

April 27, 2011

I am writing on behalf of the over 50 active and supportive members of the CT Autism Action Coalition. Our members are leaders of organizations that: advocate for families, provide support and services in the communities, train parents and professional, and state agencies that work with individuals on the Autism Spectrum.

Together we provide one unified voice supporting Connecticut in the development and improvement of service access and quality for all individuals who are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders. Through awareness events and training our vision is that autism is so clearly understood that it is seen as a character trait and not a disability. This would then allow the talents and strengths of an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorders, to be identified, utilized and embraced by the community in which they live. Although each member and their organizations have their own priorities, each year our coalition chooses two to three items to focus on that we all can agree are extremely important and we work on these goals as a group.

For 2010 we chose as one of our two focus areas to do what we could to help get the applications for these three Medicaid waivers completed and approved by our state legislators. We all strongly believe the type of supports these waivers will provide are desperately needed and long over due. Almost every other state in the nation already has these provisions. These supports will allow children and adults with autism to stay in their homes and to become active members of their communities. We thank you for supporting this application.



Doriana M. Vicedomini
CT Autism Action Coalition, Chair

CT AUTISM ACTION COALITION (CAAC)

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide one unified voice, supporting CT in the development and improvement of service access and quality for all individuals who are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders.

VISION STATEMENT

A world in which Autism, is so clearly understood, that it is seen as a character trait not a disability, allowing the talents and strengths of an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorders, to be identified, utilized and embraced by the community in which they live.

Member Organizations:

Autism Society of Connecticut (ASCONN)
Autism Speaks
Autism Spectrum Resource Center (ASRC)
CT Bureau of Special Education
CT Center for Child Development (CCCD)
CT Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
CT Department of Public Health
CT Families for Effective Autism Treatment (CT FEAT)
CT Family Support Network (CTFSN)
CT Special Education PTA (SEPTA) Council
Families United for Children's Mental Health—CT
Family to Family Health Information
Farmington Valley Asperger's Network (FAVAN)
FAVOR—Statewide Family Advocacy
FOCUS Alternative Learning Center
Helping Hands CT
Institute of Living.
The Litchfield County Autism Spectrum Association (LACASA)
Lighthouse Psycho-educational Services
North Central Community Collaborative (NCCC)
North Star Support Group
Rt. 2 Community Collaborative
SE Mental Health Systems of Care
The Village for Families & Children, Inc.
United Community & Family Services (UCFS)
University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)

If you are interested in participating in this organization contact:
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