







the autism program of easterseals

Easterseals is a network partner of The Autism Program of Illinois (TAP). TAP is the largest, comprehensive statewide program in the country dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families. As a collaboration of 15 community agencies and universities, TAP provides resources, direct services, education, and training to respond to the unique needs of communities across Illinois.

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Easterseals changes the way the world defines and views disabilities by making profound, positive differences in people's lives every day.

Throughout all of life's moments – from the ordinary to the extraordinary, and everything in between – Easterseals is here. We're right beside you and your family – listening, understanding, helping in the ways you ask us to, giving support, cheering you on. Easterseals is a team of problem-solvers, skilled practitioners and people committed to sweeping away limitations and shattering stereotypes. We are steadfast partners in your journey. That's our promise to you. Give us a call or shoot us an email. We can't wait to get to know you.



Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Inc. dba: Easterseals, has programs and services throughout Chicagoland and the Rockford Region in Illinois, as well as Northwest Indiana. Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Inc. is a non-profit affiliate of Easter Seals, Inc.



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for individuals living with or suspected to have an autism spectrum disorder and the families, caregivers and professionals who support them



The Autism Program of Easterseals

The Autism Program of Easterseals provides evidence-based screening, diagnostics, training, information and resources for autism spectrum disorder. The outreach program is for individuals living with an autism spectrum disorder and the families, caregivers and professionals who support them. Services are available based upon funding.

Screening and Diagnostics

Screening is available for people ages 3 and older who have never received an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis by a professional. We are unable to do re-evaluation or second opinions at this time.

Intake Screening - A team member conducts a brief phone interview with the parent or guardian. A packet will be sent to collect additional information about the person being screened, including a validated screening tool, medical history, therapy reports and school records. Based on the information from the screening tool, parent interview and record review, the team and diagnostic professional will determine if an observation appointment is needed.

Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnostic Assessment - Includes a variety of assessments that are conducted by a diagnostician to determine if the child has an autism spectrum disorder. A professional will review the final report with the parent or guardian.

Family Community Resource Room

The Autism Program is available to assist you in finding resources most helpful to you and provides assistance in developing visual tools designed to meet individual learning styles. Resources in our lending library range from informational brochures, books, learning aides, videos, tip sheets and interactive games and toys. Contact us to schedule your appointment.

Consultations

Sometimes you may have a specific need or question and could benefit from a one-on-one consultation with an experienced professional. Easterseals provides individualized information, resources and suggestions.

A consultation allows Easterseals to gather information to support families, caregivers and professionals on their journey. Our consultations meet a wide-range of needs and may include identifying resources, linkages to agencies, or support in designing individualized strategies.

Training

The Autism Program offers training for families, caregivers and professionals who support individuals living with an autism spectrum disorder. Training is scheduled based upon your individual needs or those of the community.

Topics range from autism spectrum disorder overview to understanding your child's behavior. Easterseals also offers training credits for some professional development. Other trainings include partnerships with community agencies and professionals.

Individual Therapy

Family and child can have an individualized session where needs are assessed by a Master's prepared clinician. Therapy sessions are determined based upon the family's input and their needs. Please contact us to discuss availability.



Community Outreach

The Autism Program is a vital resource to our local communities. We work together to evaluate and support the community needs related to autism spectrum disorder. The Autism Program connects with parents, caregivers, professionals and the community at large to unite, embrace, accept and advocate for autism spectrum disorder. We also host and attend community and awareness events, as well as engage in anti-bullying initiatives.

Parent Support Group

A group where parents, caregivers and community members can talk about topics related to autism spectrum disorder. The purpose of the group is for people to connect, help support each other and build a support network.



Leo Club

The Autism Program of Easterseals partners with the Rockford Noon Lions to run a Leo Club for individuals ages 14 to 30 with special needs and their peers. The structure of this Leo Club is the only one of its kind in the United States. They also have an elected board and work on services projects.



Rockford IceHogs

The Autism Program of Easterseals is proud to partner with the Rockford IceHogs. The IceHogs continue to play a key role in the operations of The Autism Program through fundraising events, community outreach and awareness through anti-bullying events.