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MO DDD & You: Exploring the Division's Autism Services & Resources

Information for Individuals & Families

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Tuesday, March 22, 2022



Webinar Agenda



- Overview of the Office of Autism
- Diagnosing Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
- Commission on ASD
- Autism Services
- Missouri Autism Projects
- Webpages and Resources

- Established in 2008
 - RSMo 633.225
 - Purpose: to develop public policy and programs on behalf of Missourians with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Diagnosing Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)



- Common Characteristics Associated with ASD
 - Communication, social interaction, behaviors
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/about-autism>
- Requires Screening and Evaluation
 - Behavior and development
 - Tiered approach
 - Regular/specific screenings
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/diagnosis>

- RSMo 633.200 established the Missouri Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
- Mission: Produce an "Autism Roadmap for Missouri" encompassing the lifespan of a person living with an ASD

Services are provided through Medicaid or Autism Projects

- Medicaid services include State Plan Services and Waiver Services
 - State Plan: Children under age 19 can receive autism services through State Plan
 - EPSDT requires children to receive medically necessary services
 - Includes ABA, speech, occupational, physical therapy
 - DD Waiver: Adults (and children) meeting eligibility requirements can receive autism services through Medicaid waivers including the Comprehensive Waiver, Community Support Waiver, Lopez Waiver, and Partnership for Hope Waiver

- Autism Projects: Individuals may also access Autism services via the Missouri Autism Projects
 - Individual Autism Projects cover different services and may have different requirements regarding Medicaid services

Autism Services - Eligibility



To access Autism Services, an individual must first meet DMH-DD eligibility requirements

- Individuals must have a developmental disability, which is attributable to autism spectrum disorder—must be documented
 - Eligibility is determined through a functional assessment rather than a specific diagnosis
 - The mental or physical impairment must have manifested prior to age 22
 - The disability must be determined to likely continue indefinitely **and**
 - The disability results in a substantial functional limitation in two or more of the following major life activities:
 - Self care; self direction; capacity for independent living; learning
 - Receptive and expressive language development and use; and mobility

To access Autism Services, individuals go through DMH-DD Regional Offices

- Individuals wishing to utilize Medicaid State Plan or Waiver Services must meet Medicaid eligibility requirements
 - If an individual is enrolled in MO HealthNet, they will be referred to a Regional Office or Targeted Case Management Agency for case management services
 - If an individual is not enrolled in MO HealthNet, they will be referred to a Regional Office to determine DMH eligibility
- An Individualized Support Plan (ISP) will be needed and identification of Autism Project services or Waiver Services to be provided

MO Autism Projects



Autism Projects provide services to families/individuals and are intended to improve the ability to receive the supports they need in their communities.

<https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/projects>

MO Autism Project - Services



Autism Project services vary by contract and may include:

Behavior Management Training & Supports
Occupational Therapy, Sensory Integration Therapy
Communication & Language Therapy
Information & Referral Assistance
Parent or Caregiver Training
Public Education & Information Dissemination
Consultation on Individualized Education & Habilitation Plans
Contemporary and Emerging Evidence-based Practices

Assessment
Life Skills
Music Therapy
Advocacy Training
Crisis Intervention
Respite Care
Staff Training
Social Skills Training

MO Autism Projects-Advisory Councils



- Regional Parent Advisory Councils (PAC)
 - Each of the five Autism Projects has a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) that represent and oversee each project and make recommendations for service needs
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/regional-parent-advisory-council>
- Missouri Parent Advisory Council
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/parent-advisory>

Autism Webpages and Resources



- Missouri Autism Centers
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/centers/>
- Missouri Autism Guidelines
 - <https://autismguidelines.dmh.mo.gov/>
- Autism Resource Guides
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/dev-disabilities/autism/resource-guide>
- Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) – MO ECHO Autism
 - <https://echoautism.org/>

Questions?



Next MO DDD & You Webinar



Mark your calendar now!

The next “MO DDD & You” webinar is
scheduled for
Tuesday, April 26, 2022



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Thank You