

Family Support

The Autism Project's Tool Kit

Presented by:



Why we applied

- ▶ A Solid Match with Our Programming
- ▶ Opportunity to Expand
- ▶ Proactive vs. Reactive

Project I.D.E.N.T.I.F.Y

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Improve
Delivery
Education
Navigation
Telehealth
Information
Families, Professionals
Youth



HRSA (Health Resources and Services)

Primary Goal

Improve RI's system-level of care integration for children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Developmental Disabilities (DD), and their families.





Introducing.....



Creating the Connections



Rhode Island

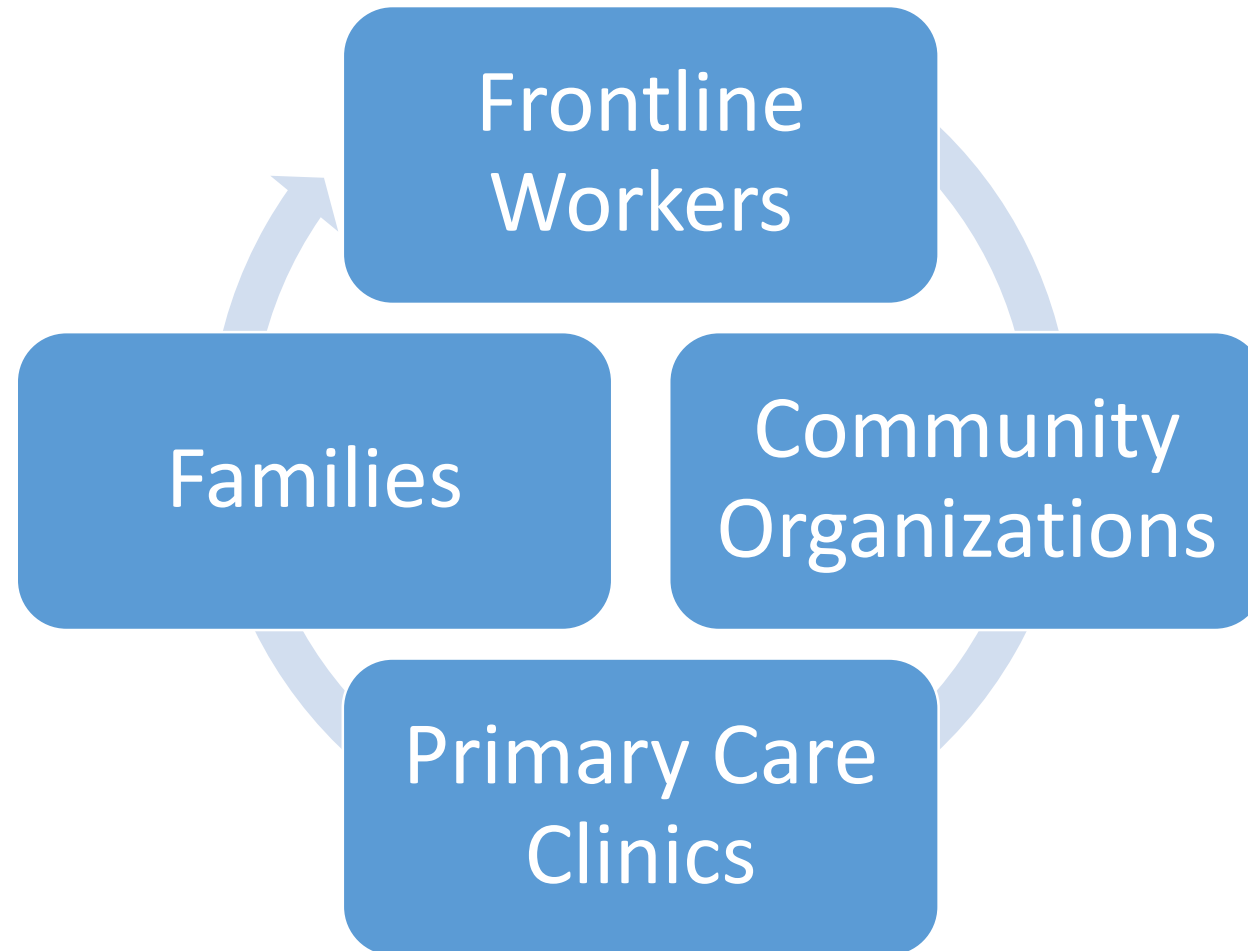
• *System Strengths*

- Small area = face to face interactions at all levels
- Strength of EI programs
- RIDOH supports use of Family Resource Specialists as “best practice”
- Proven ability of service providers to join together to address problems and create solutions

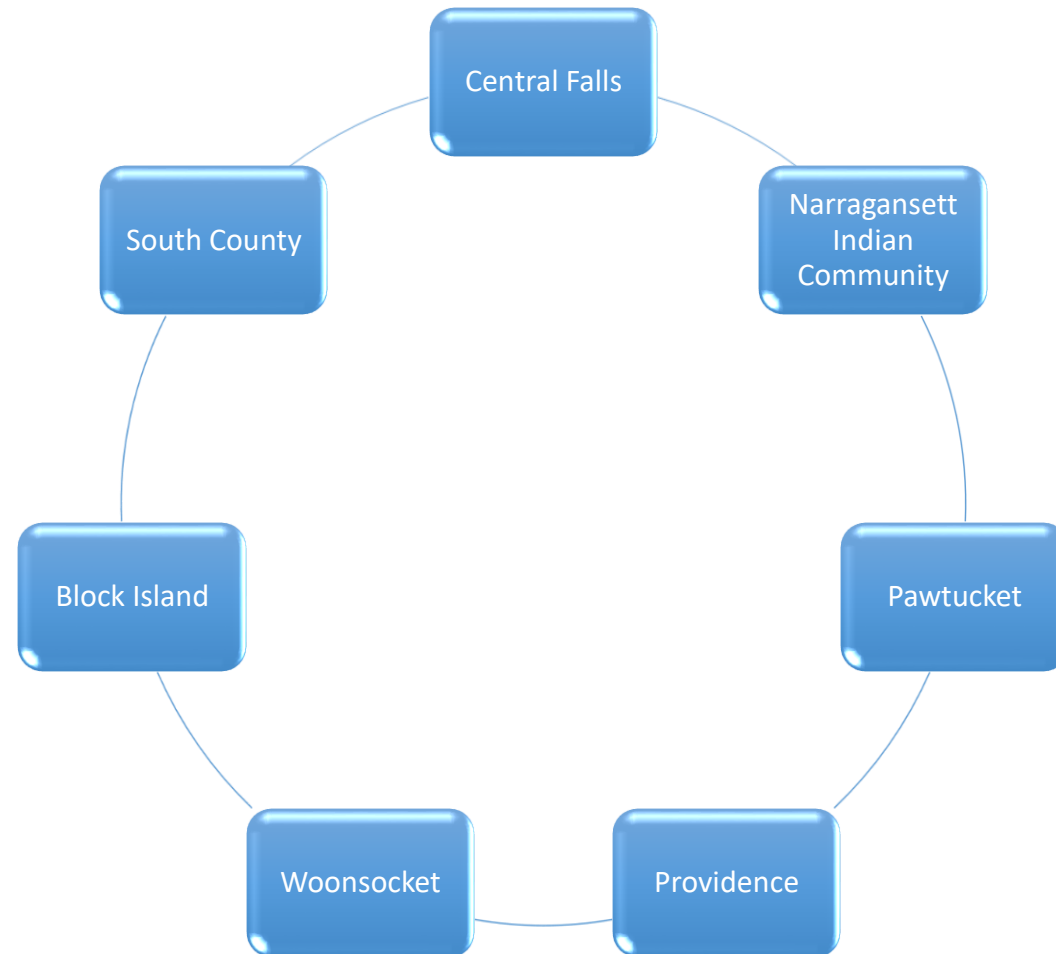
• *Relevant Barriers*

- Health professional shortage areas
- Economic, language, cultural, geographical barriers
- Limited care coordination post diagnosis leaving many families to navigate insurance and services on their own
- After age 36 months, gaps in access to care and funding

IDENTIFY and SUPPORT



Core Communities



Strengthen Existing Resources

CDC: Learn the Signs. Act Early.

The Autism Project: trainings, social and support groups

Medical Home Portal

Early Intervention Programs + Early Childhood Educators

In-Home Child Care Providers and Community Supports

Screening to Succeed Networks

Building Out the Program

- ▶ Job Description
- ▶ The hiring plan
- ▶ Meet our Staff!

Building Out the Program

- ▶ Internal Training of New Hires. In-depth understanding of ASD and related interventions.
 - ▶ Eight (8) Modules: Understanding Autism, Family Impact, Visual Supports and Social Stories™, Understanding Sensory Integration, Self Regulation and Sensory Diets, Motivation and Challenging Behaviors, Education, Advocacy and Effective Communication.
- ▶ So much more than learning one training!

Development of Creating the Connections Training

- ▶ Director of Training, Cheryl Cotter's Thought Process
- ▶ Typical and A-typical Behaviors
- ▶ How to have the conversation towards screening.
- ▶ Not diagnosticians!
- ▶ Goal Remains the Same: Refer for Screenings
 - ▶ Department of Education's Goal: Every Child. Every Year.
 - ▶ Not only once at Kindergarten Registration

The Rhode Island **TOOL Kit**

Top Three Items in Your Tool Kit Are the Cheapest!

- ▶ Your PHONE!
- ▶ Your EAR!
- ▶ Your EMPATHY!

TAP Offerings

In addition to *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* materials, TAP also offers tools to support individuals with ASD or DD, their families, and the many professionals who educate and support them.

- ▶ Family Support Specialists
 - ▶ 1:1 appointments for problem-solving, support, paperwork or materials
 - ▶ In person, via phone, email
 - ▶ IEP Prep
 - ▶ Eclectic Approach to Interventions
 - ▶ Many valid and evidence-based options available today
 - ▶ *We learn a methodology, practice the methodology, are humbled by it and then we share and teach others the intervention.*
- ▶ Offer multiple options and let parents decide. *MEET Them Where THEY Are At!*



TAP Offerings

- ▶ Family Support Specialists Master the Many Methodology Used and Taught at TAP
 - ▶ Our School Consultants provide ongoing professional development for FSSs
 - ▶ National Speaker Conference is also our staffs' professional development
- ▶ Social Stories©/Narratives, Count Down Timers, Help Card, Wait Card, Schedules, First/Then Boards, Choice Boards, Choice Zone©, Social Mapping Tools
- ▶ ToyBoxTools.com
- ▶ Parent to Parent (English), Parent to Parent (Spanish), Toilet Training Workshop, A Starting Point, ASpire, Various Topics for Workshops

TAP Offerings

- ▶ Resources and Insurance Info and Access
 - ▶ Know the rules.
 - ▶ Know the paperwork.
 - ▶ Guide them in their applications.
- ▶ ASD Resource Guide, RI Medical Home Portal
- ▶ Share other resources in RI and beyond
- ▶ *New Kiddo Tool*

Skit

Time for a little fun

- ▶ A little poetic justice to make a point!

Role Play Activity

- ▶ Break into small groups
- ▶ RI Family Navigators will give you a scenario
- ▶ What is your role?
- ▶ What is your goal?
- ▶ How did you help?

Group Reporting

- ▶ Select a person to report out on your scenario
 - ▶ What was easy?
 - ▶ What was hard?
 - ▶ Do you have new ideas or information on the Family Navigator's Role?



For more information or additional
training please contact:

Deb Langevin, Training Coordinator

dlangevin@lifespan.org

www.theautismproject.org/training

1516 Atwood Avenue

Johnston, RI 02919

401.785.2666 ext. 76788

Presented by:

