



MEDIA RELEASE

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Announcing the Autism Center, Navicent Health *Open House Scheduled for Monday, November 16*

MACON, GA (Friday, November 13, 2015) – In an effort to support central Georgia families living with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), Navicent Health is pleased to announce the Autism Center, Navicent Health (ACNH). The center will provide support for children, adolescents and families facing the challenges of living with ASD.

The community is cordially invited to an open house on Monday, November 16 at 5:00 p.m. at the Autism Center, Navicent Health (1014 Forsyth Street, Macon). After brief remarks from Navicent Health representatives and community partners, light refreshments will be served and tours of the center will be offered.

“At Navicent Health, we say that ‘everything about us is all about you,’ and that is not just a line. Upon examination, we learned that access to diagnosis, treatment and support services for families in our region affected by autism was severely lacking and what services were available were difficult to navigate. We realized that we needed to fill this gap, and thus, the Autism Center, Navicent Health was created. We are pleased to be able to provide a much needed service to our community,” said Dr. Ninfa M. Saunders, President and CEO of Navicent Health.

ASD is a developmental disorder that can cause social, communication and behavioral challenges. According to estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in 68 children in the U.S. have been identified with ASD, a disorder that affects all racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups.

“Families affected by autism often face barriers to autism support resources. A well informed parent becomes an even more effective advocate for their child, leading to greater access to important ASD support services. At Autism Center, Navicent Health, our mission is to remove barriers and increase access to early diagnosis and treatment, as well as support services, in order to improve the lifetime development of the child,” said Tripp Ritchie Director of the Autism Center, Navicent Health

If you suspect that your child may have ASD or if your child has been diagnosed with ASD, we encourage you to call Autism Center, Navicent Health at 1-844-482-2264 to learn about the options and services available for your family.

About Navicent Health

Navicent Health was incorporated on November 17, 1994, as a nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is to coordinate the Medical Center, Navicent Health and other affiliated entities in their mission of providing a comprehensive continuum of high quality, reasonably priced healthcare services to the region. Navicent Health has 830 beds for medical, surgical, rehabilitation and hospice purposes. The health system includes Medical Center, Navicent Health, a nationally recognized tertiary teaching hospital; Children’s Hospital, Navicent Health, the region’s only dedicated pediatric hospital; Medical Center of Peach County, Navicent Health, a rural critical access hospital; Rehabilitation Hospital, Navicent Health, the region’s oldest and most experienced rehabilitation provider; Pine Pointe Hospice, Navicent Health, which provides palliative and hospice care in homes and in its facility; Carlyle Place, Navicent Health, the area’s first continuing care retirement community; Navicent Health Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Navicent Health; as well as diagnostic and home care services.

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