

Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Meeting Location
November 20, 2024	10:00am – 12:00pm	Zoom

Member Name and Attendance

ASD Advisory Body Members					
Jimnahs Miller, Chair	R	Lynn Ricci, Member	R	Patrick Heick, Member	R
Yana Razumnaya, Chair	X	Carole Ryan-Hanlon, Member	R	Marcia Eckerd, Member	R
Melissa Hoon, Member	R	Sarah Schlegel, Member	R	Christine Faressa, Member	R
Kimberly Mearman, Member	R	Julie Wolf, Member	X	Melissa Paul-Perez	R
ASD Supporting Agencies & Other Participants					
Kathy Marchione, ADS BRS	R	Ann Gionet, DPH	R	Zani Imetovski, OPM	X
Bryan Klimkiewicz, CSDE	R	Stephen Byers, DRCT	R	Tara Viens, OPM	R
Dorothy Papa-Santini, CSDE	X	Christine Weston, DSS	R	Tammy Exum	R
Stephanie Bozak, DCF	X	MaryBeth Miller, OEC	R	Kari Sassu	R
Krista Ostaszewski, DDS	R	Kolleen Kerski, OEC	R	Lois Rosenwald	R
Jennifer Abbatemarco, DMHAS	R	Judy Dowd, OPM	R		
Attendance Key: <i>R</i> = attended remotely, <i>I</i> = attended in-person, <i>X</i> = absent					

	Agenda	Responsible Person(s)
1.	Welcome & New Member Introductions	Jimnah Miller
	Call to Order Introduce two newly appointed members to the council Christina Faressa and Melissa Paul-Perez.	
2.	Public Comment (5 minutes)	Jimnah Miller
	None	
3.	Review & Approve Meeting Minutes	Jimnah Miller
	Minutes are approved Patrick moved, Lynn second	
4.	Carelon & ASD Waiver Updates	Jennifer Krom & Christine Weston
	<p>October Carelon slides are included below.</p> <p>DSS Waiver Update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 250 fully active waiver participants Down case manager staff (2 vacancies so larger than normal caseloads for current staff) A larger provider left the waiver; case managers were able to triage Department is aware that providers have concerns with current reimbursement rates, they are looking at that and what additional services case managers wish they had more of, then will consider focused resources as they are available. There is a lack of workforce and DSS is doing their best within current resources and trying to gather data to better inform some of issues. Waiver Manager will hopefully be hired by January meeting There are currently 2,187 on waitlist still working collaboratively on retouch with DDS, over 350 were removed in the past 18 months from the waitlist, some declined services, some were assigned case managers, some were found eligible for DDS....Application data is currently October 2014. 	

5.	Legislative Priorities & January Presentation	Kim Mearman & Patrick Heick
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legislative Presentation: General Outline Reviewed 2. Poll completed to ensure full council agreement and clarify legislative “ask” 3. Discussion: all agreed on the following priorities/asks <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Insurance reform to be inclusive of behavior therapy over age 21 b. Replicate the PA Autism Needs Assessment in CT to gain more data on service needs c. Create tiers in the ASD waiver of 25,000 and 50,000 to potentially increase the number of waiver slots and decrease the waitlist. 4. ASDAC would like to schedule a discussion session on the PA 23-137 Sec 4 after report is released to the public. This meeting was schedule for January 7th at 3:00pm. 	
6.	Workgroup Updates	Lynn Ricci & Stephen Byers
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supportive Housing – meetings on hold while OPM is working on the Pilot project. 2. Education & Training – meetings are being held monthly with productive conversations trying to narrow focus to what the group can realistically target for completion. 	
7.	Agency Announcements	
	<p>OPM</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LON/IQ Study: We are finalizing the final draft of the LON/IQ study and will have it ready on time to submit to the general assembly by January 1st 2025. I will send a copy of the final report to the council when it’s available to the public. We discussed legislative priorities it will be important for ASDAC to have talking points on this study and a collective opinion. 2. Supportive Housing: We have made progress with the autism supportive housing model and expect to launch a pilot in 2025 with the reserved funding. The pilot will provide 15 housing vouchers, and we are looking to offer to current autism waiver participants who meet eligibility requirements, selections will be made through an application process by a provider. The pilot will be funded for a three-year period, program quality data measures will be collected throughout the process to advocate for additional funding and expansion. The pilot will model current housing supports provided by DMHAS and will utilize a provider who has expertise in autism services. We will continue to provide updates as they become available. 	
8.	Adjourn	Jimnah Miller
	11:30 am	

Medicaid Funded Services for Individuals with an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis

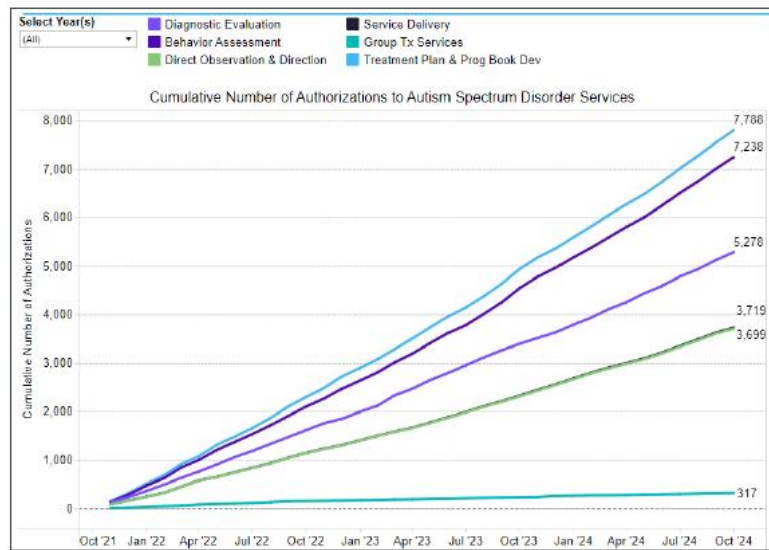
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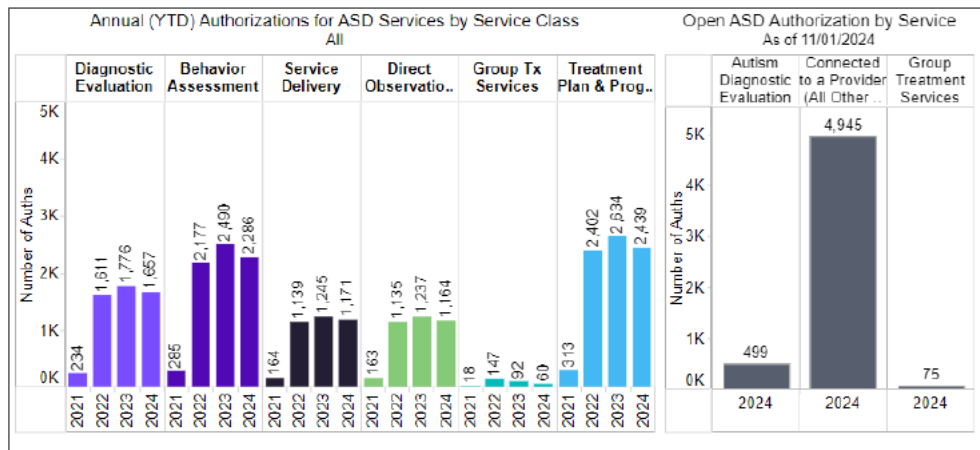
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**October 2024 Data
Review and Trends**

ASD Medicaid Authorizations as of 11/01/2024



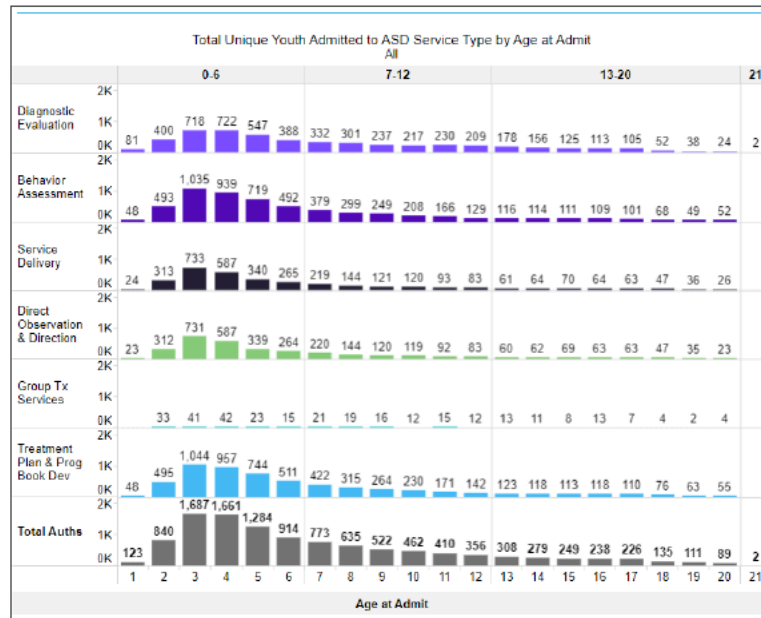
ASD Medicaid Authorizations



ASD Medicaid Youth Monthly Admissions as of 11/01/2024

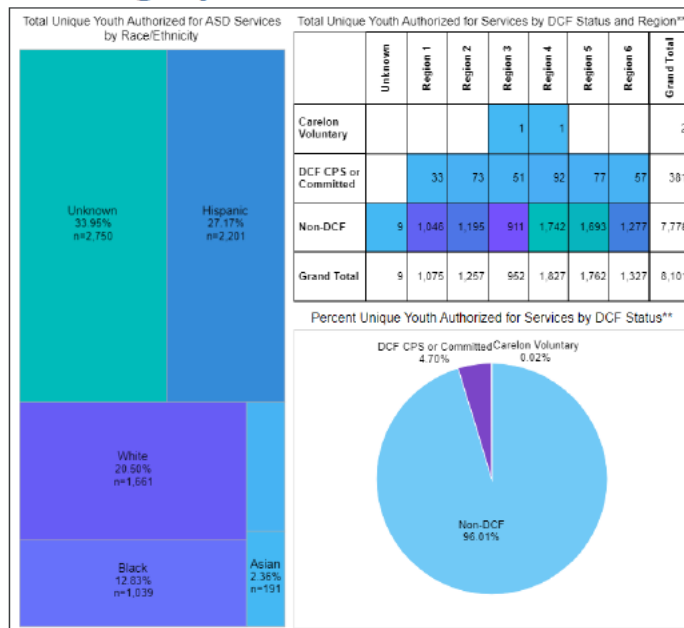
Report

- “Admissions” defined as first authorization for ASD services
- Three-year-olds make up the largest group of individuals starting services with a total of 1,687



ASD Medicaid Youth Demographics as of 11/01/2024

“Unknown” defined as individuals who do not identify their race/ethnicity at time of Medicaid application.

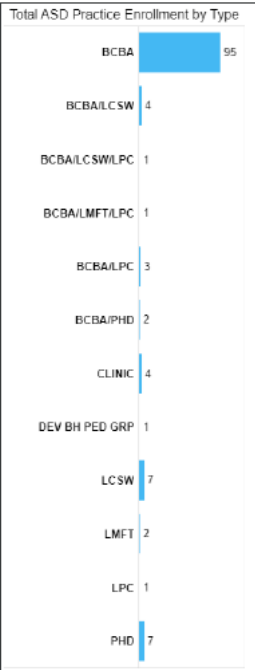
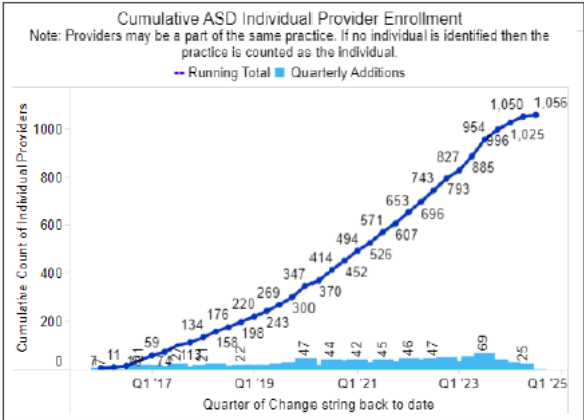


ASD Provider Enrollment as of 11/012024

1,013
Individual providers able to oversee Autism treatment services.

161
Total number of agencies enrolled

1,150
Providers are able to provide any ASD services.



Chapter

02

Carelon ASD Care Coordination & Peer Specialist Supports

ASD Care Coordination and Peer Specialist Activity

