

# A is for **AUTISM SERVICES**



When Kally was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, her family felt overwhelmed by the prospect that her life would be fraught with challenges that kept her from happiness and success. At age 5, Kally was only able to vocalize a handful of single words and had many behavioral challenges. Because she was unable to express herself, she often became aggressive, acting out and inflicting physical harm on herself and others. Her family did not know where to turn, until Kally's doctor recommended The Counseling Center at The Community House.



Kally and her family met with The Counseling Center's team of experts, who worked one-on-one with them to develop an individualized support plan. The plan set forth goals and objectives for Kally to develop the skills she required to communicate effectively.

With the help of The Counseling Center, Kally began to show improvements in her speech and social skills soon after she began to receive therapeutic services. Kally was provided with the tools she needed to use her voice and her family saw an immediate change in her—she was smiling more, laughing and was able to use more words to convey her thoughts. She even began to make friends and engage in social situations joyfully!

“The Counseling Center at The Community House changed Kally's life and helped all of us begin to understand her wants and needs. We can talk to her now and she understands us and we understand her. That has made all the difference in the world!” –Elizabeth H., Kally's Mom