

## **Fundación Cepsa promotes personal autonomy as a key factor for social inclusion**

- **The “Therapy and Promotion of Personal Autonomy Program,” a project of the Onubense Association for Asperger Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorders (AOSA TEA), was recognized in the 2020 Social Value Awards.**
- **In the follow-up phase for winning entities, the organization was visited by Fundación Cepsa in its new center in the capital**

Since the award-winning organizations were announced in 2020, Fundación Cepsa has remained in contact with them, taking an interest in the development and materialization of the projects selected in the most recent round of the Social Value Awards. This time, it visited the new facilities of the Onubense Association for Asperger Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorders (AOSA TEA) for a first-hand look at this entity's social and assistance work as well as the implementation of its winning project.

During these visits, Fundación Cepsa not only makes necessary contact with the groups to which each action is directed, but also verifies in person the real needs for integration and social inclusion of vulnerable groups, as well as the problems faced by the so-called “third sector.”

The Onubense Association for Asperger Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorders, winner of the 2020 Social Value Award for its project, *“Therapy and Promotion of Personal Autonomy Program,”* works to achieve the full social inclusion of individuals with Asperger Syndrome and mild or moderate ASD. This visit was a chance for Fundación Cepsa to learn how the organization is working to improve the quality of life of young people with ASD through individualized plans tailored to each person's specific needs and symptoms in the personal, social and family spheres.

The goal is to teach them, through workshops, the tools that will assist them with personal autonomy and daily tasks while improving their ability to adapt to changes, helping them to get around and thrive in their communities, and boosting their self-esteem and social skills, thus avoiding dependence and social exclusion.

For Fundación Cepsa, the work of these associations is fundamental, since due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and considering the characteristics and adaptation difficulties of people with Asperger's, measures that help to build the foundations of a better society are a priority.

### **Social Value Awards**

The Awards for Contributions to Society started in Huelva in 2005. They were well received, resulting in the

other Cepsa centers joining the initiative in subsequent years, which was the case with Tenerife, the Autonomous Community of Madrid, Campo de Gibraltar, Portugal, Colombia and Brazil.

These Awards are one of the stand-out initiatives of Fundación Cepsa. The aim of these awards is to help the most disadvantaged people, groups and sectors, encourage group values and promote educational and cultural development involving Cepsa professionals, given that all of the programs, projects or activities put forward must originate from a Cepsa employee, who thus becomes a project "partner godfather or godmother". The period for submitting entries to the 2021 competition will open in September.

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