



The Connecticut Collaborative to Improve Services for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Other Developmental Disabilities (DD)



Year One Accomplishments

Desired Outcome

To improve health care services for children and youth with ASD and other DD in Connecticut

Needs Assessments

- Survey Connecticut Medical Home Initiative (CMHI) care coordinators about the needs of families and practices
- Interview clinical staff at CMHI practices about screening of young children for ASD, barriers, resources and training needs
- Integrated developmental screening data collection tool in CMHI database

Education/Awareness

- Enhance Milestone Moments Booklet to include CT-specific information and referral sources
- Collaborate with Child Development Infoline to enhance 211 website
- Grant Co-Coordinator appointed as Act Early Ambassador for the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Learn the Signs Act Early campaign
- Guidelines for a Clinical Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders to be published Spring 2013

Support to Families

- Engage autism advocacy and family support groups to provide training to families, professionals and members of the general public:
 - Sit for Autism training for babysitters and parents by SCSU
 - Four autism-specific support groups offered by Family Support Network
 - Autism Spectrum Unplugged panel sponsored by FOCUS Center for Autism
 - Charlotte Hungerford Hospital's Center for Youth and Families Connections Program developing curriculum for a parent support group
 - ASRC 10 week Advocacy Training Series for parents and professionals
 - PATH/FV statewide conference highlights services and resources using CT Collaborative resource directory and provides culturally competent guidance
- Provided a Facebook page with resources and information for parents and providers

Services

- Increase screening and referral for ASD
- Increase the capacity for ASD evaluations at one medical home site