

OSF creates faster path to autism evaluation (Broadcast)

INTRO:

FAMILIES WITH CONCERNS ABOUT AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER NOW HAVE ACCESS TO EARLIER EVALUATION AND SUPPORT. THIS COMES THROUGH THE EMBEDDED AUTISM SCREENING AND EVALUATION PROGRAM AT OSF HEALTHCARE... OR EASE.

TAKE VO

IT'S FOR KIDS AGES TWO TO SIX WHO HAVE A HIGH CONCERN FOR AUTISM. WHETHER IT COMES FROM THEIR PARENT OR THEIR PEDIATRICIAN... THEY NOW CAN COME TO OSF EASE... TO GET AN EVALUATION AND SCREENING. THIS HELPS GET ANSWERS... AND SERVICES... FASTER.

THE PROGRAM IS PRIMARILY OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE OSF MINISTRY... BUT ALSO COLLABORATES WITH NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS THROUGH LOCAL HEALTH CARE CLINICS AND PEDIATRIC OFFICES.

TAKE SOT | AMY ZIMMERMAN | PROJECT MANAGER | EASE PROGRAM | OSF HEALTHCARE

"If a family member or caregiver has a concern for that child having autism, speak with their primary care provider as a first step. That will ensure they're involved in services and supports, if they qualify for the EASE program. Helping us decide how to help make sure the child gets what they need," Zimmerman adds.

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ZIMMERMAN SAYS AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF AUTISM HAVE CONTINUED TO GROW IN RECENT YEARS. THE FOCUS IS SHIFTING BEYOND AWARENESS AND TOWARD ACCEPTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES. TO GET CONNECTED TO OSF EASE – SPEAK WITH YOUR CHILD'S PEDIATRICIAN.