

## Let us help

"Utilizing specialized programming for our son is the best thing we did for him. We were truly amazed and impressed with the preparation and quality of experience Deanna had shown us in the first 30 minutes working with our son. The quality of the programming continues with his therapist and we could not be happier. We applaud this outstanding program"

Mrs. T, Mother

## We are where you are

Services are provided in the home, school or vocational settings throughout Ontario.

The services offered by Leaps and Bounds compliment a variety of community programs and services that are currently available to individuals with special needs.

## Contact us for a consultation

Tel: (905) 727-2273 Fax: (905) 727-2241

E-Mail: deanna@leapsandboundsservices.com

Web: www.leapsandboundsservices.com

11181 Yonge Street, Unit 317,Richmond Hill, ON. L4S 1L2

Director of Services: Ms. Deanna Pietramala

## **Experience** & skill

The Behaviour Specialists of Leaps and Bounds are very dedicated and highly qualified. They bring a wide range of skills developed from years of experience working with high-need people and their families.

Behaviour Specialists work with the individual, the family and other interested and

involved parties to provide continuity of care. We provide the most productive and positive environment for the development of the person with special needs.

#### Each Behaviour Specialist:

- hold a University degree or College diploma
- have expertise in behavioural interventions, family support, cognitive and social skill remediation
- have excellent interpersonal skills
- be subject to, and pass, a thorough screening by professional associations and law enforcement
- have the ongoing support of the Service Director and/or Co-ordinator of Services

### Parents speak

"When our three-year-old autistic granddaughter entered Leaps and Bounds she was unable to talk and was barely conscious of her surroundings. Her deep frustrations found expression in long, heartrending tantrums. In just over a year, in the hands of affectionate, enthusiastic, and well-trained therapists working with conscientious supervisors and expert psychologists she has made great strides in her language and social skills. ... She has become a loving member of her supportive family. Working closely with parents the staff responds to the ever-

changing needs of each individual child. It is an inspiration to see the school in action. "

Dr. and Mrs. E., Grandparents

"This service has been instrumental in our sons development. Marco has flourished in all areas. He has made tremendous gains... both scholastically and personally. In turn we the family as a whole have gained insight from this service and its Programs."

Mr. And Mrs. D, Parents

"Our son was 2 1/2 when he was diagnosed with mild to moderate Autistic Spectrum Disorder. He began his sessions with Leaps and Bounds a couple of months after this diagnosis and we saw positive results within the first month. We highly recommend this agency to those families who are looking for a complete program for their child."

Mr. & Mrs. P, Parents

"Since starting to work with Leaps and Bounds, our 4 year old son Andrew's speech and behaviour has improved faster than we could have ever hoped. We are so glad we found Leaps and Bounds and only wish we had known about this very effective program 2 years ago."

Mr. & Mrs. L, Parents

## For individuals with Autism and other related disorders



#### **Building Blocks for the future**

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## A personal message from the Director...

Any person who has a loved one suffering from a condition that prevents them from fully functioning in society, knows the frustration and often the heartbreak, of the tireless search for the precise kind of help needed – so their loved one can enjoy all that life has to offer. Here at Leaps & Bounds we provide a Specialized Programming Service to evaluate the needs of people with special needs, known as neuro-integrative disorders, and do everything possible to bring them to their full potential, regardless of their age.

Personalized programs are developed for individuals with a wide variety of disorders such as Autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorder NOS, Asperger, and other disorders that may include a developmental delay, such as Down Syndrome. We also provide individualized programs for individuals experiencing other difficulties such as those diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Learning Disabilities. We provide programs to help individuals become more independent and acquire more adaptive or day-to-day living skills.

Our programs use behaviour management techniques and all sensory modalities to help the individuals develop or improve their communication, motor, play and social, self-help, pre-academic and academic skills. These skills help the children become more independent and provide them with a better quality of life.

We are renowned, at Leaps and Bounds, to have the most experienced, qualified and licensed professionals offering the highest quality of services and programs to individuals with AUTISM and other related special needs.

We look forward to helping bring your family into a fuller Future.

Sincerely

D. Pietramala

Deanna Pietramala Director

# Individual programming



These programs are the core component of our services and are designed on an individual basis, encompassing language, social Interaction, movement, auditory and visual ability. The integration of these components opens doors to Growth.

A.B.A/I.B.I. programs are available and can be supervised by a registered Psychologist

specializing in this area. Each program is individualized for each child based on a functional and developmental assessment.

#### Behaviour management

We use reinforcement such as praise and, in some case, tangible reinforcers to help the individual acquire more ageappropriate skills and behaviours. After a thorough behavioural assessment, we identify realistic goals. We help the individuals achieve these goals by identifying smaller behaviours that make up those goals and help the individual successfully meet these smaller objectives.



## Social skills

All Social Skills programs incorporate the same techniques: modelling the social behaviour, prompting individuals to engage in social behaviour, skills practice and rehearsal, feedback and reinforcement.

#### Four years to adolescents...

One-on-one programs are provided which then help the person transfer the learned skills to a home, school or community environments.

#### Adolescents to adult...

In addition to instruction in basic social skills and the transfer of those skills to the public arena, the instruction of adolescents and adults will also address appropriate behaviour for the development of friendships and coping mechanisms to address issues of sexuality.

#### In-Home Preschool/ education



Ideal for children with special needs that preclude them from participating fully in a formal school environment.

Homeschool programs are developed child-by-child, and are offered on either a part-time or

full-time daily schedule. This individual curriculum offers the child the chance to develop language, cognitive, gross and fine motor skill in their own time and at their own speed, as well as developing their ability to cope with social situations. Leaps and Bounds can also provide Discrete Trial Format in our programs.

## **Tutoring**

Whether your child is experiencing a learning disability or you are seeking to enhance a school curriculum, experienced tutoring is available

to help your child achieve their greatest potential.

## Family respite



The special-needs person isn't the only one learning to cope with a disability. We also have services available for the families and caregivers who need a helping hand. Our Specialists specialize in building positive relationships with those whom have special needs, while following explicitly the directions provided by the family or caregivers.

# **Consultation** and training

Leaps & Bounds provides workshops, seminars and other opportunities for family members, educators and members of the professional community to help you increase your knowledge and capability in



the areas of behaviour management, play techniques, social skills and more. Simply give us a call to find out the most current list of available programs.

# Play Therapy and other positive, unique experiences for special needs

Play Therapy promotes both play and social skills. The goal is to help the individual become more social, interactive, calm and engaged with others. We want to replace inappropriate behaviours with age appropriate skills. In addition to our regularly offered services and programs, there are group activities, summer camps, spring break activities, art and play therapy and much more to ensure that development is not interrupted even outside the formal curriculum. These specialized programs are established on a season-by-season basis, where the number of interested parties warrant.