

April 14, 2020  
Press Release

## Easterseals offers free training to parents of children with autism

Easterseals Eastern PA is offering free training via videoconference with a board certified behavioral analyst to teach ABA therapy to parents of children with autism. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a method of therapy that helps improve communication and social interactions, develop new skills, and support positive behavior. This training coaches family members to use ABA techniques to help their child communicate and reduce challenging behaviors.

Although ABA therapy is recommended for children with autism, in the past it has been expensive and difficult to obtain, and there have been significant wait times to receive this service. Easterseals is offering individual training with a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), at no cost, thanks to funding by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. This service is available in both English and Spanish. Verification of diagnosis is **not** required and we welcome caregivers of all age children.

Jill Glose, VP of Clinical Services, explained “Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, BCBAs were serving families right in their living rooms. We’ve transitioned to the ZOOM platform with relative ease. Some families certainly miss that in-person interaction but there are moments in the lives of children where intervention is critical. Most parents can’t wait until the government orders are lifted, the need for support is now. We can help build their confidence as they learn practical strategies and skills.”

Glose adds that an additional benefit is that “Now our bilingual BCBA who lives in the Poconos can video with a Spanish family in Berks County.”

For information about you can enroll in ABA Parent Training/consultation, contact Jill Glose at 610-289-0114, extension 201.

###

*Easterseals Eastern Pennsylvania serves 3,600 customers in the Lehigh Valley and Berks County with early childhood services, medical rehabilitation, community medical clinics, camping and recreation, employment services and community support services to ensure people with disabilities and special needs and their families maximize their potential and have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play in their communities.*