

ILLINOIS STATEWIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER



Illinois Autism/PDD Training and Technical Assistance Project

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Callie James
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Resource Teams & Material Centers Locations

- University Connection – Illinois State University
- Regional Resource Teams & Material Centers
- State-wide Resource Teams & Material Centers
- Resource Material Centers ONLY

88% of annual funding for this project is from federal sources under a grant from the Illinois State Board of Education

ILLINOIS STATEWIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (ISTAC)

The Illinois Autism/PDD Training and Technical Assistance Project

The Illinois Autism/PDD Training and Technical Assistance Project (IATTAP) is one of four Illinois State Board of Education initiatives under ISTAC that provide training and technical assistance to schools in Illinois. Other ISTAC partners are PBIS Network, Project CHOICES and ISTAC-Parent. IATTAP focuses on educating and supporting children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and their families and schools. The Project is operated under a grant to the School Association for Special Education in DuPage County (SASED) and its major goals are to:

- Build local capacity to establish and implement effective educational supports and services in the least restrictive environment for children with ASD
- Promote a proactive approach to working with individuals with ASD and their families
- Help children with ASD remain with their families in their home communities and become productive
- Increase the percentage of students on the autism spectrum who are educated in the general education classroom
- Increase the effective and meaningful involvement of parents in their children's education

REGIONAL RESOURCE TEAMS/MATERIAL CENTERS

Regional Resource Teams are multi-disciplinary teams that have received extensive training through IATTAP and other sources and are available for training, consultation and technical assistance to schools and families in their geographic locations. Their members are both school personnel and parents. Contact the team in your area for specific services and assistance they are able to provide. These centers also house ASD resource materials available for loan to parents, professionals and community members. Some sites have materials in addition to those provided by the project. Contact the individual library for assistance in accessing the resources.

FAMILY EDUCATION & SUPPORT

The Autism/PDD Training and Technical Assistance Project offers family education opportunities and support to families. Conferences, workshops and support focus on increasing parents' skill levels for working with, and enjoying, their child, with a goal of keeping children with ASD in their home and in their community. The Family Resource Specialist Network helps to connect parents who share the experience of having a child with autism and to distribute valuable resource information from family to family through phone calls, emails, family conferences and resource guides. ***There is no charge for family members to attend family education workshops.***

FOCUS FAMILY SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

IATTAP offers the Focus Family Support for Autism Spectrum Disorders, a new model of support and technical assistance that was developed by the West Virginia Autism Training Center through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control. This model focuses on intensive family centered support and combines key elements from Positive Behavior Supports with Person-Centered-Planning to achieve positive changes for families with children with autism spectrum disorders. IATTAP helps families develop a support team to work on goals in the home, school and community. Contact the state office for more information: 630-889-7398 or www.illinoisautismproject.org.

ILLINOIS EXPERIENTIAL PRACTICUM

Each Summer, IATTAP sponsors week-long hands-on, experiential practicum for school teams in various locations throughout Illinois. Coaching and networking meetings are available during the school year for follow-up skill-building and support in implementation of strategies.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY CONNECTION/ASD COURSES

IATTAP has developed a partnership with the Autism Spectrum Institute at Illinois State University. Through this partnership, an on-line training course on autism has been developed and is available free for non-credit (ISBE CPDU credit available) - register on-line @ www.illinoisautismproject.org. Graduate credit course is available through ISU contact Mindy Bolin@ mbolin@ilstu.edu

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