

Dear Parent –

Your child has been referred to the Skagit Multi-disciplinary Autism Review Team (SMART) for an evaluation. The SMART team is comprised of local health and education providers. We are here to provide earlier identification of autism and earlier intervention services to help improve your child's developmental course.

Gathering many documents and perspectives on your child's development, behaviors and social communication skills is critical to a thorough evaluation. All of this paperwork will help ensure a more accurate picture of your child. The more quickly we can gather the information, the more quickly a diagnosis determination can be made.

To begin this evaluation process, please contact Emily Molina (contact info on reverse). We will need the following:

- 1. Intake Form General information sheet and summary of assessments and services that have been provided to date.
- Release of Information Form This allows the SMART Team to gather and exchange your child's records that are relevant to the potential diagnosis. The SMART Team will maintain a confidential file of this information in a secure location. Records gathering is coordinated by Children with Special Health Care Needs staff at Skagit County Public Health (contact info on back)
- 3. Copies of available evaluation reports, including reports from:
 - Physicians, Psychologists, or Psychiatrists
 - Speech/Language, Occupational or Physical Therapists
 - School Districts or Early Intervention Programs
- 4. Autism Observation Checklists—You will be asked to complete this form, as well as others who have significant knowledge of your child, such as your child's medical provider, speech/language therapist, OT/PT, teachers, caregivers, etc.

The SMART team will then review all available information to determine if further autism-related evaluation appears to be warranted. If so, your child will be referred to SPARC for specialized assessment prior to seeing Dr. Afridi, the pediatric neurologist. If not, your child will be referred back to your primary care provider for consideration of other evaluations that may be needed. If you have questions, please contact Emily.

Thank you for gathering this information! We look forward to working with you and your child during this evaluation process.

MaryJo Christenson Executive Director of SPARC Intake Coordinator:

Please send all records to SPARC.

Emily Molina, Community Health Worker Skagit County Public Health, Children with Special Health Care Needs Program 700 S. 2nd Street #301 Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Phone: 360-416-1523 FAX: (360) 416-1501 E-mail: emilym@co.skagit.wa.us

Records will be retained at SPARC.

SPARC ATTN: Amy Fox 320 Pacific Place Mt. Vernon, WA 98273 **Phone:** (360) 416-7570 **FAX:** (360) 416-7580