



## Autism can be reliably diagnosed by age **2**

### Home for Lenora & Her Son

Autism Speaks



*I have a son who was diagnosed with Autism at the age of 3. I've known about Autism Speaks but never thought that I would find myself in need of any assistance. Until, due to unforeseen family emergencies and personal health issues, I found myself almost homeless. I had already found a suitable place to live but I didn't have enough money to pay the security deposit and last month's rent in order to move in. I contacted a representative from Autism Speaks and explained my situation. I was then referred to Autism Speaks Cares because they offered emergency financial assistance to families of children diagnosed with Autism. At first, I was a little confused about the process but the representative patiently explained everything to me. I was able to complete the application requirements online and was contacted in less than a week with news that my circumstances qualified my family for the help we needed. I never thought that my family would ever have to face possibly being displaced, but with help from Autism Speaks and Autism Speaks Cares, I was able to secure a home for my family. It's been over a year since we moved and I'm as grateful today as I was then for Autism Speaks helping to make our burden a little lighter.*

### WHAT YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS

- **Promote** safety by providing training and education to first-responders on autism spectrum disorders.
- **Provide** information guides and tool kits for families to navigate their child's diagnoses from youth to adulthood including our First 100 Day Kit- a personalized kit that lists local service providers, support groups, recreational activities, sources of legal information, conferences, local autism and disability organizations. \$50 can provide a family with this kit!
- **Connect** employers with qualified job candidates who have autism through [www.thespectrumcareers.com](http://www.thespectrumcareers.com) in partnership with Rangam Consultants.
- **Advocate** for more inclusive health insurance coverage, fund research on autism spectrum disorders, and build national awareness through our "Light it Up Blue" campaign.

### ABOUT COMMUNITY HEALTH CHARITIES

Community Health Charities is a nonprofit that raises awareness and resources for health and wellness by connecting more than 2,000 of the most trusted health charities across the United States with more than 17 million caring employees through workplace giving campaigns, causes, wellness programs, employee engagement, and strategic partnerships. Health has never been such an urgent priority: 77% of U.S. workers suffer from at least one long-term health condition, ranging from cancer to asthma — chances are someone you know is affected.