

Latham Centers, Inc.

Consulting Services



LathamCenters

Passage
to a brighter
future

For more than thirty-five years, Latham has been providing state-of-the-art residential care and support to children, adults and their families challenged with developmental disabilities.

Latham Consulting will design services specifically to meet your particular need and purpose. Collectively, our staff of social workers, therapists, nurses and educators bring decades of experience in the fields of:

- Prader Willi Syndrome (PWS),
- Reactive Attachment Disorder (RAD),
- Asperger's Syndrome,
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and
- Developmental and Educational Disabilities.

Services are tailored to clients' objectives from initial assessment and program/treatment recommendations to a full range of training programs.

Following a request for services, a representative from Latham Consulting will contact you to discuss and establish the type of services needed and develop a proposal outlining a plan for providing consultation. Our consultants will then meet the individual/family at a convenient location; i.e., home, school, residential or hospital milieu or at Latham Centers.

Questions regarding costs/funding should be directed to:

Christine Gallant M.Ed.

Director of Training/Consultation and
Quality Assurance

Latham Centers, Inc.

1 508.896.5776 x 219

cgallant@lathamcenters.org

1646 Route 6A
PO Box 1879
Brewster, MA 02631

508 896.5776
508 896.8310 fax
508 896.6782 School fax

info@lathamcenters.org
www.lathamcenters.org

Nationally known, innovative treatment in a beautiful setting.

Since 1970, we have been working together – with our students, residents, their families, and outstanding professionals – to bring hope and change to young people and adults who face tough challenges.

At Latham they receive respect and discover new potential to become responsible members of their communities.

Prader Willi Syndrome

Consulting Services:

The Latham School Program Serving Children with Prader-Willi Syndrome



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For over 25 years Latham Centers, Inc. has been a leader in creating safe environments for children and adults with Prader-Willi syndrome. Much progress has been made in the scientific and educational community's understanding of the syndrome. With the changing landscape of interventions and options in the treatment of the disorder, Latham has made it a priority to stay abreast of developments through its membership in the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (PWSA-USA), the national association for professionals and families living and working with PWS students, the Prader-Willi Alliance of New York, and the New England Prader-Willi Association, of which Latham has presented at conferences nationally and regionally.

Our program includes a fully licensed and approved special needs school. Each student's learning is enhanced by a rich academic and vocational curriculum in small classes. Classes are taught by a licensed teacher and Special Education classroom aide. Classes include: English and Language Arts, Math, Social Sciences, and Science, Physical Education and Health, Computers and Technology, Library Skills, and Performing Arts. Students also participate weekly in an Arts and Music program. Students who are age appropriate take classes in employment skills and can attain job placement, on or off campus while

enrolled in school. Twenty-four hour supervision is provided by staff to meet each student's unique medical, behavioral, emotional, educational and vocational needs.

Our team of childcare professionals works with each student to enhance their daily living skills and to build the skills necessary to live as independently as possible. Staff focuses on areas of personal hygiene, clothing selection, household chores, shopping and care of possessions. Older students learn money management and can gain more independence while still under staff supervision. Exercise is integrated into the daily routine and monitored by staff. Direct care staff also plan recreational activities including arts and crafts, music and movies and promotes social and emotional growth by providing many opportunities for community involvement, in such activities as Special Olympics, attending community theatre productions, going to local dances and the like.

Latham's Nursing Department coordinates all medical and psychiatric services and will work with family health care providers, if desired. A nurse is always on call after hours and on weekends for emergencies. The Nursing Department,

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Prader Willi Syndrome

in conjunction with the medical doctor, establishes a goal weight and develops and reviews menus and dietary procedures. Implementation of the dietary program is carried out by staff who monitor food intake and weight levels. Food related items are kept locked at all times.

The Latham diet was developed by our staff nurse in consultation with a licensed nutritionist, with active input from individuals with PWS and their staff, and has been extremely effective in helping students lose weight. The diet is available for families to purchase for a nominal fee.

Each student and family is assigned a clinician who provides case management and therapy. Each student participates in a social skills group weekly. Specialized groups are also provided on anger management, dating and relationships and other topics as needed.

Contact:

Susan LaPlant

Admissions Coordinator

Latham Centers, Inc.

508 896.5776 x 237

slaplant@lathamcenters.org

Aspergers Syndrome

Consulting Services: Effective Treatment is Available



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As leaders in the treatment of children with special needs, Latham School has developed a successful treatment program for children with Aspergers Syndrome. Typically children with this disorder have great difficulty developing friendships and manifest an inability to interpret the social “give and take” of everyday life. They have difficulty empathizing, and in translating social cues; such as, facial expressions or body language. They struggle with the management and the expression of emotions, and have difficulty with conversational skills. They have a different way of thinking, and often develop unusual special interests. Some may experience hypersensitivity to auditory and tactile experiences.

At Latham children are given a supportive and structured environment where they can begin the process of change. We emphasize learning and supporting individual strengths and areas of confidence. We build on each child’s foundation of skills and work to develop new and adaptive skills. Children are encouraged to learn at their own speed with attention to individual achievement.

Our clinical experts and treatment specialists assist children to recognize and interpret facial expressions and to develop interactive and conversational skills. Throughout their experience at Latham, children have daily opportunities for practicing

flexibility and cooperative play with others. In social skills groups children meet weekly to practice social interactions under the guidance of a trained clinician.

Through this repeated process of trying new skills, practice and quiet appreciation of success, the student grows and internalizes their treatment experiences.

Latham is a fully licensed and approved special needs school, with small classes and a rich academic, health, life skills and vocational curriculum. Latham offers a full array of academics and has developed outstanding computer education and arts and music programming. Students of working age participate in employment skills classes and can attain a job placement, on or off campus.

If your child/student has Aspergers, we encourage you to call and arrange a visit to our school. We will be happy to discuss any referral and design a program of treatment specifically designed to meet your child’s/student’s needs.

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Consulting Services: Specialized Treatment for Students with

Reactive Attachment Disorder



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Latham School has expertise in the broad spectrum of attachment disorders:

- medical trauma
- early history trauma including children of foreign adoption
- Aspergers Syndrome

Latham School utilizes the Infant-Toddler Model of treatment, based on the work of Bessel van der Kolk, Holly van Gulden and Kenny Miller.

Regardless of a child's chronological age, when children demonstrate behaviors of a younger age, it is an indicator that they have not successfully passed through an earlier development stage. The Infant-Toddler Model approaches the child at that particular moment of development to help them move forward to the next developmental level: each intervention is attuned to the level of the child's need in that moment.

For children with involved families, the Infant-Toddler Model focuses on the family as the primary attachment figure. Latham clinicians work with family members so that they have the necessary skills to be successful with their child. While at school our teachers and residential staff work with each student to develop attachments and build skills, which are transferable to future relationships. In daily activities students build skills in the areas of personal hygiene, clothing selection,

household chores, shopping and care of possessions. Students learn money management and can gain more independence while still under staff supervision. Exercise is integrated into the daily routine and monitored by staff. Students are also involved in a wide range of recreational activities including arts and crafts, music and dance. Latham's program promotes social and emotional growth by providing many opportunities for community involvement, in such activities as Special Olympics, attending plays and movies, local dances and the like.

Complementary treatment approaches such as EMDR, expressive therapies, play therapies, Brain Gym, yoga and other self-soothing techniques are employed to support and teach self-regulation, which is one of the primary issues of attachment disorder.

Our program includes a fully licensed and approved special needs school, where each student's learning is enhanced in small classes and a rich academic and vocational curriculum.

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Reactive Attachment Disorder

Classes are taught by licensed teachers and supported with classroom aides. Classes include: English and Language Arts, Math, Social Sciences, and Science, Physical Education and Health, Computers and Technology, Library Skills, and Performing Arts. Students also participate in an Arts and Music program weekly. Student may also take classes in employment skills and can attain a job placement, on or off campus, while enrolled in school. Staff provides twenty-four hour supervision to meet each student's unique medical, behavioral, emotional, educational and vocational needs.

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