



The Autism Collective Set To Launch

Working to end the isolation felt by those living with autism by uniting experts and connecting families.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Megan Pedigo, Director of Marketing - Easterseals Central Illinois (309) 686-1177 x2286
Shelli Dankoff, Media Relations Program Manager – OSF HealthCare (309) 655-3897

(October 7, 2019 | Peoria, IL) - Easterseals Central Illinois and OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois are pleased to announce The Autism Collective will launch in 2020.

The Autism Collective brings together two organizations known for their care and commitment to serving children in central Illinois. It will link parents and caregivers to nurse coordinators and family navigators, and connect experts as a hub for ECHO Autism. The organization will initially focus on serving children birth to 14 in Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, and McLean counties.

This groundbreaking organization was created with the vision to be the relentless champion for every person living with autism, and has hopes to grow in order to serve persons with autism throughout their lifespan. Currently a collaboration of Easterseals Central Illinois and OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois, The Autism Collective is eager to collaborate with other area organizations who serve children and families living with autism.

The Autism Collective coordinators and family navigators will help connect families with the most appropriate services to meet their needs. They will also help coordinate any appointments and therapies to ensure everyone on the care team, including physicians, therapists, and educators, is on the same page with a coordinated, cohesive, and customized plan of care.

Additionally, The Autism Collective is thrilled to be partnering with Project Echo® to launch an ECHO Autism Hub for central Illinois. ECHO Autism utilizes video technology and an expert team to help local health care professionals become more confident in identifying and treating symptoms, and in diagnosing and managing a subset of children with autism. ECHO Autism helps families access autism care in the communities where they live. By moving knowledge and not patients, ECHO Autism will increase autism expertise throughout central Illinois.

“Establishing The Autism Collective has been a passion for both Easterseals Central Illinois and OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois for a long time. It is so exciting to be a part of this groundbreaking organization as it comes to life,” said Amanda Estes, Executive Director, The Autism Collective.

Families can find more information and contact The Autism Collective at www.TheAutismCollective.org.

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ABOUT THE AUTISM COLLECTIVE

The Autism Collective, a collaboration of Easterseals Central Illinois and OSF Children’s Hospital of Illinois, is working to end the isolation felt by those living with autism by uniting experts and connecting families. We coordinate diagnosis, therapy, services and support close to home — while collaborating and innovating to improve treatment, communication and quality of life. The Autism Collective is the relentless champion for every person living with autism. For more information visit www.TheAutismCollective.org