



# Turning Pointe Trainings

## Autism, Emergencies, and First Responder Training

*“Autism training for first responders really helped us better equip our paramedics and firefighters to deal with people with special needs, like autism. We encounter so many different things. This training helps us communicate properly, de-escalate a situation, and even help determine why we’re really there.”*

- DIVISION CHIEF BILL CROFT, NAPERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Why This Training Matters

- According to the CDC, 1 in 31 children and 1 in 45 adults in the U.S. is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
- First responders interact with individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities regularly, making foundational knowledge and skills increasingly important.
- Autism may be invisible at first glance; recognizing and responding effectively can prevent escalation and save lives.
- First responders are often the first line of support during a crisis, making training critical for safety and understanding.

### Participants will Learn

- Practical tools that first responders can immediately apply in the field.
- Recognize common characteristics of autism and identify when an individual may benefit from autism-informed support in emergency situations.
- Communicate effectively with individuals on the spectrum and their caregivers.
- Apply risk-management strategies and de-escalation techniques in high-stress situations.
- Support the sensory needs of individuals with autism in emergency environments.

### Why Partner with Turning Pointe

- Evidence-based training developed by certified autism specialists and behavioral and communication experts.
- NEMRT/ILETSB-approved instructors who provide high-quality, cost-effective training programs.
- Interactive, scenario-based learning tailored to real-life situations.
- Flexible, customized sessions that align with your organization’s education, training, and workforce development goals.

Turning Pointe Autism Foundation partners with organizations to build supportive, effective environments where autistic individuals and the communities they live in can succeed.

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**Let’s talk about how autism-aware practices can strengthen the community.**

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