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Copper Country Community Mental Health

Serving Baraga, Houghton,
Keweenaw, and Ontonagon Counties

Autism Benefit

Information for caretakers
and professionals



What is the Autism Benefit?

It is a benefit to provide intensive Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) interventions for children 0-21 with diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Children must have either Medicaid or MI Child.

What is ABA?

ABA is a scientific approach to changing behavior and teaching skills and is internationally recommended for children with autism. With ABA, skills are taught in small steps with many opportunities to practice, and positive reinforcement is used contingently to motivate the child to improve skills and reduce problem behaviors. ABA programs include high levels of data collection to demonstrate progress. Each child's program is custom-designed to meet the needs of the family and learning style of the child.

What are some Signs of Autism Spectrum Disorders?

- Limited social interaction and/or communication
- Flapping of hands
- Rocking of the body
- Sensory sensitivities
- Repetitive behaviors both physical and verbal

- Avoiding eye contact
- Doesn't respond to name

(This is not a complete list nor for the purpose of diagnosing.)

Who is eligible through Copper Country Mental Health?

- Medicaid, Upper Peninsula Health Plan (UPHP), and MI Child recipients
- Age 0-21
- Qualifying diagnosis of ASD

How is ABA delivered?

ABA through Copper Country Mental Health's Autism benefit consists of about 5 to 20 hours per week of one-to-one individualized instruction and engagement activities. This can take place either in the home or in an office setting. Parental involvement is essential.

Who can make a referral?

A referral can come from family, school, primary care doctor, or any other source.

Diagnostic Process:

Several assessments will be administered by Copper Country Mental Health and the final diagnosis confirmed by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist.

What happens after testing?

If an Autism Spectrum Disorder is confirmed there will be further testing to determine the intensity of services required. Services can range from 5-20 hours or more per week depending on the medical necessity. There will be an opportunity for additional supports and services through Copper Country Mental Health.

To begin the referral process call the NorthCare Network at:

906-225-4433

Or

1-888-906-9060