

University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Parenting Program for Families of Hyperactive Preschool-Aged Children

Volunteers Wanted for a Research Study at the UMass
Psychological Services Center



Do you have a hyperactive preschooler?

- If your preschool child is hyperactive (more so than other children of the same age), you may be eligible to participate in a research study on whether a new parenting program can help children function better and prevent them from developing other social, emotional, and behavior problems.
- To qualify for this research study, you must:
 - ✓ Have a preschool-age child (2 years 6 months to 6 years, but not yet in first grade)
 - ✓ Have a child who experiences higher than average levels of hyperactivity/impulsivity
 - ✓ Children who have certain other types of difficulties, including mental retardation, autism, Asperger's syndrome, and cerebral palsy, are not eligible for this study (but families may inquire about other services offered at the UMass PSC for children with these conditions)

What is involved?

- Screening questionnaire by mail and interview by phone about your child (25 minutes) to see if you are eligible
- Family assessments conducted at the UMass Psychological Services Center before the program begins and again at the end of the program (1 ½ hours each)
- Parents will take part in 11 to 14 weekly parent group sessions which focus on teaching parents strategies for managing challenging behavior and building positive parent-child relationships. One-third of parents will be randomly selected to be on a waiting list so that we can evaluate the effectiveness of the program.
- This study is being conducted through the UMass PSC and therefore families who participate in this study will be enrolled as clients of the PSC. Psychological Services Center fees will be waived for these assessments and this parenting program for families participating in this research study.

What does it cost?

- There is no charge for participating in the parenting program or taking part in the assessments.
- Optional on-site supervised activities are available for children during the group sessions for a small fee (\$2 per child per session), which can be waived for those who cannot afford it.

To learn more about this study, please call the UMass Psychological Services Center (413-545-0041) and ask for Sharonne Herbert. You may also visit the PSC website at www.umass.edu/psc and click on "Parenting Program."

Inquiries may also be made by email at sdherber@psych.umass.edu or by contacting Dr. Lisa Harvey (413-577-2755 or eharvey@psych.umass.edu)