

Autism Waiver Newsletter

Fall, 2006

Office of Third Party Billing

We hope your summer has been filled with memorable times and hopefully some relaxing moments. Over the past several months many of our families have had the annual re-determination for their child. This re-determination enables families to continue with waiver services as long as their child has re-qualified. Many of you have had questions regarding some of the waiver terminology. Hopefully the following information will help when reviewing your child's plan of care and communicating with your provider and service coordinator.

IISS, Intensive Individual Support Services is 1-to-1 intervention provided by a technician in the home or community. A technician is an individual who is specifically trained to work with your child according to the plan of care that is developed annually and outlines the services offered to your child under the waiver guidelines.

Respite care is 1-to-1 supervision that provides basic and functional supports. This service can take place in the child's home or licensed youth camp. You have 168 hours over a 12 month period, January 1-December 31. You are not locked into a certain amount of hours per month.

Family Trainers are licensed certified professionals who assist families with behavior management and provide instruction in treatment and skill development. This service allows for 60 hours over a 12 month period. You are not locked into a certain amount of hours per month and the hours are calculated January 1 through December 31.

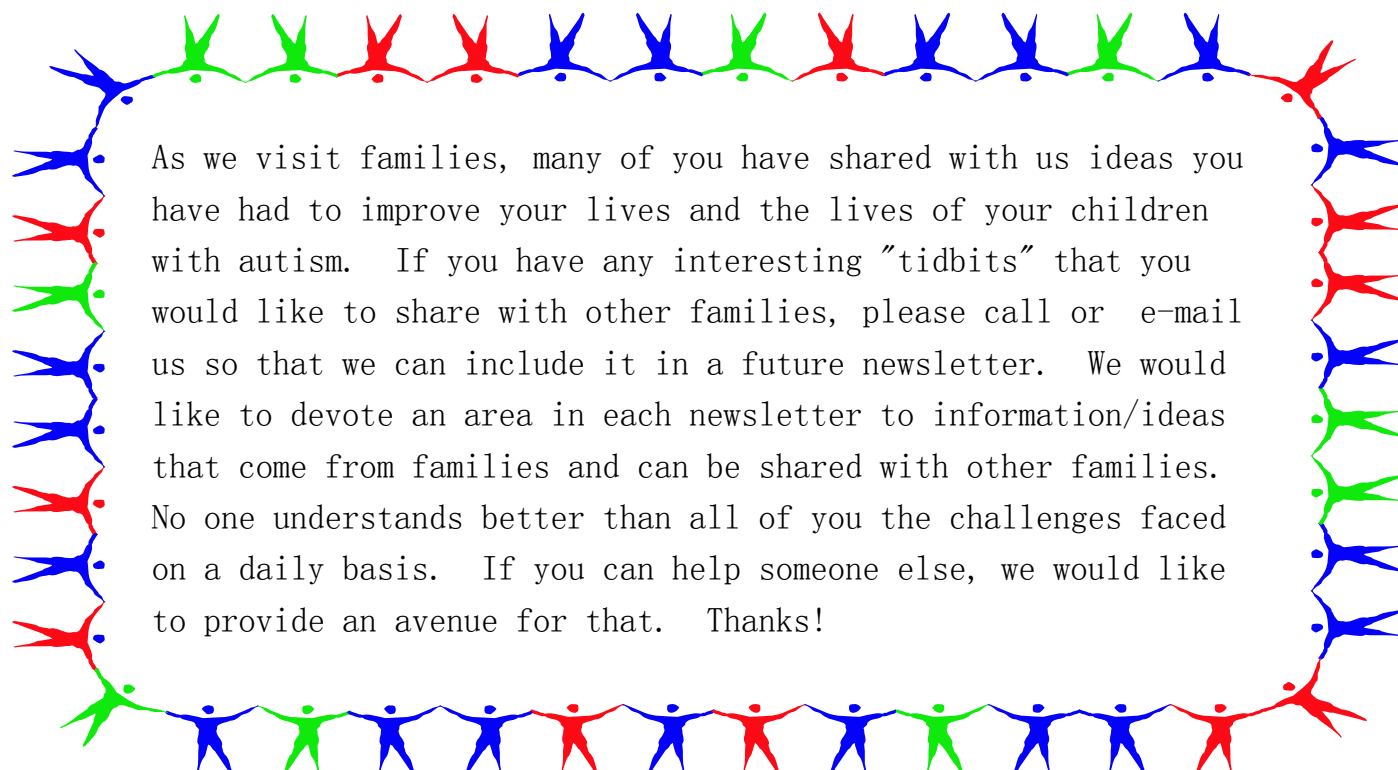


Therapeutic Integration Services (TI) refers to after school programming in a more social setting, for a minimum of 2-4 hours per day.

Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (EAA) allow the family to assure a safe therapeutic environment that can enable the participant to function with greater independence in the home. Some examples of this service are alarms, locks, padding on walls/floors, brackets for appliances, raised electrical switches and sockets, and safety screen doors. This service does not provide adaptations or improvements to the home that are not directly related to the safety of the child and no equipment would be covered under this service.

As you get back into the school routine please keep in mind that we would like to come to your child's team. At times the school may not remember to inform us of the team date. If possible please call the office, 410-887-4130, to notify us of the date or e-mail us (ewatts@bcps.org/dhenninger@bcps.org). We feel that attending team meetings helps bridge the home and school environment and creates a more consistent program for your child. Have a great rest of the summer and feel free to call if you have questions or concerns.

Debbie Henninger and Emily Watts



As we visit families, many of you have shared with us ideas you have had to improve your lives and the lives of your children with autism. If you have any interesting "tidbits" that you would like to share with other families, please call or e-mail us so that we can include it in a future newsletter. We would like to devote an area in each newsletter to information/ideas that come from families and can be shared with other families. No one understands better than all of you the challenges faced on a daily basis. If you can help someone else, we would like to provide an avenue for that. Thanks!