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No Small Victories...

Combating diagnostic disparities in the African American Community

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Founder of No Small Victories



Joshua's Story...

- ▶ At one Joshua was a beautiful baby and happy child.
- ▶ At two Joshua began to regress.
- ▶ At two and a half Joshua was diagnosed with PDD-NOS
- ▶ Joshua has struggled against an educational system that more often than not has been an adversary instead of an ally
- ▶ At nineteen Joshua and I continue to fight for people to see him as a person of value.
- ▶ At 6'2" and the gentlest person I know, Joshua could still be viewed as a threat by virtue of being a young African American male who will not fit the mold of societal appropriateness
- ▶ For Joshua, autism can be another factor in a life or death situation



Facts...

- ▶ **Fact:** Current national statistics for autism are 1:68 and 1:42 for boys who are diagnosed five times as often as girls [1].
- ▶ **Fact:** Statistically, African American children are nearly three times as likely to come from a single family home as their white counterparts [2]
- ▶ **Fact:** In recent national surveys conducted by the Centers for Disease Control in 2014 of 1,000,000 families of school aged children (6-17), statistics reflect ratios of 1:50 students diagnosed on the autism spectrum [1].
- ▶ **Fact:** National average for diagnosis for African American children remains near 18 months behind their white counterparts [3]



Facts...

- ▶ **Fact:** African American children were much more likely (on average 5x) than their white counterparts to receive a diagnosis of ADHD or oppositional disorder before receiving a diagnosis of autism [2] [3].
- ▶ **Fact:** African American students are more likely to incur criminal charges from in-school police officers and be detained in youth corrections [4].



Facts...

- ▶ **Fact:** About 26 percent of all students referred to law enforcement nationally are special-needs kids — kids with physical or learning disabilities — even though these kids represent only 14 percent of U.S. enrollment [4].
- ▶ **Fact:** In most states, black and Latino kids are referred in percentages that are disproportionate to their enrollment numbers [4].

References

[C. f. D. Control, "ASD Home Page/Data & Statistics," August 12 2015. [Online]. Available: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.html>. [Accessed 16 January 2016].

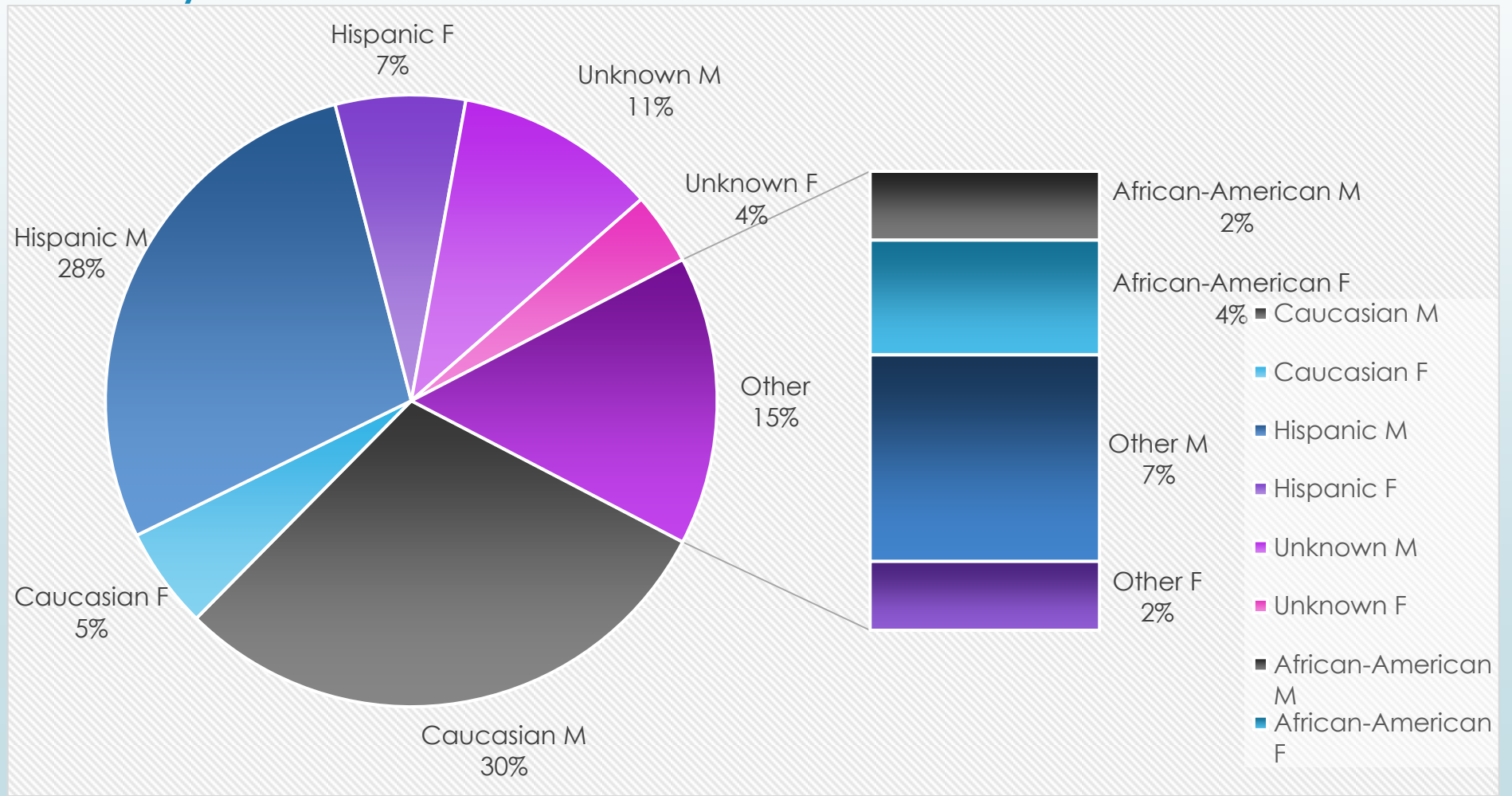
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Current statistics of under three enrollment from the May Institute for Applied Behavior Analysis...





No Small Victories Autism Awareness Initiative...

- ▶ The goal of No Small Victories is to combat diagnostic disparities in the African American community by addressing systemic models of racism, inequities of services, and culturally based disconnects between providers and consumers.
- ▶ W.A.R.M. (Women's Autism Relief Meetings)
- ▶ F.A.R.M. (Father's Autism Relief Meetings)
- ▶ Through community awareness and education from a culturally competent vantage point, efforts will be made to bring stakeholders to the table to support effectual service delivery and parental involvement, while developing tangible community networks.
- ▶ Project C.A.R.E.



Continuing the dialog on a global scale...

- ▶ Through NSV Online Radio dialogs that mainstream media shy away from will be encouraged.
- ▶ Guest speakers.
- ▶ “Real Life Wednesdays”
- ▶ Ongoing promotions of agendas state-wide and national on the “Know the Signs/Act Early” initiative.

- ▶ <http://w4wn.com/radio-shows/nsv-online-radio/>

In Joshua's Own Words....





PUBLICATIONS

Joshua and the Startabulous Dream Maker (2006)

ISBN-13: 9781425915667

The Adventures of Suther Joshua from Planet Yethican (2008)

ISBN-10: 1434332012; ISBN-13: 978-1434332011

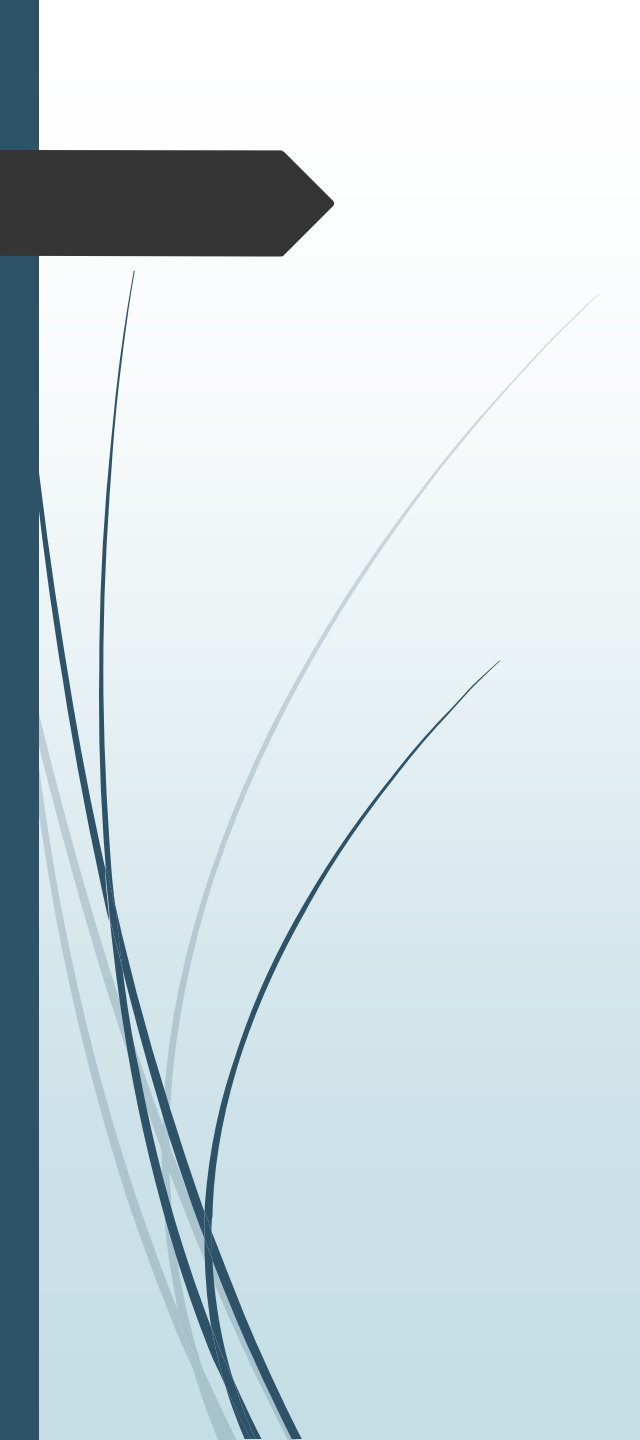
Joshua, That's Sooo Slimming! (2010)

ISBN-10: 1438903421; ISBN-13: 978-1438903422

Joshua, I'm Over Here! (2013)

ISBN-13: 9781481758680

The No Small Victories Autism Awareness Children's Book
Discussion Guide available only at www.nsvonline.com)



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NSV Online Radio

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