

# CERTIFIED AUTISM CENTER



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Holistic Learning Center to Become First Autism Certified Program in New York**

March 17, 2016, WHITE PLAINS – Holistic Learning Center, LLC is undergoing training to earn its certification of autism care from the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES). This designation means that at least 80% of the Holistic Learning Center staff is enrolled in a rigorous training process that will assist in providing treatment for children with autism.

"Our staff is highly trained in the field of educating the learner with ASDs," Susan Varsames, founder of Holistic Learning Center, said. "We pride ourselves in staying current, accessing trainings constantly, and affiliating ourselves with leaders in the field. Our staff consists of Board Certified Behavior Analysts, Registered Behavior Technicians and now Certified Autism Specialists."

Holistic Learning Center is located in both White Plains, New York, and in Lahaina, Maui. It is the first organization in each of these locations to undergo this training for its staff and earn the designation of the Certified Autism Center through IBCCES. The center provides gentle services for children, caregivers and professionals seeking strategies for cognitive/linguistic growth, increased sensory processing skills and nutritional consultation.

"As we consult in schools, speak at conferences and train staff who come into our center, it is important for all of us to be speaking the same language," Varsames said. "Being a Certified Autism Center gives us the recognition so that our community in New York and Hawaii know that we are well prepared to assist students, adults and families."

A Certified Autism Center provides a patient-friendly environment that includes no sensory overload and qualified staff members that have undergone a comprehensive certification and review process by IBCCES.

IBCCES was formed in 2001 and is the leading credentialing organization for professionals in the field of Autism. IBCCES currently offers the Certified Autism Specialist, Autism Certificate and the Certified Autism Center designations. Autism, commonly known as ASD, is a neurodevelopmental disorder with a wide range of symptoms and impairment levels. According to a 2010 study conducted by the Center for Disease Control, 1 in 68 children in the US have been diagnosed with ASD. It is five times more common among boys than girls.

"I strongly believe that creating professional partnerships that help care for those with autism and other sensory processing disorders improves the quality of care," Myron Pincomb, IBCCES Board Chairman, said. "Disparities in patient-provider communication lower patient self-efficacy and usage of preventive services. This training can help eliminate that."

For more information regarding the Certified Autism Center program, please contact Kristin Chambers at 877-717-6543 ext 2.

#### **About Holistic Learning Center**

The mission of Holistic Learning Center, LLC is to support families with their quest for knowledge as it relates to the health, nutrition, language, motor development, cognition and social skills necessary for their children to reach maximum potential. We offer parent training, school district training, and ongoing staff development and individualized treatment for children from birth through teens. Social groups and parent information groups are offered as well. Our center offers expertise in the field of language, learning, behavior and motor delays/disorders. Children diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Autism, Sensory Processing Disorder, Auditory Processing Disorder, Language Delay, Learning Disabilities and Global Developmental Delay are offered a variety of services to support their growth and development. However, we see children beyond any labels that describe them. We recognize a diagnosis, but it does not limit us to the unending possibilities of growth and potential.

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#### **About IBCCES**

In 2001, IBCCES (International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards) first established the industry standards for a Certified Autism Specialist. IBCCES leading standards are now used by organizations all over the world to ensure the highest quality of care and training for professionals in the field of Autism, with a goal to develop an army of highly trained and certified professionals who can improve the quality of life and education for individuals with Autism.