

Thank you for your interest in our Family Support Services Program. Enclosed please find a Referral Form, which should be completed, at your earliest convenience, and returned to my attention by mail, fax to (845) 889-9496, or email to AndersonConsulting@andersoncares.org. Anderson Center for Autism has been providing consultation, training, and in-home crisis support to schools, community agencies and families within our region with tremendous success and positive response.

Our Family Support Services program is funded by the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) and is free of charge for those who meet their eligibility requirements. This is a short-term support and training program, which provides in-home behavioral support for individuals and their families who are experiencing behavior challenges. As part of this service, a trained behavioral consultant will provide an in-home assessment and training in strategies for dealing with behavioral challenges. The initial consultation will include: a review of all relevant information, reports, and assessments; immediate and on-going instruction, support and training in strategies for preventing and managing behavioral challenges; and the development of a crisis intervention plan.

To qualify for this program, individuals (children and adults) must be diagnosed with a developmental disability, including Autism; must reside with family members in Dutchess, Columbia, Greene, Putnam or Ulster County. Although, it is not necessary to have eligibility with NYS OPWDD at the time of the initial assessment, individuals must meet the criteria for eligibility at the time of initial assessment. Therefore, we suggest you begin the process of becoming eligible for services through NYS OPWDD, by contacting the Taconic Developmental Disabilities Regional Office's (DDRO) Front Door Team at 1-844-880-2151.

For additional information on our Family Support Services program, please by telephone at (845) 889-9616 or email.

Sincerely,

Lisa Susczynski

Consultation Administrator

Lisa Susczynski

**Enclosures**