

# DESIGN THINKING 1 ASSIGNMENT:

## DANILO'S SMILE (AN ASD CHALLENGE)

### MILESTONE 1



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# CONTEXT

- ❑ More than 50% of families report problems receiving the proper ASD diagnosis, they feel discriminated against and have to cope with economic difficulties to afford the right treatment.
- ❑ There is no holistic diagnostic process. Families must undergo different views of various professionals to get a diagnosis, while living in uncertainty.
- ❑ This situation causes many families to not recognize the disorder until kids start primary school, wasting critical years for early treatment.



# CONTEXT

- ❑ Grit is key to get a better life quality. From parents to teachers and doctors.
- ❑ ASD is considered in the range of neurodevelopmental disorders and while there are numerous studies on this issue, the fact is that its causes are still unknown. What can be said is that they are related to biological factors rather than an alteration of the bond between mother and son, as it was thought years ago.
- ❑ People with ASD have highly heterogeneous affected areas: language, cognitive level, the sensory profile. For this very reason, since 2013 we speak of "autistic spectrum" which includes "pervasive developmental disorder", "Asperger syndrome", "autism", "atypical autism", among others.



# CONTEXT

- ❑ Private schools don't accept -politely- children with ASD arguing that they don't have the skills to work with them. Public schools have to accept them, even if they don't get training on how to work with them, and the conditions in class are far from ideal (# of kids per class, less side-core and artistic activities, less resources, etc.)
- ❑ Healthcare acts reactive to ASD, and parents have to -if they have the chances- go to justice to get the necessary treatments to increase children's future possibilities.
- ❑ Situation is even worse out of Buenos Aires, where they have little information about ASD -from doctors to teachers and parents-, more prejudices, and less resources to treat patients.

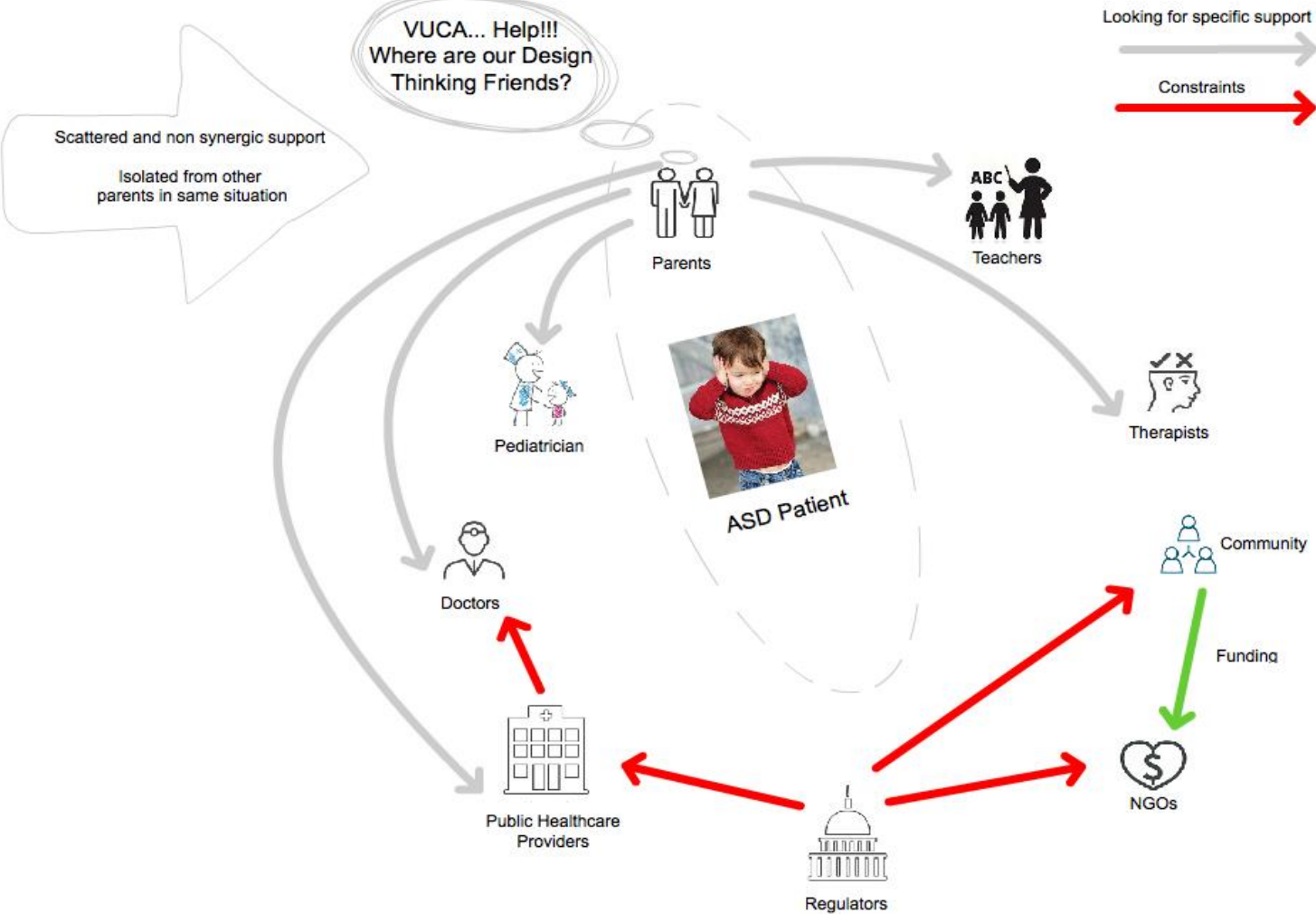
# DESIGN CHALLENGE

“We will create a peer to peer community of holistic support for families with ASD\* children so that they can early detect and take more effective action to increase healing/social inception possibilities and improve their quality of life.”

*\*Autism Spectrum Disorder*



# STAKEHOLDER MAP



# RESEARCH PLAN

The main goal of our research plan is to obtain a clear picture of what the Autistic Syndrome Disorder is about and what it implies for all the stakeholders we have identified, especially for the patient's family. Our purpose is to understand how they feel and what their physical and emotional needs are.

Therefore our research plan includes different actions:

Investigating what ASD is: definition, types, symptoms, screening, diagnosis, treatment.

Face to face interviews to:

- Families of ASD patients
- Physicians: paediatricians and neurologists
- Various types of therapists: mental health, language, physical, education.
- Kindergarten teachers.

Review of existing NGOs in Argentina and parent organizations.  
Review of existing regulations regarding what expenses social and medical insurance cover and under which conditions they provide autism care.







THANK YOU

