



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Bureau of Autism Services

January 2010
Issue 1

PO Box 2675, Harrisburg, PA 17105
[www.autisminpa.org] [DPW-AutismOffice@state.pa.us] [866-539-7689]

Welcome to the BAS Newsletter!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Featured Article pg 1
- 2 Adult Programs pg 2
- 3 BAS Webcasts pg 3
- 4 Other Initiatives pg 4

Welcome to the first edition of the Bureau of Autism Services (BAS) newsletter! Every other month BAS plans to use this format to share information about its innovative programs and ongoing initiatives. Our goal is to provide ongoing communication about the Bureau's work to help people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the Commonwealth participate in their communities in the way that they want to. We are committed to hearing your questions, concerns and suggestions about BAS initiatives.

In every edition you will find information on BAS initiatives such as:

- The Adult Autism Waiver
- The Adult Community Autism Program (ACAP)
- Pennsylvania's Regional Autism Services, Education, Research and Training (ASERT) collaborations
- *Pennsylvania Autism Training Conference (PATC)*
- Grant opportunities
- Community resources for educating yourself and others about ASD

Our goal is to provide ongoing communication about the Bureau's work to support individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the Commonwealth.

This newsletter will be published six times a year (January, March, May, July, September, and November). Newsletter content will be sent in the body of an email and also attached as a document. Each issue will also be posted to the BAS General Information session in the *BAS Virtual Training Center (VTC)*. We welcome you to visit the VTC at <http://bastraining.tiu11.org> and set up a free account.

March Issue: Look for a detailed overview of the **first-ever census** of people with ASD in Pennsylvania! Learn how the number of adults with ASD is expected to dramatically increase in the coming years and our innovative strategies for supporting them.

We encourage you to share this and future newsletters with others in your community who might need or be interested in this information.

Check out our online Virtual Training Center: <http://bastraining.tiu11.org>

**For more information
about BAS adult programs:**

Visit www.autisminpa.org

Toll Free: 1(866) 539-7689

**Both programs
are accepting
applications....**

**Call to Apply
Today!**

New Programs For ADULTS with ASD

**How are the Adult Autism Waiver and
ACAP different from other
programs for adults in PA?**

- ◆ ***Specifically designed to meet the needs of people with ASD***
- ◆ ***Administered at the state level directly by BAS***
- ◆ ***Does not use IQ as an eligibility factor***
- ◆ ***Providers required to complete autism-specific training & demonstrate competence***
- ◆ ***Clinical & technical assistance available to enrolled providers***
- ◆ ***Service planning and measures of success based on individual goals***
- ◆ ***Services based on proven approaches to help individuals realize their goals***

Adult Autism Waiver	Adult Community Autism Program (ACAP)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capacity to serve 200 participants ▪ Available statewide ▪ Priority given to individuals not receiving ongoing state/federally funded services ▪ Participant retains Health Choices; physical health not included as a waiver service ▪ Choice of enrolled provider for all services ▪ Does allow for residential 24/7 care if a need is determined through assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capacity to serve 200 participants ▪ Currently available in 4 counties ▪ ACAP becomes the participant's health plan ▪ Integrated physical/behavioral health & community services ▪ Keystone Autism Services and their network of providers (e.g. primary care physician) provide most services ▪ At intake, participant cannot require 16 or more hours of awake support

Bureau of Autism Services Webcasts: Ongoing Outreach

In alternate months to this newsletter, BAS plans to hold webcasts providing updates on Bureau activities. Some webcasts will provide general BAS updates, and others will focus on specific topics or initiatives. Each session will include an open question and answer forum. The topic, date and time of each webcast will be announced in the previous month's newsletter and posted to the *BAS Virtual Training Center (VTC)*.



**We look forward to your participation in the first
BAS Webcast!**

Topic: Welcome and BAS General Initiatives Overview

Presented by Nina Wall-Coté, BAS Director

- **PA Census**
- **Adult Autism Waiver**
- **ACAP**
- **ASERT**
- **Q & A**

The same information will be presented in two separate sessions. We hope this will enable professionals and families some flexibility in joining us.

Session Option 1

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Session Option 2

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

10:00 am – 11:30 am

*We are committed to hearing
your questions, concerns and
suggestions about BAS
initiatives.*

*Have a request for a specific
BAS Webcast topic? Please email
DPW-AutismOffice@state.pa.us*

Pre-registration is not required. To join the presentation:

1. Visit the following site:

<http://bastraining.acrobat.com/baswebcast/>

2. Sign in as a Guest using your first name, association.

Copies of presentation materials will be posted to:

<http://bastraining.tiu11.org>

The Bureau of Autism Services is pleased to share information about additional initiatives designed to support individuals with autism across the lifespan and their families. For more details about the information below, please visit www.autisminpa.org or contact us directly.



These regional collaborations were created to enhance the lives of Pennsylvanians with autism of all ages and abilities by improving regional access to quality services and interventions, providing information and support to families, training professionals in best practices and facilitating partnerships among providers of services throughout the Commonwealth.

"ASERT" Stands for...

Autism Services: Ensure that people living with autism and their families, in every part of the Commonwealth, can access quality supports and interventions that are based on best practices and provided by trained professionals.

Education: Develop educational materials relative to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and disseminate to families, providers and other stakeholders.

Research: Research yielding practical and measurable results that contribute to enhance quality of life for people with autism and provide evidence-based information for use by families and service providers.

Training: Increase the capacity of professionals with expertise in providing services and supports to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their families.

Go to www.autisminpa.org for contact information on your region's ASERT.

Pennsylvania Autism Census Project

We are pleased to present the first study to estimate the number of Pennsylvanians living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

For a copy of the full report including county data, please visit <http://bastraining.tiu11.org>

2010 Family & Individual Mini-Grants

*Application available: **Feb. 19th**
at www.autisminpa.org*

DEADLINE: April 16th

For the benefit of Children & Adults with ASD

3rd Annual Pennsylvania Autism Training Conference (PATC)

**June 2-4, 2010
Lancaster, PA**

**Details coming soon to
www.autisminpa.org**