

## Accolades

### Official Recognition:

On March 26, 2024, the Houston City Council officially declared "Crime Stoppers of Houston NEEDS Program Day" to honor the program's remarkable impact on the community.

### Prestigious Awards:

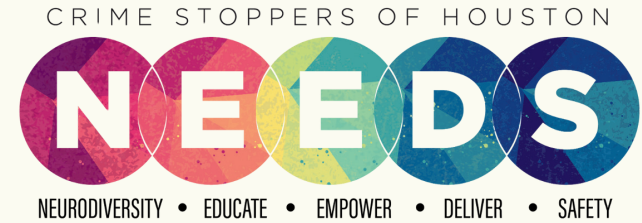
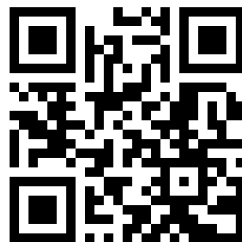
The founders of the NEEDS Program were honored with Crime Stoppers of Houston's distinguished Safe School Award, acknowledging their outstanding commitment to safety, advocacy, and community empowerment.



- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in 36 children in the United States is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as of 2023.
- Autism is about 4 times more common in boys than in girls.



**For More Information**  
[bit.ly/NEEDS-Program](https://bit.ly/NEEDS-Program)



**NEEDS serves as a vital hub, uniting resources and expertise to enhance safety, knowledge, and support for the special needs community. Together, we build a safer, more inclusive environment for all.**



## Our Mission

**The Crime Stoppers  
NEEDS (Neurodiversity,  
Educate, Empower,  
Deliver, Safety) Program's**  
mission is to champion the  
safety, well-being, and  
empowerment of the  
special needs community  
by proactively fostering  
knowledge of risks and  
safety solutions for  
individuals and those who  
live and serve them with  
the intention of preventing  
crimes against this  
vulnerable population.



### Comprehensive Online Resource Hub:

We maintain a comprehensive website with vital resources and information for individuals with special needs, their parents, and law enforcement. We provide them with essential knowledge about risk management, crime prevention, and guidance on how to contact authorities or appropriate intervention in case of criminal involvement.

### Educational Videos:

Created expert-led videos covering topics such as cyber safety, human trafficking, bullying prevention, and effective law enforcement interactions with autistic and neurodiverse individuals.

### Quarterly Lunch and Learn Events:

NEEDS organizes and facilitates quarterly events to educate and engage the Houston community on essential topics, including autism awareness, safety, and effective interactions with law-enforcement.

### Community Outreach

We build strong community ties to protect and empower individuals with special needs. As our efforts grow, we're expanding into bullying prevention and specialized court initiatives. Our focus is on reducing risk and helping families support their loved ones in living safely and confidently.

## Collaborative Partnerships

NEEDS proudly partners with organizations such as Autism Speaks, Special Schools Coalition, Autism Rescue Angels, Spectrum Linx, and Social Motion Skills.

Through collaboration with The Texas A&M Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University and the Harris County Precinct One Constable's Office, NEEDS has developed a specialized autism training program for law enforcement and supports related legislative efforts.

These partnerships promotes advocacy and enhanced public safety for the autism and neurodiverse community.

