

The Governor's Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism 2008 Clinical Enhancement Grant Recipients

The Council's Clinical Enhancement grant program is designed to improve families' access to services, reduce wait times for receiving developmental evaluations, and increase the number of children that can be assessed by multidisciplinary evaluation teams. The 6 grant recipients that will be funded through this \$6 million grant initiative are:



Institution	Principal Investigator	2-yr. Funding Level
1) The Autism Center – University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey Medical School	Dr. Kendell Sprott	\$ 1,000,000
2) Children's Specialized Hospital –Toms River	Dr. Yvette Marie Janvier	\$ 1,000,000
3) The Center for Neurological and Neurodevelopmental Health II	Dr. Mark Mintz	\$ 1,000,000
4) Institute for Child Development - Hackensack University Medical Center	Dr. Randye Huron	\$ 1,000,000
5) Hunterdon Medical Center	Dr. Audrey Mars	\$ 695,969
6) Jersey Shore Medical Center Foundation	Dr. Denise Aloisio	\$ 1,000,000

The 6 grant recipient centers will work in a collaborative manner to contribute patient data to both the NJDHSS' Autism Registry and to a collective database that can be used as a tool for future research studies and clinical initiatives. The goal of the Clinical Enhancement grant program is to create an integrated network of services that will ultimately enable the State of New Jersey to pursue federal funding as an Autism Center of Excellence (ACE).

As reported in February 2007 in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) study on the prevalence of autism, 1 in every 94 children in New Jersey has an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and this prevalence rate is the highest among all of the states examined in the study. In response to this situation, the Clinical Enhancement funding will allow for staff enhancements in all of the recipient centers. Hiring additional clinical and support staff will allow centers to streamline the patient intake process, reduce wait times for multidisciplinary evaluations, and increase the availability of community-based services by offering additional workshops with parent groups. The Clinical Enhancement

funding will also enable centers to provide additional and critical outreach to allied health practitioners and school districts to educate and assist individuals to detect and identify children with ASDs.
