

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Facts

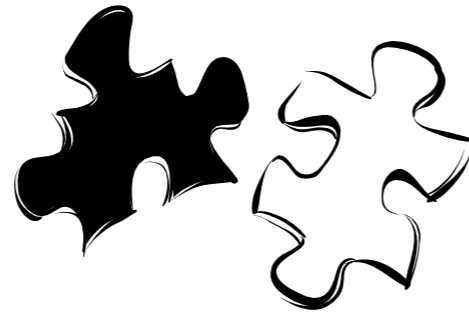
- ASD is the fastest growing disability
- 1 child in 150 has ASD
- 4 out of 5 people with ASD are boys
- There are no racial, ethnic or social boundaries
- Symptoms of ASD are treatable
- ASD affects the way in which people understand and react to the world around them
- ASD is often diagnosed before the age of three
- ASD is not always associated with lower IQ
- It is not your fault and you are not alone

Early Intervention Helps

There are no cures for Autism Spectrum Disorders, but early diagnosis and interventions are a child's best hope for reaching his or her full potential.

Important Questions to Ask

- How do I get my child evaluated?
- What treatments are available?
- What specialist should I see for additional supports?
- How do I pay for these services?
- What will my school district do to help?
- What can I do at home to help my child?



Sponsored by Central Missouri Rapid Response

A pilot program in Central Missouri which is a cooperative effort among state and local agencies with a goal of locating and screening children at risk for Autism Spectrum Disorders and providing needed education and interventions as soon as possible.

Signs of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

Autism has a wide range of symptoms, but typically includes difficulties with:

Communication

- Poor or unusual eye contact
- Little to no babbling, pointing, gesturing or words to communicate
- Inconsistent response to name or when people talk to them
- Repeat or echo words or phrases in place of normal language
- Lose skills they once had (e.g. stop saying words they were once using)

Social Skills

- May not know how to play with or show an interest in other children
- Lack of shared attention, sharing toys or taking turns

Behavior

- Has unusual reactions to the way things smell, taste, look, feel or sound
- Little or no fear of common dangers
- Unusual or unrealistic fears
- Craves physical contact or avoids being touched
- Restricted or limited interests; prefers same toys, clothing or activity
- Unusual object use; limited pretend or imaginative play
- Repeat action over and over again (e.g. hand flapping, rocking, spinning objects, etc.)
- Difficulty with change in routine

Where to Get Help

If you notice several of these signs on a consistent basis over time, please contact:

For Screening

- Pediatrician
- Primary care doctor
- Your local school district (Parents as Teachers, Early Childhood Special Education)
- Online at www.firstsigns.org

For Diagnosis

- Developmental pediatrician
- Clinical child psychologist
- Neurologist
- Health care assessment team

For Help and Guidance

Children Birth to 3 years

- First Steps, 1-866-583-2392, www.dese.mo.gov/divspeced/FirstSteps/;
- Department of Mental Health / Central Missouri Regional Center, 573-882-9835, 1-888-671-1041, www.dmh.mo.gov

- Boone County Family Resources, 573-874-1995, www.b CFR.org

Children 3 years and older

- Department of Mental Health / Central Missouri Regional Center, 573-882-9835, 1-888-671-1041, www.dmh.mo.gov
- Boone County Family Resources, 573-874-1995, www.b CFR.org
- Your Local School District (see inside)

Additional Services and Supports

<p>Diagnosis & Treatment</p> <p>Thompson Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/; 573-882-6081 or 1-888-720-0015</p> <p>Burrell Behavioral Health-Central Region Youth Clinic 573-882-8008</p>
<p>Parent Training</p> <p>Judevine Center for Autism www.judevine.org; 573-874-3777</p> <p>Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention Autism Outreach Project offers monthly workshops http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/; 573-884-4660</p> <p>Parent Link www.extension.missouri.edu/parentlink; 1-800-552-8522</p> <p>A listing of upcoming Autism and other disability related conferences is available at www.bcfr.org under Upcoming Events and on Network of Care www.centralmissouri.mo.networkofcare.org.</p>
<p>Health Insurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have insurance, contact the number for your health plan on the back of your card. If you do not have insurance, contact 1-888-275-5908 for assistance in obtaining health-care. For an application form or full list of benefits go to www.dss.mo.gov Medicaid/MC+ MO HealthNet Services 800-392-2161

<p>Early Education & Childcare</p> <p>Head Start (573) 443-8706 ext. 237, www.showmeaction.org/head_start.htm</p> <p>Parents as Teachers (PAT), www.patnc.org to find your local PAT</p> <p>Local School Districts:</p> <p>Ashland: 573-657-2147 Centralia: 573-682-3561 Columbia: 573-214-3999 Hallsville: 573-696-5512 Harrisburg: 573-875-5604 Sturgeon: 573-687-3515</p> <p>For help finding childcare or help educating your childcare provider, contact: Missouri Child Care Resource & Referral Network (MOCCRRN) www.mocrrn.org; (800) 200-9017</p>
<p>Special Education Advocacy & Services</p> <p>Missouri Protection & Advocacy (P&A) www.moadvocacy.org; 1-800-392-8667</p> <p>Mid-Missouri Legal Services 573-442-0116 Legal services for income eligible persons including education plans.</p> <p>Missouri Parents Act (MPACT) www.ptimpact.com; 1-800-743-7634</p> <p>Wrightslaw (information about special education law); www.wrightslaw.com</p>

<p>Crisis Intervention</p> <p>If you or your child is at risk of harming him/herself or others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call 911. • Go to the nearest hospital / emergency room. <p>Crisis Line (Burrell Behavioral Health) 1-800-395-2132</p> <p>Mid Missouri Mental Health Center 573-884-0864</p> <p>Rainbow House (children's emergency shelter) 573-474-6600, 1-866-407-6600</p> <p>Your Service Coordinator through Central Missouri Regional Center or Boone County Family Resources may also be able to assist you with additional crisis resources.</p>
<p>Parent Supports</p> <p>Moms of Children with Autism meets monthly to share information & resources. For information, contact Lora Hinkel at lorahinkel@hotmail.com</p> <p>Family Connections meets monthly at Judevine for parent education, presentations & networking. For information, contact Judevine at 573-874-3777.</p> <p>Sharing Our Strengths, parent to parent support network; 800-773-8652 www.sharingourstrengths.com</p>

<p>Helpful Books</p> <p>Available at Daniel Boone Regional Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Parents Guide to Autism, Charles A. Hart • Asperger's Syndrome: A Guide for Parents, Tony Attwood, Ph.D. • Educating Children With Autism, The National Academics Press • Emergence Labeled Autistic, Temple Grandin, Ph.D. • The New Social Story Book, Carol Gray • Out of Sync Child: recognizing and coping with sensory processing disorder, Carol Kranowitz • Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Mitzi Waltz
<p>Website Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism Society of America; www.autism-society.org; • Autism Speaks; www.autismspeaks.org; • Autism & PDD Support Network; www.autism-pdd.net • Center for Disease Control-Autism-Learn the Signs; www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/actearly/autism.html • Interactive Autism Network (IAN) www.ianproject.org • MAAP Services for Autism & Asperger Syndrome; www.maapservices.org • Missouri Developmental Disability Resource Center; www.moddr.org • Network of Care; www.centralmissouri.mo.networkofcare.org