

Kerry's Place

AUTISM SERVICES
SERVICES EN AUTISME

Learning and Development Guide



About Kerry's Place Autism Services

We are Canada's largest service provider to families with children, adolescents, and adults, with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Since 1974 Kerry's Place has been creating, and providing evidence-based supports and services across the province of Ontario that enhance the quality of life of those with ASD.

TODAY, WE ARE ENVISIONING A FUTURE WHERE ALL PERSONS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ARE PARTICIPATING FULLY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

With staff of more than 1200, Kerry's Place is one of the only organizations in the country that serves the entire life span of those with ASD.

Through the Ontario Autism Program, we provide children and youth – and their families – a menu of timely, evidence-based services needed to achieve their goals at home, at school, and within their communities. This initiative serves individuals with ASD up to age 18, delivering skill-building groups, individual consultation, parent training and coaching, system navigation and family support.

We provide numerous Community Services and Supports, including our day and overnight respite options to provide a well-deserved break for families with loved ones with Autism, along with our many camps, swim programs and leisure groups.

Our Adult Skill-Building and Peer Support Groups broaden the social circle for each and every individual we support.

Our Employment Programs lend assistance to young adults with Autism to help develop skills that lead to meaningful, lasting employment opportunities.

We provide adults with ASD Residential and Semi-Independent Living Supports at 90 distinct properties across Ontario. Our group living approach provides a safe, 24 hour, home environment where residents are encouraged to pursue their own personal goals including outings into the community, employment, athletics, and a varied array of hobbies and interests.

Many of our residents grow with Kerry's Place, spending upwards of 30 years with us. And through a lifetime of shared pursuits and generational experiences, we too, grow with them.

KERRY'S PLACE AUTISM SERVICES: THIS IS OUR COMMUNITY!



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Welcome to Kerry's Place Autism Services

Kerry's Place provides a variety of workshops, seminars and courses, focused on building an understanding, and awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in our communities. With continuous learning at the core of our values, Kerry's Place is a leader in Learning and Development in the field of ASD.

Kerry's Place prides itself in not only offering and delivering a comprehensive array of learning opportunities, but also delivering the most engaging, interactive sessions possible, with the primary goal of building the audience member's self-confidence, and skills in supporting those with ASD. Our standards result in our workshops feeling more like a conversation, rather than a lecture. Our audiences have included family members, educators, social workers, medical staff, emergency personnel, and others who wish to learn more about supporting persons with ASD. Our skilled facilitators deliver content through engaging sessions, using small group, large group and individual activities and exercises.

Kerry's Place's menu of Learning and Development offerings continues to grow. New topics and themes are put forward by our employees, and community stakeholders alike. We aim to provide an innovative, engaging experience for those who wish to learn more. Our workshops are delivered both in person, and online, with half-day, full-day and evening options available.

Kerry's Place is a community leader in the development and delivery of Autism specific courses and workshops and we are committed to meeting the needs of our community. To learn more about Learning and Development at Kerry's Place e-mail: ASDTrainingRequests@kerrysplace.org.

To complete an Intake with Kerry's Place Autism Services

Online: <https://www.kerrysplace.org/welcome-to-our-services-and-supports/>

Toll Free: 1-833-77-KERRY (1-833-775-3779)

E-mail: at intake@kerrysplace.org

"We were able to customize the program to meet our current needs, which was a huge plus for us to address topics our staff were requesting support in. The coordinators were amazing to work with and easy to talk to, to ensure the content was user friendly and geared towards content related to cliental. The presenter was knowledgeable, easy to talk to, and opened the floor to allow everyone to ask questions. She even provided follow up content following the presentation for anyone that wanted additional information. We will be booking training again this year!"

Samantha, Caithkin Treatment Foster Homes

The Resource Portal

In 2018, Kerry's Place launched The Resource Portal, a resource page on our website that includes short videos and downloadable and printable information sheets on key topics related to supporting persons with ASD. The Resource Portal can be found at:

kerrysplace.org/accessing-the-portal



Teaching Strategies

Watch later Share



Autism Spectrum Disorder Certificate Course

The Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Certificate Course is presented over 12 half-day sessions, or 6 full-day sessions, covering eight distinct topics; The Diagnosis, Neurology of ASD, Supporting Behavioural Change, Social Skill Development and Relationships, Learning Styles and Teaching Strategies, Sensory Profiles in ASD, Stress, Anxiety and Self-Regulation, and Receptive and Expressive Communication. Each session constitutes group and individual activities, exploring scenarios and case studies consistent with various profiles of Autism Spectrum Disorder, and assignments to provide opportunities to apply what has been learned.

Attendance in all sessions, and successful completion of all assignments are mandatory in order to receive the certificate of completion. The ASD Certificate Course is offered with daytime, evening and/or full day options.

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- employ the use of professional, respectful and inclusive terminology related to ASD
- identify possible strengths, needs, learning styles, and profiles of persons with ASD within a biopsychosocial framework
- recognize the diagnostic features of ASD
- describe neurological processes such as executive functioning, and theory of mind, and the impact of these challenges for individuals with ASD
- describe predominant learning styles of individuals with an ASD diagnosis
- identify sensory differences some persons with ASD experience, and challenges related to those differences
- identify social interaction characteristics related to ASD
- describe common difficulties with emotional regulation
- describe the factors which may lead to increased levels of stress and anxiety
- describe the variability in verbal language skills across the autism spectrum and challenges related to communication

Recommended Prerequisite: none

Workshop Duration: 30 hours

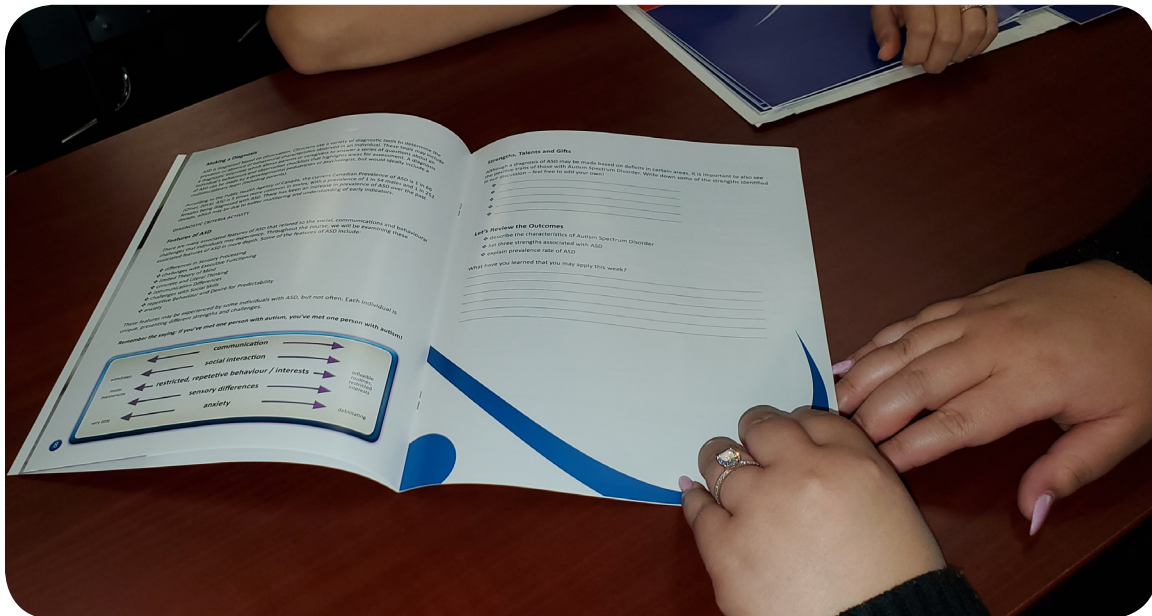
Cost: \$595 per person



"The ASD Certificate Course offered by Kerry's Place Autism Services has been beneficial to me on a personal level and has provided benefits to all staff at Stars For Life Foundation for Autism.

The training sessions have strengthened my pre-existing knowledge of abnormal psychology, behavioural support, and neurology and has provided me with a holistic understanding of Autism. Training has provided all staff at Stars For Life with applicable resources and skills that deepen our understanding for the individuals we work with. Skills that have been gained include understanding fundamental concepts about individuals with autism, supporting behavioural change, understanding sensory needs, how to implement communication strategies, and more general awareness of what autism is and how we can support those who live with it. This training has been a phenomenal learning opportunity for all staff at Stars For Life and has provided us with effective tools that will be implemented in our client care. A huge thank you to the instructors at Kerry's Place for providing this course – this training will have lasting benefits on those who we serve."

Stars for Life Foundation



Autism Spectrum Disorder: Beyond the Diagnosis

This 2½-hour workshop teaches parents and caregivers strategies and tools to help their children and youth understand their diagnosis, using a strengths-based approach. Explaining and answering questions related to a diagnosis may be a lifelong discussion and difficult to navigate. Autism Spectrum Disorder: Beyond the Diagnosis incorporates the research of Dr. Peter Vermeulen, related to helping persons with ASD understand themselves and their respective diagnosis. Dr. Peter Vermeulen is an author, lecturer and consultant in the field of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- list key components of discussing a diagnosis
- apply a positive strength-based approach to discussions with persons with ASD regarding their diagnosis
- describe why positive strength-based approach is important

Prerequisite: completion of a Kerry's Place Autism Services intake meeting

Recommended Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers to participate

Beyond Friendship: Supporting Persons in Understanding the Social World

This 2½-hour workshop provides parents, caregivers and professionals working with persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) strategies and tools to help persons with ASD understand the expected social skills to form meaningful relationships. More than simply making friends, the social world is full of “unwritten rules” and non-verbal communication that can be confusing for persons with ASD to understand. This workshop will explore social interaction characteristics related to ASD and how context may impact success in social relationships.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- identify the social characteristics related to ASD and the factors that impact success in social situations
- define the hidden curriculum, and provide examples of unwritten social rules that impact everyday interactions
- explain the importance of understanding and teaching context in social skills programs

Recommended Prerequisites: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Everyone Learns Differently: Bridging the Gap Between Learning and Teaching

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$100 per person



Customizable training packages are available. To discuss your specific needs, please email us at: ASDTrainingRequests@kerrysplace.org to get started.

Don't Tell Me to Calm Down: Strategies to Assist Persons with Stress and Anxiety

This 2½-hour workshop provides family members, caregivers, and professionals with possible strategies to support persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder with emotional regulation. Information provided in this workshop will assist participants to differentiating between stress and anxiety, and environmental conditions which may lead to increased levels of stress and anxiety will be introduced.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- describe the difference between stress and anxiety, and define emotional regulation
- explain the prevalence of co-morbidity of various mental health diagnoses and ASD
- describe the purpose and components of the Emotional Toolbox, conceptualized by Dr. Tony Attwood

Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$100 per person

Engaging Your Audience: Developing Your Facilitation Style

This comprehensive, interactive workshop is geared at building upon ones presentation, engagement, and facilitation skills, and creating their own individual facilitation style. This unique training opportunity is not solely geared towards those delivering a training, but also to those who wish to develop their facilitation skills in team meetings, community tables and coaching our families and community stakeholders.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- identify their presenting style
- discuss approaches to audience engagement
- describe how to manage audience questions, challenges and commentary
- list different types of audience profiles
- describe how to use slides to inform your delivery

Recommended Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Workshop Duration: 2.5 Hours

Cost: \$100 per person

Everyone Learns Differently: Bridging the Gap Between Learning and Teaching

This 2½-hour workshop introduces the various learning styles and teaching strategies used by those with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and strategies to support teaching a wide range of skills such as visual supports, prompting and motivation. This workshop is intended for parents, caregivers and professionals supporting persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

- discuss the importance of structure, predictability, and visual supports
- identify the importance of prompting, motivation and reinforcement when teaching
- define processing time and state its importance
- describe ways to support and minimize stress during transitions

Recommended Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: : \$100 per person

Exploring the Pathways Beyond the Teen Years

This 2 ½-hour workshop is intended for parents and caregivers who are interested in learning about transition planning to adulthood. Discussion topics include: building independent-living skills, planning for future pathways and navigating adult services in Ontario.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- describe major transitions that take place from adolescence into young adulthood
- define goal planning and using a SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Bound) approach
- list the steps in making a transition plan

Recommended Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$100 per person



Flush It Out:

Strategies to Teach Toileting Routines to Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

This 2½-hour workshop provides strategies and tools you can use to establish a toileting routine for your child using the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA). This workshop provides information to tailor toileting plans to your child's unique needs, will help you gain confidence in implementing toileting strategies, provide tips and tricks, as well as ways to troubleshoot challenges.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- state the importance of toilet training
- describe how to establish a toileting routine
- identify challenges to toilet training in ASD
- troubleshoot toileting routine challenges

Prerequisite: completion of a Kerry's Place Autism Services intake meeting

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers

Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

This 2½-hour workshop is geared towards parents, caregivers and community members, interested in learning more about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Common characteristics of ASD, possible strengths, needs, learning styles and profiles of persons with ASD will be introduced.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- describe characteristics of ASD
- list three strengths associated with ASD
- state the current prevalence rate of ASD

Prerequisite: completion of a Kerry's Place Autism Services intake meeting

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers

Getting the Message Across: Understanding Receptive and Expressive Communication

This 2½-hour workshop will provide parents, caregivers and professionals supporting persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) information about communication differences in persons with ASD and strategies to support functional communication. This workshop will explore the ways in which persons with ASD receive and express information, through spoken language, augmentative communication systems, gestures and visual supports.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- define receptive and expressive communication
- describe the difference between receptive and expressive communication
- identify strategies for improving functional communication
- describe the importance of collaborating with a Speech Language Pathologist

Recommended Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Everyone Learns Differently: Bridging the Gap Between Learning and Teaching

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$100 per person

Healthy Relationships and Sexuality: Strategies to Support Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder

This 3-hour workshop will support parents, and caregivers, and professionals in understanding relationships, boundaries, consent, sexuality and puberty in the context of supporting persons with a diagnosis of ASD of any age or stage. Participants will leave with increased knowledge about these topics and tools to educate the persons they support.

As a result of participating in this workshop series, participants will be able to:

- identify myths about sexuality, relationships and intimacy
- describe physical, social and emotional changes that come along with puberty
- describe levels of relationships and consent
- identify potential strategies for skill development

Recommended Prerequisites: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Beyond Friendship: Supporting Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Understanding the Social World

Workshop Duration: 3 hours

Cost: \$100 per person

It Happens For A Reason: The Meaning Behind Behaviour

In this 3-part learning series parents, caregivers and professionals will leave with a foundational understanding about the science of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) or “why we do what we do”. Families, caregivers and professionals supporting persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) will build skills around describing behaviour, understanding why it happens and promoting behaviour change.

As a result of participating in this workshop series, participants will be able to:

- describe the elements of an operational definition of behaviour and provide an example
- describe the ABCs of behaviour including setting events
- compare and contrast different methods of data collection
- list the four functions of behaviour with examples
- identify antecedent strategies
- describe the application of function-based consequence strategies
- describe the purpose of behaviour intervention plans
- list various antecedent strategies and environmental modifications to decrease or increase the likelihood of behaviour occurring
- identify functionally equivalent replacement behaviours
- recognize the importance of safety, and utilizing non-violent crisis prevention strategies

Recommended Prerequisites: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Everyone Learns Differently: Bridging the Gap Between Learning and Teaching

Workshop Duration: 7.5 hours

Cost: \$250 per person



Keeping Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Safe in a Digital World

This 2½-hour workshop provides parents and caregivers with information and strategies to help safely navigate a child's online presence and enhance cyber safety for your family. Online gaming and social media has become the new norm for children and youth and understanding technology and the digital world has never been more important. This workshop was developed in collaboration with Halton Regional Police Service to help increase your confidence with your child's online presence.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- describe the importance of online safety
- identify online risks for persons with ASD
- define key terms related to online safety
- implement teaching strategies to support online safety

Prerequisite: completion of a Kerry's Place Autism Services intake meeting

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers

Let's Go Back to School: Helping Children and Youth Transition to School

This 2-hour workshop will provide parents and caregivers with strategies to support their child or youth with the transition back to school. Transitioning from home to school means significant changes to routine, scheduling, and social interactions. This workshop will discuss the types of transitions involved, the use of visual supports, and create an understanding of how to assist with reintegration into the school's social environment.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- identify why the transition back to a school environment may be challenging for children and youth
- describe strategies to support child and youth during these school-related transitions
- provide examples of ways to implement the discussed support strategies

Prerequisite: completion of a Kerry's Place Autism Services intake meeting

Workshop Duration: 2 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers

Making Sense of Financial Options for Parents and Caregivers

This 2-hour workshop provides parents and caregivers with an understanding of financial supports available for their child or youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Topics include government funding, tax credits and benefits, and related financial resources.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- list funding options available to your family
- describe where and how to initiate applications
- identify alternative supports to government funding

Prerequisite: completion of a Kerry's Place Autism Services intake meeting

Workshop Duration: 2 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers

Making Sense of the Sensory World Helping Persons Understand Sensory Processing

This workshop will introduce participants to the distinct ways in which persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) may experience sensory stimuli. Participants will review the senses and sensory systems that impact everyone in different ways. Accommodations and modifications will be introduced to assist caregivers and educators supporting persons with ASD.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- identify sensory differences
- describe strategies that may assist a person in managing sensory stimuli
- describe the importance of collaborating with an Occupational Therapist

Recommended Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$100 per person



From Respite to Recreation: Supporting Persons in Community Settings

This 2-½ hour workshop provides staff members employed in respite and recreational settings with information about Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as strategies for creating inclusive settings for persons with ASD to allow them to participate fully in their community.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- list features of ASD
- describe strategies to support persons with ASD
- identify possible strengths of persons with ASD to support participation in one's community

Prerequisite: None

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: there is no cost for parents and caregivers

Setting the Stage for Effective Support: Strategies for Building Rapport

This 2-½ workshop will introduce community agencies and support staff to the importance of developing rapport for service provision, the impact of rapport on outcomes and provide concrete strategies for building rapport.

As a result of participating in this workshop, participants will be able to:

- describe the importance of rapport-building
- describe strategies to successfully develop rapport with caregivers and families
- implement rapport building strategies with caregivers and families

Recommended Prerequisite: None

Workshop Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$100 per person



Recommended Learning Packages

Kerry's Place Autism Services provide a comprehensive menu of Learning and Development opportunities to our communities, and are open to customize our offerings to suit your organizations, and team's particular needs. We have developed the following packages for specific community members, as follows:

The Educators' Package:

- geared at early childhood educators, schoolboard teachers, educational assistants, children and youth workers

Fundamentals to Autism Spectrum Disorder • Everyone Learns Differently: Bridging the Gap Between Learning and Teaching • It Happens For Reason: The Meaning Behind Behaviour

The Emergency Services Package:

- geared at Fire Prevention, Police Services and Paramedic Services

Fundamentals to Autism Spectrum Disorder • Don't Tell Me to Calm Down: Strategies to Assist Persons with Stress and Anxiety • Getting the Message Across: Understanding Receptive and Expressive Communication • Making Sense of the Sensory World: Helping Persons Understand Sensory Processing

The Corporate Package:

- geared at business owners and employers

Fundamentals to Autism Spectrum Disorder • Getting the Message Across: Understanding Receptive and Expressive Communication • Don't Tell Me to Calm Down: Strategies to Assist Persons with Stress and Anxiety

The Respite and Recreation Specialists' Package:

- geared at respite workers, camp staff, coaches, recreational facilitators

From Respite to Recreation: Supporting Persons with ASD in Community Settings • Everyone Learns Differently: Bridging the Gap Between Learning and Teaching • Don't Tell Me to Calm Down: Strategies to Assist Persons with Stress and Anxiety

The Medical Professionals' Package:

- geared at pediatricians, surgeons, nurses, hospital staff

Fundamentals to Autism Spectrum Disorder • Getting the Message Across: Understanding Receptive and Expressive Communication • Don't Tell Me to Calm Down: Strategies to Assist Persons with Stress and Anxiety • Making Sense of the Sensory World: Helping Persons Understand Processing

Customizable learning packages are available.
To discuss your specific needs, please email us at:
ASDTrainingRequests@kerrysplace.org togetstarted

Custom Learning Packages

Are you interested in coordinating training and development opportunities for your team? Did you know that Kerry's Place Autism Services is a community leader in the development and delivery of Autism-specific courses and workshops?

To discuss your specific needs, to get started please email us at ASDTrainingRequests@kerrysplace.org





From Our Community

"Thank you, this was quite helpful and I think a good place to start our Autism journey. If I ever meet someone who doesn't really know where to start - like I didn't, I would recommend this session."

parent

"She was extremely engaging and knowledgeable. The content flowed so naturally and her examples were so relevant and helped to really create understanding of the content. Most webinars I've been through with other organizations, I leave saying "they could have just let me read the slides instead of spending hours listening to the presenter read them," but [she] was awesome and had so much to share that added value!"

parent

"The activities we participated in were perfect - Especially the activity when you gave various instructions quickly. It really gave me some perspective on how my patients with Autism could feel overwhelmed when given multiple instructions at once."

community member

"[She] was a great presenter with a positive welcoming energy. She was knowledgeable and passionate and welcoming to all questions, comments and engagement. Very informative. Thanks!"

community member



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