

AHS Integration Efforts Autism Planning for the Future

Date: Friday, June 30, 2023

10:00-11:30

Facilitator: Cheryle Wilcox

Notetaker: Molly Bumpas

Present: Cheryle Wilcox, Molly Bumpas, Philip Eller, Beth Forbes, Alyssa Heilbrunn, Cammie Naylor, Janelle Germaine, Jen Taylor, Kelsey Naro, Jeremiah Dickerson, Jamie Rainville, Kara Hurwitch, Becky Zopf, Cortney Keene, Mel Houser, Laurie Mulhern, Danielle Brier, Denise Lavalley, Eve Spratt, Adam Poulin

Regrets: Matt Habedank, Julie Smith

Overall Goal of our work group: How do we use our collective resources to move autism services forward for children and their families in Vermont?

Strategic Plan Goals:

- A. To challenge and advise the current system to identify creative, collaborative, and flexible strategies to deliver family-centered care throughout a child's journey from early identification and diagnosis through adult services.
- B. Increase access to assessments, supports and services up and through transition to adulthood.
- C. Educate community about inclusion and neurodiversity.

Time	Agenda Item
10:00-10:10	Introductions
10:10-11:00	<p>Improving Access to Developmental Screening and Assessment ~ <i>Adam Poulin, Clinical Services Director, Children with Special Health Needs, Vermont Department of Health</i></p> <p>Adam presented information re: VCHIP/Vermont State initiative to increase developmental screening in pediatric primary care offices and/or involve pediatric PCPs in facilitating or conducting next level autism assessments. Involvement of pedi practices can be flexible depending on capacity and interest in the project.</p> <p>CDC closure plus COVID pandemic have impacted access to evaluations. Many factors have contributed. Project aims to build capacity around autism diagnosis and decrease wait times, reserve subspecialists for children with most complex presentations, and increase access to support services. Project is also including EI/CIS teams when possible.</p> <p>Plan to train pediatricians in collaboration with professionals from UMass on CARS-2 (autism specific tool) late summer/early fall.</p> <p>Adam shared the complicated regulatory landscape across agencies when it comes to ASD diagnosis.</p> <p>See slides for more info.</p> <p>Contact: adam.poulin@vermont.gov</p>
11:00-11:15	<p>Soliciting feedback about Autism Evaluations ~ <i>Jim Tallmadge, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist</i></p> <p>Dr. Tallmadge asked for feedback regarding diagnostic reports, recommendations, etc. He will share a template with the group at a later date.</p>
11:15-11:30	<p>Group Member Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SD Associates early intervention clinic ABA program, SD Sparklers, is looking to enroll 4 – 6 more children. They are located in Williston. www.sdplus.org/intake/ • Keene Perspectives is enrolling 4 new children this summer and training 5 new RBTs.

Time	Agenda Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mosaic School is closing permanently.• Howard Center's EI ASD program is closing.• All Brains Belong hosts a peer connection group: https://allbrainsbelong.org/kid-connections <p>Resources: http://allbrainsareawesome.com/resources Autism Resources for Vermont 0.pdf</p> <p>Next Meeting agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hybrid meeting at state complex in Waterbury and zoom.

