

The High School Youth Preparation for Higher Education (HYPE) Program

The Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Southeastern Pennsylvania Autism Resource Center (SPARC) and Devereux Pennsylvania Community Adult Autism Partnership Program (CAAPP) programs have partnered with West Chester University to create a specialized program for high school students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

The goal of our High School Youth Preparation for Higher Education (HYPE) program is to provide students with ASD meaningful educational activities and supports, enabling them to maximize their independence and help them become prepared for university life.

This program will provide the following learning experiences:

- Weekly, two-hour after-school classes with hands-on learning experiences during the school year
- Utilization of a structured peer mentoring program
- Implementation of a parent education and support program that meets on a monthly basis
- Summer program that includes instruction and campus experiences (including overnight stays) at West Chester University

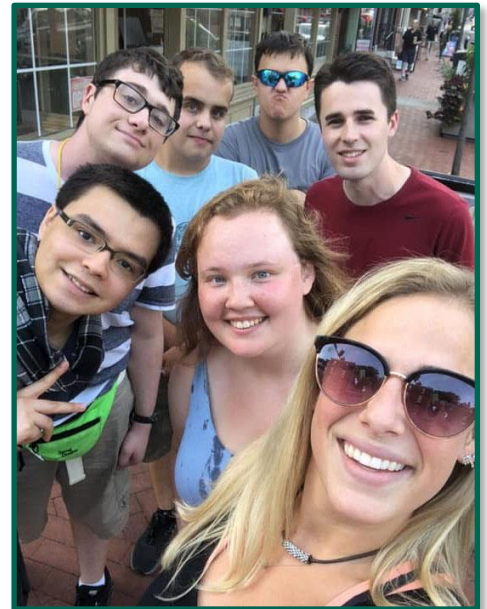
HYPE is designed for students who:

- Are either rising high school juniors or seniors on a diploma track;
- Are largely independent, requiring little or no 1:1 support; and
- Plan to attend a two-year or four-year college or university to seek a degree.

Program objectives include helping students:

- Increase self-determination abilities
- Enhance communication, social and problem-solving skills
- Improve management and organization of time, as well as materials related to school or work
- Augment skills related to independent living (e.g., money management, weekly schedule planning, meal planning/preparation, cleaning and organizing living areas, laundry, self-care)
- Increase skills related to community integration and the ability to live with roommates in a dormitory/apartment setting
- Develop routines that increase health and safety (e.g., healthy eating habits, exercise, hygiene, managing medical appointments)

Funding for the HYPE program is available through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.



About SPARC

Established in 2007, The Southeastern Pennsylvania Autism Resource Center (SPARC) offers empirically-validated behavioral treatment programs to help individuals on the autism spectrum, as well as individuals with a variety of behavioral concerns or other developmental disabilities. SPARC provides center and community-based diagnostic, therapeutic, feeding, and educational services. Based in West Chester, Pa. The organization also offers educational and consultative services to community organizations, such as parent groups, schools, day cares, medical providers, and other service agencies, throughout Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia and surrounding Counties.



About CAAPP

Established in 2008, Devereux Pennsylvania's Community Adult Autism Partnership Program (CAAPP) provides individualized and innovative community-based support services to adults with autism spectrum disorders and other disabilities. The primary goal is to provide evidence-based instruction and support across community, home and work environments. CAAPP offers community, behavior and employment supports across Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties to help individuals become productive, socially connected and personally fulfilled members of their local communities.



About D-CAP

Established in 2016, The Dub-C Autism Program (D-CAP) supports degree-seeking, West Chester University (WCU) students with autism. Students enrolled in D-CAP are provided supports in the areas of: executive functioning, socialization, self-advocacy, independence, and employment/career readiness via weekly individualized skill building meetings and group discussions. Students also partake in quiet study hours, social hangouts, and community "Give Back, Get Involved" service events. In addition to supporting students directly, D-CAP offers informational sessions and resources to faculty, staff, and all WCU students to build an accepting and inclusive campus. Learn more: www.wcupa.edu/dcap.

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