



## THE CLIFF IS REAL Late-Diagnosed Autistic Adults Speak Out

## **Understanding Autism**

- Autism = a lifelong neurodevelopmental difference
- Impacts communication, sensory processing, and how people experience the world
- Spectrum = diverse abilities, strengths, and challenges
- Increasing recognition:
  - ✓ 1 in 31 children diagnosed
  - ✓ Many adults remain undiagnosed until later in life



## WHY THIS PANEL MATTERS

- Adult diagnosis = shift in identity & self-understanding
- Challenges: missed early supports, navigating adult services, social stigma
- Opportunities: self-acceptance, advocacy, and community
- Today's focus: Listen. Learn. Reflect.







## Contact Us

Marcia Prideaux
Program Director
<u>mprideaux@autismaction.org</u>
531-484-3309

Annalise Anderson
Program Manager
<a href="mailto:aanderson@autismaction.org">aanderson@autismaction.org</a>
531-484-3307

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