

Autism

Resources in Great Falls, MT

See us on:

Facebook: Friends of Autism Great Falls
or <http://friendsofautismgf.blogspot.com>
or email: friendsofautismgf@gmail.com

There is MUCH that can be done to help your child be the best that they can be and bring peace to your family.

Autism is a broad spectrum of developmental disorders. Therapy should be directed toward the unique needs of your child. Work with your pediatrician to determine what is best for your child. Be prepared for possible obstacles such as availability of services and insurance restrictions.

Persevere!

-your child's success is worth it!



Diagnostic Testing

(standardized testing)

North Central Evaluation and Consultation
(see also QLC) 452-9004 (Karen)
multidisciplinary team (psychologist, behavior therapist, OT, PT, ST)

Benefis Neuroscience Department
Thomas Krajacich, PhD
400 15th Ave S Ste 205 455-2760

Comprehensive Services

(broad range of services may include case management, behavior/ psychiatric therapies, family support)

★ Specializing in Autism Treatment:

Quality Life Concepts (QLC)
www.qlc-gtf.org
215 Smelter Ave NE 452-9531
screening, diagnosis, ABA therapy-BCBA, for child and family, in-home services

Easter Seals Goodwill
www.esgw-nrm.easterseals.com
Audrey Pierce-Seely 406-850-2977
P.L.A.Y Project- in-home training and support for families of children aged 14 months to 7 years with autism spectrum disorders

★ Specializing in Mental Health:

A.W.A.R.E.
www.aware-inc.org
600 6th St NW 771-8182
services to persons with challenging mental and emotional needs; early headstart program, infants to graduation or 18 yrs- must meet psychiatric diagnosis

Centers for Mental Health
www.center4mh.org
915 1st Ave S 761-2100
services for seriously emotionally disturbed children

Youth Dynamics
2300 12th Ave S 453-5592
case management, behavior therapy

Intermountain
1601 2nd Ave N Ste 540 452-0388

ABA Applied Behavior Analysis

(systematic teaching approach which breaks down skills into easy-to-learn steps with positive reinforcement - considered most effective autism treatment)

QLC- see under Comprehensive Services

Positive ABA
www.postitiveaba.org
Arizona based with local tutors
Amy Stark 781-0599 or
Jessica Donnelly 315-794-0688

www.rethinkautism.org- includes on-line videos to teach parents ABA therapies

Behavior Therapy

*(assist children and families to learn new skills to deal with challenging behaviors and address social deficits- ** Autism specific training)*

**Big Sky Therapeutics- Brett Gilleo, PLLC
www.bigskytherapy.com
1601 2nd Ave N Ste 634 240-2045

**The Power of Play- Robin Castle, LCPC
1601 2nd Ave N Ste 622 788-9231

Stivers Psychological- Coleen Stivers, LSW
401 15th Ave S Ste 205 453-5563

Occupational Therapy (OT)

(assist in fine motor coordination, motor planning, reflexes, self care and sensory processing)

Benefis Pediatric Therapy Center
www.benefis.org/Main/therapy.aspx
Benefis West Campus- main floor
500 15th Ave S 455-2661

Ages & Stages- Ashley Williams, MOTR/L
2509 7th Ave S Ste C4 216-5995

Scottish Rite Childhood- OT evaluation
monthly- see under Speech therapy

Child Psychiatrists

(assist in diagnosis, prescribing, monitoring of medication to treat certain behaviors)

Malinda Pike, MD

Great Falls Clinic Specialty Center
454-2171

AWARE- see under Comprehensive Services

Physical Therapy (PT)

*(assist in gross motor skills to improve strength, coordination, *craniosacral therapy)*

*Advanced Practice Physical Therapy
900 2nd St S Ste 2 770-3171

Benefis Pediatric Therapy Center

www.benefis.org/Main/therapy.aspx
Benefis West Campus- main floor
500 15th Ave S. 455-2661

*Integrative Medicine Clinic

Kim Umscheid, MPT
1400 29th S (2nd floor GF Clinic)

Speech Therapy (ST)

(assist with feeding, communication and social skills)

Benefis Pediatric Therapy Center

www.benefis.org/Main/therapy.aspx
Benefis West Campus- main floor
500 15th Ave S 455-2661
feeding, articulation, language, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), social skills (called Pragmatics)

Scottish Rite Childhood

www.greatfallsscottishrite.org
1304 13th St S 452-2063
language and feeding up to school age;
also monthly OT evaluation program

Great Falls Public Schools

If your child has the diagnosis of autism- speak with the principal at your child's school to request an I.E.P. (Individualized Education Plan) that may qualify him or her for therapy through the school system. (Special Ed, Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapies)
Dale Lambert, Director of Student Service
268-6777

DAN (Defeat Autism Now) Naturopath

(Heavy Metal Detoxification, allergy testing)

Margaret Beeson, ND

Billings 406-259-5096

Patricia Cole, MD

Whitefish, MT 406-863-9300

Jeffery Green, ND

Belgrade, Mt 406-388-6676

Jerry Taylor NMD

Havre, MT 406-265-2250/ doctorjtaylor@gmail.com

Recreational Therapy

(fun activities for coordination and social skills)

Eagle Mount

www.eaglemount.net
4792 13th St S 454-1449
a variety of fun physical activities including skiing, karate, horseback riding and much more

Special Olympics of Montana

710 1st Ave N 216-5327
www.somt.org

Parent Respite

(a break for parents provided by trained caregivers)

Peace Place Respite Care

www.firstpresgfmt.org
First Presbyterian Church 1315 Central Ave
Elaine Hundley 453-1411
Mon, Wed, Fridays 9:30-12:30 & 1 evening/ month
State licensed/ for infants to 10 years old children with special needs

Peer to Peer Coach

(for families with severe emotional disability challenges)

CDMT (Consumer Direct MT)- Kim Monroe

2300 12th Ave S Ste 130 403-6710 or 452-3016
KimberlyM@consumerdirectonline.net

Military Families-

Consider enrolling in the ECHO (Extended Care Health Option) program which may qualify you for special services including ABA and respite care
see Mental Health in Malmstrom Clinic- ask for Special Needs coordinator or tech
731-2316
also see www.understandingbehavior.com

Parent Support

PLUK (Parents Let's Unite for Kids)

www.pluk.org Billings 800-222-7585
Free network of parents, information, training, support. ****Free lending Library****

Our Kids Count- local parent support group

last Thursday monthly at 5:30 pm
Our Savior's Lutheran Church-
1321 1st Ave N - see Kim under Peer to Peer Coach

Facebook groups:

- Friends of Autism Great Falls
- Montana Special Moms
- Montana Community Autism and Asperger's Network
- Parents of Teens with Autism
- Our Kids Count
- Autism Discussion Page

myautismteam.com

Reliable Websites

www.autismspeaks.org
www.asa.org

Some Good Books:

Ten Things Every Kid with Autism Wishes You Knew - Helen Notbohm

Simple Strategies That Work Brenda Smith Myles

No More Meltdowns Jed Baker

Out-of- Sync Child Carol Stock Kranowitz

Asperger Syndrome and Difficult Moments
Brenda Smith Myles

Sensational Kids Lucy Jane Miller

This flyer is meant to be a resource for families and children on the Autism Spectrum. It is compiled by a mom who has struggled to find answers for her son. It does not endorse any one service or provider.

If the information is not accurate or up to date; if you know of a resource that needs to be included- please go to Facebook: Friends of Autism Great Falls or email: friendsofautismgf@gmail.com.