



# Eleven Autism Task Force Recommendations Identified as Drivers of the State Autism Grant

September 2008

## FUNDING (F)

**F-3** ~ Implement legislation that requires health insurance coverage of evidence-based interventions and services for individuals with ASD across the lifespan.

**F-4** ~ Fund community-based organizations that provide culturally effective parent and family support and resource information for families of individuals with ASD.

## INFRASTRUCTURE (IN)

**IN-1** ~ Create and enhance Regional Autism Centers of Excellence in targeted areas of the state to provide diagnostic services, therapies, and training for parents and professionals; coordinate services currently available; and address gaps in services.

**IN-2** ~ Ensure all individuals with ASD receive comprehensive health services and coverage within a Medical Home.

**IN-4** ~ Increase Washington State's capacity to identify and track people with ASD and the services they receive across their lifespan.

## TRAINING (TG)

**TG-1** ~ Washington State must create a coordinated statewide training program to provide consistent, standardized and culturally effective training on ASD for individuals, families, educators, health care and all service providers.

**TG-2** ~ ASD training, including how to screen for and diagnose ASD, will be designed and provided especially for medical students, interns, pediatricians and family practice doctors.

**TG-3** ~ Provide ASD training designed especially for educators and allied health and human service professionals.

## TREATMENT (TT)

**TT-1** ~ Screen all children in Washington State for ASD before the age of three years, ideally by 18 months. To increase capacity, it is critical that all qualified health care providers and family resource coordinators be trained to administer the screenings.

**TT-2** ~ Screening, diagnosis, and referral to intervention for ASD and Asperger's Syndrome must take place across the lifespan.

**TT-9** ~ Develop an Autism Services Guidebook that can be used as a resource directory for parents, organizations, and providers who serve individuals with ASD and their families, birth through the lifespan.