

Purpose

Wesley Spectrum Wonder Kids (WK) provides therapeutic and social relationship interventions for clients who have an autism spectrum disorder. These on-site social skills groups run with a maximum of 12 clients and are overseen by a clinical supervisor, as well as a licensed Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Clients are given the opportunity to develop and practice social skills. WK is designed to run as a stand-alone or step-down program from traditional 1:1 Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS/wraparound) or other intense behavioral health service. Given that WK is a less restrictive service, it may be used as a stand alone service, in conjunction with a decreasing level of BHRS, or as an appropriate recommendation in a discharge plan. WK provides services using a 3:1 child to staff ratio. The overall goal of WK is to increase independence and age appropriate social skills.

Wesley Spectrum bases treatment on the principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) because we value quality service and evidence-based practices. Our staff utilize data based decision making, and positive, proactive strategies in treatment. Wesley Spectrum is committed to continuous improvement in the services we provide, and we strive to make therapy enjoyable for every child and learner. We hold ourselves accountable for treatment outcomes, and we support our clients in becoming more independent, responsible, and caring members of their community.

Determining Appropriateness

- Child has a current autism spectrum disorder
- Child is between the ages of 2 and 21
- Child has Medical Assistance (MA)
- Child has a current, best practice (BP) psychological or psychiatric evaluation (school or IU evaluations, speech or occupational therapy evaluations, outpatient therapist reports, or discharge plans are not valid recommendations)
- Child is recommended in BP psychological evaluation to participate in a social skills group for a set number of hours (up to 15 hours/week)
- Child has minimal to no physical aggression
- Child has minimal to no self-injurious behaviors
- Child has moderate toileting skills (i.e. does not require more than 2 bathroom breaks within a 3 hour time period)
- Child demonstrates ability to communicate wants and needs at a level that the child will meaningfully benefit from social interaction with others
- Child is not exhibiting any repetitive behaviors that prevent him/her from participating in group activities
- Child is able to consistently attend WK, has reliable transportation, and can be dropped off/picked up on time



WESLEY SPECTRUM
SERVICES

*Providing high
quality autism
services*

WONDER KIDS

Therapeutic Social Skills Groups



Call 724.443.4888
to see how your child can
become a Wonder Kid!

Wesley Spectrum Services

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Strength to live, to learn, to love

WK Referral Process

What to expect...

- An individualized treatment plan developed by your child's clinical treatment team (includes family and other service providers)
 - Quarterly meetings with your child's treatment team to assess progress and make appropriate updates to the treatment plan (BP psychological re-evaluation is required)
 - Progress notes with activity schedules and data will be provided to parents at the end of each session
 - Opportunities to meet one-on-one with WK staff to discuss ongoing treatment
 - WK staff collaboration and consultation with external professionals who provide treatment related to your child's development
 - Scheduled group observations invite parents to see their child in a WK group on a quarterly basis
- Your child will undergo an eligibility phone screening with an intake coordinator to determine if WK is the appropriate level of care for your child.
 - You will be asked to provide a copy of your child's latest psychological evaluation recommending a social skills group.
 - The intake coordinator will review both the screening and the psychological evaluation. Eligibility is determined from reviewing these two documents to see if your child meets WK admission criteria. It is important to note that a recommendation from a psychologist does not guarantee admission into WK.
 - If your child is eligible for WK, a WK supervisor will contact you to schedule an initial meeting, also known as an Interagency Service Planning Team (ISPT) meeting.
 - At the ISPT meeting, your child's treatment team will discuss WK and decide if it is medically necessary and the most appropriate level of care for your child.
 - If the decision is yes, the WK supervisor will submit your child's paperwork to the MCO. At this point, the MCO will either decide to authorize the hours and payment for WK, or they will decide WK is not medically necessary and will deny payment.
 - In some cases, you may talk to your MCO about WK before speaking with an intake coordinator or having an ISPT meeting. If the MCO reports that WK will be authorized, please be aware that this **does not** guarantee admission to WK or that WK is an appropriate service for your child. It is the right and responsibility of WSS staff to make the decision of whether or not to admit a child into WK. It is the responsibility of the MCO to authorize services for payment after a review of your child's record for medical necessity. The MCO will review any documentation by the treatment team from the ISPT meeting recommending that WK is the appropriate level of care for your child.
 - You may elect to tour the WK program before the referral process is complete. Please be aware that this does not affect the admission process. Decisions determining eligibility will be based on standard admission criteria.

Wonder Kids focuses on:

- Socializing
- Generalizing skills
- Building friendships
- Perceiving and understanding emotions
- Understanding intentions, motives, and perceptions of others
- Transitioning
- Maintaining attention and concentration
- Flexibility/response to change
- Following multistep directions
- Resolving conflict appropriately
- Personal space/other appropriate social boundaries
- Safety issues
- Self-awareness/eliminating socially inappropriate behaviors



Wesley Spectrum is accredited through the Council on Accreditation

Wonder Kids invites a sibling or buddy to attend a session once a month!