

Purpose

The National Research Council recommends social and communication skills training, engagement and flexibility in developmentally appropriate tasks and play, and replacing problem behaviors when treating children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Increasing the enjoyment of social interaction through the use of reinforcement, strengths, and specific interests are crucial to effective communication and social skill development in children with ASD. Several studies demonstrated that including typically developing peers in interventions for children with ASD result in increased verbal initiations and social integration, as well as improved learning and social skills. Wesley Spectrum's I-STAP camp at the Butler County Family YMCA can offer this recommended treatment for children with ASD in an inclusionary setting with neuro-typical peers which provides both opportunities and modeling for pro-social learning.

Wesley Spectrum bases autism 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 create an environment in which children are able to build lifelong skills and staff are able to successfully transfer abilities. We hold ourselves accountable for treatment outcomes, and we support our clients in becoming more independent, responsible, and caring members of their community.



It is the mission of Wesley Spectrum Services to provide transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, responsible, and caring members of the community.



Youth Development, because young people need caring adults to provide support, guidance and encouragement as they grow.
Healthy Living, because wellness in spirit, mind and body strengthens our very being, and enhances our interactions with others.
Social Responsibility, because we truly are in this together, and together we can harness our individual strengths and bring about positive change around us.

I-STAP Camp Locations
339 North Washington Street, Butler PA 16001

To learn more about our Inclusionary Summer Therapeutic Activities Program (I-STAP Camp) with the Butler County Family YMCA or any of the other autism services Wesley Spectrum has to offer, please contact our admissions department at 724.443.4888.

Wesley Spectrum: Autism Services

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Providing high quality autism services

INCLUSIONARY SUMMER THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (I-STAP CAMP)

A Partnership between Wesley Spectrum Services
& The Butler County Family YMCA



Call 724.443.4888
to see how Wesley
Spectrum can help



Strength to live, to learn, to love

How is I-STAP beneficial?

The I-STAP runs as an inclusionary environment, integrating children with ASD into a program with neuro-typical peers in order to improve social skills in children with an ASD and also to increase awareness and acceptance of children with autism by their peers.

Within this natural setting, neuro-typical peers naturally act as models by facilitating and exemplifying communication, social interaction, and age-appropriate play skills. Because social skill deficits are a common symptom of ASD, this service focuses on giving children the opportunity to work on social skills as they occur in authentic life experiences. Low child-to-therapist ratios enables participants to work on goals and receive both social and behavioral support without leaving the camp setting.

Last year, all I-STAP camp attendants showed improvement in the following areas:

- Social Awareness
- Social Cognition
- Social Communication
- Social Motivation
- Social Skills

Additionally, all I-STAP participants' autistic mannerisms either improved or remained the same after attending I-STAP camp.

Eligibility criteria:

- Child must be between the ages 5 and 12
- Child must reside in Butler County
- Child must have a current Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Child must have Medical Assistance
- Child must have a current evaluation prescribing STAP

***Evaluation must be completed by
Butler County independent prescriber**

Although a child may be prescribed I-STAP in an evaluation, admission criteria must also be met as determined by Wesley Spectrum and YMCA staff.

Camp Information

Butler County Family YMCA

339 North Washington Street

Butler, PA 16001

Phone: 724-287-0045

Children can enroll in one of the following sessions:

Session 1: June 11 — July 13, 2012

Session 2: July 16 — August 17, 2012

Monday — Friday: 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

*** Thursdays are field trip days.**

Cost: \$125 per week plus the cost of field trips

Activities include weekly field trips, swimming, arts & crafts, environmental activities, group games, team building activities and social skills reinforcement.

Wesley Spectrum Therapists at Camp

Along with the Butler YMCA camp counselors, Wesley Spectrum will provide the I-STAP camp therapists in the form of a Camp Behaviorist (CB) and Camp Specialists. Each therapist may support up to 4 campers enrolled in the I-STAP camp. Using assessments upon enrollment in the camp, the CB will collaborate with the family and other team members to create an individualized treatment plan for each child, which will focus on developing and generalizing social skills, while utilizing the most appropriate interventions for the child. Therapists will collect data relative to the treatment plan goals on a daily basis, and the CB will analyze the data in order to monitor progress and evaluate the effectiveness of treatment plan goals and interventions. The interventions are designed to increase pro-social and adaptive skills, building on existing strengths to provide children with more socially- and age-appropriate skills to get their needs met. Interventions may include, but are not limited to: incidental teaching, reinforcement, shaping, chaining, modeling, prompting and prompt-fading, token systems, visual schedules, story-based interventions and peer-mediated interventions.

The CB can collaborate with other services or agencies that the camper may be involved with to ensure continuity of care and generalization of skills.

Wesley Spectrum is accredited through the Council on Accreditation

