

An Interactive GIS Map of Autism Resources in Missouri

Abstract

Autism resources are a necessity for persons with autism or caregivers of those with autism. There is a need for a comprehensive, easy-to-use, visual guide to resources. This project attempts to create this type of guide in the form of an interactive map with a database of 744 autism resources in the State of Missouri. It was developed with ArcGIS version 9.3 software. It provided customized tools to query the database of resources by county, zip code, or category; open the data tables for browsing; open HTML popup windows with information and links to the resource websites, zoom into layers; as well as a help menu. The result is a versatile product that can be used by those who have access to ArcGIS software. Future improvements to this research could include keeping the database current and converting the map document to a form that could be made available to the general public via the World Wide Web.