pool. Why a swimming pool? A recent study stated people with autism's lifespan was half that of the general population. Accidental injury was the leading cause of death, at a rate three times higher than in the general population. From 2009 to 2011, accidental drowning accounted for 91% of total U.S. deaths reported in children with an ASD ages 14 and younger.¹ It is vitally important to teach swimming life skills in South Florida where there are many water sources such as pools, beaches, lakes and canals.

Footnotes

¹ Study: Guan 2017/Injury Mortality in Individuals with Autism



A WIN-WIN *Employment Story*

When adults graduate from the Els for Autism Foundation Work Experience Program and find the right job with the right business, it is a win-win for the employee and employer.

Emmalee (Emmy) Bell graduated from The Learning Academy and attended the Work Experience Program in partnership with PGA Resort and Spa. During her Work Experience Program training, the departments she worked in were housekeeping and golf. Emmy had been previously trained to work on a computer, mainly scanning and data entry. When seeking an employer with a position to match Emmy's skills, Dr. Kerri Morse, Adult Services Manager, at Els for Autism Foundation talked to Emerson Stratton, Director of Operations, at Joey D Golf. After defining the job skills that were needed at Joey D Golf, Kerri determined Emmy was a perfect match.

Growing up in Massachusetts, Emerson had helped at a YMCA summer camp in that supported children with autism. He had a positive experience and knew individuals with autism possessed strong skills such as attention to detail.

"Communication was a challenge at first," Emerson said. Emmy was provided with a task analysis of what she needed to do, a checklist, and a social story for her to be able to greet customers. She was then able to work well with the social narrative that outlines social expectations. Understanding that Emmy was non-verbal, Emerson was able to provide visual directions to get her set-up. "Emmy can watch me do a task and then she will just do it," said Emerson, "I create something visual for her, give her the task, and she gets it done." Emmy has been trained to ask Emerson for help when she needs it.

Currently, Emmy works at Joey D Golf two days a week from 2-4 p.m. Her job routine includes cleaning equipment and data entry to maintain client folders electronically. Because this employment has been so successful, Kerri's team is looking into other fitness centers in the area to expand her hours.

"When a company is small, tasks can be tailored to meet the needs of the employee and the employer, which makes the employment of Emmy at Joey D Golf a win-win situation," Kerri said.

"Big corporations are sharing best practices of hiring individuals with autism, but many small businesses are seeing the value as well."

- Dr. Kerri Morse, Adult Services Manager, Els for Autism

ELS FOR AUTISM

Spectrum Award

The Els for Autism Spectrum Award honors an individual with autism spectrum disorder who has shined a positive light on autism through his/her character, positive attitude, and contribution.

**2018 WINNER
ADAM JONES**

"This job has impacted my self-confidence dramatically. It really motivates me to get out of bed every morning, afford a decent living and, do what I love."



Adam Jones believes everyone deserves a chance. Diagnosed with autism at the age of 2, he had a difficult time communicating and engaging in society. At the age of 17, Adam found his passion while watching the movie *Seabiscuit*, which led him to pursue his calling—working with horses and with people on the autism spectrum.

Today, Adam is employed full-time as a Barn Attendant at Madison Fields in Dickerson, MD. He is an advocate for employing adults on the autism

spectrum and contributes to his community towards autism awareness. He believes that people like him deserve a fighting chance and a way to find their true sense of self-worth.

Working with horses has helped Adam to be a role model for others as he is passionate, serious, and takes tremendous pride in his work. "When people on the autism spectrum see me handling these huge animals," Adam said. "They think, 'hey, I can handle it too!'"

PREVIOUS WINNERS INCLUDE

**2017 WINNER
RACHEL BARCELLONA**

**2016 WINNER
GLORIA MENDOZA**

**2015 WINNER
JOSHUA DEER**

Say Cheese!

Hiring individuals with autism is something to smile about

When Thomas Thorme, senior general manager, and Robert Mason, assistant manager, of Peter Piper Pizza in Greenacres, FL, heard about an opportunity to hire individuals on the autism spectrum, they welcomed the idea with open arms. Having family members with autism, the managers knew the impact they could make by employing someone on the spectrum.

“We want to be able to grow awareness in the community, as well as provide opportunities as an employer to individuals on the spectrum that may not regularly be given experience to work without limitations in our society,” Thomas said.

One of the individuals they hired was Sam Klinger, 22, who has worked at Peter Piper Pizza for the past eight months, about 12 hours a week.

Sam is a graduate of the Els for Autism Foundation’s Work Experience program, which prepares individuals with autism for paid employment. During Sam’s program session he worked for Jupiter Medical Center in the environmental services and dietary departments, an experience that helped prepare him for his current role at Peter Piper Pizza.

His responsibilities can vary depending on the shift, but Sam is often tasked with keeping the napkin and plastic utensils filled at the self-service counter and maintaining the cleanliness of the dining room area. On slower days he can be found in the game room, behind the prize counter, exchanging guests’ hard-won tickets for prizes.

Sam loves his job and the employee perk of a staff meal on his break. “I like the garlic knots and pepperoni pizza,” Sam said, adding that he enjoys “a salad every now and then.”

Victoria Jaimes, one of Sam’s co-workers, lights up when asked about Sam. “I love coming in to work a shift when he is working. He is just so positive and awesome to be around.”

Working with Sam is not only fun, but Thomas says it has helped him, as well as his team members, to strengthen their patience and communication skills. If Sam is struggling to complete a task, the staff has learned to slow down and reiterate or come up with another solution.

“The positivity and energy he brings to every shift cannot be traded or discounted. Sam has an integral role in our team’s dynamic and we are so fortunate to have him,” Thomas said.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

1 | *Els for Autism Golf Challenge*

One of the largest charity-driven, amateur golf tournaments, 2019 kicks-off the Els for Autism Golf Challenge's ninth year. This year the Golf Challenge consists of 17+ regional events at top-rated golf courses across the U.S. and Canada from April through September. Teams who raise \$15,000 or more qualify to attend the Grand Finale in Palm Beach, Florida in October.



2 | *Liezl's Tea Party*

Annually, a group of ladies are invited to celebrate a new country and culture. Guests are always encouraged to dress the country theme as they join Liezl Els for an afternoon of fundraising and fun. In 2019, the Tea Party is celebrating its 11th anniversary with an Australian theme.



3 | *Wine Spectator & Cigar Aficionado Pro-AM*

Every year, top tour pros are joined by an enthusiastic group of amateurs, thrilled to be inside the ropes with a legendary cast of some of the greatest names in golf, along with sponsorships from a panel of prestige brands. This event, sponsored by Wine Spectator & Cigar Aficionado, is celebrating its eleventh anniversary in 2019.



4 | *Light It Up Blue*

During Autism Awareness Month in April, the Foundation will 'Light It Up Blue' with a community fundraising event to raise awareness for ASD.

5 | *Roots & Ruts Off Road 5K | Family Fun Run | Awe in Autism Expo*

In April, we celebrate World Autism Awareness Month with a 5K run, a Family Fun Run, and an expo to celebrate the awesome talents of people with autism. The expo includes, an artist gallery, micro businesses from people with special needs or supporting special needs, book signing, guest speakers and live performances.

BECOME A PART OF THE CENTER

Annual Giving Program

This program raises funds to pay for programs, services, maintenance and staff not funded by other sources. The focus of the 2019 Annual Giving Program is 'Teacher Excellence' and 'Facilities Enhancements'.

Auditorium Seats

The 305-seat, state-of-the-art auditorium is not only used for school related performances and events but is the heart of The Center's global outreach programs. Become part of our future by naming an auditorium seat.

Commemorative Brick Program

Help us "Pave the Way" by having your name, message and/or child's drawing set in stone in The Center's courtyard. Make this a gift in memory or in honor of someone special, or simply to express your support.

Naming Opportunities

Many spaces at The Els Center of Excellence can be dedicated in honor of your family. The naming opportunities across the campus range from the Adult Services Center, gymnasium and class rooms.

Patron of the Garden

The Sensory Arts Garden offers varying levels of sensory experiences, while minimizing sensory overload, for people with autism and other related disabilities. Supporters of this tranquil space receive their name prominently displayed on signage within the garden.

PLAN YOUR GREATEST LEGACY

Planned Giving is a way to make charitable gifts, enabling you to arrange philanthropic contributions in ways that maximize your personal objectives. By establishing a planned gift, you can secure the Foundation's mission, not for just one year or generation, but in perpetuity. The Foundation's development staff is available to help you consider strategies to meet your financial needs. **Please contact Pam Minelli at 561-320-9528 or Pam.Minelli@elsforautism.org**

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are an essential and invaluable resource to the Foundation. Our volunteers share a common desire to make a difference by committing time and/or sharing expertise to positively impact the lives of individuals and families affected by ASD. Open volunteer positions are listed on our website.

BOOK AN EVENT

The Els Center of Excellence campus has beautiful indoor and outdoor spaces available to rent. Whether you are hosting a day meeting, board meeting, luncheon, team-building session, workshop/training, conference or cocktail reception, there are many versatile spaces to fit your requirements.



To learn more about how to get involved, please visit ElsForAutism.org or contact Pam Minelli: pam.minelli@elsforautism.org or 561-320-9528.

WAYS TO GIVE

As a non-profit organization, Els for Autism Foundation relies on charitable financial support. Your donation helps sustain the Foundation's mission to better understand the aspirations of people with autism and help them fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives. Make a tax-deductible donation today—there are many ways.



DONATE ONLINE

Our online donation form is fast, simple, secure and available any day of the week. Visit our website:

www.ElsForAutism.org/Donate

DONATE THROUGH PAYPAL

The PayPal Giving Fund covers all fees, go to:

www.E4aAnnualGiving.org

BY MAIL

If you prefer to mail your donation, please make the check payable to 'Els for Autism.' Send your check to: Els for Autism Foundation 18370 Limestone Creek Road, Jupiter, Florida 33458

BY PHONE

To donate by phone, call Pam Minelli at 561-320-9528

IN-KIND GIFTS

Find out how to donate items to help fulfill Foundation needs. Contact Julia Book, email: Julia.Book@elsforautism.org or phone 561-320-9484

MONTHLY GIVING

Sign up for a recurring donation and make every month Autism Awareness Month! Monthly donors receive an Els for Autism ribbon car magnet. Visit:

www.ElsForAutism.org/Donate

CORPORATE GIVING

Find out how your company can support Els for Autism through their corporate giving program.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many companies encourage employees to donate by matching contributions. Find out if your employer will match your donation and if your company participates, follow their instructions to sign up for their matching gifts program.

DONATE WHILE SHOPPING

When you shop through Amazon Smile, you get the same great Amazon deals and a percentage of your purchase benefits the Foundation. Visit:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3520396>



Els for Autism a US public charity (EIN #26-3520396), recognized by the IRS as exempt from Federal tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the tax code.



ERNIE ELS
ELS FOR AUTISM



**ELS FOR AUTISM
FOUNDATION**

ELS FOR AUTISM FOUNDATION

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