



VISION

The SPD Foundation is the world leader in research, education, and advocacy for Sensory Processing Disorder, a neurological condition that affects the way sensations are turned into behaviors.

MISSION STATEMENT

The SPD Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for children with SPD and their families by –

- conducting rigorous research into the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of Sensory Processing Disorder
- educating the world about SPD through innovative learning and awareness programs for individuals, families, clinicians, teachers, health care providers, policy makers, and the public
- advocating for diagnostic recognition of the disorder

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT SPD

- SPD is a complex disorder of the brain that affects the way sensations are experienced and organized.
- The daily lives of at least 1 in 20 children are affected by SPD. That's 5% of the general population – about one child in every classroom.
- In children with autistic spectrum disorders, the incidence of SPD is estimated to be even higher – at least 80%. SPD is believed to occur in about 30% of gifted children as well.
- The disorder has unique symptoms not explained by other known conditions and is often misdiagnosed.
- Studies indicate that occupational therapy is an effective intervention for treating children with SPD.
- Children with SPD who reach adulthood without receiving treatment continue to be affected by sensory challenges.

WHAT WE DO ABOUT SPD

- RESEARCH the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of SPD and mobilize research groups nationwide to expand knowledge about SPD with scientific study
- PUBLISH groundbreaking research in medical and other journals
- SPONSOR two international educational symposiums each year to spread the word about the latest breakthroughs in research and treatment
- MENTOR clinicians from around the world in innovative SPD assessment and intervention
- TEACH families and professionals about SPD through an eLearning program of online classes taught by experts in the field
- SPONSOR the most comprehensive SPD site on the worldwide web
- ADVOCATE for recognition of SPD as a separate and valid disorder in diagnostic manuals including the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*
- CHAMPION intervention, accommodation, and accurate information about SPD in schools, health care practices, homes, and wherever people live, play, work, or seek services
- PARTNER with the prestigious STAR Center in Denver to promote research-based treatment and education for “sensational kids” and families