# **Autism Training for First Responders**



## **Autism Quick Facts**

- -Autism is a life long nuerological disorder.
- -Nationally 1 in 59+ individuals are living with autism, with numbers even higher in Minnesota with a rate of 1 in 42.
- -Autistic people are 7 times more likely to be a victim of a crime because of vulnerability, and 12 times more likely to become involved in the criminal justice system without criminal intent.

# **Quick Facts About the Bill**

This bill will offer training for first responders that supports positive, productive, safe encounters for people with disabilities and law enforcement.

- -Saint Paul Police uses an intuitive officer training officer 3 pronged approach that not only improves safety for the community and officers, but also increases inclusion and fosters community integration.
- -This training has been developed working directly with the law enforcement and public safety community, individuals on the spectrum and parents and support networks of those individuals.
- -Continuing to expand this education is a common sense step to creating an accessible and safe community for Saint Paul and Minnesota residents.
- -The Autism Society of Minnesota strongly supports this program

### About AuSM

The Autism Society of Minnesota exists to enhance the lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorder. AuSM seeks to realize its mission through education, support, collaboration, and advocacy. AuSM is a place where everyone can learn, access services, and develop skills for navigating what can be challenging emotions and complex information.



Minnesota's First Autism Resource®

# Saint Paul City Council Resolution

WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul strives to be the most livable city in America for all people; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota ranks second in national prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder; and

WHEREAS, Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder are valued members of our community who have helped to strengthen the City of Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, Individuals on the Autism Spectrum face significant barriers in utilizing Emergency Services due to sensory processing and other characteristics that are included in the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder; and

WHEREAS, the St. Paul Police department in collaboration with the Autism Society of Minnesota developed the Cop Autism Response Education (CARE) Training program in an effort to better meet the needs and unique challenges faced by individuals on the Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families in accessing community services; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity is presented for St. Paul to lead and share its values and its innovative solution to better meet the needs of individuals on the Autism Spectrum with the rest of the State of Minnesota; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Saint Paul supports a legislation to appropriate funding towards the Cop Autism Response Education (C.A.R.E) training protocol in an effort to better meets the needs of individuals on the Autism Spectrum and build more inclusive communities.





