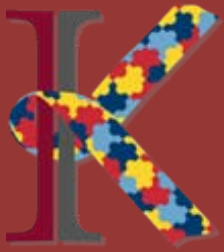




ASPIRE

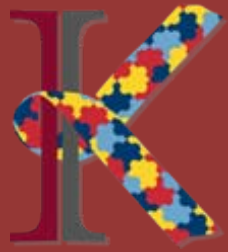


Asperger Support through Peers in
Reaching Education





Saint Joseph's University

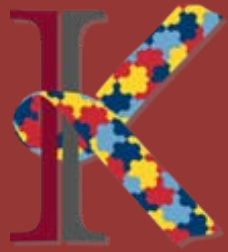
-  Founded by the Society of Jesus in 1851, Saint Joseph's University advances the professional and personal ambitions of men and women by providing a demanding, yet supportive, educational experience.
-  Saint Joseph's is home to 4,600 traditional day students, 750 College of Professional and Liberal Studies adult undergraduates, and 3,500 graduate and doctoral students.






Saint Joseph's University

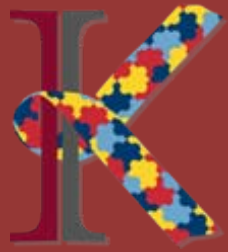
 Steeped in the 450-year Jesuit tradition of scholarship and service, Saint Joseph's was named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for General Community Service.

 The University strives to be recognized as the preeminent Catholic comprehensive university in the Northeast.





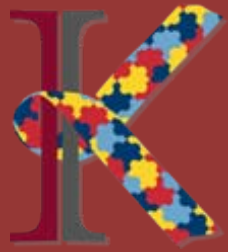
Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

-  A magnificent dream emerged: to develop an autism center on Saint Joseph's newly acquired James J. Maguire '58 Campus.
-  With a generous donation providing bedrock support, the Hondros family helped the University develop the Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support.
-  The Center opened on October 2, 2009.



Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

-  The mission of the Kinney Center is to provide multi-disciplinary education and research opportunities for students, teachers, professionals, and parents who seek to improve and extend opportunities, outcomes, quality of life and best practices in treatment for people with ASD.
-  The Kinney Center offers services, resources, and information; support and guidance; and tools for public and individual advocacy that contribute to improved autism awareness and care.



Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

Staff

 Licensed Psychologist

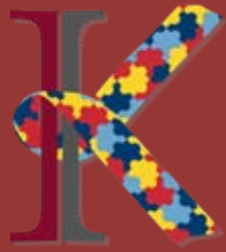
 3 Behavior Analysts

 1 Certified Teacher

 1 Social Worker

 Graduate Assistants (3)

 SCHOLARS (68)



Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

SCHOLARS

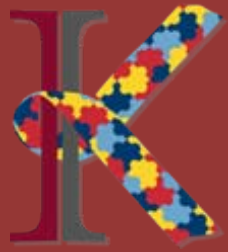
 Saint Joseph's University undergraduates enrolled in an autism-related major to serve as Kinney SCHOLARS.

 Psychology

 Elementary Education/Special Education






 Interdisciplinary Health Services

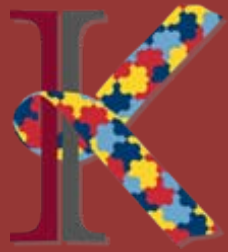
 Extensive training and supervision



Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

SCHOLARS

-  Plan, implement, and Support appropriate lessons
-  Monitor participants' progress
-  Record and study data
-  Assist with social, behavioral and educational assessments
-  Supervise and provide direct care for program participants.



Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support



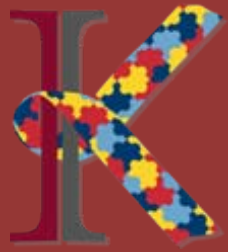
SCHOLARS



Participate in various training modules



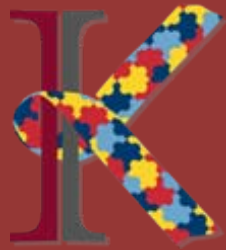
Participate in weekly meetings to discuss treatment progress and outcomes and ensure successful execution of Kinney program









Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

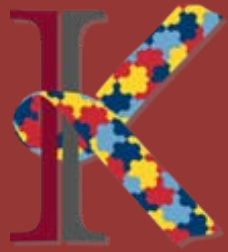
Programs:

-  Social Skills Program
-  Kids Night Out
-  Camp Kinney
-  College-Bound Retreat
-  Kinney Sports Program
-  Sibshops
-  ASPIRE
-  Minor in Autism Studies
-  BCaBA Course work
-  High School Volunteer
-  SCHOLARS Apprenticeship



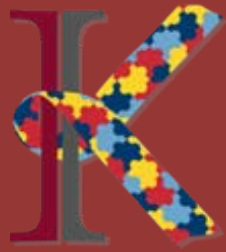
ASPIRE

-  Saint Joseph's University already supports a number of students on the autism spectrum.
-  Executive Director has been working with the Office of Student Educational Support Services and representatives from other universities in the region to develop appropriate supports that will enhance academic and social success for this group.
-  The Center has built upon its initial experiences and created programming that:
 -  Provides support for college-age students with Asperger's syndrome or high-functioning autism, with programming to include support groups, peer mentoring, academic enrichment and social/recreational activities.
 -  Coordinates with the Student Counseling Center and Student Educational Support Services.
 -  Will offer training to other colleges/universities that would like to replicate the program.





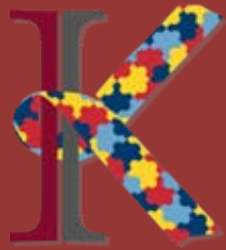
ASPIRE

 Prepare and support SJU students with ASD in college to be successful both during their time at the University as well as following graduation.






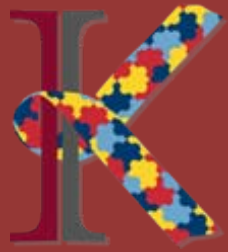
ASPIRE

-  Student housing will guarantee room and board and support an early move-in date, so students can transition the summer prior to their first full freshmen semester.
-  The Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Dining Services, Student Success, Residence Life, Public Safety and Student Educational Support Services will all work together to provide comprehensive services to meet the students individual needs.




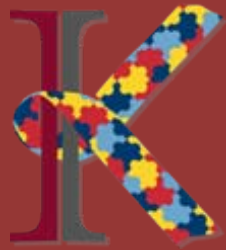
ASPIRE Overview

-  Professional staff at the University and peer mentors will serve as liaisons for students who are competitively admitted to SJU
-  Help acclimate the students to campus life, reduce the anxiety associated with a major life transition, and develop the social, organizational and daily living skills that are requisites for success in college.
-  In addition, students will live in a residence hall in close proximity to Kinney [SCHOLARS](#) and Resident Assistants trained to support individuals with autism.





Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support

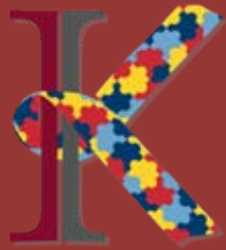
 With its roots in the Jesuit mission of service and *cura personalis*, or care for the whole person, the Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support seeks to address the needs of those who struggle day-to-day with autism, either as individuals or caregivers.





Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support and the Jesuit Mission

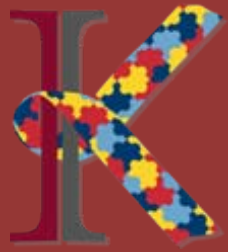
 Establishing the Asperger's Support through Peers in Reaching Autism (ASPIRE) program at Saint Joseph University supports the University's mission, as well as its vision of being recognized as the preeminent Catholic comprehensive university in the Northeast.

 As a Jesuit institution, Saint Joseph's embraces the centuries old Jesuit educational vision of cura personalis, or "concern for the whole person" in this case, students at all levels who have ASD and need to develop learning skills.



Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support and the Jesuit Mission

-  Cura personalis also calls for the fullest development of the individual student's potential outside the classroom.
-  The Center also supports the Ignatian vision of educating “men and women for others” as we build acceptance among all of the Saint Joseph's University students, faculty and staff to support and serve individuals with autism, their families, and the larger community affected by this development disorder.




Supports Provided

 **Comprehensive Services** at SJU's Kinney Center, which provides:


 Independent living and social skills support

 Money management

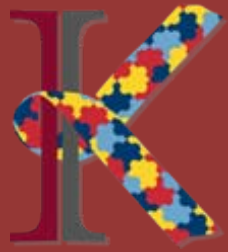
 Caring for their living space

 Self-advocacy

 Shopping for and preparing meals





 Facilitating opportunities for students to become comfortable in social situations

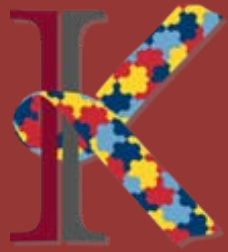
 Develop appropriate and fulfilling relationships







Supports Provided

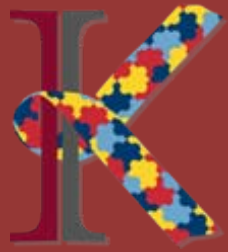
Academic Support

-  Utilize learning and organizational strategies
-  Registering for appropriate classes
-  Access to tutors
-  Scheduled meetings with various student support offices to measure progress and reflect on participation in campus life.










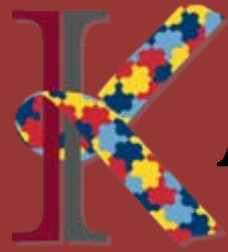
Supports Provided

-  An **Individual Support Network** comprised of a case manager who establishes a relationship with SJU's Office of Student Educational Support Services and serves as the main contact for parents;
-  Staff psychologist for individual counseling and as-needed intervention plans
-  Student mentor (SCHOLARS) who facilitates the guided application of newly-learned social skills and organizes social opportunities
-  Resident advisor who lives in or near the housing complex, and helps students navigate daily life, participate in social events, and manage routine household matters










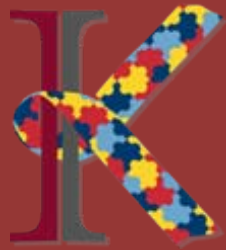
Student Profile

-  Saint Joseph's University full-time matriculated students
-  Diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
-  Intended for those who have:
 -  Intellectual ability
 -  Academic ability
 -  Organizational ability
 -  To be successful at Saint Joseph's University











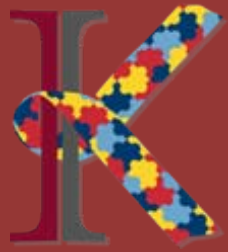
ASPIRE Program Eligibility

-  Must meet admissions requirements and be admitted to SJU on student's own merit.
 -  Different types of admission
-  Must have a documented diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder.
-  Must have been mainstreamed for at least the last two years of high school.
 -  Flexible
-  Must be willing to participate in full program activities, and attend all meetings and classes as scheduled.
-  Must agree to have information released to parents if participating in this program.








Program Application

-  Submit an application for admission as a freshman or transfer to Saint Joseph's University.
-  Receive acceptance to Saint Joseph's University
-  Complete the ASPIRE program online application at:
 <http://kinneyautism.sju.edu/aspire>
-  Submit a letter of application that includes a statement of interest in the program to Michelle Rowe, Ph.D., Executive Director of The Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support.
-  Provide verification/documentation and records regarding diagnosis, treatment and academic supports.
-  Submit one letter of recommendation from a person qualified to assess capabilities for college success.
-  Complete an in-person interview with parent.




Program Cost


-  Kinney Center is grant and donation funded
-  Money to support program comes from program fees
-  Still an area that needs further investigation
-  SCHOLARS
 -  Peer mentors cost




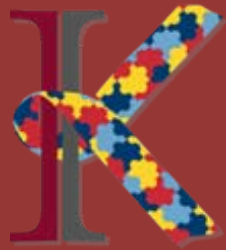
Objectives of the ASPIRE Program

Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research

 **Comprehensive services at SJU (Kinney Center)**, which gives families the peace of mind that their children are being cared for in every aspect of their daily lives, *cura personalis*.




 **Academic support** (Student Educational Support Services) that helps students utilize learning and organizational strategies, provide tutors and time management strategies. Bi-weekly meetings.

 The Kinney Center staff would work with Student Educational Support Services closely to train the staff and provide trainings for university faculty and staff who instruct individuals in the ASPIRE program.



Objectives of the ASPIRE Program

Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research


-  Based on the requests from families that contacted the Kinney Center
-  Based on the conversation with current and former students with ASD from the University
-  Based on conversations with high school students during College Bound Retreat




Objectives of the ASPIRE Program



Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research



Independent living skills support (Kinney Staff) which aids students in managing their money, taking care of their own living space, self-advocacy, problem solving, shopping for food and preparing meals. Bi-weekly meetings





Social skills support (Kinney Staff) that facilitates opportunities for students to become comfortable in social situations and develop appropriate, fulfilling relationships with peers and adults. Bi-weekly meetings





Objectives of the ASPIRE Program

Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research

 **Office of Student Success (Retention/ISN)** check-in meetings twice per semester to reflect on student progress and participation in campus life.

 The Kinney Center staff would work with Student Success closely to train the staff who support individuals in the ASPIRE program.




 **Academic Advising Centers**, a liaison/ point person who ensures each student is registered for the appropriate classes based on the students skill set and instruction level, monitors student progress and participation and establishes a relationship with the school's Office of Disability Services. Two times each semester

 The Kinney Center staff would work with the Academic Advising Centers closely to train and support the staff who support individuals in the ASPIRE program.



Objectives of the ASPIRE Program


Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research

-  **A case manager** (social worker) who monitors students' progress, establishes a relationship with the school's Office of Disability Services and is the primary contact with parents. Monthly meetings with parents and students as required.
-  **A staff psychologist** (CAPS) who leads individual counseling sessions and helps develop intervention plans for each student on an as needed basis
 -  Kinney Center staff would work with CAPS closely to train the staff who support individuals in the ASPIRE program.





Objectives of the ASPIRE Program


Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research

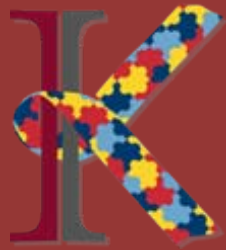
 **A mentor (SCHOLARS)** who facilitates the guided application of newly learned social skills and organizes social opportunities independent of adult staff involvement.

Weekly meeting

 The Kinney Center staff would train and support the SCHOLARS who mentor individuals in the ASPIRE program.

 **A resident advisor** who lives in or near the housing complex and helps students navigate daily life, plan and participate in social events and manage routine household matters. Bi-weekly Meeting

 The Kinney Center staff would work with Residence Life closely to train and support the staff who support individuals in the ASPIRE program.



Objectives of the ASPIRE Program

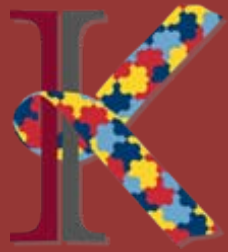
 **Education, Training, Outreach, Advocacy and Research**

 **Barriers during planning and implementation.....**




 **Program**

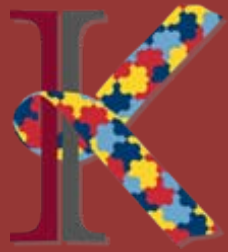
 **Department**

 **University**



Measuring Success

-  Number of students enrolled
-  Pre/Post-Questionnaire for students and parent
 -  Ex. Confidence in Social, Academic, Life Skills



Contact Information

 Katie Croce

 kcroce@sju.edu

 610-660-2171