



A Connecticut Update

Ann Gionet, CT Dept. of Public Health, CDC Act Early Ambassador for CT



Connecticut Overview

- **CT population as of July 2013**
 - **3,596,080**
- **CT Prevalence**
 - **2012-2013: 7,635 or 10.56% children age 3-21 had Autism**
Easter Seals 2014 State Autism Profiles, CT
- **CT Birth to Three – Autism-specific programs**
 - **116 children with Autism at time of referral**
 - **709 children diagnosed with Autism were served**
CT Birth to Three System, FY 2014 Annual Data Report



Act Early Team

- **State/Federal Partnerships**

- OEC, DDS, SDE, DSS, DPH, DCF, AJ Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, CT Council on Developmental Disabilities

- **University and Hospital Centers**

- CT Children's Medical Center, University of CT Dept. of Psychology, Yale University School of Medicine, Yale Child Study Center, Southern CT State University Center for Excellence in ASD, University of St Joseph, Hospital for Special Care

- **National models/CT Organizations**

- Child Development Infoline, CHDI, AAP, CT Medical Home Initiative

- **Family & Community Organizations**

- F2F, CT Autism Action Coalition, Autism specific organizations, family support organizations



CT Act Early Impact Statement

In order to assure valued life outcomes, all of Connecticut's diverse families and other stakeholders will be aware of the early signs of ASD and have knowledge about, and access to, evidenced-based, individualized, and timely screening, diagnostic evaluation and interventions implemented by a competent work force and a funded, coordinated system of care.



CT Act Early Committees

- **Awareness**
- **Screening and Diagnosis**
- **Intervention, Treatment and outcomes**
- **Advocacy and Policy**



Good news!

- **CT specific LTS.AE materials were distributed**
- **LTS.AE trainings for families and professionals**
- **Bridged existing systems**
 - CT Medical Home Initiative
 - CT Autism Action Coalition
 - Family and ASD specific Organizations
 - The CT Collaborative Resource Directory
- **CT Guidelines for a Clinical Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder**



Next Steps

- **Good time to reflect and renew**
 - Organizations have changed.
 - New organizations created.
- **Identify developmental screening, referral and response priorities.**
 - Identify shared priorities.
 - Invite new partners if needed.
 - Discover funding opportunities.

