

# Atlantic County Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council

April/May 2024

Volume 2 Issue 2

For information contact:

Atlantic County

CIACC Coordinator

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April

## Autism Awareness /Acceptance Month

Children with autism are often seen as dependent and helpless. These children may need more accommodations and assistance, but that doesn't mean they can't learn the skills and knowledge necessary to be independent.

**Here are some tips to help you assist your child with self-advocacy:**

1. Help your child understand how and when to disclose their diagnosis.
2. Provide children with different choices daily to help them understand they have freedom of choice.
3. Make sure your child knows the difference between their needs and preferences.
4. Help your child write letters to others explaining what they want and need. Include your child in IEP meetings.

<https://autismcenterforkids.com/articles/the-importance-of-awareness-for-children-with-autism/>

### Services:

When a child is determined to be eligible for developmental disability services, families can contact PerformCare to request assistance including family support services, in-home/in-community behavioral services and, when needed, residential services. They can call PerformCare at 877.652.7624 to request an application for eligibility or apply/download an application online. <https://autismnj.org/article/role-of-csoc/>

### Support:

Atlantic County is the home of FACES 4 AUSTISM, a non-profit organization dedicated to education and support of children with Autism and their families. They offer family activities, community awareness programs and educational events throughout the year. <https://faces4autism.org/>

**Phone** /609-380-4251 **Address** 2900 Fire Road, #101B, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234



### Resources from Autism New Jersey:

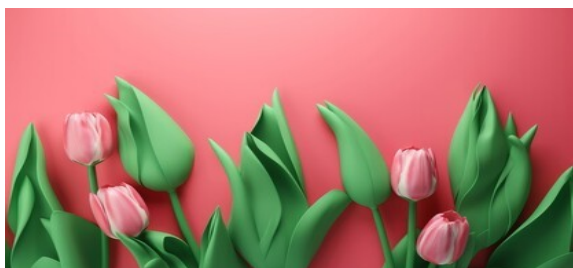
Autism: Start Here

What Families Need to Know . Scan for more information.

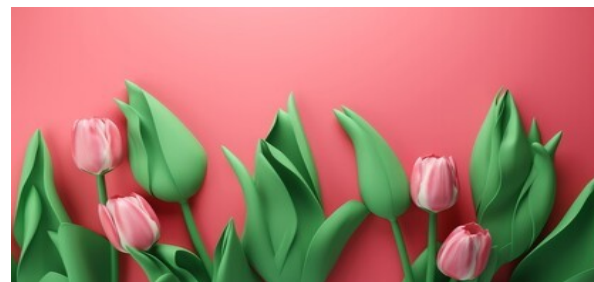
Autismo: Comience Aquí

Lo Que Las Familias Necesitan Saber

Fondos para imprimir esta publicación fueron generosamente proporcionados por una subvención de la Fundación Fred C. Rummel, que apoya los servicios médicos sin fin de lucros, los servicios humanos y las entidades educativas a través de New Jersey . escanear el código QR



Atlantic County Executive  
Dennis Levinson



Atlantic County Board of Commissioners  
Maureen Kern, Chairwoman

**MAY**

## **Mental Health Awareness Month**

The pandemic has made it more acceptable to talk about mental health. It has also reduced the stigma (a set of negative and often unfair beliefs) surrounding mental health, which has made people more comfortable getting support. It's becoming more commonplace to get mental health support to maintain wellness and to prevent the progression of conditions, potentially averting a mental health crisis. Even if your mental health isn't poor, you can benefit from regular self-directed check-ins. Virtual therapy has become more popular. Today, it's easier to connect with a therapist through a computer or smartphone.

### **How to Find Help**

Outpatient counseling and therapy is community-based. It doesn't take place in a hospital. Many providers offer tele-health appointments that can be done with your computer or phone. Turn over your insurance card and contact the company for assistance, look at the insurance company's online provider directory, or ask your doctor or friends who they might recommend and then check to see if they accept your insurance. Some people report that the website <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/nj/atlantic-county> is helpful



### **ResourceNET for Families**

The CMO ResourceNet provides a wide range of information about **support, resources,** and **services for families** in Atlantic and Cape May counties.

**Families** can find specific recreational activities, health providers, support groups, and events in your area. If you are a resident of Atlantic or Cape May County, consider subscribing to the Resource Net.

<https://www.capeatlanticresourcenet.org/>



### **Stigma Free Atlantic Networking Breakfast**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 8:30 - 10am EDT

**WHERE:** The Campus Center at Stockton University

101 Vera King Farris Drive, Galloway, NJ 08205

Scan the QR code to make a donation and get tickets

### **Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council**

#### **Upcoming meeting**

**June 11<sup>th</sup> (second Tuesday) 3:30-4:30**

609 645-7700 ext. 4507

[granato\\_kathryn@aclink.org](mailto:granato_kathryn@aclink.org)

**A link to the meetings can be sent if requested.**

**The services noted in this newsletter are provided as informational resources and do not imply any endorsement by Atlantic County Government.**

**To subscribe to the CIACC newsletter, email [granato\\_kathryn@aclink.org](mailto:granato_kathryn@aclink.org)**