

IN THE FARM, Inc.



Inclusive Networks Through Help Education
Facilitation Access Resources Mentorship



IN THE FARM, Inc. Stands for:
Inclusive Networks Through;

Help
Education
Facilitation
Access
Resources
Mentorship



The mission of "IN THE FARM Inc.", is to facilitate community inclusive programs and projects that promote the development of natural networks of supports for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and related disabilities.

IN THE FARM's, primary purpose is to serve the needs of individuals challenged in the areas of learning, behavior and communication skills, and who experience difficulty with social interaction and relationships.



The vision of IN THE FARM is to pave a path for individuals in the Autism spectrum that will last throughout their lifespan and lead to quality of life by promoting family

supports, friendships, community awareness, acceptance and inclusion in the communities in which they live; while fostering independence, meaningful employment and sustainable self-sufficiency.

IN THE FARM's, projects and programs will include a community organic gardening program, "The Healing Gardens", a gardening program that will provide the opportunity for those affected by Autism, their families and volunteer community participants, to come together in a soothing, structured setting, to grow flowers, fruits and vegetables in an organic garden which will also include year round access by use greenhouses and hydroponics technology.



Other programs and projects in the planning stages include:

- Individual skill development activities
- Peer to peer/mentorship projects
- Micro-enterprise ventures
- Community awareness programs
- Business and educational partnerships
- Community and faith based networking opportunities
- Training for service providers and caregivers
- Family education and support activities
- Respite and Day-care opportunities
- Facilitate programs for medical, educational and therapeutic interaction
- Facilitate networking with other organizations and providers.

IN THE FARM'S activities and programs will be nurtured in a setting that is enriched by the gifts of nature in a secure and functional facility accessible to families and members of the community. Ricardo and Marie Quinones, parents of 2 children with disabilities, will host the initial projects and programs at their property located in Mandarin, on 12443 Joda Lane E. Plans for the facility have been completed and construction is schedule to begin this summer with an anticipated completion in January 2009.

12443 Joda Lane E.
Jacksonville, FL 32258

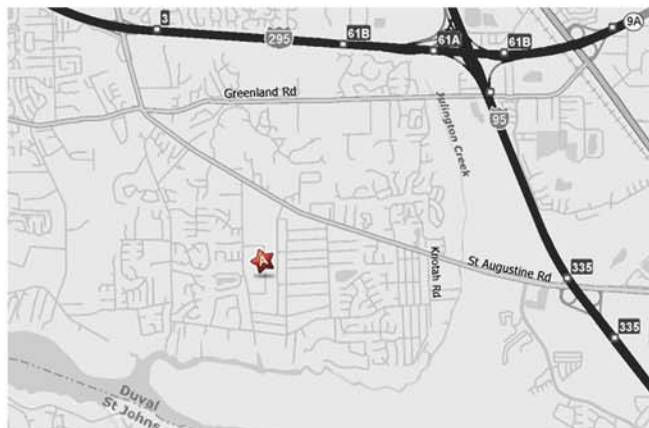
904 705-8438 904 733-7120 Fax

Sustainable Solutions through community inclusive programs and projects

IN THE FARM, Inc.



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904 705-8438 904 733-7120 Fax
Marie Quinones - Director



not for profit

AUTISM SPECTRUM

The Center for Disease Control most current numbers show that:



- 1 in 150 children are diagnosed with some type of Autism Spectrum Disorder
- By 2016 there will be more than 1.5 million people in the Spectrum.

Autism is treatable and with treatment many can improve and in some cases experience great recovery. Never the less, no cure has been identified for Autism.

People with Autism can be challenged in the areas of communication, learning skills, social interaction and behaviors. People with Autism often have limited access to community inclusive environments and grow up lacking lasting friendships and Natural Supports throughout their lifespan.

Families of children and adults with Autism often lack the necessary supports from the community in which they live and experience exclusion, isolation and exhaustion.

One in every
150 children born
this year will have
some form of autism

What are Natural Networks of Support?



Natural Supports are any assistance, relationships or interactions that allow a person to secure, maintain and advance in the community of his/ her choosing in ways that correspond to the typical routines and social actions of other people.

The use of Natural Supports involves assisting an individual to develop a sense of social belonging, dignity and self-esteem.

Examples of Natural Supports:

- Friends
- Family
- Neighbors
- Acquaintances
- Co-workers
- Volunteers
- Peers
- Church members



Natural Network of Supports are enjoyed by almost everyone in our Society. Think of all the people you are friends with, worship with, work with, play with and socialize with.

QUESTION AND CONCERNS



Many parents care for their children into adulthood, and as they grow older, find themselves in need of care themselves.

How can our society and local communities provide sustainable solutions to the families and individuals in the Autism spectrum?

How can we assist people with Autism Spectrum secure the necessary supports that will enhance their quality of life through out their lives?

What will the future hold for children and adults with Autism without Natural Support networks?

IN THE FARM seeks to address these questions by bringing together individuals, families and the community at large to promote building networks of Natural Support to foster and nurture the needs of individuals in the Autism Spectrum.