



Cannabis-Inclusive Autism Care Model

Business Proposal

PROBLEM:

1. **ESTABLISHED NEED:** In the US, we lack dignified living options for our growing population of children/young adults with Autism, leaving parents to fill this role for longer than they may feel capable. It's common for Autism parents to express fear of dying before their child, citing the nightmare status of current options available to provide lifelong Autism care and support. The few programs that are available entail years-long waitlists, and offer little to no focus on resident's quality of life or promoting optimized function.
2. **EXPECTED GROWTH:** Autism prevalence has continued rising unabated in the US, and has increased from 1 in 10,000 in the 1970's to 1 in 59 as of 2014 (school age). Stephanie Seneff, PhD, a renowned Autism researcher, predicts Autism will impact 1 in 2 live births by the year 2025. It's estimated that 50% of children with Autism suffer a behavioral crisis upon entering puberty, a common catalyst for resulting out of home placement due to safety concerns. This problem is expected to continue growing with increased Autism prevalence, which justifies pursuing a care home model that offers improved behavior management efficacy and quality of life outcomes.

SOLUTION: AUTISM SAFE HAVEN

INSPIRATION: Nurse Janna Champagne, BSN, RN is mother to Ginny, a teen girl with Autism expected to require lifelong and intensive caregiving supports. Janna chose a unique path for treating her daughter, including cannabis and natural alternatives to pharmaceuticals, with heavy focus on quality of life/optimized function, and use of other researched Autism supports. Janna speaks for every parent faced with subpar options to care for their child with Autism, and understands first-hand the desperate need for improved care and supports. Janna's mission is to create a model that facilitates a natural progression of decreased involvement from Autism parents/families allowing an optimal child to adult transition process. Janna is a prominent advocate for Autism families in the US, and her daughter's success story was widely distributed when it published on the cover of a nationwide magazine in 2017:

www.integratedholisticcare.com/news

Models:

ASH Residential Care Homes

Autism community village model: The Legacy Village <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OwzmH2PcUw&feature=youtu.be>

Possible location for ASH community village (Oregon): <https://vimeo.com/347948293>

PROGRESS: ASH has multiple contracts from for-profit entities that have committed to donate a portion of their profits supporting our mission to provide optimal Autism care. Support for this program has launched initiatives and interest in multiple cannabis-legal states beyond Oregon, including California, Hawaii, Utah, Arizona, Montana, who understand the importance of offering a proactive Autism management approach, using cannabis and other research-supported interventions to guide care for those with Autism. ASH's board approved funds to launch our own caregiver agency in June 2022, and our first designated home is nearly complete (final remodel is funded/in progress).

COMPETITION: Currently, the standard for care homes primarily utilizes physical restraints and pharmaceuticals, while lacking appropriate caregiver training, which has resulted in multiple home failures (and even physical harm to residents). In addition, results of the current "crisis response" paradigm include elongated ER stays, and use of polypharmacy, including those with unknown long-term effects or safety considerations. The short-term effects we do know are justification enough to seek safer alternatives (extrapyramidal symptoms). Article link: [Cannabis for Autism Harm Reduction](#), objective comparison of the pharma vs cannabis approach for Autism

SCIENCE: Cannabis provides a safer and often more effective alternative to harmful pharmaceuticals for managing symptoms in tens of thousands of children with Autism in the US. It is commonplace for Autism patients to reduce their child's reliance (or wean completely) from harmful pharmaceuticals, meanwhile improving quality of life and function with cannabis added to their daily regimen. Mounds of research exists supporting cannabis as safe and effective interventions for treating Autism, exemplified further by tens of thousands of case studies and real patient outcomes. See above article citations for supporting research.

INTEGRITY: As a medical professional, Janna took an oath to provide objective education to patients regarding the risk versus benefits of ALL possible medical options, and facilitate fully informed medical decisions and patient autonomy. The safety profile of cannabis is unsurpassed, and when approached objectively, cannabis should often be considered as a first resort for medical interventions to address Autism behaviors. Janna's nurse specialties, including cannabis and substantial knowledge of alternatives to pharmaceuticals, have helped thousands of patients optimize their quality of life and function. The time has come to duplicate these outcomes, and create a superior model of care options for this disenfranchised population. The need for an improved approach for meeting the needs of our growing population of Autism patients is evident, and a private model utilizing insurance and government-funded supports provides sustainability and improved quality of life for residents.

We can do so much better for these families.

DETAILS: Our goal is to launch an all-inclusive community furnishing residents with vital quality of life through individualized services, including job skills training and housing for visiting families (in the community village model). This opens extensive opportunities for research, comparing outcomes/justifying an improved approach.

GOAL: Provide Optimal Quality of Life and Function, and Promote Client's Reaching Their Full Potential

Integrations Include:

Caregivers trained on ABA Behavior Plan with multiple tools to minimize need for physical restraints

Research-supported Autism supports: IDEAS & Biomedical Options

Nursing and Caregiver agency staff support individualized protocols, including cannabis administration by staff

Process:

1. Individualized & Proactive Behavior Management & Cannabis-Inclusive Care
2. Research Outcomes compared with other models, duplicate once proven sustainable
Integration of Culinary and Job Skills Training, All-Inclusive Community Supports

Collaboration Needs:

Funding/Fundraising Supports

Collaboration with Current Housing Projects Considered

Services: Safe Haven Corps, LLC has launched as the services provider, including nurse consulting, administration, real estate, and construction branches. SHC is a social enterprise with B Corp bylaws, and ASH is a 10% member and benefits from SHC profits.

Thank you for considering our project for a donation
ASH is a 501c3 Nonprofit to ensure federal tax deduction

Resources:

ABA for Autism:

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2013R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/13979>

IDEAS for Autism: Benton, Laura & Johnson, Hilary & Brosnan, Mark & Ashwin, Emma & Grawemeyer, Beate. (2011). IDEAS: An interface design experience for the autistic spectrum. Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems - Proceedings. 1759-1764. 10.1145/1979742.1979841.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/221515450_IDEAS_An_interface_design_experience_for_the_autistic_spectrum

State of Current Autism Housing Solutions: <https://blog.theautismsite.greatergood.com/aregeneric-homes-suitable-for-adults-with-autism>, https://medicalkidnap.com/2020/02/14/californiaparents-sue-riverside-county-25-million-for-death-of-disabled-daughter-in-fostercare/?fbclid=IwAR1UC0tW1De6Sr80-s_AYKUhW5majBAHdAgaR2SjvbTnbHqqvOVIX6VA4

Autism Epidemic Growing (Stephanie Seneff prediction):

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/inspectrum/201409/autism-apocalypse-2025>

Cannabis Resources:

Janna's Press Kit Website: www.jannachampagne.com

Article Cannabis for Autism Harm Reduction:

<http://www.integratedholisticcare.com/blog/cannabis-for-autism-harm-reduction>

Mother's Advocating Medical Marijuana Autism (MAMMA): www.mammausa.org

Janna's daughter's story including research supporting cannabis for Autism:

www.integratedholisticcare.com/news

Inspiration for ASH expansion to an Autism community village model: The Legacy Village

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0OwzmH2PcUw&feature=youtu.be>

Possible location for ASH community village (Oregon), Green Springs Inn:

<https://vimeo.com/347948293>