

ASD Task Force  
May 12, 2011  
Meeting Minutes  
Addendum to the minutes

**GPAST information:**

They are working with various school systems and offering ASD clinics. Current clinics are taking place in the Belcourt and Bottineau school systems. Scheduled or potential partnerships include Valley City, Belcourt, and Dickinson. The clinics are provided with 2 – 4 referrals. Referral sources are parents, early intervention, and the school system.

GPAST provides training to Head Start and Day Care providers and parent support groups are given technical assistance.

The Autism State Conference is scheduled for August 2,3,4 in Minot at the Grand International.

NDCPD did a survey and only 9% of responders were currently using the autism screening tools in well-baby visits.

Discussion occurred on the hesitancy to refer and screen. Reasons include unknown where to refer after screening, not knowing what happens after the screening, lack of resources to refer to, once a child is screened, the next level may include a multi-disciplinary team approach of which may not exist, and the screening results in a high rate of false positives in the screening process.

It was clarified that the 'non-categorical delay' option in education allows for the child to remain in services while a definitive diagnosis is made.

Number of children evaluated:

- 17 through the ASD waiver
- 17 through GPIC ( interdisciplinary committee with
- 30 GPAST with Anne Carlson providing ongoing services

Modules are available free on the NDCPD website

There has been confusion on whether there is overlap between GPAST and the ASD Waiver. It was clarified that with children birth through 4, GPAST provides consultation and informs the families of the ASD waiver option.

NDCPD shared their demand estimate for North Dakota for children 0 – 21 that need a team-based assessment:

- In the US, it is said that 1 in 110 have autism or ASD
- In ND Part C/early intervention program, 3 of 900 have this diagnosis

- 554 in the special education system have primary autism
- In ND, 1 in 238 for school-age children, which indicates that only ½ of the children are identified in ND.

This means there is a demand for 112-127 team evaluations per year in ND. Currently, there are 30 – 40 being provided.

It was found that with autism, over time, disciplines fall off the team and aren't there to advocate for ongoing services and second evaluations are not being done. What does this cost? 4,000 – 5,000 per child for the evaluation, written report, and some recommendations. This cost estimate doesn't include medical follow-up.

CDC does not have a monitoring program in ND 1- 12 states do have such a program. This funding does become available every couple of years.

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