

# Clinical Social Work Services

## at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders

### Who We Are

The clinical social workers at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) are highly valued members of our center's interdisciplinary team. Our clinicians are committed to addressing the needs of individuals on the autism spectrum, as well as offering support to caregivers and siblings.

Our social workers are licensed mental health professionals who have expertise in diagnosing and treating a variety of mental health concerns. Social workers also provide caring and knowledgeable support on treatment options, local and national community resources, and financial resources.

Through education, research, community outreach and advocacy, our social workers use their knowledge and understanding of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to optimize quality of life in children and teens on the autism spectrum, and their families.

### Who We Serve

While our clinicians are trained to work closely with individuals with ASD, we also address the following concerns:

- Anxiety disorder
- Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- Family-related concerns
- Intellectual disability
- Learning differences
- Life transitions
- Mild behavior challenges
- Mood disorders
- Parenting concerns
- Self-esteem
- Social skills

### Our Approach

Clinical social work has a primary focus on the emotional and behavioral well-being of individuals and families. Our approach is holistic and strengths-based, with an emphasis on mental health and interpersonal relationships. Our clinical social workers partner with individuals on the autism spectrum and their families, empowering them to achieve their goals. Social workers meet with individuals on the autism spectrum and families to codevelop a plan that supports success at home, in the classroom and in the community.



*"I was quite hesitant about reaching out for assistance. It was one of the best decisions I made ... and I continue to reap the benefits of CARD's invaluable support and advice."*

– Pam Talley, parent

### Our Services

#### Mental Health Care

We tailor our services to the concerns and goals identified by the individual and family. Options include individual, group and family therapy. The length of treatment is individualized and depends upon the treatment goals and the needs of the individuals involved. Therapy is covered under the mental health benefits of most insurance companies.



## Clinical Care Coordination

Clinical care coordination services are designed to align families with community-based services intended to help them successfully meet their needs. Examples include helping families access healthcare, resources, early intervention services, services to support education, services supporting families and siblings, and funding for a variety of services, including legal assistance. Given the interdisciplinary nature of the services needed by individuals on the autism spectrum, many families find these services to be invaluable.

## ASD Support and Services

### Local/Regional Resources

#### Pathfinders for Autism

pathfindersforautism.org

#### Center for Autism and Related Disorders

KennedyKrieger.org/CARD

#### Baltimore Autism Society of America

baltimoreautismsociety.org

#### Maryland Department of Education

marylandpublicschools.org

#### Howard County Autism Society

howard-autism.org

#### Kinera Foundation

kinera.org

### National Resources

#### Autism Society of America

autism-society.org

#### Organization for Autism Research (OAR)

researchautism.org

#### Autism Speaks

autismspeaks.org

Autism Speaks has a number of tool kits to assist families in finding the critical information they need, including First 100 Days Kit, Asperger Syndrome and Advocacy Tool Kit, School & Community Tool Kit, Autism and Challenging Behaviors: Strategies and Supports Toolkit, and Transition Tool Kit.

## Spark for Autism

SparkForAutism.org/KKI

## American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: Parents' Medication Guide

aacap.org

*“Having our social work team available for children and families provides physicians with the opportunity to work on plans that focus on improving quality of life not only for children, but also for their families.”*

– Dr. Anna Maria Wilms-Floet,  
developmental pediatrician

## Contact Information

### Center for Autism and Related Disorders at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information about our program, please call **443-923-7630**. To schedule an appointment, please call **443-923-9400**, or call toll-free at **888-554-2080**. TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.

### KennedyKrieger.org/CARD

### Physicians and Healthcare Professionals

To make a referral, call our Physician Referral Line at **443-923-9403**.

### Main Locations

3901 Greenspring Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21211

1741 Ashland Avenue, 5th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21205

For information about other locations, please call the numbers above.

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