**San Juan County Autism Collaborative (SJCAC)**

San Juan County has formed a Center of Excellence School Medical Autism Review Team (SMART) that is able to accept referrals for Autism evaluation and diagnosis. The team accepts referrals from a child’s primary health care provider. If a child does not have a health care provider we encourage families/ caregivers to call the San Juan County Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Coordinator at 360-370-7518 to help get connected into care.

**Referral and Evaluation Process for concerns regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**

For children under age 3 please contact **Toddler Learning Center** 360-679-1039

For children over age 3 please contact the **School District Special Services Office** where the child resides:

Lopez Island 360-468-2201 extension 2150

Orcas Island 360-376-1581

San Juan Island 360-370-7911

Shaw Island 360-468-2585

Screening; **A screening tool identifies a child who is at risk for a diagnosis of autism.** Examples of developmental screening tools include: MCHAT (Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers), ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire), CAST (Childhood Autism Spectrum Test). A screening tool does not determine if a child has Autism. Please contact the child’s health care provider for questions about screening for Autism.

Evaluation process: If a screening tool identifies an area of concern, a **formal developmental evaluation may be needed**. The formal evaluation provides a more in-depth look at a child’s development, usually done by a specialist, such as a developmental pediatrician, child psychologist, speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, or other specialist. As part of the evaluation process other professionals/care providers involved in the child’s life may complete observations or give feedback. At the end of the evaluation, the family will be invited to a conference to discuss the child’s developmental levels and specific results and recommendations.

For Providers and/or Parents interested in learning more about the San Juan County Autism Collaborative please contact:

Kristen Rezabek, San Juan County Health and Community Services at

360-370-7518 or email kristenr@sanjuanco.com