

**ABA Based Services and Supports for Children and Youth with ASD
Central West Region Communication
August 5th, 2011**

ErinoakKids and Kerry's Place Autism Services are thrilled to announce a new service available to children and youth with ASD in Central West Region. The Ministry of Children and Youth Services has recently allocated resources to provide Applied Behaviour Analysis Based Services and Supports for Children and Youth with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Using an ABA approach, services and supports will focus on addressing the needs that children and youth with ASD have in the following key developmental areas:

1. Communication
2. Social / Interpersonal
3. Daily Living
4. Behaviour management / emotional regulation

Goals will be centred on child goals, family goals, and system goals. Each child's goals will be developed jointly with the child, parent / guardian(s), service provider, and service provider clinician into an individualized service plan. Services provided will typically be provided for between 2 and 4 hours per week and for between 2 to 6 months in duration. Some services will occur on an individualized basis and others will be in small group formats based on the goals outlined on the child's individualized service plan. Following completion of service, children are able to be re-referred to the wait list for additional blocks of service if needed.

In Central West Region ErinoakKids and Kerry's Place Autism Services have co-lead responsibilities for the implementation and ongoing service delivery of the ABA-based Services and Supports Initiative. ErinoakKids is the lead for providing services for the younger children from birth to age 8 (grade 3) and is working in partnership with Woodview Children's Centre, KidsAbility, and Dufferin Child and Family Services. Kerry's Place Autism Services is the lead for providing services for the older children and youth from age 9 to the 18th birthday and is working in partnership with Community Living North Halton, Reach Out Centre for Kids, Peel Behavioural Services, Trellis Mental Health and Developmental Services, and Developmental Services Access Centre. Flexibility will occur for children and families regarding service providers to work with particularly for the children around the grade three level and also with multiple siblings with an ASD diagnosis.

Eligibility: Children and youth of age 0 – 17 (up to 18th birthday) are eligible for services if they have confirmation of an ASD diagnosis from a professional who is qualified to make a diagnosis of Autism / Autism Disorder, Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS), or Asperger's Disorder. Diagnoses may be made by family physicians, paediatricians, psychiatrists, psychologists and psychological associates.

Referrals: Referrals may be made by:

- Parent / caregiver
- Family physician
- Psychiatrist
- Developmental paediatrician
- Psychologist
- Psychological Associate
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Social Worker
- Nurse

Intake calls will be accepted starting on Monday, August 8th, 2011.

Referrals may be made by:

1. Calling the ABA Based Services and Supports Central Intake Line at
1-800-668-6432 or
2. Calling any one of the co-leads (ErinoakKids or Kerry's Place Autism Services) or respective partner agencies
 - ErinoakKids
 - Woodview Children's Centre
 - Dufferin Child and Family Services
 - KidsAbility
 - Kerry's Place Autism Services
 - Reach Out Centre for Kids
 - Community Living North Halton
 - Developmental Services Access Centre
 - Peel Behavioural Services
 - Trellis Mental Health and Developmental Services

Documentation confirming an ASD diagnosis and a signed consent for release of information is required before eligibility can be confirmed.