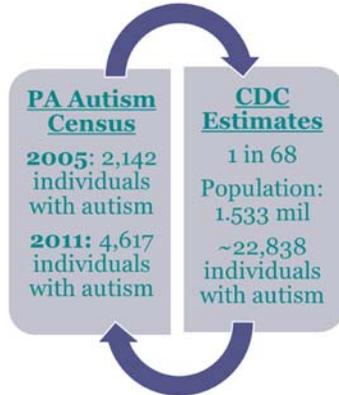


## PHILADELPHIA AUTISM PROJECT: PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW

### Overall Increase

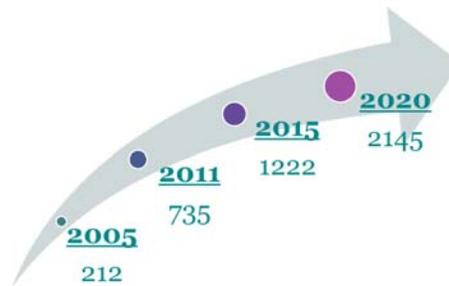


The number of individuals with autism nearly doubled in Philadelphia between 2005-2011.

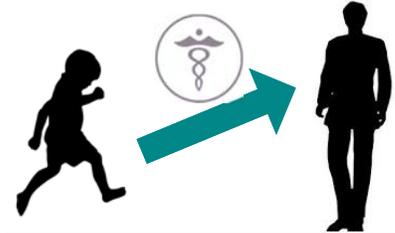
\*Individuals receiving public services

### Increase in Adults

Since 2005, the number of adults with autism in Philadelphia has increased by almost six fold. In the next 5 years, this number is projected to double.

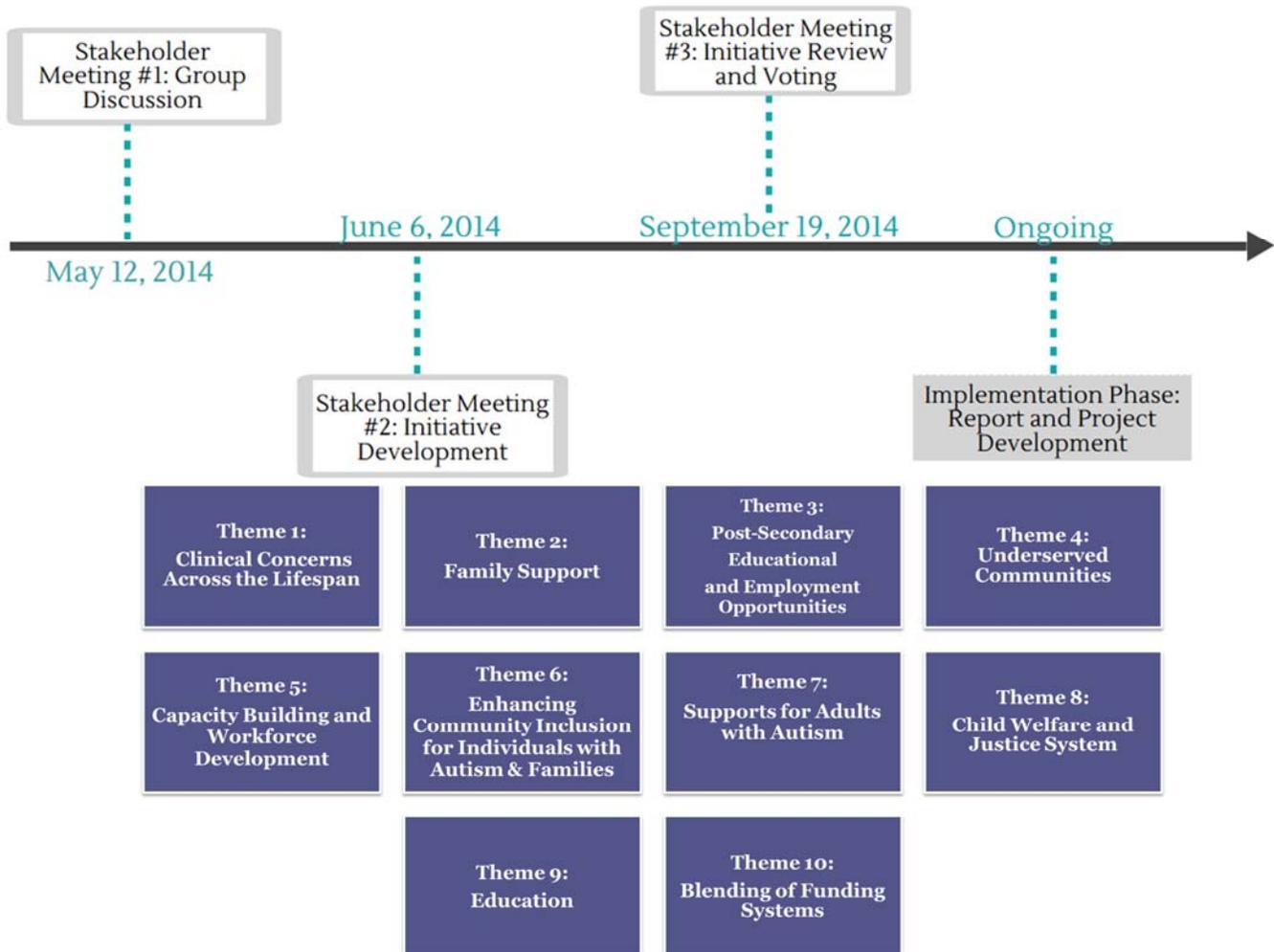


### Comorbid Psychiatric Diagnoses

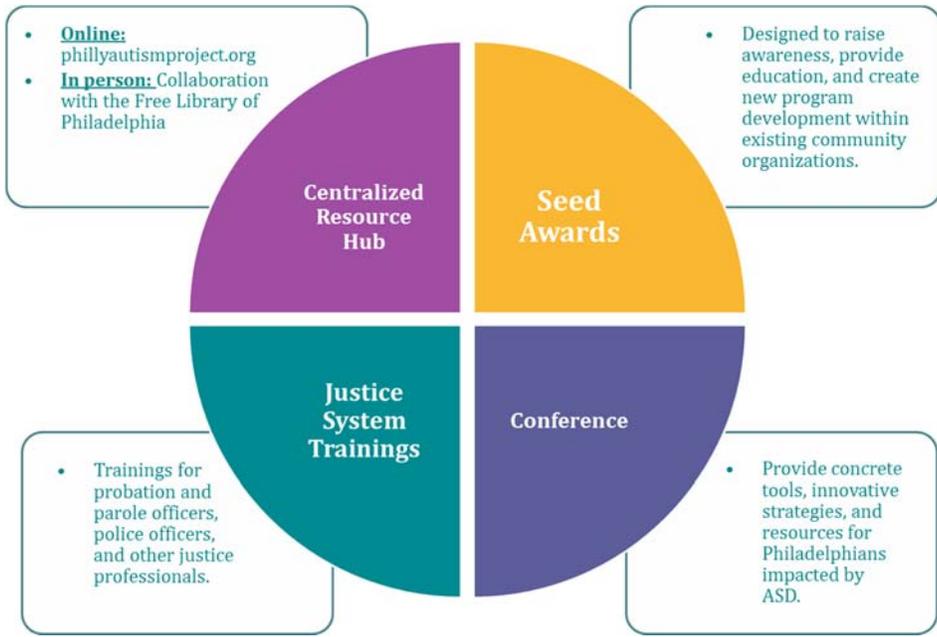


The prevalence of comorbid psychiatric diagnosis increase with age from childhood into adolescence and adulthood. The most commonly co-occurring diagnoses are Intellectual Disability (ID), Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and behavioral/conduct related diagnoses.

### PLANNING PHASE



# IMPLEMENTATION PHASE



## Justice System

\*Among individuals aged 10-21

2005 → Increase → 2011  
 96 pre-adjudicated charges → 265 pre-adjudicated charges

Justice contact in Philadelphia has increased from 2005-2011, and with the rising number of individuals with an autism diagnosis, interactions with the system are becoming increasingly prevalent.

A statewide survey of justice system professionals revealed the depth and breadth of training needs in the state. This information can be used to facilitate collaboration with the justice system.

| Training Topic                                                     | %   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| How to communicate with individuals with autism                    | 74% |
| How to navigate challenging behaviors related to autism            | 71% |
| Systems and services available to individuals with autism          | 70% |
| Core deficits of autism                                            | 67% |
| How to interact with parents/caregivers of individuals with autism | 65% |
| Identifying autism in adolescents                                  | 65% |

## Community Supports

### Library Engagement



The relationship between the Philadelphia Autism Project and the Free Library of Philadelphia is a mechanism to reach individuals with autism and their families in their own communities.

### Seed Money

12 Seed Money awards were given to community based organizations throughout Philadelphia.



### Resource Hub



A primary goal for Philadelphia Autism Project Stakeholders was to establish an online resource hub for individuals with autism, their families, and professionals. The Philadelphia Autism Project website (phillyautismproject.org) was launched and houses resources, events, and a map of support groups.

## Training Requests



Catered trainings and data requests are available upon request. If you would like to request a free training, please contact ASERT@drexel.edu or phillyap@drexel.edu.