



**Ohio Chapter**

**AUTISM DIAGNOSIS EDUCATION PILOT PROJECT**

*A Project of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (OAAP)  
Funded by the Ohio Department of Health Bureau of Early Intervention Services*

**The Mission:**

Engage families, child care providers, educators, health care professionals, and community leaders in identifying ways to promote early identification of autism using standardized methods, while facilitating regional coordination of linkages with timely, effective services for children with autism and other developmental delays.

**The Implementation: THREE STEPS FOR SUCCESS!**

**1. Increase the supply of primary care professionals who screen for developmental delays like autism:**

The Concerned About Development Learning Collaborative (CADLC) is a continuing education program that leads to implementation of enhanced developmental surveillance, and use of standardized developmental screening tools, including tools for autism, following American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines.

**2. Increase the supply of resources that can evaluate and diagnose children suspected of having autism.**

Our Community Based Diagnostic Partnerships identify, educate, and support community-based primary care practices who will partner with early intervention and early childhood education assessment teams in their communities to offer a standardized, comprehensive diagnostic evaluation for children with concerns in language and social development, including autism.

**3. Awareness Campaign:**

Develop and disseminate a public awareness campaign to promote the importance of addressing developmental concerns early and the value of early and repeated developmental screening for delays including for autism.

**ADEPP Success So Far**

1. More than fifty primary care sites (including five residency programs) have participated in CADLC, involving more than 400 potential practitioners.
2. Quality Improvement established for screening collaborative to support practices in rapidly implementing screening processes.
3. Community-based Diagnostic partnership teams recruited, formed, trained in five target areas.
4. 42 early intervention and early childhood education professional trained in the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, the “gold standard” of autism evaluation..
5. Earned OSAE award for marketing and public relations plan surrounding ADEPP.
6. Multi-media campaign developed and created to promote [www.concernedaboutdevelopment.org](http://www.concernedaboutdevelopment.org), which has seen more than 9,300 visitors and 75,000 impressions.

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