



# CORNERSTONE

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ALLIANCE

*ADVOCATE \* EDUCATE \* ACHIEVE*

A registered 501(c)3 Non Profit Corporation

# INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FUND

CASE FOR SUPPORT

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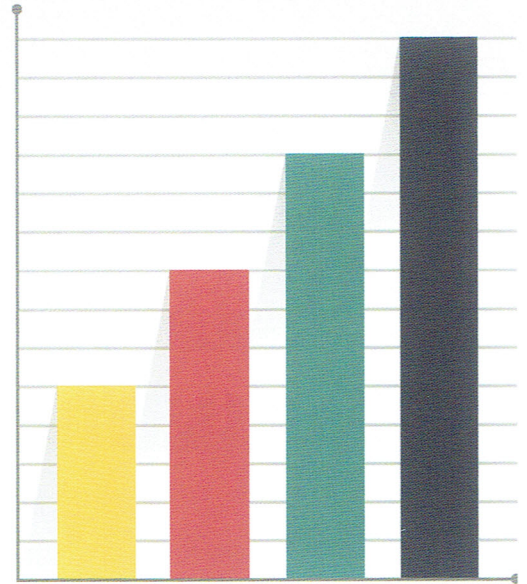




# THE COMMUNITY PROBLEM

## ***WHAT THE EDUCATION SYSTEM IS DOING TO CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS JUST ISN'T RIGHT!***

- Only 18.7% of persons with disabilities are employed in contrast to 65.7 percent of persons without disabilities.
- 32% of workers with disabilities are employed part-time. In comparison to 17% of workers without disabilities having part-time jobs.
- The Florida Chamber Foundation shows that 62.9% of persons with disabilities are not in the labor force.
- Florida's students with disabilities are 2.7 times as likely to be suspended and 17.4 times as likely to be expelled.
- Law enforcement is 7.8 times as likely to arrest students with learning disabilities at school.
- Nearly 345,000 suspensions each year in Florida.



**17%** of all students enrolled in school have some type of learning disability. There are over 217,000 students in the NE Florida public schools.

**1 in 8** youth have a disability that is either *hidden or not* diagnosed and therefore not accommodated properly in school. This is why most behavior issues occur.

Over **53%** of our cases are students age **5-11 years old** in **grades K-5** with the *majority* of those being in **2nd grade and 8 years old**

These children are not getting an equal opportunity in school and are struggling just to keep up in their classes.

Children with disabilities grow up to become adults with disabilities. The disability never goes away.

**While students are still in school, an Individual Education Plan will ensure they are getting an education and make a *dramatic* change in the end results for these kids**

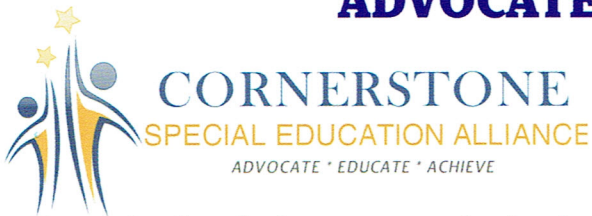


# WHY WE EXIST

## ADVOCATE

## EDUCATE

## ACHIEVE



*Our mission is to ensure students with disabilities get the tools, opportunities, supports and skills they need in school to help find their calling and purpose in life. Everyone has a purpose.*

Through collaborative efforts with parents, schools and the community we work to:

- **Decrease** behavior issues among students with disabilities in Northeast Florida
- **Increase** the academic achievement of students with disabilities in Northeast Florida
- **Increase** the graduation rate for students with disabilities in Northeast Florida
- **Increase** employment opportunities for students with disabilities in Northeast Florida

### SINCE 2015 WE HAVE:

Served over **370** students and their families

Worked over **4320 hours** of direct advocacy services for parents and their students with disabilities

Represented parents and their students in **174 different schools in 5 counties** throughout Northeast Florida

**Avoided Due Process** between parents and schools in **98.6%** of cases

**Increased school provided services** that expanded students' ability to learn, raised student grades and **elevated success rates** for both students and schools

### MEET JUST TWO OF THE KIDS WE'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR



This is Joseph. He's a cute kid isn't he? You would never know just by his picture that he has learning disabilities. Joseph has a speech impairment, a deficit in executive functioning, social anxiety, and sensory issues. But with the help of his **Individual Education Plan (IEP)** the school has been able to help him manage his deficits and improve his learning according to his abilities. **He finally enjoys school!**

Michael was a sophomore in high school and not going to graduate on time. His whole life, he didn't have the right things in place to help him in school. The school didn't take his parents or his diagnosis seriously. They weren't really giving him an education. Michael was stuck and gave up hope for graduating or going to college. When we got his **Individual Education Plan** right, Michael prevailed in his classes and *graduated on time!* Today he is gainfully employed and saving his money for community college to achieve his dream in animation.





# JOIN THE ALLIANCE AND HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We've worked for children with severe physical/ intellectual disabilities to kids who have hidden disabilities. Children who are non-verbal now communicate and express themselves through assistive technology. Students once deemed "a problem child" now have the proper supports and interventions to help manage their behavior. All of them are *finally* able to learn according to their own ability. But there are *so many more* children that need help.

By sponsoring the **Individual Education Program Fund**, you further our ability to help more kids and families who *desperately* need it. Most of these families are struggling economically and can't afford any additional out of pocket services. Insurance doesn't cover an education for these kids. Raising a child with ADHD alone, **costs five times more** than raising a typical child. Help us to continue developing the programs these kids need to gain the tools, opportunities, skills and supports so they can find *their* purpose in life. Please, make a difference for a child today.

**There are over 29,000 students in the Northeast Florida area that have learning disabilities. We've only been able to help .01% of these students. They need you to make a difference,**

## HOW BIG OF A DIFFERENCE WILL YOU MAKE?

### Individual Education Program Fund Sponsorship Levels:

We are a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit therefore, your sponsorship may be tax-deductible as allowed by law

#### **\$5000 Guardian Level:**

Sponsor three students, thank you letter, your logo on all of our media, banners, fundraisers, a feature article in newsletter, partial sponsorship of our summer reading camps, and a plaque to display

#### **\$2500 Ally Level:**

Sponsor two students, thank you letter, your logo on our website, newsletters, social media posts and a plaque for display

#### **\$1000 Defender Level:**

Sponsor one student, thank you letter, your logo on our website and newsletters

#### **\$750 Protector Level:**

Thank you letter, your logo on our website with contact information

#### **\$500 Supporter Level:**

Thank you letter and recognition on our website



TALLIS PHOTOGRAPHY