



## ZANIEZ EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

About 1 in 36 children has been identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) according to estimates from CDC's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network. Traditional school systems have done a poor job of educating neurotypical children evidenced by the worsening test scores and abhorrent reading proficiency. Even before the pandemic, nearly two-thirds of U.S. students were unable to read at grade level. Teachers are not prepared to handle the daunting task of educating children on the Autism Spectrum. The public school system and most private educational environments are not equipped to teach basic life skills that promote independence in order to further children to become self-sustaining adults and many utilize failed tools and resources that are outdated and have yet to be proven effective.

Zaniez was created out of necessity by a parent of a child diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum (Spectrum). Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) includes a range of disabilities characterized by repetitive behaviors, sensory issues, and difficulties with speech, nonverbal communication and socializing. Zaniez seeks to educate children on the Spectrum utilizing a variety of approaches including but not limited to individualizing education in a group environment, providing multiple physical levels and apparatus for children to learn, grouping children by interests and funneling the education through those identified group interests, and teaching life skills through life experiences to include but not limited to cooking, photography, martial arts, gardening, music, woodworking, gaming, art, sewing, videography, physical fitness, singing, and more.

Zaniez is a 501c3 non-profit organization that is free for parents and students to enjoy. Zaniez not only affords children a comfortable, impactful and exciting learning environment, it also affords the parents of the students peace of mind in knowing that their children will be safe while they are at work. Additionally, Zaniez is committed to providing resources and best practices to parents in a group setting that will also provide support for those very same parents that may be struggling. Zaniez will offer family nights so that families can play with and enjoy other Spectrum families, something that is often difficult to find for families with both neurotypical and Spectrum children. Zaniez will be a place for families to enjoy in every way.

In order to provide a free solution for Spectrum families, Zaniez will seek funding from three (3) main sources: Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA), government and corporate grants, and private donations. Zaniez is a 501c3 non-profit organization so, all funds will be utilized to further the education of Spectrum children and their families.