

COLLABORATION HELPS KIDS WITH AUTISM AND LEARNING DISABILITIES

Families who have children with learning disabilities will find additional help through a unique affiliation between the Miriam Learning Center and Jewish Family & Children's Service. The two non-profits are cooperating to offer comprehensive services, education and support programs for children with learning challenges. The Miriam Learning Center provides after-school therapeutic, educational and enrichment services at the site of the Miriam School in Webster Groves. Beginning next month the program will expand to include mental health services through a recently announced collaboration with Jewish Family & Children's Service.

The Miriam Learning Center, a program of the Miriam Foundation, offers services for children with learning disabilities, attention disorders and autism spectrum disorders. Through this collaboration with JF&CS, support for families will now be offered as well. Several parent education and support groups will address the demands and stresses associated with needs of a child with learning concerns. Individual counseling with JF&CS Licensed Clinical Social Workers and counselors will be available for children and/or their families.

"This is a significant collaboration that brings together a profound range of expertise and understanding for special needs children and their families," said Beth Rose, Director of the Miriam Learning Center. "The Miriam Learning Center aspires to be a national model. Our collaboration with Jewish Family & Children's Service gives us a comprehensive menu of excellent services for our clients."

Information, support and education for parents will be available from groups such as "Balancing Family Relationships", "Navigating your Child's Life Transitions", "Understanding the Adopted Child with Learning Challenges" and "Parenting Kids with Asperger's Syndrome, PDD or High Functioning Autism." More information can be found at www.miriamlearningcenter.org or by contacting Beth Rose at (314) 961-1500.