Evolving Care... for Life.

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Highlands Hospital
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Highlands Hospital is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
WHAT SYMPTOMS SHOULD I LOOK FOR?

There are various reasons why your child may display developmental delays or challenging behavior. It is our mission to offer early evaluation and intervention programs that empower and educate families who are affected by their child’s developmental or behavioral disorders.

Any suspected delay or difficulty in achieving developmental milestones, or evidence of behavioral difficulties, could be a reason to seek a professional medical evaluation. Some symptoms or signs to look for are:

• Difficulty communicating with others
• Difficulty interacting socially with family members, parents, or others
• Difficulty managing challenging behaviors at home and in the community

WHAT HAPPENS AT TESTING AND EVALUATION?

At the first appointment, your child will be evaluated by a physician, psychologist, and a speech pathologist. During this time, you will be asked questions about your child and his/her behavior. A health professional may engage or observe your child at play. No shots will be given, and no blood will be drawn.

The Child Diagnostic Center allows local residents to obtain a diagnosis from seasoned professionals in the Laurel Highlands region, without the need to travel to neighboring counties. A “one-stop” diagnostic center, we are pleased to provide the children of Southwestern Pennsylvania with the early intervention and programming necessary to help them reach their highest potential.

Amanda Freger, M.Ed., L.BS, D.CEP, is the Director of Highland’s Autism Services Division. Through the years, Mandi has served in multiple roles in many service lines of mental health treatment, including acting in supervisory roles from outpatient to residential settings. Through this work, she has gained extensive experience with those who have Autism Spectrum Disorders. Amanda is proud to make an everlasting difference in the lives of children and families in the region.