



## **CENTRIA AUTISM EXPANDS ITS NATIONAL FOOTPRINT TO MEET RISING DEMAND FOR THERAPY**

*Centria acquires Centrality Behavior in Indianapolis, Indiana*

**INDIANAPOLIS, IN (March 19, 2019)** — The rising prevalence of autism, along with expanded coverage of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy in more states and by more insurance plans, is leading more families to seek treatment options. To meet the growing demand, Centria Autism, a division of Centria Healthcare and a leading national provider of ABA therapy for children with autism, announced an acquisition that will allow it to expand its services to Indiana.

As of March 8, 2019, Centria Healthcare has acquired Centrality Behavior Support Training in Indianapolis. For more than five years, Centrality Behavior has been providing ABA home and center-based services to children and families in metro Indianapolis.

“We are excited about the opportunity to provide high-quality ABA therapy and support to kiddos in a new market as we continue to work towards fulfilling our mission,” said Scott Barry, Chief Executive Officer at Centria Autism. “We’re proud to welcome some of the top ABA talent in Indiana into the Centria family, including Centrality co-founders Meagan Dant and Elizabeth Nallenweg. Their mission-driven approach and dedication to providing high-quality ABA therapy to children with autism made Centrality the perfect partner for us.”

Dant, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, and Nallenweg, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, apply a holistic approach to working with families by providing support for every member of a household, not just the child.

“Meagan and I worked together before we opened our center. As a therapist, I saw gaps in treatment for family members affected by an autism diagnosis. Meagan could see the effects those gaps had on the child receiving ABA therapy,” said Nallenweg. “We kept saying things like “we should do this” or “we should do that” to improve the care provided to our families. Eventually, we decided to fully commit to those ideals and do it ourselves, and we’ve seen incredible results by implementing holistic, family centered treatment plans.”

Continuing and growing that model is important to Meagan and Elizabeth. They’re confident that their decision to join forces with the Centria family not only assures continuance of care, but will also improve the center’s ability to provide much needed therapy to more children.

“We are clinicians first. We based our entire business model solely on clinical benefits for the autism community,” said Dant. “The need for ABA therapy is growing, and we have a lot of kids on waitlists for services. With the clinical and business expertise that comes with being part of Centria Autism, we’ll be able to provide for more families. Most importantly, our staff can focus on treatment rather than daily operations.”



The objective is to get children the care they need earlier when intervention is shown to be the most effective, but understanding and accessing ABA can feel overwhelming for newly diagnosed families, especially when it comes to insurance.

“Once parents hear that their child has autism, they have a lot of questions and often don't know where to turn for answers,” said Scott Barry, CEO of Centria Healthcare. “At Centria, our mission is to help every child living with autism to develop, pursue, and achieve their own goals and dreams through high-quality ABA therapy and support. This starts with helping parents navigate complex insurance systems so that their child can receive services as quickly as possible.”

The acquisition includes Centrality Behavior Support Training, LLC's office and ABA center and 12 employees currently serving 20 children. Over the next few months, the two companies will begin to blend both company and culture and continue to provide high-quality ABA therapy to the children and their families in the region under the name Centrality Behavior, a Centria Healthcare company.

Centria anticipates hiring approximately 25 experienced staff. “This includes Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Behavior Technicians, among others,” said Barry. “With so many children in need of support, we are eager to take them off waitlists and provide them with the resources and care that they need throughout the entire Indianapolis area.”

Parents can contact Centrality Behavior, a Centria Healthcare company, at (317) 796-6668. They are located at 3711 E Southport Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46227.

### **Quick Facts**

- 1 in 59 children have autism
- Centria Autism helps parents of children with autism navigate through the complex system of insurance, care and just knowing that they are not alone.
- Centria operates in ten states, over 3,500 experienced and trained staff and services over 2,700 children.



About Centria Autism:

Centria Autism, an operating division of Centria Healthcare, is a leading national provider of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for children with autism and their families. With its national headquarters in Michigan, and more than 3,500 clinical staff working in ten states, Centria's Optimal Outcomes approach combines child-centered, evidence-based ABA with best practices to help children with ASD have the best developmental experience possible and acquire the skills to live independently and succeed in the world on their own terms.

For more information, please visit <http://www.centriaautism.com>

Please reach out if you'd like generic Centria b-roll and/or still photos.

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