

Brief project description

1 What is an Autism Spectrum Disorder?

An autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a profound degenerative disorder that occurs through different symptoms such as lack of communication, impaired social interaction and rejection of body contact. As a result, affected people often show **strong emotional outbursts**, (auto) **aggression** and escape tendencies in the absence of danger awareness. In the meantime, **every 59th child born today** is affected by ASD – with a rising tendency.

2 What are the burdens for the affected families in everyday life?

For families with children on the autism spectrum, the family life changes with diagnosis abruptly in a varied and radical way, the consequences are often **a secluded life, burnout, high divorce rates and the neglect of siblings**. Next to taking care of the child affected by ASD, appropriate therapies and schools need to be evaluated, therapists recruited, doctors found and consulted and the funding of all these measures has to be assured. Families are especially suffering from the social exclusion due to non-appropriate behaviour of the child.

3 How can we help?

The project initiators want to build a place to offer families affected a **retreat from the manifold challenges of everyday life in a protected space**.

This concept doesn't exist in Europe so far.

In this space, developed as a **holiday village**, everybody, whether as an individual, parent or sibling, as a couple or as a whole family is offered the opportunity to follow its individual needs and wishes. In addition, optional **tailored therapeutical services** will be offered for the child affected by ASD.



For further information please visit www.autzeit.com or get in touch with the project initiators Niels Schumann and Katja Pleterski, Tel. +49 - 7151 - 17 3 27 11.