

### The Connecticut Collaborative To Improve Autism Services

### **About Us**

This guide is published as part of the **Connecticut Collaborative to Improve Autism Services** effort. The proposed benefit of this collaborative is to enhance Connecticut's existing infrastructure supporting children and youth with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other developmental disabilities (DDs). This will be achieved through by providing both training and support to families, professionals and the public.

The sponsors of this project are the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program and the A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Services.

The CT Department of Public Health (DPH) is dedicated to improving the community-based system of care for children and youth with special health care needs by ensuring their connection to a medical home that is accessible, compassionate, comprehensive, coordinated, continuous, culturally effective and family-centered. Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) are those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition and require health and related services beyond that required for children in general. DPH is fully committed to improving access to comprehensive, coordinated health care and related services for Connecticut children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Developmental Disabilities

The A.J. Pappanikou Center is one of a national network of **University Centers for Excellence** in **Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service (UCEDD)** authorized by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act and funded through the **Administration on Developmental Disabilities.** We are a premier Center in the northeast for innovative teaching, research, and technical assistance enhancing the quality of services and support for people with developmental disabilities and their families. Our activities are guided by a belief in individualized supports, inclusion, self-determination, natural supports and collaboration with organizations to address policy issues and systems change.





### **Table of Contents**

Autism Services and Resources Connecticut (ASRC)	1
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Center for Youth and Families	
The Connections Program for Children with ASD	2
Child Development Infoline (CDI)	3
Birth To Three Referral Form	5
Help Me Grow Referral Form	6
Connecticut Autism Action Coalition (CAAC)	7
Connecticut Family Support Network (CTFSN)	8
Connecticut Medical Home Initiative at FAVOR	9
Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI)	10
Regional Town Listings	11
Eastern Region: United Community and Family Services, Inc	12
North Central Region: Connecticut Medical Center - Special Kids Support	13
Northwest Region: St. Mary's Hospital	14
South Central Region: Family Centered Services of Connecticut, Inc	15
Southwest Region: Stamford Hospital	16
FAVOR	17
FOCUS Center for Autism	18
PATH Parent-to-Parent & Family Voices of Connecticut	19
Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU)	
Center of Excellence in Autism Spectrum Disorders	20
Contacts	21

### Autism Services and Resources Connecticut (ASRC)

### **Key Services**

We provide information and referral for parents, families, caregivers and professionals working with people on the spectrum. We provide training and education for families, caregivers and other professionals and the general community. We provide training and social activities for persons on the spectrum. We create resources in the community: support groups, social groups, trained workforce providers, job creation, community activities. We advocate for persons on the spectrum and their families at the state and local level and the creation of resources in the community to serve our families. We provide community awareness and raise the level of understanding about autism within the wider community.

### Eligibility Criteria

There are no eligibility criteria for receiving services.



### Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Center for Youth and Families The Connections Program for Children with ASD

### **Key Services**

Services provided to children and families with ASD includes a comprehensive assessment along with psychiatric evaluation (if clinically indicated). Assessment includes the use of the ASRS (Autism Spectrum Rating Scale). Mental health treatment including individual, family, and group therapy encompassing psycho-education on the diagnosis and treatment methods, psychotherapy, links, referrals, and collaboration with community resources and providers. New program initiatives include an autism multifamily parent group and a parent ASD support group.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Any child ages 3-18 is eligible for services at the clinic. No medical doctor referral is necessary. Children who are best suited for the program are those with moderate to mild Austim Spectrum Disorders and who have verbal skills. Assessment will be conducted for more severe children, however, treatment through the Connections Program may not be appropriate and other resources and referrals will be recommended for the family.

### **Referral Process**

Parents/guardians interested in making a referral should contact The Center for Youth and Families at 860.489.3391 and request to make a referral to the "Connections Program." All other mental health treatment referrals can be accessed by calling the same number listed above. Once linked to the triage secretary the referral process will begin. Intake appointments are offered within a 14 day period.

Contact

**ADDRESS** 1061 East Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790 **PHONE** 860.489.3391

**WEBSITE** www.charlottehungerford.org

### Child Development Infoline (CDI)

### **Key Services**

CDI serves as the single point of entry into CT's early intervention program, Birth to Three, as well as serving as an access point for Early Childhood Special Ed, Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) and Help Me Grow. We provide information, referrals and care coordination for families and connect them to support services related to ASD. These include the Medical Home Initiative sites, Family Support Network and CT Medical Home Initiative at FAVOR. We connect families to autism specific services, advocacy, diagnostics, trainings, support groups and websites as well. CDI assesses families' needs and helps them think about additional services they may be eligible for, such as SSI, DDS, diapers, medical expense assistance, etc. We send out written materials related to ASD, such as the First 100 Days Kit, B-3 Autism Guideline, Special Ed Advocacy Guidebook, Transi-



tion Kits, approved private special education programs, applications, etc. CDI trains pediatric practices, utilizing the EPIC module, on developmental surveillance, screening (including use of M-CHAT) and making timely referrals for services. Families can access information on autism services on the 2-1-1 website (www.211ct.org). CDI's website includes the developmental milestones related to development and autism.

### Eligibility Criteria

There are no specific eligibility criteria for contacting CDI. We help families of children birth through age 21 connect to services. There may be eligibility criteria realted to some of the services, however, CDI does the research to make sure the services families are referred are appropriate and meet their needs.

### Contact

### **ADDRESS**

1344 Silas Deane Hwy Rocky Hill, CT 06067

### **FAX**

860.571.6853

### **TOLL FREE**

800.505.7000

### WEBSITE

Main: www.ctunitedway.org/CDI.html 2-1-1: www.211ct.org
Birth-to-Three: www.birth23.org See CDI referral forms on the following pages

## Child Development Infolin Connecticut's

The Gateway to Help and Referrals for Parents • Providers • Pediatric Professionals

1-800-505-7000



Connecticut

### Help Me Grow Birth through Age 5

For children birth through age 8 developmental or behavioral considered at-risk for problems

> For children birth-36 months of age with developmental delays or disabilities.

Birth to 36 months of age

System

to Three

Birth

Connects families to community

- based resources

  Provides Ages and Stages
  chid monitoring program
  Trains chid health providers
  in developmental screening
  Facilitates regional
  - community networking

Focus on assisting families through natural routines and activities

■ Free Developmental Evaluation
■ Service Coordination
■ Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
■ Services from Early Childhood Therapists and Teachers as identified in the IFSP

### Education Childhood Special Early

For children ages 3 through 5 who are found eligible for special education services

Ages 3 through 5

- Evaluation
   Services to eligible children:
   o Individualized Education
- - Program (IEP) o Special education and related services

### Children and Youth Health Care Needs with Special Birth to Age 21

age 21 with chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions who require more health and related services than other children the same age For children and youth birth to

- Service Needs Assessment

- Care Coordination
   Benefits Coordination
   Family/Caregiver Support
   Respite Planning
- Links to medical home initiative
   Referrals to community based resources
   Transition Planning

## Participating Agencies

Children's Trust Fund | Department of Developmental Services | Department of Public Health | Department of Education | United Way of Connecticut



### **Referral Form**

fax. 860-571-6853 • ph. 800-505-7000 • www.birth23.org\referrals



Your n	name (required):	Birth to Three
	onship to child: parent/guardian: other:	
	NOTE: If you are not the parent or guardian you may make a referral anytime, but please speak with the f will contact them for their permission to proceed with your referral, and they may accept or decline.	amily first. We
Agenc	y name:Phone:	_
Your a	address:Fax:Fax:	_
Your e	e-mail:	_
Child's	name: m / f DOB:	_
Hospit	al of birth: gestational age: mos.	
Child r	resides with: parent/ legal guardian/ foster family name :	_
home	phone: work ph:	_
Addres	SS:	_
best	t time to call: (optional) morning /afternoon /evening day of the week:	_
If famil	ly has no phone, contact person:	_
	Relationship: phone #:best time to call:AM / PM	
Primar	ry language spoken in home:	
If not E	English, is there an adult available to speak English? yes / no / unknown	
	name: relationship:	_
If child	is in DCF custody, name & phone of DCF case worker:	_
Reaso	on for Referral:	
	Concerns about (check all that apply):	
	☐ motor ☐ social-emotional ☐ adaptive ☐ cognitive	
	□ hearing □ vision	
	☐ communication If expressive language seems delayed the child should be tested by an audout an underlying hearing loss	diologist to rule
	Audiological exam completed yet? yes / no audiologist name:	_
	Screening completed for (a) development: yes / no (ASQ is recommended)	
	(b) autism: yes / no (e.g., M-CHAT)	
•	Diagnosed Condition expected to lead to developmental delay:	_
	ICD-9 code(s):	_
Helpfu	l Notes:	_
	health plan name:	_
Incura	nce type: 🗖 commercial 🗍 Medicaid	

### Help Me Grow Children's Trust Fund / Dept of Social Services

### Help Me Grow Referral Form FAX to: 860-571-685

### or call the Child Development Infoline at 1-800-505-7000





Referring Provider:	Date	
Agency Name:		
Address:	Phone:	
	Fax:	
Email:		
NOTE: If you are not the parent or guardian you may make contact them for their permission to proceed with your refo	e a referral anytime, but please speak with the family first. W	Ve w
Child's name:		
DOB:Full term at birth? Yes / No -	If No, gestation:	
Child resides with: parent/ legal guardian/ foster family	/ Name:	
Home phone: Cell ph:	Work ph:	
Email:		
Address:		
Best time to call: (optional) mon	ning /afternoon /evening Day of the week	
If family has no phone, contact person:		
	Best time to call:AM / PM	
Primary language spoken in home:		
If not English, is there an adult available to speak English		
Name:	Relationship:	
If child is in DCF custody, name & phone of DCF case	worker:	
Reason for Referral: (check all that apply):		
□ Advocacy	■ Medical assistance grants	
□ Ages & Stages Child Monitoring Program	□ Parenting supports	
■ Behavioral issues	☐ Play groups	
Developmental concerns	□ Recreational activities/camps	
Educational concerns	□ Respite	
□ General development	Weight management supports	
☐ Health issues	□ Other	
Diagnosed condition:		
Helpful Notes:		
	Child's Health Plan Name:	
Insurance Type: Commercial   Medicaid		

### Connecticut Autism Action Coalition (CAAC)

### Vision

A world in which Autism, is so clearly understood, that it is seen as a character trait not a disability, allowing the talents and strengths of an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorders, to be identified, utilized and embraced by the community in which they live.

### Achieving the Mission

- CAAC focuses on the outcome
- CAAC members model the behavior you want to see in the world
- Educate everyone you meet
- Share the vision with everyone you know
- Create opportunities for communities to perform the behaviors

### Mission

To provide one unified voice, supporting CT in the development and improvement of service access and quality for all individuals who are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders.

### Implementing the Mission

1. All Members will share all relevant information regarding Autism in CT - training, events, conferences, proposals, financial resources, etc. at each meeting.

- 2. All Active Members agree/vote annually on 2-3 projects on which to focus the CAAC resource available through its members - time, financial, facilities, equipment, etc.
- 3. Utilize Supportive Members effectively to assist in projects where appropriate.
- 4. Agree to widely distribute information as request -ed by CAAC members, to your list serves, websites, or any other communication source.
- 5. Members may call upon the group for specific support requests (clearly detailed to avoid misunderstandings) - attendance at events, phone calls, letter writing, etc. Requests must be specific and your ability to participate should be communicated back to the requestor.
- 6. Members have the opportunity to opt out of any project or commitment that the CAAC makes as a group. Our goal is to seek consensus on public positions and to advocate for them.

### Contact

### **MEETING LOCATION**

FAVOR, Inc 185 Silas Deane Highway Wethersfield, CT 06109

Doriana Vicedomini 860.668.5228 504.259.4327

### Connecticut Family Support Network (CTFSN)

### **Key Services**

The CTFSN exists to help families raising children with disabilities and special health care needs. For all the families we serve, services are free. Family support services include direct 1:1 support, information about the child's disability, a connection to state and local resources, IFSP/PPT guidance, support groups, email distribution lists, training opportunities throughout the year, and an annual conference. Additionally, CTFSN offers a valuable connection to a Parent Mentor who can share experiences, provide emotional support, critical resources and assistance to learning to navigate the state systems, make community connections and network with other families. CTFSN has a diverse staff, including Bi-Lingual family support, advocacy specific to families raising children who are deaf or hard of hearing and staff available in 6 regions across the state.

### Eligibility Criteria

Our services are free and open to families raising

children of all ages and disabilities.

### Referrals

Families can request a connection through their Birth to Three provider, DDS Case Manager, DDS Helpline, or DPH Care Coordination contractors. CTFSN brochures and newsletters are available electronically and in hard copy with broad distribution The CTFSN has email distribution across CT reaching over 2,000 parents and professionals. Parents who speak Spanish can connect directly to the CT-FSN Bi-Lingual Coordinator, and parents speaking other languages will be supported through through Language Line. Then CTFSN sponsors leadership activities of the CT Chapter of Hands & Voices which provides information and advocacy to families raising children who are deaf or hard of hearing. The CTFSN has a partnership with Child Development Infoline where parents who want to connect with other parents or need other information and resources are offered a connection to the CTFSN.



**PHONE** 877.376.2329

**SOCIAL MEDIA** www.facebook.com/ctfsn

WEBSITE www.ctfsn.org



### Connnecticut Medical Home Initiative at FAVOR

### **Key Services**

The Connecticut Medical Home Initiative at FAVOR is a contractor responsible for processing all requests for Extend Service Funds and Respite Funding. Families are identified at outreach events attended around the state, workshops, phone calls and word of mouth. Bilingual staff is available both on the phone, and for face to face meetings in our office.

### Eligibility Criteria

Applications include a screener, to identify eligible children, although referrals come from all sorts of varied sources around the state. Completed applications, once they have been entered in our database, are then copied on to the region in which the child resides for care coordination. Applications can flow the other direction; starting in one of the regions, with them sending a copy on us to process and add the family to the respite wait list, or to try and

meet their needs for funding of scripts, copays, equipment, formula and other services. Extended service funds are available to families under 300% of the federal poverty level with unmet needs. We pay at the Medicaid rate, so those with Medicaid already have the same benefit and thus are not eligible for these funds, although they may still be eligible for respite and care coordination. Those seeking respite funds are not eligible if they already have a service from another source of greater value, since we are the payor of last resort. For families not found eligible, we still look for donations, or other sources who can help them with their need. Respite funding is available until a child reaches the age of 21, while direct service funds end at the age of 18. We are always available to help families set up Direction Care Notebooks in our office. We also have a parent lending library with books aimed at families, not medical text books.

### Contact

ADDRESS

185 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109

**EMAIL** 

ctmedicalhome@gmail.com

FAX

860.563.3961

**PHONE** 860.436.6544

**TOLL FREE** 855.436.6544



## **Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Connecticut Medical Home Initiative for**

## Who is eligible?

behavioral or emotional condition and services of a type or amount beyond who also require health and related have, or are at increased risk for, a hat required by children generally. Children & youth age 0 to 21 who chronic physical, developmental,

## Services available?

All families of eligible children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN), regardless of income, will receive a respectful working partnership with you and your child's medical home; care coordination services and family support referrals.

prescriptions, and special nutritional formulas). Contact the Connecticut Medical Home Initiative at FAVOR, Inc. at 1-855-436-6544 (toll free). Uninsured or underinsured families, who fall within income guidelines, can also benefit from payment for limited services (i.e. durable medical equipment,

## SOUTHWEST

Stamford Hospital Stamford 1-866-239-3907 (toll free)

1-877-624-2601

(toll free)

## **EASTERN**

SOUTH CENTRAL

United Community and Family Services, Inc. Norwich

Services of CT, Inc. Family Centered

**New Haven** 

1-866-923-8237 (toll free)

## NORTH CENTRAL

Connecticut Children's Medical Center Hartford

1-877-835-5768 (toll free)

### St. Mary's Hospital NORTHWEST

Waterbury

1-866-517-4388 (toll free)

# United Way of Connecticut's Child Development Infoline

The central access point for Connecticut's Medical Home Initiative for CYSHCN Provides information about medical, educational and recreational resources

1-800-505-7000

# Connecticut Family Support Network

Contact for family support, information and advocacy at 877- FSN-2DAY

071.13

### Connecticut Medical Home Initiative for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Regional Town Listings

SOUTHWEST REGION	SOUTH CENTRAL REGION	EASTERN REGION	NORTH CENTRAL REGION	NORTHWEST REGION	
Stamford Health Systems	Family Centered Services of CT	United Community and Family Services	Connecticut Children's Medical Center	St. Mary's Hospital	
Stamford	New Haven	Norwich	Hartford	Waterbury	
Toll Free 866-239-3907	Toll Free 877-624-2601	Toll Free 866-923-8237	Toll Free 877-835-5768	Toll Free 866-517-4388	
BRIDGEPORT	ANSONIA	ASHFORD	ANDOVER	BARKHAMSTED	
DARIEN	BETHANY	BOZRAH	AVON	BEACON FALLS	
EASTON	BRANFORD	BROOKLYN	BERLIN	BETHEL	
FAIRFIELD	CHESTER	CANTERBURY	BLOOMFIELD	BETHLEHEM	
GREENWICH	CLINTON	CHAPLIN	BOLTON	BRIDGEWATER	
MONROE	CROMWELL	COLCHESTER	BRISTOL	BROOKFIELD	
NEW CANAAN	DEEP RIVER	COLUMBIA	BURLINGTON	CANAAN	
NORWALK	DERBY	COVENTRY	CANTON	CHESHIRE	
STAMFORD	DURHAM	DANIELSON	EAST GRANBY	COLEBROOK	
STRATFORD	EAST HADDAM	EAST LYME	EAST HARTFORD	CORNWALL	
TRUMBULL	EAST HAMPTON	EASTFORD	EAST WINDSOR	DANBURY	
WESTON	EAST HAVEN	FRANKLIN	ELLINGTON	GOSHEN	
WESTPORT	ESSEX	GRISWOLD	ENFIELD	HARTLAND	
WILTON	GUILFORD	GROTON	FARMINGTON	HARWINTON	
	HADDAM	HAMPTON	GEORGETOWN	KENT	
	HAMDEN	KILLINGLY	GLASTONBURY	LITCHFIELD	
	KILLINGWORTH	LEBANON	GRANBY	MIDDLEBURY	
	LYME	LEDYARD	HARTFORD	MORRIS	
	MADISON	LISBON	HEBRON	NAUGATUCK	
	MERIDEN	MANSFIELD	MANCHESTER	NEW FAIRFIELD	
	MIDDLEFIELD	MONTVILLE	MARLBOROUGH	NEW HARTFORD	
	MIDDLETOWN	MOOSUP	NEW BRITAIN	NEW MILFORD	
	MILFORD	NEW LONDON	NEWINGTON	NEWTOWN	
	NEW HAVEN	NIANTIC	PLAINVILLE	NORFOLK	
	NORTH BRANFORD	NORTH STONINGTON	PLYMOUTH	NORTH CANAAN	
	NORTH HAVEN	NORWICH	ROCKY HILL	OXFORD	
	OLD LYME	PLAINFIELD	SIMSBURY	PROSPECT	
	OLD SAYBROOK	POMFRET	SOMERS	REDDING	
	ORANGE	PRESTON	SOUTH WINDSOR	RIDGEFIELD	
	PORTLAND	PUTNAM	SOUTHINGTON	ROXBURY	
	SEYMOUR	SALEM	STAFFORD	SALISBURY	
	SHELTON	SCOTLAND	SUFFIELD	SHARON	
	WALLINGFORD	SPRAGUE	TOLLAND	SHERMAN	
	WEST HAVEN	STERLING	VERNON	SOUTHBURY	
	WESTBROOK	STONINGTON	WEST HARTFORD	THOMASTON	
	WOODBRIDGE	THOMPSON	WETHERSFIELD	TORRINGTON	
		UNCASVILLE	WINDSOR	WARREN	
		UNION	WINDSOR LOCKS	WASHINGTON	
		VOLUNTOWN		WATERBURY	
		WATERFORD		WATERTOWN	
		WILLINGTON		WINCHESTER	
		WILLIMANTIC		WOLCOTT	
		WINDHAM		WOODBURY	
		WOODSTOCK			

### Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI), Eastern Region United Community and Family Services, Inc.

### **Program Description**

The Eastern CT Medical Home Initiative offers care coordination services to families in most towns in New London and Windham Counties. Care Coordinators provide community-based, family-centered services. Their offices are located at United Community & Family Services, Inc. (UCFS) in Norwich, Jewett City and Plainfield and Generations Family Health Center in Willimantic, Danielson and Putnam. There is no charge for care coordination services.

### **Key Services**

- Identification for CMHI services Medical Home Screener and Complexity Index - repeated annually
- Family Needs Assessment
- Coordination of Health Care and Related Services
- Referral to Autism-Specific, Community-Based Resources for Educational Advocacy, Support Groups, Behavioral Health Counseling and Care Coordination, Medical & Dental Services, Respite and Extended Service Funds, Health Care Advocacy, HUSKY Application Assistance, Basic Needs Services, DDS, DCF Voluntary Services, Cultural Support
- Information about Workshops and Training
- Health Care System Navigation
- Care Plan Development and Facilitation
- Care Team Meeting Facilitation
- Culturally Sensitive Bi-lingual care coordinators, and Language Line for interpretation

• Promote developmental screening

UCFS and Generations are full-service community health centers providing adult and pediatric primary care, women's health, dental services and a full range of behavioral health services including individual and group counseling with therapists that specialize in services for autistic children. HUSKY and most private insurances are accepted and there is a sliding fee scale for the uninsured.

### Eligibility Criteria

Children age 0 - 21 must screen positive on the CT Medical Home Initiative Screener and Complexity Index. There are no financial eligibility requirements.

### Contact

### **EMAIL**

medicalhome@ucfs.org

### FAX

860.822.4941

### **PHONE**

860.822.4164

### **TOLL FREE**

1.866.923.8237

### Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI), North Central Region Connecticut Children's Medical Center Special Kids Support Center

### **Key Services**

We provide culturally competent care coordination services to the North Central Region through our Medical Home Initiative Grant. The Special Kids Support Center provides educational support to providers, families and other stakeholders throughout the State of Connecti cut. We offer Autism Spectrum Disorder EPIC (Educating Practice in the Community) training to providers throughout the state and provide technical support as needed.

### Eligibility Criteria

Children and youth with special care needs must meet the criteria for eligibility by scoring positive on the Connecticut Medical Home Initiative for CYSHCN Screener and Complexity Index Tool Children.

### Referrals

Families/providers can contact us via the Special Kids Support Center main number or Internet. We can also be contacted through 211-Child Development Infoline, CT Medical Home Initiative at FAVOR, DPH and other referring organizations.



### Contact

FAX 860.837.6201

**PHONE** 860.837.6200

**TOLL-FREE** 877.835.5768

### Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI), Northwest Region St. Mary's Hospital

### **Key Services**

- A respectful working partnership with parents/youth/medical home
- Interagency Collaboration
- Educational/school planning
- Social Services
- Medical/Behavioral Assessment
- Advocacy
- Child/Family Specific Research
- Transition
- Care Plan Development
- Linkages to Specialties, Services, Organizations
- Assistance with applications/appeals for goods, services, supports, equipment, medication, respite service

### Eligibility Criteria

Children and youth age 0-21 who have, or are at increased risk for, a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.



### Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI), South Central Region Family Centered Services of CT, Inc. New Haven

### **Key Services**

We provide care coordination services, including the following:

- Providing assessments and monitoring of child and family needs.
- Participating in parent/professional practice improvement activities
- Offering supportive on site and home base services including counseling, education, and listening
- Facilitating communication among PCP, family, and others
- Developing, monitoring, updating, and following up with care planning and care plans
- Supporting meeting recommendations and follow-up
- Coordinating inter-organizationally
- Advocating with and for the family
- Finding, coordinating, and promoting effective

and efficient use of current resources

- Monitoring outcomes for child, family, practice and other activities needed and/or requested by the family.
- Family support referrals (e.g. distribute training announcements via email, phone or in person)
- Facilitate interagency collaboration meeting on care coordination & transition from pediatric to adult heath care, education to vocation and dependent living to independent living.

### Eligibility Criteria

Children and youth age 0-21 who have, or are at increased risk for, a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.

### Contact

### **ADDRESS**

Family Centered Services of CT, Inc. New Haven, 235 Nicoll Street, New Haven, CT 06511

### **FAX**

203.562.6232

### **PHONE**

203.624.2600



### Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI), Southwest Region Stamford Hospital

### **Key Services**

Among the key services/activities that The Medical Home Initiative Southwest provides with regard to families and youth with ASD is a monthly support group for parents and caregivers of special needs children. The support group started in July of 2011 is held on the first Wednesday of each month. The group allows parents of special needs children to gather and share information and support for each other. Karleen Craddock from The Family Support Network often attends and provides flyers of local workshops and resources to the participants. We provide community resource and referral information to families and youth with ASD. Some of the resources that we connect families to are Birth To Three, DDS, Child Guidance, The Darien YMCA, The New Canaan YMCA, St. Vincent's Behavioral Health Developmental and Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, The Kennedy Center Autism Project, CT. KASA, Abilis, The Pilot House, New Canaan Dance Academy, Healing Hearts, The Autism Society, Super Kids, The Montano Center, The Molly Ann Tango Foundation, The Umbrella Club, The Center For Children's Advocacy, The Exchange Club, St. Joseph's Parenting Center, and The Seed Center.

### Eligibility Criteria

All patients with special health care needs ages 0-21 are welcome to receive services.



### FAVOR, Inc

### **Key Services**

FAVOR is a non-profit Statewide Family Advocacy Organization serving families, children and youth dealing with a broad spectrum of behavioral and mental health needs, by providing policy and family advocacy. FAVOR is committed to improving the quality of life for children, youth and families in Connecticut by increasing accessibility to effective, culturally competent and high quality family-driven mental and behavioral health services and supports.

Through member organizations, FAVOR encourages family participation in policy development and the legislative process. FAVOR offers training, technical assistance and support to parents and caregivers in local communities to assist them in becoming active and equal partners in the System of Care.

### Eligibility Criteria

There are no eligibility criteria other than we focus on non-system involved DCF families and children.



### **FOCUS Center for Autism**

### **Key Services**

We provide children, adolescents and young adults with ASD's reach their full potential by providing clinical programs, community education and family support. Our goal is for the children, adolescents and young adults we serve to be able to develop a greater sense of selfawareness, to learn to grow both socially and emotionally and to begin to understand who they are and how they "fit" into their world. Social learning is the backbone of all our programs and we do this through a unique treatment model called Milieu Therapy.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for FOCUS, you must be between the ages of 5 and 18, be "creatively wired and socially challenged", and not need a higher level of care. Our comprehensive intake process includes a review of previous tests and evaluations, and an extensive intake interview that includes a mental status exam.

### Contact

### **ADDRESS**

PO Box 452 126 Dowd Avenue, Canton, CT 06019

### **EMAIL**

info@focuscenterforautism.org

### FAX

860.693.0141

### **PHONE**

860.693.8809

www.focuscenterforautism.org



### PATH Parent-to-Parent & Family Voices of Connecticut

### **Key Services**

PATH is a network of families providing informational and emotional support to others who have developmental or health related needs. Our Family Voices program aims to achieve familycentered care for all children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities. PATH and Family Voices provide one-to-one parent support with a "veteran parent" who has been through similar experiences and understands what the family is going through. PATH/FV also assists families with information about developmental an health related issues, information about healthcare, provide resources, resources on support groups, specialty doctors, therapy services, hairdressers to name a few. Some calls are associated with providing information on insurance coverage for all children and youth with special healthcare needs.

### Eligibility Criteria

Yes, families need to have a child with special health care needs and we support families of children with all types of disabilities. Services are statewide and are provided at no cost for families.



### Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) Center of Excellence on Autism Spectrum Disorders

### **Key Services**

We are a resource center for teachers, school-based personnel, parents and community providers serving individuals with ASD. The Center of Excellence on Autism Spectrum Disorders consists of three divisions: Training, Research, and Outreach. These divisions collaborate to provide professional development training opportunities, facilitate innovative research, assist in establishing effective evidence-based practices, and deliver technical assistance to teachers, other school based personnel, families and community service providers. Our goal is to improve student outcomes for individuals with ASD.

Information regarding Center staff and current projects/initiatives may be found on our website. Questions regarding specific resources and supports may be directed to the Center staff by email or telephone as indicated below.

### **Eligibility Critrea**

The Center of Excellence on Autism Spectrum Disorders does not have overall eligibility criteria for its offerings. The eligibility criteria are developed per activity and is communicated at the beginning of implementation of each activity through website announcements and email blasts of these announcements.



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### **Contacts**

Key Points of contact for the Connecticut Collaborative to Improve Autism Services grant include:

### Mark Keenan, RN, MBA

State Title V CYSHCN Director Connecticut Department of Public Health

### Ann Gionet, BBA

Co-Coordinator Connecticut Department of Public Health

### Tierney Gianotti, MPA

Co-Coordinator

A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excelllence in Developmental Disabilities, Research, Education and Services

Please visit the following websites to learn more about the grant, as well as autism resources available:

### Connecticut Collaborative to Improve Autism Services

- Connecticut Collaborative to Improve Autism Services
- @CTCollab4Autism

Connecticut Department of Public Health: Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3138&q=499610

### A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Services

www.uconnucedd.org/projects/autism\_grant/index.html

- **f** UConn UCEDD
- @CTCollab4Autism