1965 - A group of parents with children on the autism spectrum in Birmingham joined together to provide each other with support.

1985 - Autism West Midlands was created.

1988 - Our first residential service, Oakfield House, was opened by Princess Anne. This service continues to support 19 adults with autism.

1988 - Pinetrees was opened as a residential service for 4 adults with Asperger Syndrome.

1995 - Our Worcestershire based residential service, Upper Ford Lodge, opened, and now supports ten adults.

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2000 - We began providing autism specific training courses for carers and professionals in our local area.


2001 - Our specialist employment support service ASpire was formed and continues to support adults with autism throughout all steps of employment.

2003 - We began providing autism specific training courses for carers and professionals in our local area.

2003 - Our supported living service, St Pauls, opened in Smethwick with the successful placement of 8 individuals who had previously been accommodated in long term secure hospitals.

2004 - We began liaising with organisations within the Criminal Justice System and developed the Attention Card to help solve communication difficulties between people with autism and the emergency services.

2004 - We began Family Outreach work in Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Sandwell, including workshops, training and home visits.

2005 - We started supporting families and children and young people with autism in Shropshire.

2006 - We started delivering outreach support to adults with autism in their own homes to help them to live independently.

2009 - We opened our most recent residential service, Wagstaff Way. This smaller home accommodates 4 adults with autism.

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2011 - We ran a Carers Roadshow project, which reached out to communities across the West Midlands and raised awareness of autism.

2012 - We moved our head office to Regent Court and created a public space for people with autism that offers access to computers, a library, a sensory room, a training room and games!

2013 - We began publishing our own books.

2013 - Together with academics from the University of Birmingham and specialist clinicians, we co-founded SPARC AUTISM – a specialist diagnostic and assessment facility for adults in the West Midlands.

2014 - We launched AUTISM CONNECT (www.autism-connect.org.uk), the first social media network for people with autism in the UK.

2014 - On behalf of the Autism Alliance, we secured a £200,000 grant from the Department of Health to launch a nationwide autism awareness campaign.

2014 - We opened our newest supported living service, The Hollies, in Droitwich in Worcestershire. The service supports 2 adults with autism in their own home.

2015 - We launched family support and activities in Walsall, Wolverhampton, and Dudley.

2017 - We saw the launch of our Community Supported Living Service, which enables individuals on the spectrum to maintain independence in the community.

2018 - In October 2013 we staged a major conference for the Department of Health as part of their review of the Autism Strategy.

2019 - We saw the launch of our Community Supported Living Service, which enables individuals on the spectrum to maintain independence in the community.