

# Children's National and the Pediatric Health Network

## Supporting Autism Families: Framework for Primary Care Providers

March 7, 2024

# Introduction and Welcome

**Claire Boogaard, M.D., M.H.P.**  
Medical Director  
Pediatric Health Network

# Notes About Today's Town Hall:

- All lines are muted throughout the presentation.
- Please use the Q&A to ask questions or make comments.
- We will be recording the session.
- Today's recordings and materials will be posted to the Children's National website and the Pediatric Health Network website following the presentation.
  - [ChildrensNational.org](https://www.ChildrensNational.org)
  - [PediatricHealthNetwork.org](https://www.PediatricHealthNetwork.org)

# Supporting Autism Families: Framework for Primary Care Providers

Annie Inge, PhD, Kelly Register-Brown, MD, Leandra Godoy, PhD

# Objectives

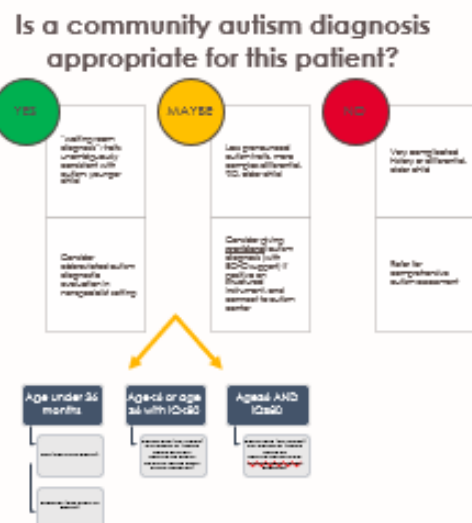
1. Describe a framework for triaging clinical concerns for autism and supporting autism families
2. Review screening and evaluation tools to support triaging and documentation of autism
3. Identify resources for families of autistic children
4. Describe provider supports for continued learning in ASD and innovative practices

# Supporting Autism Families: A Framework for Medical Providers

Kelly Register-Brown, MD and Anne Inge, PhD



## Step 1: Triage diagnosis

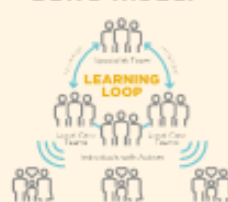


## Step 2: Quantify ASD traits

## Step 3: Evaluation and diagnosis in all systems of care

<p><b>Document autism developmental history and quantify autism traits</b></p> <p><b>Medical</b> Take history and quantify traits in your hospital setting, or refer to autism center, depending on triage assessment (see step 1).</p> <p><b>Behavior</b> Have parent request (in writing) BF evaluation for autism assessment and consultation with educational support. Letter templates are available online.</p>	<p><b>Cognitive testing and adaptive functioning evaluation</b></p> <p><b>Medical</b> Refer to psychology/neuropsychology if child has not already had this testing at school.</p> <p><b>Behavior</b> BF evaluation often includes cognitive and adaptive functioning assessment. This usually does not need to be requested by a medical provider.</p>
<p><b>Speech-language evaluation</b></p> <p><b>Medical</b> Refer to subspecialty therapy for testing. Consider oral trial re-examination (LSC) and/or pragmatic language testing as indicated.</p> <p><b>School</b> BF plans can include L testing and therapy including LSC evaluation and services. BF services/pragmatic language services are frequently.</p>	<p><b>Universal Referrals</b></p> <p><b>Medical</b> -Genetics -Hearing screening</p> <p><b>State and Federal Supports</b> -Parents should submit ADD (DD) and Medicaid/other applications for their child.</p>

## ECHO Model



## Systems of Care Model



## What intensity of support does this family need now?



## Step 4: Triage support needs

## Step 5: Key areas to support in all systems of care

Evaluation Needs	School Needs	Well-Being Resiliency Needs
Sensory Needs	Communication Needs	Co-occurring Conditions & Safety Needs
Family Support Needs	Behavior Tx/EF/Social Skill Needs	Transition to Adulthood/Employment Needs

# Steps 1 and 2: Screen, Triage Diagnostic Complexity, and Quantify Autism Traits

# Autism Screening Instruments

## Free

- **CSBS Checklist** (6-24 months)
- **MCHAT-R/F** (16-30 months)
- **AQ** (4 years to adult)

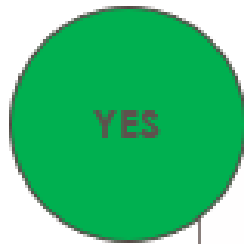
## Proprietary

- **SRS-2** (2y5m-18 years)
- **SCQ** (4 years and up)
- **CCC-2** (4-16 years)
- **CSBS-DP** (6 to 24mos)
- **PDDBI** (2-18.5 years)

Even if the screener is negative, if you or family have concerns, still follow up (treat the child, not the test.)

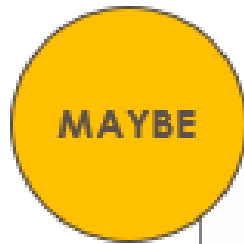


# Next Steps: Is a non-specialist ASD diagnostic evaluation appropriate for this patient?



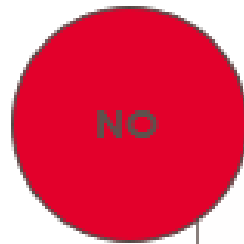
"Waiting room diagnosis": traits unambiguously consistent with autism, younger child with no suspected ID

Consider abbreviated autism evaluation in nonspecialist setting



Less pronounced autism traits, more complex differential possibly including ID, older child

Refer for comprehensive autism assessment



Very complicated history or differential, older child

Refer for comprehensive autism assessment



# Next Steps: Is a non-specialist ASD diagnostic evaluation appropriate for this patient?

YES

5-year-old child who has poor eye contact and joint attention, uses little/no spoken language, has severe tantrums with aggression and self-injury, has strong sensory preferences and interfering repetitive motor movements. Barriers to care have prevented longitudinal pediatrician follow-up.

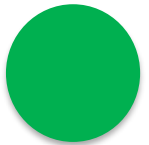
MAYBE

7-year-old child with suspected cognitive delays but no prior testing, who has social interest but difficulty making friends, mild language delays, passionate interest in an age-appropriate topic.

NO

16-year-old girl with multiple past hospitalizations for SI and many past psychiatric diagnoses; she has difficulty maintaining friendships, always seems to be "missing the joke" in conversations, and is intensely interested in anime/science fiction.





# Critical Autism Assessment Components



- Medical, developmental, and family history
- Behavior sample involving elicited social behaviors
- Quantitative or qualitative assessment of adaptive functioning
- Many accessible tools exist with opportunities for virtual training



- Provider supports are available including peer supervision via telementoring



**ECHO AUTISM**, hosted by CN's Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders, creates a virtual learning network that aims to “move knowledge, not patients” using a telementoring format that provides access to a hub of medical experts to support community providers to diagnose, treat and care for ASD children and their families

### HOW IT WORKS

- Convenient, **web-based** small-group format
- Learn and share **best practices** for autism care, connecting with community resources, and family/caregiver support
- **Reduce costs** for families and providers by limiting travel, creating **more efficient visits and shorter wait times for care**
- Provides a long-term solution in communities, including underserved areas where access to autism specialists is limited, by **building local capacity** for autism care



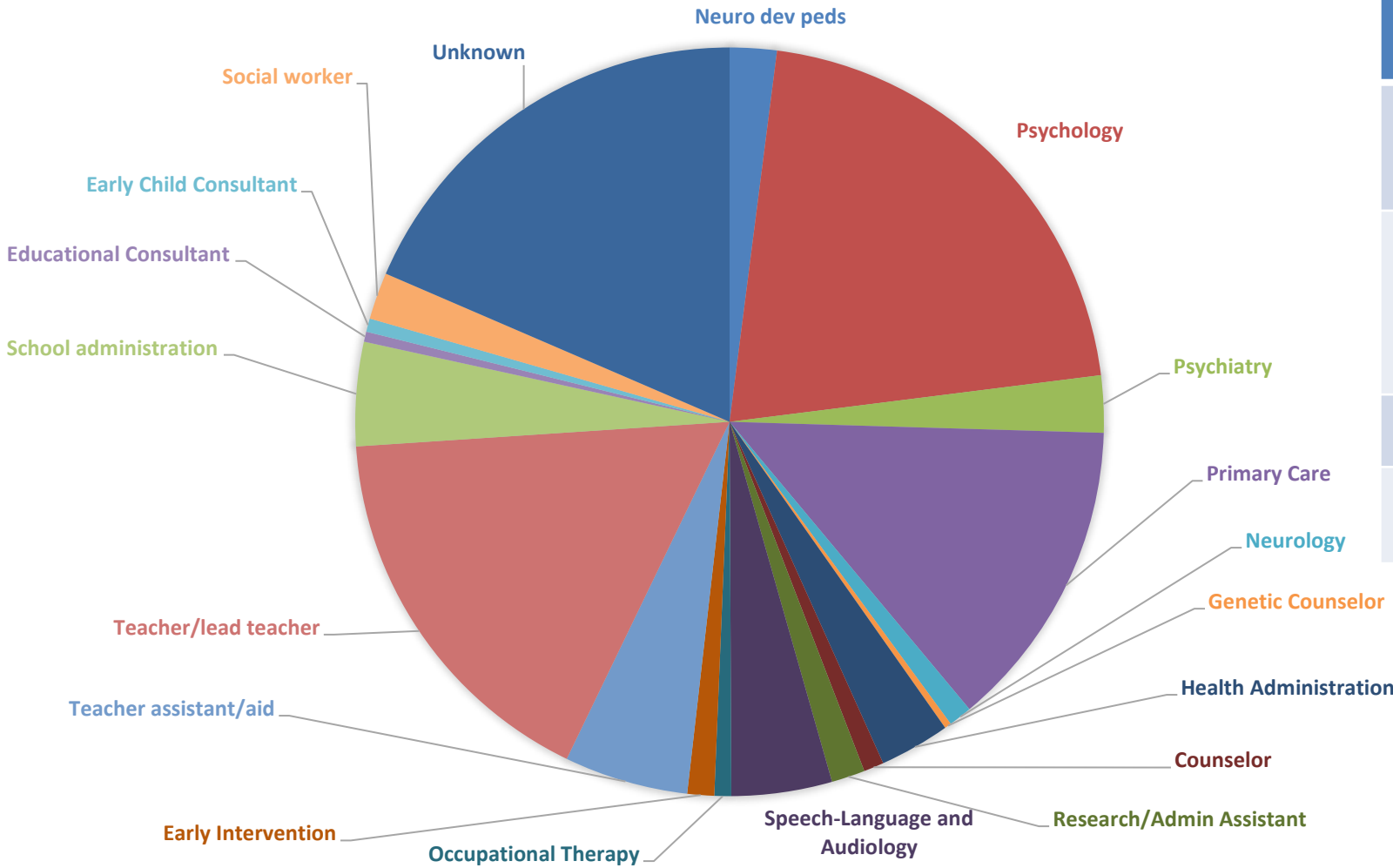
### BENEFITS:

- **Free CEs** for medical, psychology, social work, speech-language disciplines
- Real-time **case guidance** with multidisciplinary team of autism experts
- Meet a **network of other providers**

### WHAT YOU NEED TO START:

- Internet connection

# ECHO AUTISM ATTENDEES N=691, DISCIPLINE



Quality Improvement Program Evaluation	N	Percent Improved
ASD Knowledge	122	82% (accuracy)
Self-reported efficacy in autism care	135	98%
Feasibility	132	99%
Acceptability	98	100%

# ECHO Clinic Information



**Save the Date!**

## **ECHO Autism Diagnostic Tools for the Primary Care Provider**

12:00-1:00 PM EST  
First and Third Fridays  
January 5, 2024 – June 21, 2024

To register, or get more information please contact Chelsea Armour:  
[aarmour@childrensnational.org](mailto:aarmour@childrensnational.org)



### **TOPICS COVERED:**

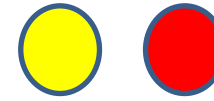
1/5, Supporting Autistic Children in Outpatient and Medical Visits	4/5, CARS-2 ST, Administration and Scoring Practice Session
1/19, Triage Clinical Concerns for ASD/Forming a Clinical Impression	4/19, CARS-2 HF, Administration and Scoring Practice Session
2/2, Screening Tool for Autism in Toddlers (STAT)	5/3, Autism Mental Status Exam (AMSE)
2/16, ASD-PEDS, Overview and Kit	5/17, Troubleshooting, Biases, and Pitfalls: Difficult Areas in Assessments
3/1, ASD-PEDS, Administration and Scoring Practice Session	6/7, Considerations When Talking to Families about Autism
3/15, CARS-2, Overview and Kit	6/21, Treatment Planning for Autistic Children

**Pediatric Health Network**



**Children's National.**

# Referral for Specialty Evaluation



## Children's National

- Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics Clinic, **202-476-2327**
- Child Development Clinic, **202-476-5405**
- Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders, **301-765-5430**

<https://childrensnational.org/healthcare-providers/refer-a-patient/referral-guidelines/autism-and-neurodevelopmental-referral-guidelines>

## Outside Children's National

- Mt Washington Autism Spectrum Center, **410-367-2222**
- KKI Center for Autism and Related Disorders, **443-923-7630**
- Georgetown Autism and Communication Disorders Clinic, **202-444-2722**

## Private Practice/Additional Options

- <https://www.autismspeaks.org/resource-guide>

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## What To Do

While You Are Waiting for a Medical Diagnostic Evaluation for Autism



DC AUTISM COLLABORATIVE

DC-AC Education, Outreach, Engagement Subgroup  
Version 1 Summer2022

Waitlists to receive a formal medical evaluation for autism are often long which can be frustrating. While a formal medical diagnosis of autism opens up a number of doors to receive certain types of intervention services through your insurance (for example applied behavior analysis[ABA]), there are a number of other steps you can take to support your child's development while you are waiting for this evaluation.

### SEEK OUT EARLY INTERVENTION OR SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT:

- ✓ Contact DC's early childhood systems to request a free evaluation to see whether your child qualifies for intervention services. Families can call on their own and do not need a referral from a medical professional. Here are some [tips](#) on what to say when you call.
- If your child is under 3, contact [Strong Start \(IDEA part C\)](#) to complete an evaluation and begin early intervention services.  
202-727-3665 | [osse.dceip@dc.gov](mailto:osse.dceip@dc.gov)
- If your child is 3 or older contact [Early Stages \(IDEA part B\)](#) to complete an evaluation and to start special education services.  
202-698-8037 | [referral@earlystagesdc.org](mailto:referral@earlystagesdc.org)

### START SERVICES IN AREAS OF NEED:

- ✓ Your pediatrician can refer your child to specialists who can provide therapy services in different areas (speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy). Such services should be covered by your health insurance and do not require a formal diagnosis of autism to access them.

### CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT:

- ✓ Other professionals can provide lots of support. Remember, YOU know your child best. The following free resources are for parents to use in supporting their child's development:
  - [Help is in Your Hands](#) is an online interactive resource for families with young kids with symptoms of or diagnosed with autism. It is a free website with 16 web-based video modules to help parents add simple methods to their everyday routines at home.
  - [Parent Encouragement Program \(PEP\)](#) offers online and in-person trainings to give parents the knowledge to understand the underlying causes of their children's behavior and the practical skills and tools they need to address problems right away. PEP programs are offered in English and Spanish and include videos-on-demand, webinars, virtual and in-person classes, and individual support.
  - [Caregiver Skills Trainings](#) from Autism Speaks and the World Health Organization is a free online training program that teaches caregiver's day-to-day skills to help boost the wellbeing and development of children ages 2-9 with autism and other developmental delays.

[www.childrensnational.org/dc-ac](https://www.childrensnational.org/dc-ac)



Children's National.

# Tips for Navigating Referrals & Waitlists



## Referral considerations regardless of ASD dx status

- Early Intervention or school-based eval
- Audiology
- Speech Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Behavior Therapy
- Care coordination through insurance
- Other specialty providers (e.g., sleep, neurology)

*Medical dx & edu classification of ASD, NOT interchangeable & do not always align*

EI – Educational	Medical
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*Strong Start/EI does NOT evaluate for ASD*

Dual eval referrals are encouraged

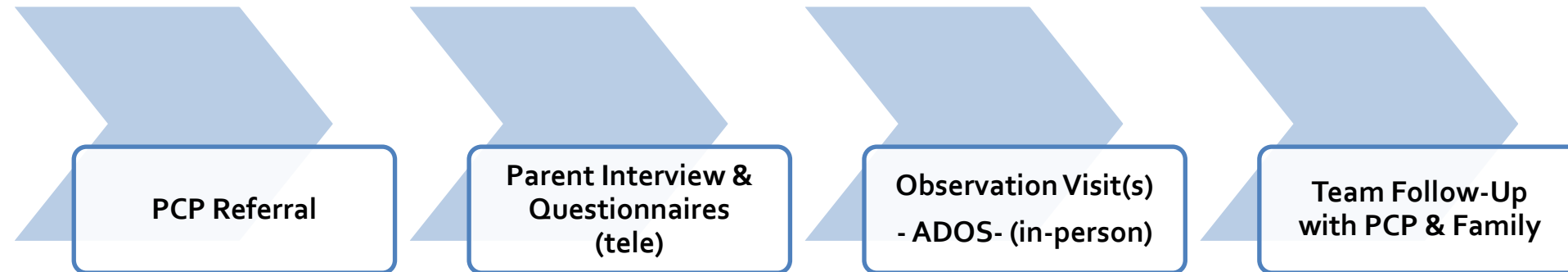


Other models to consider for your practice

# Autism in Primary Care Program Model

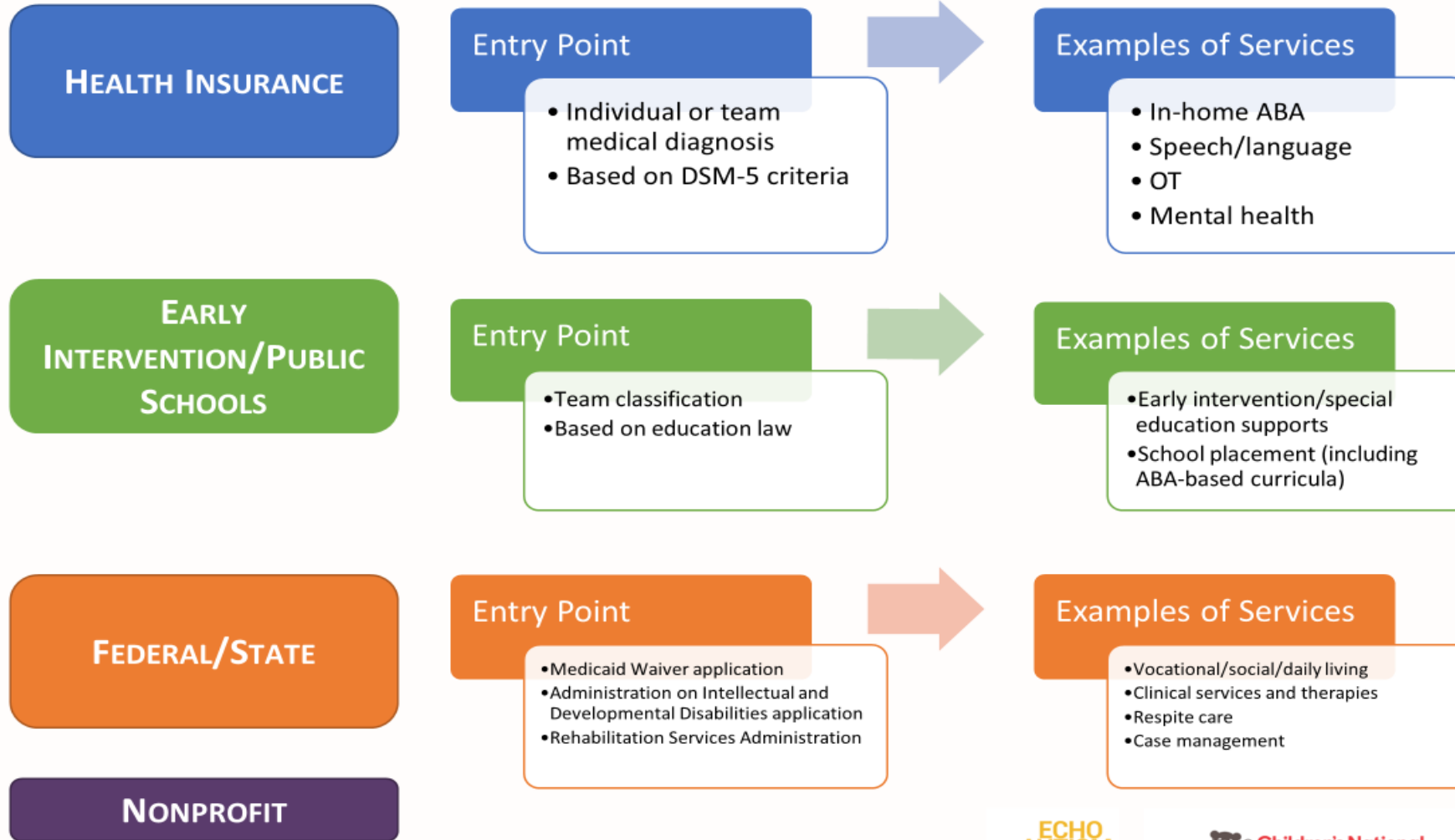
## Program Goals

- Timely, equitable ASD evaluations within primary care to reduce barriers
- **Mentoring model with ASD experts supporting IPC psychologists**
- Can continue to refer complex cases to specialty clinics



# Step 3. Evaluate and Refer for Diagnosis in All Systems of Care

# Major Systems of Care that Fund ASD Services



# Evaluation Needs in All Systems of Care

## Document autism developmental history and quantify autism traits

### Medical

Take history and quantify traits in your nonspecialist setting, or refer to autism center, depending on triage assessment (see step 1).

### School

Have parent request (in writing) IEP evaluation for autism educational classification with educational supports. Letter templates are available online.

## Cognitive testing and adaptive functioning evaluation

### Medical

Refer to psychology/neuropsychology if child has not already had this testing at school.

### School

IEP evaluation often involves cognitive and adaptive functioning assessment; this usually does not need to be repeated by a medical provider.

## Speech-language evaluation

### Medical

Refer to outpatient SL therapy for testing. Consider specifically recommending AAC and/or pragmatic language testing as indicated.

### School

IEP plans can include SL testing and therapy, including AAC evaluation and services. IEPs consider pragmatic language concerns less frequently.

## Universal Referrals

### Medical

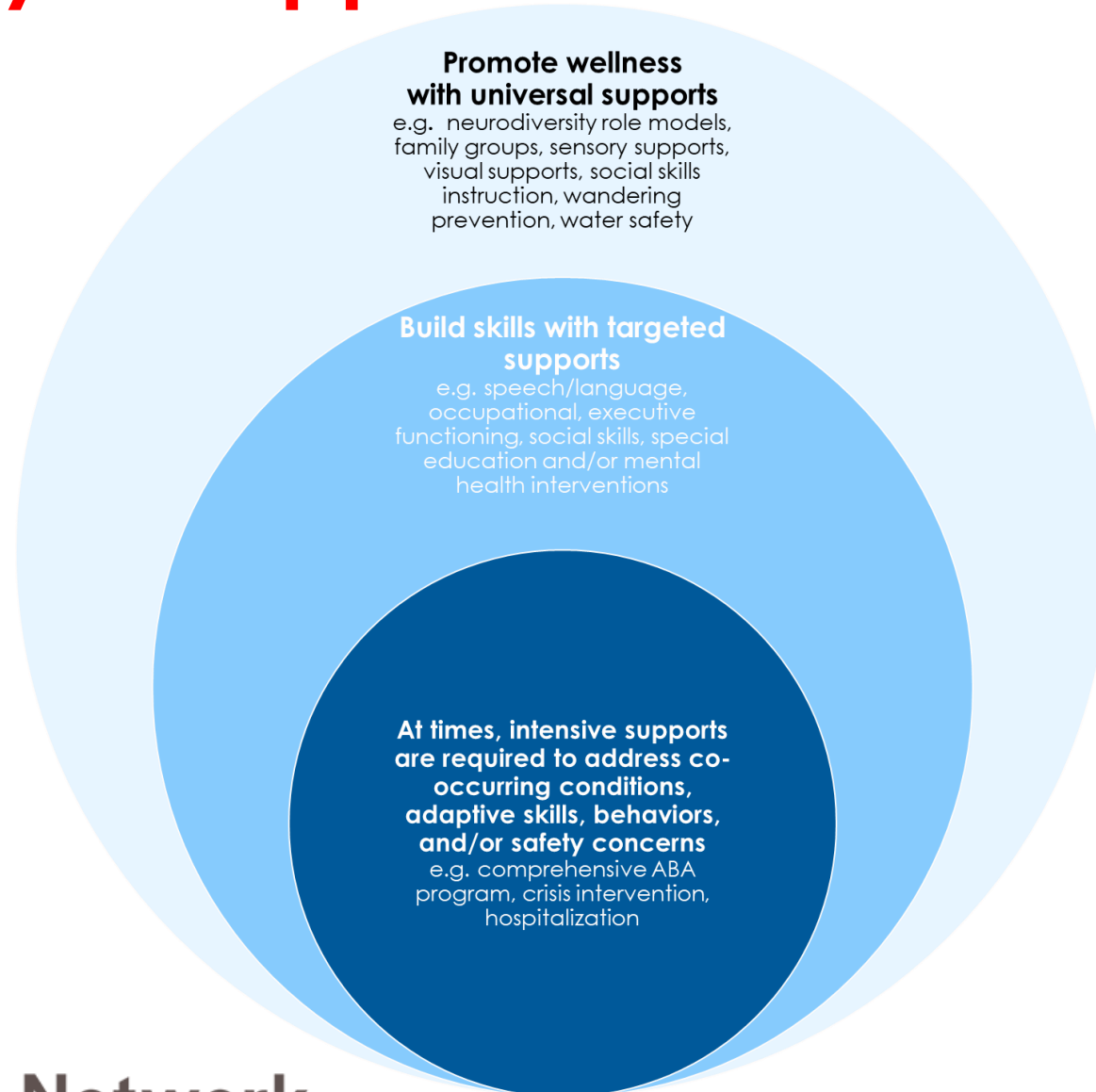
- Genetics
- Hearing screening

### State and Federal Supports

- Parents should submit AIDD (DDA) and Medicaid Waiver applications for their state.

## Steps 4. Triage Support Needs

# What intensity of support does this family need now?



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Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders



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## Steps 5. Key areas to support in all systems of care



# Key areas to support in all systems of care



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# Evaluation Needs

**Universal:** medical and educational evaluation to document needs related to autism

**Skill Building:** Periodic (often annual) evaluation using standardized measures to track progress and update treatment goals (Speech, OT, PT, at times achievement)

**Intensive:** Psychoeducational/neuropsychological evaluation to address learning and/or behavior needs and revise treatment and educational programming; psychiatric/psychological evaluation of comorbidities to build treatment plans for intensive needs such as FBA, OCD, crisis

# School Needs

## Universal:

Visual supports, flexible school team that understands autistic students needs, use of student's interests to support learning and behavior

## Skill Building:

Specialized instruction to address learning needs associated with ASD-related weaknesses in attention, EF (including flexibility), language, and social cognition

**Intensive:** Specialized educational placement for comprehensive support of learning, social, and behavioral needs; Home/Hospital programming, BIP/FBA, crisis management services

# Well-Being Resiliency Needs

**Universal:** Acceptance and Integration in accessible and inclusive environments at home and in the community (including school); Integrated healthy autistic identity which includes recognition of personal strengths and the importance of self-advocacy for needs; Understanding of neurodiversity frameworks

**Skill Building:** Self-directed learning via literature written by autistic authors, participation in autistic identity affirming social skills groups, counseling with providers and trusted adults

**Intensive:** individualized therapy to support identity development, comorbidity; crisis management, hospitalization

# Step 6. Anticipatory Guidance and Responding to Challenges

# Universal Referral Checklist for Autistic Pediatric Patients

- ❖ **Has the child gone through the entry point (“front door” initial application process) for at least the medical, educational, and federal/state systems of care?**
  - Do they have a medical diagnosis of autism so they can access insurance-funded services like ABA?
  - Have they had an IEP evaluation at school that targets autism-specific learning and behavioral needs (not just for general learning or behavioral concerns)?
  - Have parents submitted AIDD (DDA) and Medicaid Waiver applications for their state?
  
- ❖ **Has the child been referred for all requirements for diagnostic evaluation for autism?**
  - Autism developmental history and behavioral observation
  - Cognitive (IQ) testing & adaptive functioning measurement
  - Speech/language testing including pragmatic language testing
  - Hearing testing
  
- ❖ **Have parents been offered a referral to genetics?**

# AAP Practice Pathway: Irritability and Problem Behavior in ASD

Common reasons for change from baseline behaviors:

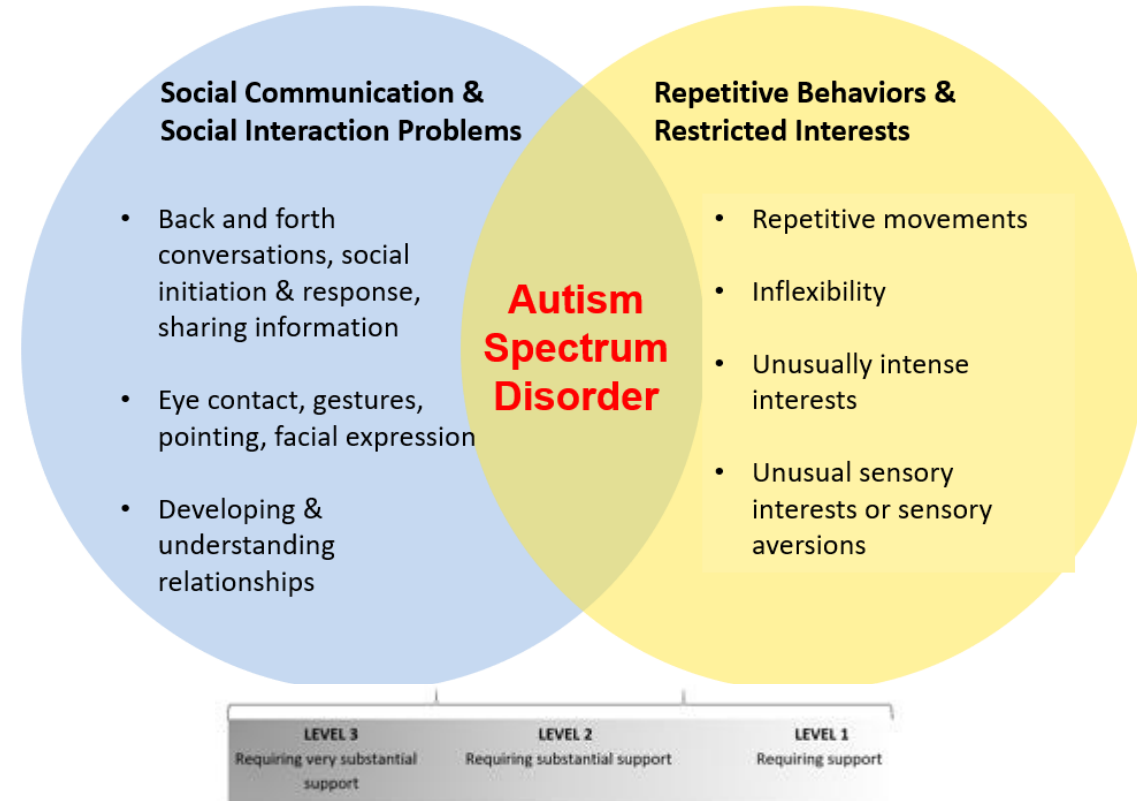
- Medical issues (e.g. dental pain, constipation)
- Difficulties using functional communication (consider medical or IEP AAC referral)
- Psychosocial stressors (e.g. bullying, change in routine, educational stressors)
- Maladaptive reinforcement patterns (consider medical behavioral therapy and/or IEP FBA referral)
- Co-occurring psychiatric disorders (e.g. ADHD, anxiety, depression)

McGuire K, Fung LK, Hagopian L, Vasa RA, Mahajan R, Bernal P, Silberman AE, Wolfe A, Coury DL, Hardan AY, Veenstra-VanderWeele J, Whitaker AH. Irritability and Problem Behavior in Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Practice Pathway for Pediatric Primary Care. *Pediatrics*. 2016 Feb;137 Suppl 2:S136-48. doi: 10.1542/peds.2015-2851L. Epub 2016 Feb 1. PMID: 26908469.

# Resources

# Tips for Talking with Families

- **Invite the family to share** (e.g., “what are your thoughts about...”)
- **Reflect/summarize** (e.g., “it sounds like you...”)
- **Probe/clarify** (e.g., “I’m wondering if...”)
- **Ask permission** (e.g., “I have some suggestions that have helped other families. May I share them with you?”)
- **Present Choices/Get Feedback:** (“Which one would work best for your family to start with?”)
- **Encourage questions** (e.g., “What questions do you have?”)



# Resources for Providers



Home About Trainings Resources Calendar Search Login/Logout

## DC HealthCheck Resources

- DC Contacts
- DC Periodicity Schedule
- DC Mental Health Resource Guide

- EPSDT Billing Materials
- HealthCheck Outreach Materials

## General Pediatric Resources

- Agencies/Organizations
- Cultural/Linguistic Competence

## Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Toolkit

The DC Collaborative for Mental Health in Pediatric Primary Care has created the **Autism Spectrum Disorders Toolkit for Pediatric Primary Care Providers in the District of Columbia**. This toolkit focuses specifically on supporting children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families, by providing primary care providers with the tools to help families navigate the developmental disabilities landscape in Washington, DC. The tool includes:

- An overview of ASD.
- Screening guidelines and tools.
- Diagnostic evaluation.
- Referral algorithm.
- Early intervention and school-based services.
- Treatment options.
- Information on Supplemental Security Income and Insurance.
- Local resources.

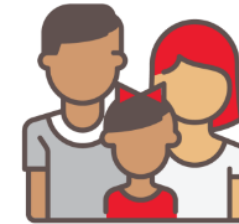
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## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESOURCES

# Autism and Intellectual Disability

Resources for supporting youth with autism and/or intellectual disability.



Screening and Assessment Tools

Therapy Tools and Patient Handouts

Treatment and Pharmacology Guides

Webinars for Providers

<https://www.dchealthcheck.net/resources/healthcheck/ASD-toolkit.html>

<https://pediatrichealthnetwork.org/autism-and-intellectual-disability/>





# Resource Navigation



## Resource Guide

Use the filters below to find providers near you.

- Ability resource center
- Area Agency On Aging
- Assisted Living
- State Unit on Aging
- AUTISM FRIENDLY SERVICES**
- After-School Programs
- Art and Music Programs
- Camps
- Community Activities
- Day Programs
- Equine Programs
- Faith Based Organizations
- Haircuts
- COMMUNITY SUPPORT**
- Adult Day Care
- Adult Support Groups
- Family/Parent Support Groups
- Grandparent Support Groups
- Sibling Support Groups
- Support Groups
- Autism Speaks Communities
- Social Skills
- Online/Virtual Programs
- Child Care
- Respite Care
- Parent Training
- EMPLOYMENT**
- Employment Supports
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- EVALUATION AND DIAGNOSIS**
- Pediatricians Developmental
- Pediatric Neurodevelopmental Disabilities
- Food Bank/Soup Kitchens
- Financial Planners
- Medicaid Waiver
- Social Security Office Locator
- HEALTH AND MEDICAL**
- Home Care
- Home Health Care
- Hospitals
- Medical Equipment Suppliers
- Pediatric Internal Medicine
- Gastroenterology
- Pediatric Gastroenterology
- Allergist
- Cardiologist
- Dentist
- Dermatologists
- Endocrinologists
- Internists
- OBGYN
- Orthodontists
- Primary Care
- Pulmonologist
- HOUSING AND COMMUNITY LIVING**
- Independent Living
- Transportation
- Non-Emergency Medical Transportation
- Residential Programs
- LEGAL RESOURCES**
- Advocates
- Attorneys
- Legal and Financial
- Protection and Advocacy
- MENTAL HEALTH**
- Behavioral Health (Mental Health)
- Behavioral Health (Substance Abuse)
- Behavioral Medicine
- Inpatient Treatment Care Centers
- POST SECONDARY**
- Post-Secondary Education
- Transition Programs
- SAFETY**
- First Responder Resources
- Swim and Water Safety
- SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION**
- Cyber Schools
- Homeschool
- Schools Preschool
- Schools Private
- Schools Residential
- Special Education Offices
- THERAPIES AND INTERVENTIONS**
- Assistive Technology
- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Early Start Denver Model
- Floortime or DIR
- Local Early Intervention Providers
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Pivotal Response Treatment
- Relationship Development Intervention
- Speech and Language Therapy
- State Developmental Disability Agency
- State Early Intervention Providers
- TEACCH



**AUTISM RESOURCE GUIDE**  
for Community Providers

HELPLINE: (443) 330-5341

Search  JOIN OUR MAILING LIST DONATE STORE Select Language



Home About Resources Find Providers & Services Support Events Contact

### SEARCH PROVIDERS

Find listings for <keywords>

Category  Zip

Choose option Enter zip

Only this ZIP  Distance Search

<https://pathfindersforautism.org/providers-services/>

[www.childrensnational.org/DC-AC](http://www.childrensnational.org/DC-AC)

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/resource-guide>

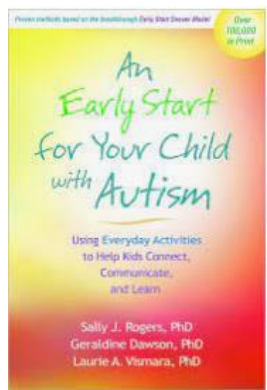
# Pediatric Health Network



**Children's National**

# Resources: Books & Trainings/Webinars for Families

- **Book:** [An Early Start for Your Child with Autism](#) by S. Rogers, G. Dawson, & L. Vismara
- **Online Resources & Trainings for Parents**
  - Hanen: <http://www.hanen.org/Home.aspx>
  - Help is in your Hands: <https://helpisinyourhands.org/course>
  - Vanderbilt Triad: <https://vkc.vumc.org/vkc/triad/forfamilies>
  - UConn: <https://parenttraining.chip.uconn.edu/>
  - UC Davis: <https://health.ucdavis.edu/mindinstitute/centers/cedd/adept.html>
  - UW: <https://depts.washington.edu/uwautism/training/uwactraining/>



One of the goals of the Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities is to provide educational resources on developmental disabilities to the community. To that end, CEDD has sponsored the production of the following educational videos and online training modules.

**ADEPT (Autism Distance Education Parent Training) Interactive Learning** is an original MIND Institute/CEDD 10-lesson interactive, self-paced, online learning module providing parents with tools and training to more effectively teach their child with autism and other related neurodevelopmental disabilities functional skills using applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.

Accessibility Notes -

Module 1: Strategies for Teaching Functional Skills -

Module 2: Positive Behavior Strategies for Your Child with Autism -

**Children's National Caregiver Webinar Series (Zoom)**

12:00pm-1:00pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month

<https://childrensnational.org/departments/center-for-neuroscience-and-behavioral-medicine/programs-and-services/early-childhood-behavioral-health-program/caregiver-webinar>

# Resources: Websites & Newsletters

- Autism Speaks (Resource Guide, Toolkits, Information): <https://www.autismspeaks.org>
- Pathfinders for Autism (Resource Guide, Toolkits, Information): <https://pathfindersforautism.org>
- Establishing a relationship and goals with an ABA provider: <https://depts.washington.edu/uwautism/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/4.-UWAC-Finding-the-Right-ABA-Treatment.pdf>
- SSI Information: <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability/apply-child.html>; 1-800-772-1213
- Autism Self Advocacy Network Start Here: <https://autisticadvocacy.org/book/start-here/>
- Autistic Women and Non-Binary Network Welcome Packets: <https://awnnetwork.org/awn-welcome-packets-english/>
- CASD Chat newsletter: Visit the CASD Chat webpage at <https://childrensnational.org/departments/center-for-neuroscience-and-behavioral-medicine/programs-and-services/center-for-autism-spectrum-disorders/resources-for-families/casd-chat>, click “Sign-up for CASD Chat,” and enter your email address.

# Maryland Resources

- Waiver program: 866-417-3480; <http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/apply.aspx>
- Low Intensity Support Services (LISS; funds that can be used to pay for interventions, camps, etc): <https://health.maryland.gov/dda/Pages/liss.aspx>
- The Arc: <http://www.thearcmd.org/>
  - i. PG County: <https://www.thearcofpgc.org/>
  - ii. Montgomery County: <https://thearcmontgomerycounty.org/>
- Parent's Place of Maryland: <https://www.ppmmd.org/>
- Maryland Family Network: <https://www.marylandfamilynetwork.org/>
- XMinds: <https://xminds.org/>
- Autism Society Maryland: <https://autismsocietymd.org/>

# Virginia Resources

- Family Support Program (reimbursement for disability-related expense or Respite Subsidy): [thearcofva.org/individual-and-family-support](http://thearcofva.org/individual-and-family-support)
- EPSDT Services (help offset cost for families w/Medicaid): 804-786-6134: <https://momsinmotion.net/waivers/epsdt/>
- Parents of Autistic Children – Northern Virginia: <https://poac-nova.org/>
- Virginia’s Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center: <https://peatc.org/>
- Support for navigating resources: <https://momsinmotion.net/>
- The Arc of Northern Virginia: <https://thearcofnova.org/>
- Autism Society Northern Virginia: <https://www.asnv.org/>
- Parent to Parent of Virginia: <https://ptpofva.wordpress.com/>

# DC Resources

- D.C. Autism Parents: <http://dcautismparents.org/>
- Autism Society DC: <https://www.dcautismsociety.org/>
- The Arc (local information and resources): <https://arcdc.net/>
- Family Success Centers (resources such as stress management support, parenting classes, professional development training): <https://cfsa.dc.gov/page/families-first-dc-family-success-centers>
- Parent Support Program (parent support groups, a mental health hotline, and other resources): <https://dbh.dc.gov/service/parent-support-program>

# DC Autism Collaborative



- **Goal:** To develop and advocate for solutions that will increase early and equitable access to high-quality ASD diagnosis, treatment, and coordinated care, thus improving child and family outcomes.
- **Public-private coalition** (e.g., advocacy groups, health providers, gov't: Part B & Part C, healthcare finance, dept of health and behavioral health)
- Initial needs assessment & subgroups (initial focus on young children)
  - *Early Childhood Transition Points*
  - Community Education & Outreach
  - Developmental Monitoring, Screening & Evaluation
  - Policy
  - Data
  - Community Supports & Out of School Time

*Some MD & VA  
Resources*



**Pediatric Health Network**



[www.childrensnational.org/DC-AC](http://www.childrensnational.org/DC-AC)

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**Children's National.**

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THANK YOU!