

US Department of Education

Office of Special Education Programs Autism Spectrum Disorders Gail R. Houle, Ph.D. Office of Special Education Programs Gail.Houle@ed.gov



The OSEP Mission

OSEP is dedicated to improving results for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities ages birth through 21 by providing leadership and financial support to assist states and local districts to provide comprehensive IDEA Services



Relevance

Challenges Related to Educating Children with ASD:

While the numbers of children identified with ASD are increasing, the numbers of highly skilled personnel are not keeping pace

Some of the instructional strategies that are effective with children with ASD are relatively complex and demand sufficient practice to achieve fluency



Addressing the Needs of Children with Autism

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ensures the right to appropriate education for children with disabilities.
- The component in OSERS that administers IDEA is the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

OSEP is committed to furthering effective evidencebased practices for children with ASD through technical assistance, technology, and personnel training projects funded by IDEA, Part D investments.



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OSEP-Funded Projects

Addressing the Needs of Children With Autism

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Addressing the Needs of Children with Autism

Investments and Strategies for Children ... The number of FY 2009 OSEP projects to improve services and personnel preparation to meet the needs of children with ASD under IDEA:

57

- 43 Personnel Preparation projects
- 6 Research Technology projects.
- 8 Leadership t raining grants



Addressing the Needs of Children with Autism

- University of West Virginia. Project STARS, Specialized training in ASD for rural schools. Director: Barbara Ludlow
- Santa Clara University, CA. Preparing special educators to be leaders in the implementation of effective techniques for supporting children and youth with ASD. Director: Ruth Cook
- OSEP has funded a five-year, \$5,000,000 Technical Assistance and Training Center for Improving Professional Development of Personnel Serving Children with ASD, 2007-2012 at UNC (Sam Odom) in collaboration with UWisc and MIND Institute.



OSEP-Funded Projects Addressing the Needs of Children with Autism Investments and Strategies for Children...

- Technical assistance in the implementation of IDEA services for children with disabilities, including ASD. Technical assistance providers working nationally include:
 - the National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center at the University of North Carolina. www.nectac.org
 - the Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (formerly NICHCY) Washington, D.C. www.nichcy.org
 - the Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports at the University of Oregon. www.pbis.org



Addressing the Needs of Children with Autism Investments and Strategies for Children...

Access for all families of children with ASD (regardless of family resources) to programs based on effective, evidence-based well-implemented models or service packages

 OSEP-funded Parent Training and Information Projects and Community-Parent Resource Centers in 50 states and in many communities provide information and advocacy for families of children with disabilities www.TAalliance.org

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What's New!

No Child Left Behind

IDEA

Scientifically Based Research

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Information Centers and **Community Parent Resource Centers**

Each state is home to at least one parent center. Parent centers serve families of children and young adults from birth to age 22 with all disabilities: physical, cognitive, emotional, and learning. They help families obtain appropriate education and services for their children with disabilities; work to improve education results for all children; train and inform parents and professionals on a variety of topics; resolve problems between families and schools or other agencies; and connect children with disabilities to community resources that address their needs

Select your region for more information



ARRA 2009

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17th, 2009



The \$12.2 billion allocated by the ARRA for IDEA

will offer much-needed relief to states and local governments struggling to balance their budgets, will save countless jobs in special education, and

will provide services to nearly 7 million children and youth with disabilities



Initiatives in ARRA

\$11.4 billion for IDEA grants to states for school-aged students (Part B).

\$400 million for IDEA's Preschool Program (Part B Section 619).

\$500 million for IDEA's Infants and Toddlers With Disabilities Program (Part C).

\$680 million for rehabilitation services and disability research.



ARRA

\$250 million for state longitudinal data systems.
\$200 million for a Teacher Incentive Fund.
\$650 million for education technology.



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Contact OSERS

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www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS

