

PEERS® Social Skills Group at GHC-SCW



GHC-SCW is excited to offer the PEERS® for Adolescents Social Skills Group for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). PEERS® for Adolescents is an evidence-based social skills program for adolescents in middle and high school who are interested in making and keeping friends and/or handling conflict and rejection.



This class is designed for children and adolescents ages 8 to 16. During the class, children will be taught social skills through teaching sessions and role-play demonstrations. The children will also practice these skills during group socialization activities.

Parents and caregivers will also attend separate sessions simultaneously. During these sessions, parents and caregivers are taught how to support their children in learning the skills they need to make and keep friends.

Please note: Parent and caregiver participation is required.



PEERS® for Adolescents is a 14-week class that is held at the GHC-SCW Capitol Clinic. This class is taught by professional GHC-SCW Behavioral Health Providers who specialize in working with individuals with ASD.



Participants will learn about:

- Developing and maintaining friendships
- Conversational skills
- Entering and exiting conversations
- Appropriate use of humor
- Handling disagreements
- Electronic communication
- Being a good sport
- Organizing get-togethers
- Handling teasing and bullying
- Changing a reputation



PEERS® for Adolescents requires children and adolescents ages 8 to 16 be formally diagnosed with ASD and are able to communicate in full sentences. This class is open to youth who reside within or outside Dane County and are covered under a GHC-SCW health plan.



If interested in these services, please ask for a referral from your child's primary care provider. The referral will be processed by our Care Management Department. Someone from the ASD Treatment Program will reach out to get you more information and plan next steps.

For general questions about the program, please contact Ellen Reichert, MA, BCBA, LBA in Behavioral Health at **(608) 441-3290**.

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of South Central Wisconsin