

P.L.A.Y. (PLAY & LANGUAGE FOR AUTISTIC YOUNGSTERS) PROJECT

Four Oaks Early Intervention has a team of professionals who have been trained by Dr. Richard Solomon, M.D., creator of The PLAY Project. Dr. Solomon was a colleague of Dr. Stanley Greenspan, world renowned developmental pediatrician who developed the DIR/Foortime (Developmental Individualized and Relationship-based) Model.

The PLAY Project (Play & Language for Autistic Youngsters) is an evidence-based intensive early intervention program for young children with autism (18 months up to age 5). This program is delivered by parents, using their relationship and knowledge of their child to promote engagement.

The Mission of the project is to help all parents be supported in developing a joyous relationship with their child in a way that will help each child reach his/her full potential. Parents receive coaching and education from a trained and certified PLAY Project Consultant so they can deliver the intervention themselves.

The PLAY Project Home Consultant is a key component of the program. The Home Consultant provides monthly home visits and uses video tape technology to give families detailed guidance about ways to build their skills and support their child with autism through the stages of development at home.

- Home visits: Coordinated between the PLAY Consultant and family
- Each visit is divided between modeling, coaching the family and providing instant feedback
- Select videotaping of play interactions (10-15 minutes)
- Written feedback

If necessary, the PLAY Project Team Coordinator can establish a waiting list depending on the need for The PLAY Project. When spaces become available, the child will be assigned a PLAY Project Consultant in the order the child was placed on the list. A child is eligible to participate in The PLAY Project up to a year and half from the time The PLAY Project contract was dated and signed by all participants. If additional time is needed, the PLAY Project Consultant will consult with the PLAY Project Coordinator and review the child's development along with the family commitment to the program. A joint decision will be decided if services should continue up to two years.

PLAY Project Consultants:

Jennifer Montague (PLAY Project Coordinator)

Beth Brennaman

Robin Stewart

Tina Snyder

REFERRALS & ELIGIBILITY:

18 months up to age 3: The child must be eligible through the Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities: Four Oaks Early Intervention, to receive The PLAY Project. The child must have a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder in order to be referred to The PLAY Project. If you have a child who has been diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum, confer with a PLAY Project Consultant to discuss if the program is appropriate for the child/family. With parental consent, the referral is sent to The PLAY Project Team Coordinator to be assigned a PLAY Project Consultant.

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The PLAY Project Consultant will provide PLAY Project strategies and techniques to the Primary Service Provider (PSP) and will be reflected onto the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) under the child's outcome(s), within the Steps and Activities.

Ages 3 up to age 5: The child must have participated in the Four Oaks Early Intervention program (birth up to age 3) to receive The PLAY Project. The family will complete the intake process with the Eligibility Coordinator to establish Board eligibility, as well as, receive an overview of additional Board services. The Eligibility Coordinator will obtain basic identifying information about the child who is seeking The PLAY Project. This information also includes identifying possible sources that might have documentation to support the diagnosis of the child. After Board eligibility is established and parental consent is given, the Eligibility Coordinator sends a referral onto The PLAY Project Team Coordinator to be assigned a PLAY Project Consultant.

In the case in which a family moves into Greene County from a different county who previously received PLAY Project services, the family will automatically be eligible to receive The PLAY Project in Greene County. The family will receive The PLAY Project up to age 5.

Four Oaks team members are available to discuss the appropriateness of working with your child.

Call 562-7000 to schedule a consultation.