



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Center for Autism and Related Disorders Awarded a Grant from the State of Texas to Provide Therapy to Underserved Children

The state grant will be used to provide behavioral therapy to children with autism who live in Austin and the surrounding areas.

AUSTIN (Jan. 29, 2016) - Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) today announced the receipt of an Autism Program grant from the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). The grant will allow CARD to provide home-based and center-based autism treatment services to underserved children and adolescents 3 to 15 years of age. Families with children on the autism spectrum who live in Austin and outlying areas are encouraged to sign up immediately.

“We are excited that Texas has allocated the resources to ensure that children with autism get the treatment they need to fulfill their potential,” said Jessica Scott, M.A., operations manager at CARD. “CARD will work together with families, teachers and administrators to ensure that these children see measurable results from their behavioral treatment.”

Approximately one in 68 children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) according to estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The prevalence of ASD has increased 30% over the past 7 years, and services for children affected by this disorder have not always kept up with the demand. As a result, families affected by ASD may encounter challenges when trying to access quality treatment. The increase in autism diagnoses and the lack of resources available to families in many communities leave parents struggling to access the services that are crucial to their child’s development. This program is one way to expand access to treatment.

CARD is among the world's largest providers offering evidence-based, state-of-the-art treatment services to individuals of all ages. One-to-one applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy and positive behavior supports (PBS) will be provided to participants of the Autism Program. Comprehensive assessment and individualized intervention will be combined with caregiver training to provide optimal treatment for each child. The DARS Autism Program offers a sliding-scale fee based on adjusted gross income. Participating children must be between the ages of 3 and 15 years old, have an ASD diagnosis and be a Texas resident. For more information about the CARD sponsored DARS Autism Program in Texas, contact (855) 345-2273.

About Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitation Services (DARS)

DARS is a state agency that works in partnership with Texans with disabilities and families with children who have developmental delays to improve the quality of their lives and to enable their full participation in society. To find out more about the agency's services, call the DARS Inquiries Line at 1-800-628-5115. Information about DARS is also available at www.dars.state.tx.us.

About Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)

CARD treats individuals of all ages who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) at treatment centers around the globe. CARD was founded in 1990 by leading autism expert and clinical psychologist Doreen Granpeesheh, PhD, BCBA-D. CARD treats individuals with ASD using the principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA), which is empirically proven to be the most effective method for treating individuals with ASD and recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the US Surgeon General. CARD employs a dedicated team of nearly 2,000 individuals across the nation and internationally. For more information, visit www.centerforautism.com or call (855) 345-2273.