A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

The 2017-2018 fiscal year was a time of rapid growth, both programmatically and administratively as we built momentum towards celebrating ACEing Autism’s 10 year anniversary in November, and worked to develop a foundation of support for future Programmatic expansion over the next 10 years.

Our team focused on three strategic priorities this year to ensure future success; building an administrative infrastructure to support existing and new programs, increasing our program impact through number of children served, and diversifying our funding sources.

During 2018, we expanded our Board of Directors to include one new member, Thomas Darling, who was appointed to our development committee to support our strategic initiatives. Rob Lapides, board member since 2016, was selected as the new board chair for the 2018 fiscal year.

In addition to board expansion, we added three new team members during the spring of 2018, Jessica Brooks, Rachel Miskei, and Miles Vidreiro. Jessica was hired as our organization’s first ever Director of Development to oversee the diversification and growth of our funding portfolio. Rachel was hired as the Office Manager to enhance the level of administrative support provided to our Program and Executive teams. Miles, a BCBA was hired as the Quality Control Manager to provide additional training and support to our programs. With the addition of these new positions, and expectations of future growth, we moved our Los Angeles headquarters to a 1,600 square foot, five-person office space in West Los Angeles.

At fiscal year end, ACEing Autism offered programs at 68 locations in 26 states, serving over 1,111 children, and 863 hours on the court. This reflected an increase of 20 programs from the previous fiscal year, and over 200 new families served. In addition to increasing our impact through number of children served, we continue to collect data from our programs to determine additional impact and benefits from participation in our programs. In 2018, we partnered with the UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART). This partnership will help us develop and implement an outcomes measurement study for several of our program locations to gather data on the unique benefits of our programs.

To support our thriving programs and growing infrastructure, our Development team has been focused on identifying new opportunities for foundation and corporate partnerships, and working with the Los Angeles tennis community to plan for our 10 year Anniversary Gala in November. This gala will not only be a celebration of our 10 year milestone but will also enable our team to develop new relationships in the Los Angeles tennis and autism communities to build a foundation of support for the future.

As we plan for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, we look forward to building upon our current strategic priorities and developing and implementing additional program quality standards and measures to ensure that we maintain a certain standard of excellence as we continue to expand our organization to connect more children with autism to tennis across the nation.

We hope that you will join us in our vision to serve over 2,000 children with autism by 2020.

With Gratitude;

Richard Spurling
Founder and Executive Director, ACEing Autism
WHO WE ARE

OUR HISTORY

ACEing Autism was founded in 2008 by Richard Spurling, a tennis professional with a degree in International Business and MBA in entrepreneurship, and Shafali Jeste M.D., an autism researcher and child neurologist. While living in Massachusetts, Richard and Dr. Shafali Jeste collaborated to create a program that was designed to use the sport of tennis as a means to provide unique social and developmental benefits to children with autism.

The first program location of ACEing Autism launched soon thereafter in Wayland, MA. Over the last 10 years, ACEing Autism has grown into a vibrant, volunteer-driven organization that serves over 1,100 children in 26 states through 68 program locations.

OUR MISSION

To connect individuals with autism through unique tennis programs, and to develop and advance proven methods to positively impact the children, families and communities we serve.

OUR VISION

We envision a future where every individual with autism has equal access and opportunity to experience the joy of playing tennis.

OUR GOALS

To serve 2,000 participants with autism through 100 locations by 2020, and ultimately reach over 40,000 participants through 500 locations in the future.

WHO WE SERVE

Individuals ages five and older with autism spectrum disorder or similar diagnosis.
WHY WE MATTER

THE NEED

1 IN 59 Children
CDC's estimated prevalence of autism

33%
of children with autism are overweight

$2,000,000
the estimated cost of autism-related services throughout a child's lifetime

Children with autism often experience behaviors, social challenges, and developmental delays that make it difficult to participate in traditional sports programs

There is an overall lack of quality, affordable programs designed to meet the specific athletic, social, and developmental needs of the ASD population

THE SOLUTION

Autism-Centered
Our tennis curriculum is tailored specifically to the ASD population, emphasizing functional communication and visual supports, and includes a detailed skills curriculum created by experts in the fields of tennis and autism.

Adaptable
Our clinics are structured so that children from a diverse range of abilities can be accommodated and benefit from our program. Each child receives customized support from a trained volunteer during each clinic based on his or her unique needs.

Affordable
Our weekly clinics cost $20 per child, and full or partial scholarships are available upon request.

Scalable
Our proven curriculum and volunteer-driven program model allow us to establish significant scalability while maintaining program quality.
OUR PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY TENNIS PROGRAM

This program is held on weekends at a community court, tennis club, or University, and offers a minimum of two, six-week tennis sessions annually. Each session includes a weekly hour-long tennis clinic. Each participant is paired with one or two trained volunteers to support them through each clinic. ACEing Autism offers a youth program, available for children with autism ages 5-17, and is piloting an adult program for transition age youth ages 18-22 with intentions to expand in the coming years.

SCHOOL TENNIS PROGRAM

This program is offered year-round and consists of weekly tennis clinics that are held during physical education classes at school. Each student who participates is supported one-on-one by a teacher, paraprofessional, or trained professional. This program is only available to children with autism ages 5-17 who are students at the school program location.

OUR CURRICULUM

ACEing Autism Community Tennis Programs and School Tennis Programs both follow our 9 STEP CURRICULUM:

- Introductions
- Visual Schedules
- Group Warm-ups
- Hand-Eye Coordination Drills
- Racquet Skills
- Volleys
- Groundstrokes
- Group Games
- Group Cheer
Meet Andrew, a passionate high school student who is the Program Director and Founder of the ACEing Autism Community Tennis Program in Weston Florida. An avid tennis player, and longtime volunteer with children with autism, Andrew said that he “began to think about what I wanted to do for my bar mitzvah project, I knew I wanted to combine my love for tennis and working with kids who have been touched by developmental disabilities. With the support of his mother, Erica Grub, an ABA therapist who helps recruit participants for the program, his father, Elliot Grub, and Laurent Leclerc, the Director of Tennis at Midtown Athletic Club, ACEing Autism Weston was launched in March of 2016.

Andrew feels that one of “The most rewarding parts about running a program is being able to connect with parents and learning about their children who will be participating in the program”.

The ACEing Autism Weston location serves 38 children with autism and engages over 40 volunteers during each of their two six-week sessions.

Bianca, a parent of child with autism who participates in the Weston program has seen her daughter Isabella make a lot of great social and developmental gains during the tennis clinics. “The programs are a great way for my daughter to improve her gross motor skills, hand-eye coordination, learn to follow directions, and work on social skills”.

In addition to running a tremendous tennis program, Andrew has also had success developing community partnerships with companies like SnackNation and GoMacro to provide health and nutritious snacks to the participants and volunteers who attend their clinics, and recently hosted a fundraiser with Cyclebar that raised over $1,250 to provide scholarships to many of the children in his program location!

"Exercise is so important for kids on the spectrum, and after a session she’s always happier and stimming less. She met new people and she talks about them dearly”.

-Bianca, parent
ACEing Autism’s official School Tennis Program launched with two program sites in Los Angeles and Boston in 2018, with Samuel Adams school in Boston as the inaugural location. Although the program has only run for a few months, the response has been overwhelmingly positive from the families of the children who participate, and the impact of the program has been tremendous.

“Before ACEing Autism, my son was full of energy, couldn’t focus, and was all over the place. Since joining ACEing Autism, his improvement in focus has been near amazing! My son is able to move around in a safe environment, and the skills he has learned in the program have helped develop not only his focus, but his confidence. He looks forward to the days at school when he has this program” - B. Bnaini, Parent

“What surprised me about this program was my child’s improvement in motor skills not only with tennis, but other activities like kicking a soccer ball or bouncing a basketball” - A. Carless, Parent

The program at Samuel Adams School offers one hour tennis clinics twice a week during physical education class. After the success of the pilot clinic, which engaged one class of 11 children with autism, Samuel Adams school looks forward to expanding the program to include more classes within the school.

ACEing Autism looks forward to expanding the School Tennis Program to serve an additional 10 schools during the 2019 fiscal year.
OUR IMPACT IN 2018

What Our Families Are Saying

- 98% would recommend ACEing Autism
- 97% indicated an average of 3 areas of improvement—tennis skills, motor skills, and social skills were the most frequently observed

“[Our daughter Zoe has gone from a kid who couldn’t focus, bolted all over the place and put the clay from the courts in her mouth to a kid who loves coming to tennis, follows the flow of the clinic like a champ and has a killer forehand volley]” - Mira S., Parent

- 68 Program Locations
- 863 On Court Hours
- 1,111 Kids Served
- 11,000 Volunteer Community Service Hours
PROGRAM LOCATIONS

ALABAMA
- Auburn

ARIZONA
- Phoenix

CALIFORNIA
- Burbank
- Carlsbad
- Elk Grove
- Inglewood
- Long Beach
- Los Angeles (2)
- Palm Springs
- Mountain View
- Newport Beach
- Santa Barbara
- Sherman Oaks
- Yorba Linda

COLORADO
- Parker

CONNECTICUT
- North Haven

FLORIDA
- Boca Raton
- Coral Gables
- Hollywood
- Miami
- Naples
- Niceville
- Orlando
- Stuart
- Weston

GEORGIA
- Norcross
- Powder Springs

ILLINOIS
- Moline

INDIANA
- Columbus

KANSAS
- Merriam

LOUISIANA
- New Orleans

MARYLAND
- Baltimore
- Silver Spring

MICHIGAN
- Ann Arbor
- Novi

MISSOURI
- St. Louis

NORTH CAROLINA
- Asheville
- Charlotte (2)
- Durham
- Winston Salem

MASSACHUSETTS
- Boston
- Scituate
- Shrewsbury
- Wayland
- Weymouth

NEVADA
- Las Vegas

NEW YORK
- Cooperstown
- Great Neck
- Hyde Park
- Ithaca
- Syracuse
- flushing

OHIO
- Columbus

RHODE ISLAND
- Providence

TENNESSEE
- Nashville

TEXAS
- Dallas
- Houston
- New Braunfels
- Tyler

VIRGINIA
- Richmond

WISCONSIN
- Jackson

*for more details about our program locations please visit www.aceingautism.org

KEY
- New in 2018
- Existing Program
LEADERSHIP TEAM

NATIONAL OFFICE

RICHARD SPURLING
Executive Director & Founder

JUSTIN BELISARIO
Director of Program Operations

ALEX HUGGAN
Director of Marketing & Communications

JESSICA BROOKS
Director of Development

RACHEL MISKEI
Office Manager

MILES VIDREIRO
BCBA, Quality Control Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROB LAPIDES, Board Chair
Robert L. Lapides Company, Owner

PETER KOTSIFAS, Treasurer
Mondo, VP of Finance

PENELlope RUSHTON, Secretary
Visterra Inc., Clinical Trial Associate

MIRA TAMIR SPIEGEL
Vista Print, Global Customer Strategy & Insights

MATT SCHLEICHKORN
Eaton Vance Wealth Strategies Group, VP

LAUREN ZASLANSKY CONNER
Rocking Inc., Chief Revenue Officer

THOMAS DARLING
Springboard Wine Company, Sales
Darling Wines, Proprietor & Winemaker
LEADERSHIP TEAM

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

ALABAMA
Loraine Favoretto, Auburn

ARIZONA
Chad & Elena Campbell, Phoenix

CALIFORNIA
Harvey Rubin & Will Janos, Burbank
Joey Snell, Carlsbad
Brian Browne, Elk Grove
Pamela Clark, Sherman Oaks (The HELP Group)
Doris Obih, Inglewood
Eric Lane, Los Angeles (KEEN)
Harvey Rubin, Los Angeles (Mountaingate)
Lily Bennitt & Thisun Udagadara, Long Beach
Elise Joshi, Mountainview
Helen Min, Daniel Min, Brian Yu, Newport Beach
Elliot Pegg, Palm Springs
Nicole Glick, Santa Barbara
Andrew Song, Yorba Linda

COLOADO
Craig Marshall, Parker

CONNECTICUT
Bob & Maureen Migliorini, North Haven

FLORIDA
Alex Gitin, Boca Raton
Mary Pike, Coral Gables
Nicole Jacobs, Hollywood
Julie Steven, Miami
Noreen McEnery, Naples
Gary Bertoldo, Niceville
Rita Gladstone & Martha Tomory, Orlando
Chad Periman, Stuart
Andrew Grub, Weston

GEORGIA
Sue Hites, Norcross
Amy Bonner, Powder Springs

ILLINOIS
Haley Humes, Moline

INDIANA
Sam Russell, Columbus

KANSAS
Katie Harris & Rick Haith, Merriam

LOUISIANA
Oliver Kim, New Orleans

MASSACHUSETTS
Steven Venizelos, Boston
Ashleigh McLean, Scituate
Vadim Molla & Brooke Moore, Shrewsbury
Lizzy Tkachenko, Wayland
Ashleigh McLean, Weymouth

MARYLAND
Charlie Humes, Baltimore
Lynn Gertzog, Silver Spring

MICHIGAN
Celina Cerf, Ann Arbor
Jamie Fu, Novi

MISSOURI
Emily Weber, St. Louis

NORTH CAROLINA
Chuck Johnson, Asheville
Anna Catherine Henley, Charlotte
Dylan Jones, Durham
Alicia Bullock, UNC
Maeve Murray & Perry Myers, Winston Salem

NEW MEXICO
Karen Schaffner, Rio Rancho

NEW YORK
Anouk Lambers, Cooperstown
Dalia Khraksheer, Great Neck
Bob Mayerhofer, Hyde Park
Caroline Zhou, Ithaca
Paige Mills, Syracuse
Tom Tvedt, Flushing

OHIO
Rachel Bowden, Columbus

PENNSYLVANIA
Zdenka Olenik, Drexel Hill
Sara Longo, Pittsburgh
Pamela Rende, Radnor

RHODE ISLAND
Matthew Miller, Providence

TENNESSEE
Aidan Pace, Nashville

TEXAS
Dallas, Adrienne Bransky
Anshu Sharma, Houston
Cal Loveridge, New Braunfels
Alex Richards, Tyler

VIRGINIA
David Young, Richmond
Donald Widener, Williamsburg

WISCONSIN
Paula Kopischkie, Jackson
SIGNATURE EVENTS

Delray Beach Open
In conjunction with the 25th annual Delray Beach Open, ACEing Autism hosted a free tennis clinic with support from the local Weston, Hollywood, and Stuart Florida program locations.

Winston Salem Open
ACEing Autism Winston-Salem hosted a free clinic in partnership with the Winston Salem Open. The event included a special appearance by rising Net Generation ATP Star Borna Coric, and the privilege of participating in the pre-match coin toss.

4th Annual US Open Tennis Clinic
ACEing Autism hosted the 4th Annual US Open Tennis clinic on August 27th, 2017. The clinic was held on the US Open practice courts, and engaged over 20 children with autism, with special guest appearances and participation from WTA players Allison Riske and Rebecca Peterson, and USTA CEO Katrina Adams.
SIGNATURE EVENTS

9th Annual All Star Tennis Charity Event
Serena Williams, Frances Tiafoe, Nicholas Kyrgios, Simona Halep, and Coach Darren Cayhill raised funds and awareness for ACEing Autism at the 9th Annual All Star Charity Event at Ritz Carlton Key Biscayne

Queen City Brewers Festival
This annual fundraiser spotlights breweries, brewpubs, and select restaurants in the greater Charlotte area to support ACEing Autism's North Carolina programs

Tennis with the Stars at the BNP Open
ACEing Autism partnered with Cliff Drysdale and the 2018 BNP Paribas Open "Tennis with the Stars" event for a tennis clinic with special guest appearances from Frances Tiafoe, Serena Williams, Simona Halep, Coach Darren Cayhill and Jelena Ostapenko

ACEing Autism 3rd Annual Racquet Run
ACEing Autism hosted the 3rd annual Racquet Run- a 5K run with tennis racquet in hand to raise funds and awareness during autism awareness month
Cliff Drysdale Management and ACEing Autism share the vision of ‘growing the game of tennis to bring more tennis to more people’. The Cliff Drysdale team has partnered with ACEing Autism on national advertising campaigns in Experience Magazine, and hosted events to raise funds and awareness for ACEing Autism. Since 2015, Cliff Drysdale has helped to launch five ACEing Autism programs at Cliff Drysdale managed properties located in Tyler, TX, New Braunfels, TX, Carlsbad, CA, Palm Springs, CA and most recently, Niceville, FL.

Head Penn is the official on-court equipment provider for ACEing Autism locations nationwide. Head Penn has generously contributed over $50,000 in athletic equipment including tennis racquets, tennis balls, mini tennis nets, ball hoppers, court markers and more to over 60 ACEing Autism locations nationwide.
Stephanie’s Day is the largest autism resource fair in Los Angeles. ACEing Autism is proud to partner with Stephanie’s Day each year to host a free tennis clinic and information booth on the CBS studio lot.

The ACEing Autism locations in Dallas, TX and Atlanta, GA offer additional tennis training to several of their advanced participants, and support their endeavors to play tennis in their local Special Olympics programs.
FISCAL YEAR 2018
July 1st, 2017 - June 30th, 2018

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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REVENUE OVERVIEW

- Foundations: 65%
- Individual & Corporate Giving: 22%
- Program Revenue: 13%
- Special Events: 5%

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

- Programmatic: 65%
- General & Administrative: 22%
- Fundraising: 13%

REVENUE & EXPENSES

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THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

FOUNDATIONS & INDIVIDUALS

Cox Charities
Dilip Jeste
Emily Bergman
John Hume
LA84
MYMOVE, Inc.
PTR Foundation
Robert Chinn Foundation
Robin Berglund MD
Southern California Tennis Association
Tennis Serves Others
The Flatley Foundation
The Lindy Loo Foundation
The Savant Family
Track Shack Youth Foundation
USPTA Foundation
USTA Florida
USTA Foundation
USTA Mid Atlantic
USTA Middle States
USTA New England
USTA Southern
USTA Southern California
USTA Southwest

IN-KIND

[Logos of various sponsors]
Volunteer Hours

Hours of tennis

11,000

863

www.aceingautism.org