



# Autism Society of NORTH CAROLINA

## **Eastern NC Social Recreation Program FAQs (updated 7/24/17)**

*Afterschool Program (There is no afterschool program planned for Brunswick or Onslow County)*

### **When can I sign up for the afterschool program?**

- We have a registration period open online from late July to mid-August each summer to accept applications for our coming school year program. Applicants should register during that time to apply for a position in the afterschool program.
- When the registration period closes, we will use our priority placement system to determine who is offered spots in the program for the coming school year.
- If you miss applying during the registration period, you can apply at any time for our waitlist.
- We will call campers who have completed paperwork from our waitlist when spots open.

### **Who may attend the afterschool program?**

- School-age kids (ages 4-22) who reside in the Trillium service area (counties included are Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell and Washington)
  - We have space for about 30-40 children to attend daily depending on location (30 in Newport, 40 in Winterville and Wilmington).
  - We will have a priority system to determine who is placed in those spots.
    - First priority will be given to children with no current services funded through Trillium (i.e. Innovations waiver, IPRS, or Medicaid 1:1 services; this does not include any school-related services), who can come 5 days per week.
    - Second priority goes to all other children (those who do not have services but do not want to come every week/day; or those children who do have state funded/Innovation waiver services and want to attend the program)
    - Those who do not get placed will be placed on a waiting list.
- Our funding dictates that we serve people who have no services whatsoever first.
- We do not have plans to serve adults in this particular program.

### **What if my child attended the summer day camp program?**

- Attendance in the day camp program has no impact on your registration for the afterschool program. It does not give you a lower or higher priority to gain entry into our afterschool program.

### **Where will the afterschool program take place?**

- The “Winterville” location is 4882 Reedy Branch Road, Winterville, NC 28590.
- The “Newport” location is 113 Roberts Road, Newport, NC 28510.
- The “Wilmington” location is 705 S. Kerr Ave., Wilmington, NC 28403.

### **When will the afterschool program take place?**

- The afterschool program starts on a date near the start of the local school system school year in August and ends about a week before the end of the school year so we can prepare for our summer camp program. Inquire at your location for exact dates.
- The program will take place 5 days per week when school is in session, about 2:30-6:30 p.m., based on the school schedule.

- We will run our programs even on teacher workdays and some holidays. A calendar will be provided by each site.

**What happens if my child has therapies on some afternoons?**

- We will work individually with families to make accommodations for this scheduling need.

**How much will the afterschool program cost?**

- This program is \*FREE\* for those who are placed using our priority system.
  - Those who receive placements in the program must be willing to be identified by Trillium and enrolled in their system. This is mandatory to receive the service at no cost. If you do not wish to be identified by Trillium, you may be on the waiting list for the program.
- If you require transport to the program, a daily/weekly transportation fee will be applied. Information to come by August 2017.

**What is the level of care in the afterschool program?**

- We will provide a 2:1 participant-to-staff ratio, similar to a classroom setting. One-to-one care will be provided as needed for self-care and behavior management.

**If I have services already and have my own care provider, may my child attend with their staff?**

- We are not able to accommodate this scenario.

**Can my child’s siblings attend the afterschool program with them?**

- If there is staff availability, we will be open to having siblings attend as well. Siblings will go to the waiting list and be placed if space becomes available.

**Are people on the autism spectrum the only ones allowed to attend this program?**

- In Winterville and Wilmington, you must have a primary diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder to attend the program.
- In Newport, we will also be open to serving children with other intellectual disabilities, as mandated by our grant.

Adult Programs (No adult programs planned for Brunswick or Onslow County)

**When can I sign up for adult programs?**

- There is an interest form that can be completed at any time on our registration websites. Completing the interest application is the first step in getting connected to our adult programs.

**Who can attend the adult programs?**

- Adults (ages 18+) on the autism spectrum of all levels of functioning who reside in the Trillium service area (counties included are Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington)
  - We will have programs designed specifically for adults on the high-functioning end of the spectrum.
  - We will also have groups that are mixed and serve all levels of the spectrum.

**Where will adult programs take place?**

- Most of our programs will take place in our social recreation centers, though we will do community outings as well.
- The “Winterville” location is 4882 Reedy Branch Road, Winterville, NC 28590.
- The “Newport” location is 113 Roberts Road, Newport, NC 28510.
- The “Wilmington” location is 705 S. Kerr Ave., Wilmington, NC 28403.

**When will the adult programs take place?**

- Daily from September to May, less frequently June to August.
- This will vary per location; as programs get up and running, contact your local site to learn the current schedule.

**How much will the adult programs cost?**

- This program is \*FREE\* for those who are placed using our priority system.
  - Those who receive placements in the program must be willing to be identified by Trillium and enrolled in their system. This is mandatory to receive the service at no cost. If you do not wish to be identified by Trillium, you may be on the waiting list for the program.
- Nominal activity fees will be requested at times.
- If you require transport to the program, a daily/weekly transportation fee will be applied. Information to come by August 2017.

**What is the level of care in the adult programs?**

- For our high-functioning adult group, we plan to have 1 staff supervising a group of up to 4-6 adults.
- For our mixed group of adults, we plan to have 1 staff supervising a group of 2 adults.
- We will provide 1:1 supervision for adults on a case-by-case basis. Call your center for more information.

**If I have services already and have my own care provider, may I attend with my staff?**

- We are not set up to facilitate that type of attendance. We rely on providing direct-care service at our center to set up a rapport with those we are serving and also to bill for these services, so we can continue to offer them to the community.

**What type of training does the direct care staff receive?**

- We will provide an intensive training program for our staff that includes classroom learning and hands on experience guided by professionals.
- We conduct thorough background checks on all employees and hold them to high expectations.

**Are people on the autism spectrum the only ones allowed to attend these programs?**

- In Winterville and Wilmington, you must have a primary diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder to attend the program.
- In Newport, we will also be open to serving individuals with other intellectual disabilities, as mandated by our grant.

**Summer Day Camp****When can I sign up for day camp?**

- Online registration for summer day camp opens each year on March 1 and will remain open until all spots are filled. Once all spots are filled, we will accept waitlist applications. We will notify applicants of their placement no later than April 30.

**Who can attend the day camp?**

- School-age kids (ages 4-22) on the autism spectrum of all levels of functioning who reside in the Trillium service area (counties included are Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington)
  - We have space for about 30-40 campers. (15 in Brunswick and Onslow)

- We will have a priority system to determine who is placed in the available spots.
  - First priority will be given to children with no current services funded through Trillium (This means those who do not have access to Innovations waiver, IPRS, or Medicaid 1:1 services; this does not include any school-related services), who can come 5 days per week, each week, all summer.
  - All other children (those who do not have services but do not want to come every week/day; or those children who do have state funded/Innovation waiver services and want to attend the program) will be placed on a waiting list.
  - The intent is for Trillium to fund openings first for those who do not have coverage/services.
- We hope to serve adult campers in day camp in the future, but we cannot this summer. If you or your adult child would like to attend summer day camp in the future, please contact our office and let us know so we can keep you on our interest form.

#### **Where will day camp take place?**

- The “Winterville” location is 4882 Reedy Branch Road, Winterville, NC 28590.
- The “Newport” location is 113 Roberts Road, Newport, NC 28510.
- The “Wilmington” location is 705 S. Kerr Ave., Wilmington, NC 28403.
- The “Brunswick County” location is at Brunswick County Community College in Bolivia NC. The “Onslow County” location is 101 N. Church St, Richlands NC.

#### **When will the day camp take place?**

- Day camp in Winterville, Wilmington, and Newport will run for 8 weeks each summer, typically mid-June through mid-August.
- Day camp in Brunswick and Onslow County will run for about 6 weeks each summer, typically late June through mid-August.
- Hours will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday- Friday. (Onslow will be 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)

#### **How much will the day camp cost?**

- This program is \*FREE\* for those who are placed using our priority system.
  - Those who receive placements in the program must be willing to be identified by Trillium and enrolled in their system. This is mandatory to receive the service at no cost. If you do not wish to be identified by Trillium, you may be on the waiting list for the program.
- Nominal activity fees will be requested at times.

#### **What is the level of care in the day camp program?**

- We plan to provide 1:1 care for all campers as needed. If campers are more independent and communicative, we may pair them with another camper and one counselor (2:1).

#### **If I have services already and have my own care provider, may my child attend with their staff?**

- We are not set up to facilitate that type of attendance this year. We plan to explore how we might accommodate that moving forward.

#### **Can my child’s siblings attend day camp with them?**

- If there is staff availability, we will be open to having siblings attend this program as well. Siblings will go to the waiting list and be placed if space becomes available.

#### **What type of training does the day camp staff receive?**

- We will provide a professional, hands-on training week for our day camp staff. It will include workshops on autism, communication, behavior management, sensory issues, and much more. They will also have an opportunity to shadow seasoned professionals and get feedback from them.
- We conduct thorough background checks on all employees and hold them to high expectations.

**Are people on the autism spectrum the only ones allowed to attend this camp?**

- In Winterville and Wilmington, you must have a primary diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder to attend the program.
- In Newport, Onslow, and Brunswick County, we will also be open to serving children with other intellectual disabilities, as mandated by our grant.

*Social Programs (No social programs planned for Brunswick or Onslow County)*

**What other programs will be coming?**

- We plan to start programs such as community outings, meet-ups, and date night respite beginning in fall 2017.
- We do not have a lot of information available on these programs currently but aim to have an update soon. Programs will begin no later than fall 2017.
- Please keep up to date with our website for information about these programs as they evolve.

*Family and Parent Groups (No Family or Parent Groups planned for Brunswick or Onslow County)*

**What other programs will be coming?**

- We plan to host workshops and other community events that will serve our families.
- We expect parent involvement, and their investment in the programming is very important.
- We do not have a lot of information available on these programs currently but aim to have an update soon. Programs will begin no later than fall 2017.