



**One World Center for Autism, Inc.**

Linking those living with autism to their world



**&**

**One World Pediatrics-Primary Care**

Making a world of difference for children and youth of all abilities!

# One World Center for Autism

is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose goal is to address the myriad of challenges facing individuals living with autism in Prince Georges County, Maryland.

We strive to be a

**HAVEN of HOPE**

for those with autism and  
those who care for them!





# OWCA History and Timeline

Growing and building  
services to meet the  
needs of those we  
serve!



2007

2008

2010

2017

2019



## OWCA History

- Our organization started as a coalition of parents, medical providers, educators, and therapists who initially met in November of 2007. Our goal was to create an initiative to improve the lives of those diagnosed with autism.
- Our coalition was awarded a grant from the *American Academy of Pediatrics* to successfully plan a Center of Excellence for autism in our county in December 2007.



# OWCA History

- In 2008, we conducted needs assessments throughout Prince Georges County to determine the services and programs that would be most beneficial to those living with autism in our community.
- We also initiated our popular monthly **OWCA Family Fun Days at the movies**, which are open to the entire Special-needs and our well-received “**Peace for Pieces**”- Parental Impact Luncheon and Children’s Playdate.



# OWCA History

- In 2009, we finalized the services and programs that we would develop for greater than 1100 children and adolescents and their families affected by autism in Prince Georges County.
- In 2010, we acquired a dedicated space within PGCPS at John Carroll from which expanded services
- 2017, we moved to our new home in Lanham to continue to expand and provide support!





# Why do we care?

- ❖ We care because we are the faces of autism. Our board members are parents, providers, and individuals who have a passion for helping those living with autism.
- ❖ We understand that autism is a unique developmental disability, that is not well understood and challenging to treat.
- ❖ We believe that there is hope for those living with autism, when there is access knowledge, support, and quality multi-disciplinary interventions.

# Family Challenges

- ❖ In addition to wrestling with their own emotions, parents must continue to care for their children, whose behaviors can at times be severe and unpredictable. This can make even the routine tasks of life monumental and take a physical toll on caregivers, especially if they are single parenting.
- ❖ The divorce and separation rates for affected families are 1.5 times that of unaffected families.
- ❖ Siblings and extended families often incur additional familial responsibility and lack of needed attention.



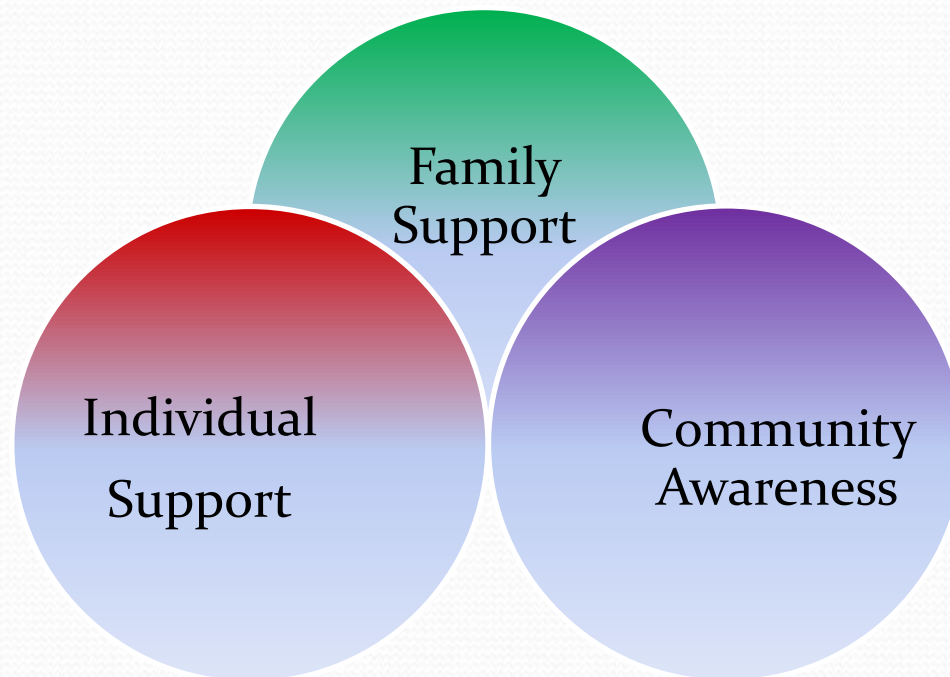
**Financial-**Therapies and the cost of activities of daily living with Autism can leave families financially depleted. Additional loss of income may arise from one or both parents having to work less to care for their child(ren), as well as the expense of therapeutic interventions.

*It is clear to see how a family living with autism without support is at risk for social, emotional, physical, and financial demise.*

*This is why OWCA was founded!*

# OWCA's Mission

**Our mission is to link those living with autism to their world in an all-embracing manner through Individual support, Family support and Community outreach.**



# All Services are based on: (ASD Visual)

## IDENTIFICATION

- Early, Specific and Comprehensive:



## SUPPORT

- Early, Comprehensive, Multi-disciplinary and guided by the diagnosis of ASD and its co-morbidities





**Dx:**  
Diagnosis

**No Diagnosis of ASD** made at this evaluation ☐

**No Diagnosis of ASD but child/ youth requires future monitoring for ASD** ☐

**Provisional Diagnosis of ASD**, child/ youth requires future re-evaluation for ASD ☐

**Diagnosis of ASD made-** ☐

**LEVEL OF ASD SUPPORT:**

....**YOUR NEXT STEPS**-One World Center for Autism is here to support you.

- **OBTAIN FAMILY SUPPORT:** - Acceptance, Care Coordination, Caregiver Workshops, Support Groups, Sibling Support, Special Educational Navigation, Community-based Financial and Family Supports
- **OBTAIN INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTS in the following identified area:**

**1. Determine if associated Genetic or Metabolic Condition exist:**

Known Condition: \_\_Yes \_\_ No  
If Yes Name of Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ Pending Evaluation

**Referral for:**

\_\_ Genetic and Metabolic Testing *(Lab and Urine Studies)*  
\_\_ Referral for Genetics Evaluation

**2. Identify Sensory Processing and/or Sensory Impairment Concerns:**

SPD concerns: \_\_ Yes \_\_ No

**Referral for:**

\_\_ Occupational Therapy to Evaluate and treat Sensory Processing Disorder (also known as Neurological Neglect Syndrome)  
\_\_ Hearing Evaluation  
\_\_ Vision Evaluation

**3. Determine Intellectual/ Cognitive Ability**

\_\_ Delays Present

\_\_ Delays Unknown

**Referral for:**

\_\_ School-based- Psycho- Educational Testing (Educational Referral)  
\_\_ Community/Private- Neuro- Psychological Evaluation

**4. Support COMMUNICATION**

\_RECEPTIVE Challenges

\_EXPRESSIVE Challenges

\_PRAGMATIC Challenges

**Referral for:** Speech Language Therapy to Evaluation and Treatment \_\_ Yes \_\_ No

**5. Identify and Support Comorbid EMOTIONAL - BEHAVIORAL Conditions and/or Concerns.**

\_Attentional Concerns or ADHD/ADD Diagnosis

\_Adjustment Disorder with varying manifestations

\_CONDUCT AGRESSION Concerns

\_Anxiety

\_Depression

\_Obsessive Compulsive Disorder- OCD

\_MOOD Disorder / Dys-regulation

Other Co-Morbid or Behavioral Challenges: \_\_\_\_\_

**Referral for:** \_\_ Behavior Therapy (ABA) \_\_ Psychology  
\_\_ Emotional Counseling \_\_ Psychiatry

**6. Promote INDEPENDENCE in ADAPTIVE FUNCTIONING**

\_FEEDING

\_SLEEP

\_HYGEINE/ PERSONAL CARE

\_SELF Regulation

\_SAFETY

\_NUTRITION / GASTRO- INTESTINAL Concerns

\_SEIZURES / TICS

\_ASTHMA/ ALLERGY

\_COORDINATION TONE ISSUES

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Identify and Support Comorbid MEDICAL Needs**

**Multi-disciplinary Supports**

- ☐ Parent Education/ Training
- ☐ Visual Supports
- ☐ Related Services
- ☐ Community and School Based
- ☐ Special Educational Supports
- ☐ Medical and Mental Health Services
- ☐ Behavioral Interventions
- ☐ Community Family and Financial Supports

**8. Promote life-long HEALTHY SOCIAL INTERACTIONS and RELATIONSHIPS**

Social Skills, Social Clubs, Recreation, Community Integration and Experiences, Employment and Volunteer Opportunities *(Formal and Informal)*

# Post Diagnostic Review

# Individual Support Services

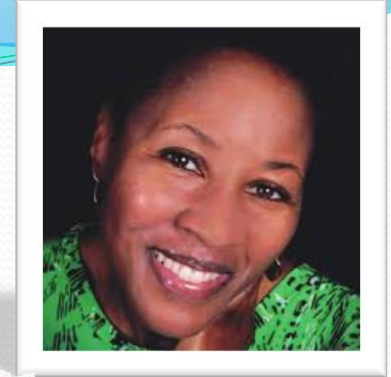
These services directly empower children, adolescents, and young adults living with autism.





## Current

- Medical Autism Diagnostic Services- Abila Tzanu, M.D.
- One World Pediatrics-Primary Care Services- Yulanda Swindell, M.D.
- Let's Move Social Fitness Classes



## Individual Support Services

### Fall 2019:

- Music and Art Therapy Classes
- “Wednesday with Friends” ABA-based Preschool Enrichment Program





# Family Support

These services directly empower and support families living with autism and provide opportunities for them to realize a greater sense of well-being and experience meaningful participation in our community



# IDENTIFYING and SUPPORTING the needs of families!





# Current Family Support Services

- **SOAR Care Coordination**-assesses the challenges that a family identifies and works together in family- professional partnership to prioritize needs and provide supports and referrals to community resources
- **Respite- Ages 3-13 –"Our World, Our Time"**
- **Respite Ages 14 and above- "Our World Explorers"**
- **Embrace Our World Family Enrichment Workshops**
- **Mom 2 Mom – Monthly Support Group**





# Community Outreach and Awareness Services

- These services provide educational outreach to our community to foster greater awareness and understanding of autism as well as the challenges faced by fellow residents living with this disorder. This translates to identification and support!



# Current Community Outreach and Awareness Services

- **Prince Georges County Special-needs Identification Physician Support Program (PGCSNIPS)-** *healthcare provider training in regards to the early developmental and autism screenings and the support of children and youth with special healthcare needs in the medical home -will now change to Early Intervention Outreach*
- **“Autism 101 for the Community” Trainings**
- **OWCA Newsletter**
- **OWCA Website**
- **Friends of One World-Fundraising Program**



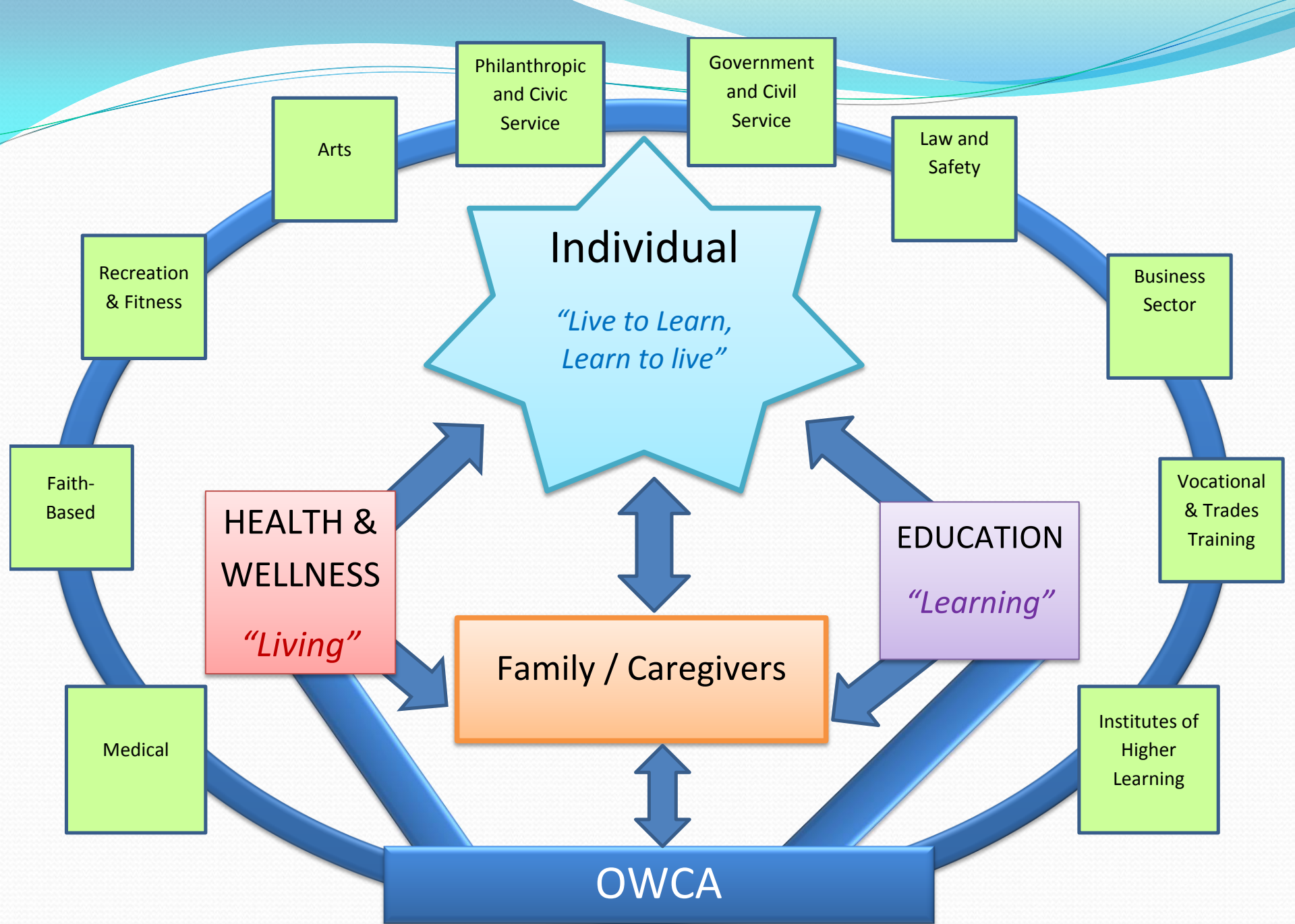


# Community Partnerships

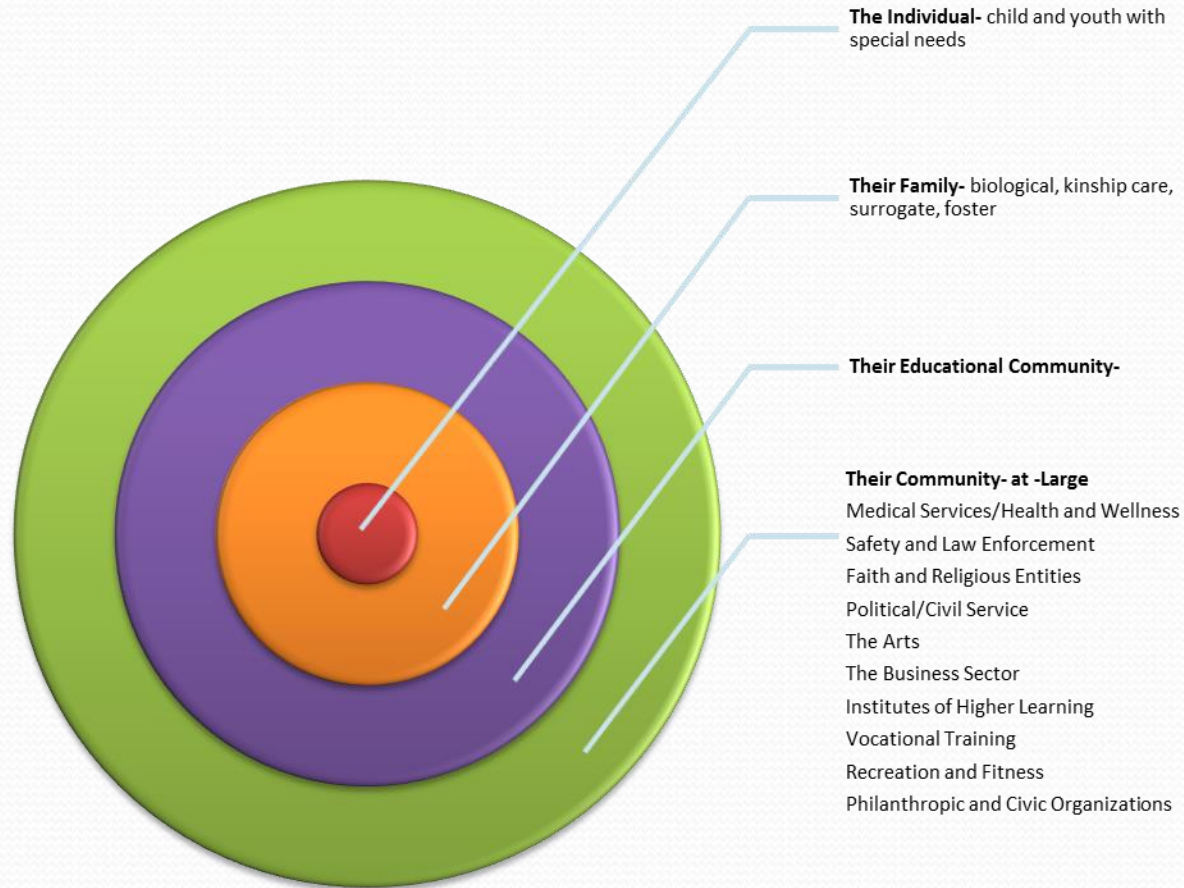
- All that we do is only possible by creating partnerships with community organizations and government agencies on the county and state level!





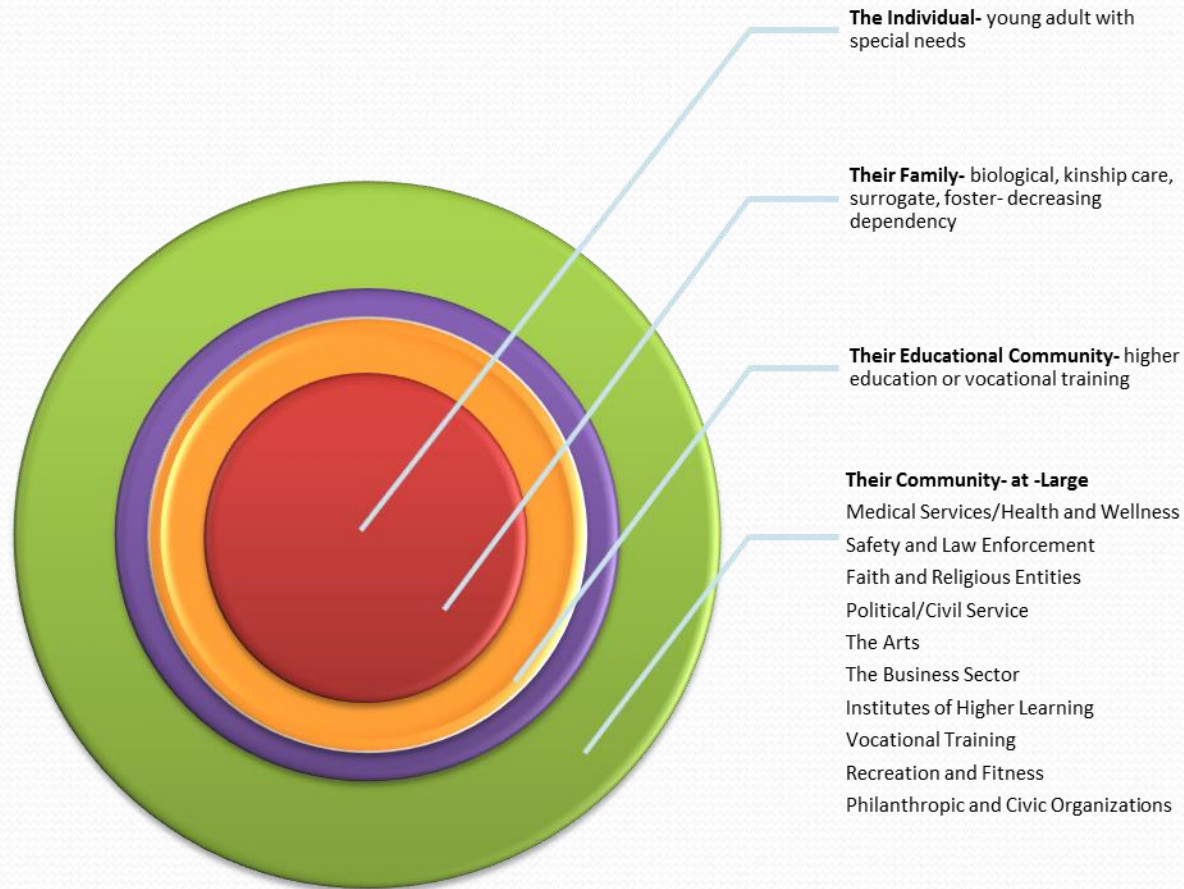


# Child / Youth with Special-Needs

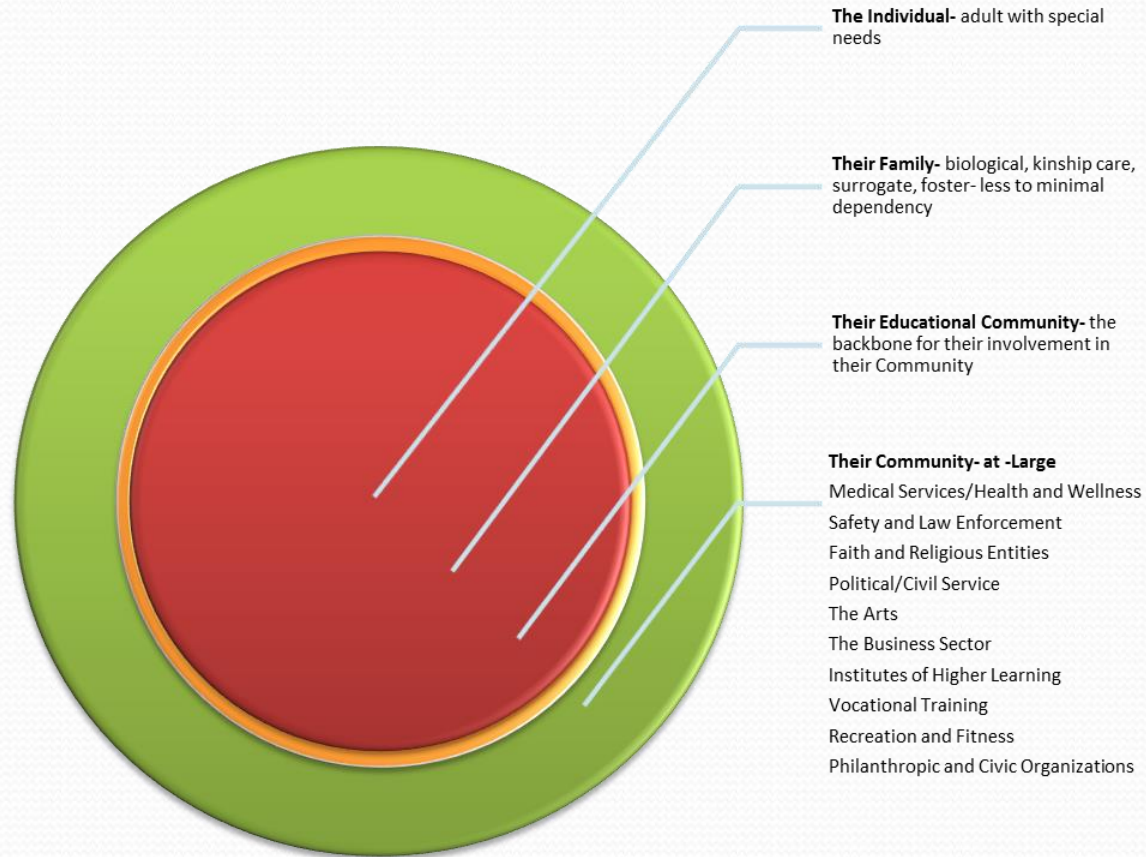




# Adolescent and Young Adult with Special-Needs



# Adult with Special-Needs





# Current Volunteer Opportunities at OWCA

1. Respite and Childcare Assistants
2. Youth/ Young Adult Program Assitants
3. Board Membership



# Board Membership

- Looking for individuals who are passionate about changing their community and creating systems of supports for those living with autism and related special needs!



- **PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:** Responsible for the ethical and financial oversight our organization



QUESTIONS?  
THANK YOU !

