



Louis A. Vismara, M.D. is a physician, specifically, an interventional cardiologist, and a parent of four children. Since his son, Mark, was diagnosed with autism ten years ago, he has dedicated himself to issues of child development, learning differences, diversity, and appropriate access to health care for under-served populations. Lou is the co-founder, and board member, of the Medical Investigations of Neurodevelopmental Disorders, better known as the “M.I.N.D.” Institute at the University of California, Davis. This multidisciplinary organization brings together researchers, clinicians, educators, parents, and children to investigate and serve as a national resource for autism and other neurodevelopmental and learning disorders.

In 1998 Dr. Vismara was appointed to the First Five California Commission and is the Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee on Diversity. Lou also serves on various governing boards that include the Child Abuse Prevention Council; Project Help, which centers on regional substance abuse prevention; and the Advisory Board of the UC Davis School of Education.

In the year 2000, Dr. Vismara changed careers, retiring from interventional cardiology, to work as a health-related policy consultant for Senator John L. Burton, President Pro Tempore, California State Senate. Lou continues to serve in this capacity for Senator Darrell Steinberg, the current Senate President pro Tem.

Please join me in welcoming one of the true leaders in the area of autism and early intervention awareness, Dr. Louis A. Vismara.