Serving individuals with autism spectrum disorders for over 60 years

As one of the nation’s oldest and largest nonprofit behavioral healthcare organizations, Devereux operates a comprehensive national network of programs and services for children, adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and behavioral health challenges. Devereux specializes in serving individuals of all ages with autism spectrum disorders. At multiple centers across its national network, Devereux clinicians versed in the latest evidence-based strategies provide assessment services, residential services, and community-based services including Approved Private Schools, school and family consultation, outpatient therapy, BHRS “wrap around” services, and day programs including supported employment, and transition services. Devereux supports children and adults with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) by helping them develop essential life, communication and social skills, enhancing their quality of life.

The Devereux Difference

Our goal at The Devereux Pennsylvania Autism Assessment Center is to provide families with swift access to assessment and diagnostic services. In addition, following a confirmed diagnosis, Devereux experts provide guidance on appropriate services and interventions and can assist families in accessing them as quickly as possible. Unlike most assessment programs, which can have wait times as long as 18 months, at Devereux families can expect to schedule an appointment within four weeks of their initial call. Our licensed professionals have extensive training and experience delivering evidence-based assessment and interventions. Our staff includes psychiatrists, licensed psychologists, board certified behavior analysts, speech therapists, and special education consultants.

AUTISM ASSESSMENTS AND SERVICES

All assessment and diagnostic services include:

- Intake evaluation (reviewing relevant history and background)
- ADOS-II, considered the “gold standard” of autism assessments
- In addition to the ADOS-II, a series of comprehensive, individualized assessments can be completed including psychological, educational, speech, and occupational therapy
- Same day preliminary feedback
- A detailed evaluation report with assessment information, diagnosis, and recommendations
- A consultation meeting to discuss the evaluation report
- Guidance on accessing services in an individual’s local community
About Autism

A recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that one in 68 U.S. children will be diagnosed with autism, reflecting a 30 percent increase in prevalence from two years ago. Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder with characteristics that include deficits in social interaction and communication, and may include repetitive behaviors and/or restricted interests. Autism is best understood as a “spectrum disorder” with the impact of symptoms falling on a continuum; some individuals present with mild symptoms, while others demonstrate more severe symptoms. Confirmed diagnoses will reflect this understanding with the diagnostic term “autism spectrum disorder.” Regardless of whether the symptoms are mild or severe, research clearly indicates that the earlier appropriate intervention begins, the better the outcomes for the child. With more children than ever before being diagnosed with ASD, there is a great need for prompt recognition and diagnosis.