

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Samantha Yurman and I am a School Social Worker at Marvin Elementary School. I am writing in favor of expanding services for children with ASD. The reason this has become particularly crucial for me is because I have had parents calling me and asking me where to turn for specific services and I have only been able to lead them down a dead end road.

Specifically children under 7 years old with ASD, are overlooked when it comes to in-home services. Currently, if you are a low income family and have your child on Husky insurance plan, there are NO in-home services available for your child. Husky does NOT cover any in-home service for children under 8 with ASD. DDS will provide families with GRANTS but that is the extent of their service. DCF voluntary will refer the case to DDS and again, ONLY grants are offered. Parents who have other children have a very hard time managing a household when one child has ASD. Even when other children aren't in the picture, it is very difficult to manage a child with ASD when there is not much understanding around it, especially if finances are an issue. Parents need to be educated and a service that could really benefit families would be to get in-home support for families from low incomes that have a child under age 8 with ASD.

Samantha Yurman, LCSW
Marvin Elementary School
15 Calf Pasture Beach Road
Norwalk, CT 06855
(P) 203-899-2890 x 2915
(F) 203-899-2894

"There is no stress in the world, only stressful thoughts."