



Mission: Act as a catalyst for community action and partnerships that support families and advance success in school, work, and life for children on the autism spectrum.

Our Vision

- ▶ Lewis County values and supports lifelong success for all individuals and families living with autism through access to quality education, recreation and employment resources.

Lewis Co. Autism Coalition

- ▶ Pope's Kids Place
- ▶ NW Pediatrics
- ▶ Growing Together Program (Chehalis / Centralia Student Support Cooperative)
- ▶ InTot & Parent to Parent
- ▶ Lewis County Public Health & Social Services
- ▶ Centralia - Chehalis School Districts
- ▶ Lewis County Special Ed Coop
- ▶ Parents
- ▶ Centralia College - Child & Family Studies, ECEAP
- ▶ Providence Centralia Hospital
- ▶ United Way of Lewis County
- ▶ Lewis Co. Head Start

Autism Prevalence

Identified Prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorders
ADDM Network 2000-2008
Combining Data from All Sites

Surveillance Year	Birth Year	Number of ADDM Sites Reporting	Prevalence per 1,000 Children (Range)	This is about 1 in X children...
2000	1992	6	6.7 (4.5-9.9)	1 in 150
2002	1994	14	6.6 (3.3-10.6)	1 in 150
2004	1996	8	8.0 (4.6-9.8)	1 in 125
2006	1998	11	9.0 (4.2-12.1)	1 in 110
2008	2000	14	11.3 (4.8-21.2)	1 in 88

1:88 Estimated 103 of Lewis County's 9,100 children age birth through age 8 are on the spectrum – the key is assuring that all are assessed and have access to services.

Progress since 2011 Autism Awareness Conference

- Support Group launched
- Provider Road Map
- M-CHAT Training
- Medical-School Protocol
- Summer Playgroup
- CATCH Grant
- 2nd Autism Awareness conference

Support Group

- ▶ A monthly support group has been meeting since January for parents, caregivers and professionals concerned with children on the autism spectrum.
- ▶ It's a safe place where you can share your stories and challenges with other parents, caregivers, teachers and citizens who support you. And you can learn about community resources.
- ▶ Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday from 6 – 7:30 pm at the Chehalis Library, 400 No. Market Blvd.

Road Maps

- ▶ Parents: List of early signs of autism, community resources and contact information for parents and caregivers that helps individuals navigate the autism services system. Available in English and Spanish.
- ▶ Providers: List of early signs of autism, diagnostic criteria, surveillance and screening, and community resources for medical providers.

M-CHAT Training

- ▶ The M-CHAT (Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers) is a quick, useful and easily-administered diagnostic tool to assess risk and achieve early screening and referral of children who are potentially on the autism spectrum. Training can be provided for your staff so they can utilize this tool with clients/patients.

Medical–School Protocol

Provides a guide for referrals between school personnel and medical providers for children who may need evaluations to determine if they are on the autism spectrum.

Summer Playgroup

- ▶ A dozen 3 to 8 year old children on the autism spectrum, along with their parents and siblings.
- ▶ Held on 6 consecutive July and August Wednesdays at Centralia College.
- ▶ Children played with supervision so parents had a chance to listen to speakers on issues like sensory issues, motor-skills, and occupational needs.




CATCH Grant

- ▶ Dr. Isaac Pope awarded \$12,000 grant from American Academy of Pediatrics (Community Action Toward Children's Health-CATCH)
- ▶ Support for behavioral treatment services for children on the autism spectrum.
- ▶ Support for Autism Coalition development.

Autism Conference Sponsors

- ▶ Lewis County Public Health and Social Services
- ▶ Foundation for Early Learning
- ▶ Lewis County Parent-to-Parent
- ▶ Providence Centralia Hospital

2013

- ▶ Connect children to services
 - ▶ Connect parents to resources
 - ▶ Pilot projects that meet service gaps
 - ▶ Professional development
 - ▶ Sustainability
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Remember –

- ▶ *“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”*

~ Margaret Mead

