



**Hanen Parent Training for Young Children with or At Risk for Autism  
A University of Massachusetts Boston &  
National Autism Center/May Institute  
Collaborative Project**

University of Massachusetts Boston Professor Alice S. Carter and Drs. Susan Wilczynski and Laura Fisher at the May Institute - National Autism Center are conducting a new multi-site study to examine the benefits of a parent training intervention for improving social and communication skills in young children at risk for or who have autism spectrum disorders (ASD). We are inviting families with children between the ages of 15 months and 24 months who are at risk for or have an ASD to participate in this project. Children who are "at risk" are those who: (1) have delays in social and communication development; and/or (2) whose parents or service providers have expressed a concern about social and communication behaviors or ASD.

To qualify for this intervention study, parents must bring their "at-risk" child to the May Institute - National Autism Center for an initial evaluation to determine eligibility. Half of the eligible families will be selected by chance to receive the Hanen More Than Words training, which will be provided by a speech-language pathologist. Families receiving Hanen More Than Words will participate in a group orientation session and a home visit from the speech-language pathologist, followed by 8 weekly small group sessions at the May Institute - National Autism Center. All families are encouraged to continue their participation in any community-based intervention in which they are involved and will receive three assessments during the course of the 9-month study.

This study is funded by Autism Speaks and is also being conducted at the University of Miami and Vanderbilt University. Compensation will be provided to all participating families for their time.

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