## Autism Speaks, Missouri State Still Listens

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### What is Autism?

- ♦ Autism falls under Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD) in the DSM-4
- It is characterized by:
  - difficulties in social interaction
  - communication
  - repetitive behaviors
- ♦ It affects 1/88 children
- Autism is not always associated with intellectual disabilities

Information found on autismspeaks.org/what-autism

## What are some barriers in higher education?

- ▲ Lack of funding to train faculty

#### Our Resolution!

**♦** Total Signatures: 487



Getting signatures to show the University that students care about making accommodations for students with autism.









# Autism Higher Education Foundation



Mission Statement:

The Autism Higher Education Foundation exists to create, improve, and provide access to college-level educational opportunities to individuals on the autism spectrum who have requisite reading and writing skills and would like to continue to advance their learning beyond high school, but are otherwise unable to do so.

**DONATION TOTAL: \$213.94** 

### Light It Up Blue



- Annually observed April 2<sup>nd</sup> each year
- Part of Autism
   Awareness month
   activism in April



## Using Social Media to Spread Awareness



TOTAL 'LIKES" BY PUBLIC: 535

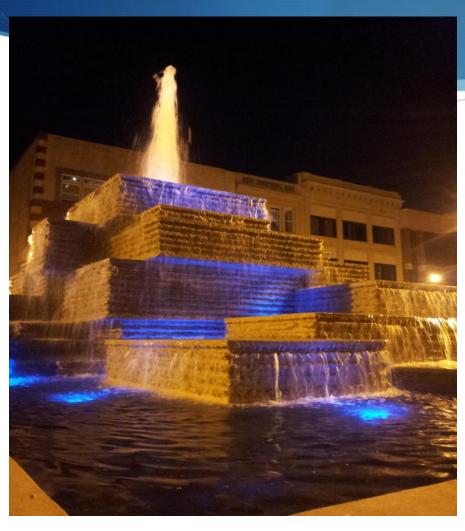
### Facebook Competition Winner



**TOTAL AMOUNT OF LIKES: 2,513** 

Sigma Kappa – Delta Upsilon

## Light It Up Blue





#### The Public Affairs Mission

- Cultural Competence
- Ethical Leadership
- Community Engagement



#### Thank You To...

Autism Speaks, Missouri State Listens: Lindsey Pearson Sam Cleary Lindsey Chronister Victoria Brooks Brittany Norton

Donnie Rodgers, Jr. Community Development Coordinator

Interviews: Tara Simmons, MSU Student Lisa Proctor, MSU CSD Professor Light It Up Blue participants:
Sigma Kappa – Delta Upsilon Chapter
Delta Zeta – Epsilon Nu Chapter
Alpha Chi Omega – Zeta Sigma Chapter
Xi Omicron Iota (MSU Local Chapter)
Alpha Sigma Alpha – Beta Sigma Chapter