

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS CENTER FOR RURAL EDUCATION IN AUTISM AND RELATED DISABILITIES

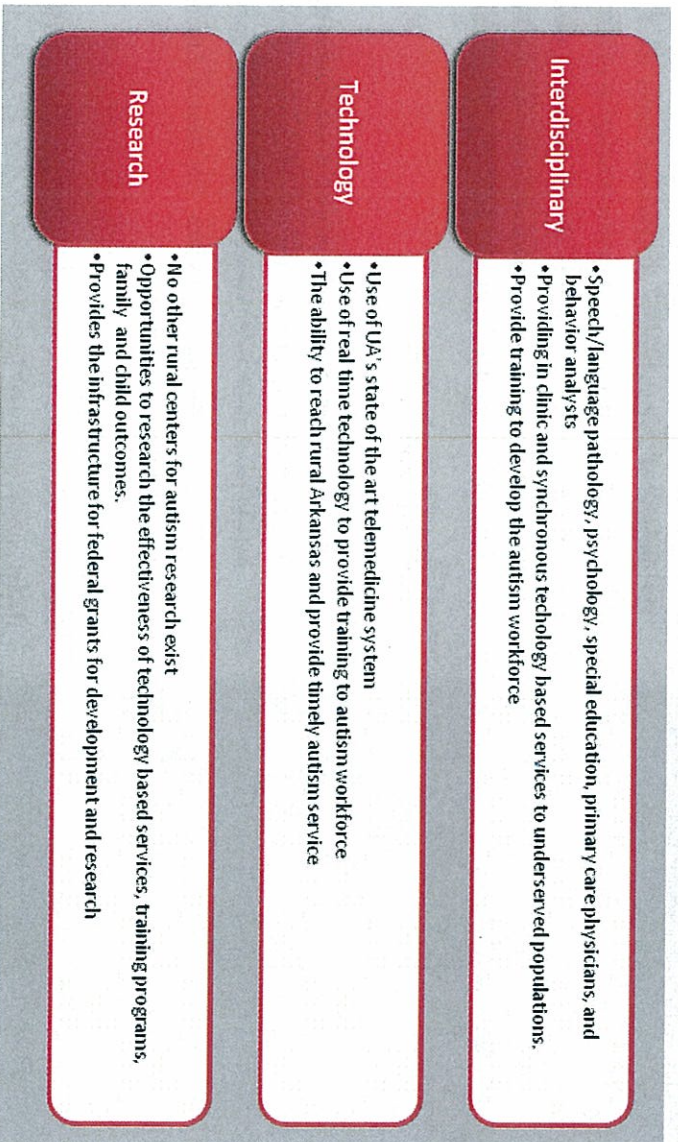
BUDGET:

- Total Personnel: \$1,301,384.28
- Total Travel: \$50,000.00
- Total Equipment: \$33,000.00
- Supplies: \$153,000.00
- Contractual: \$46,000.00
- Graduate Assistant Tuition: 35,000.00
- Indirect Costs: \$705538.37
- Total: \$2,323,034.64

RATIONALE:

The development of the Center is a win-win situation for all. Research has shown that without effective intervention, most people with autism require lifelong specialized care, at a total cost that is estimated at upwards of \$4 million. Development of this project can have a great impact on the economy (reducing costs of care and increasing the number of instate autism professionals) while helping people with autism. In summary, families of children with autism will have access to highly trained autism professionals, the university has the opportunity to become a leader in the field of autism training and research, and families, who have been traditionally underserved, will receive the support they need.

A Full Proposal, Itemized Budget, and Letters of Support Provided upon Request



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS CENTER FOR RURAL EDUCATION IN AUTISM AND RELATED DISABILITIES

Did you know?

- 1 out of 88 children will be diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Access to autism treatment can change the trajectory of the disorder.
- Children living in rural areas have less access to treatment, which can result in a life of dependency.
- Primary care physicians and autism professionals are few and far between in rural America.

PURPOSE

The purpose of The University of Arkansas Center for Rural Education in Autism and Related Disabilities is to utilize existing University of Arkansas state of the art technology to educate and train high quality autism professionals across the state. The center will merge best practices in autism clinical treatment, the training of families, teachers and service providers in evidenced based practices, and technology for training and supervision in rural America. The level of technology allows for state of the art autism-training center for rural America that does not exist anywhere in the nation.

SUSTAINABILITY:

First, the sustainability of the project is based upon grants funds for development of infrastructure at both the state and federal level. Once the infrastructure is developed, research grants will be sought at both the state and federal level. Few rural centers for children with autism exist. This provides us with the opportunity to develop systems to reach rural Americans. The state of Arkansas can become a leader in the development and research of autism and telemedicine.

DEVELOPMENT:

The center will begin with a focus on autism spectrum disorders. Once the center is established related disabilities will be included. Development areas have been identified to serve the community and training university students to become autism professionals.

The identified areas are:

- Development of a state center to provide autism training and support across Arkansas
- Development of four satellite centers across the state (AHECs, Universities, Etc.)
- Provide training to professionals and families across the lifespan.
- Provide consultation to service providers and families
- Investment in a center that serves all agencies and families

Investment in best practices for education and supporting people with autism across the lifespan, results in reduced lifetime costs for support.