

Announcement

Autism Spectrum Disorder Seminar for Direct Support Professionals: SAVE THE DATE

BAS Communication Number: BAT04-14

AUDIENCE: Professionals providing direct supports and services in Pennsylvania, including, but not limited to: nurses; home health aides; other medical staff; mental health clinicians; direct support staff within Pennsylvania's service delivery systems
NOTE: This training is not designed for supervisors or other professionals with extensive experience supporting individuals with autism.

PURPOSE: To communicate a free upcoming statewide training opportunity: **Autism Spectrum Disorder Seminar**, provided by the Bureau of Autism Services Clinical Team

DATES and LOCATIONS: Information about specific locations will be announced when registration opens later this month. Save the date in your region!

Region	Date	Time	Location
Pittsburgh	April 17, 2014	9:30am-1:30pm	TBA
Harrisburg	April 24, 2014	9:30am-1:30pm	TBA
Erie	April 24, 2014	9:30am-1:30pm	TBA
Philadelphia	April 28, 2014	9:30am-1:30pm	TBA
Lehigh	April 29, 2014	9:30am-1:30pm	TBA

TRAINING DESCRIPTION:

This is a free introductory training specifically designed for direct support professionals and other community professionals who may interact with individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in various environments.

According to the Pennsylvania Autism Census, there are over **55,000 children and adults** in PA with autism. Data from the census indicate a **181%** overall increase of individuals with ASD in PA from 2005 to 2011 and a **334%** increase of adults (21+). This dramatic upward trend is expected to continue. Based on these statistics, there is an increasing possibility that direct support professionals providing supports and services in Pennsylvania will interact with a child or adult with autism.

This free training will provide basic information that can enhance the quality and effectiveness of services that children and adults with autism receive. Specifically, this training will provide opportunities to better understand a) core deficits of ASD, b) how to address challenging behaviors, and c) strategies based on best practices.

For questions about this announcement, email ra-bastrainings@pa.gov