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University of Alabama is now a regional autism hub

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By Kelvin Reynolds, Reporter [CONNECT](#)

TUSCALOOSA, AL (WBRC) - Things are about to get a lot easier for families of children with autism in West Alabama when it comes to getting services.

The University of Alabama is one of the latest in-state schools to put more resources into helping families with members suffering from autism. They and others wanting assistance can call for anything they need, such as training for agencies or consultation services.

The state passed legislation outlining the function of the Regional Autism Network more than 10 years ago. Now, the network is moving forward by the creating autism resource hubs within the state's major universities.

Dr. Sarah Ryan, administrative director of autism services at the University of Alabama, explained how they'll better those people.

I think it will allow us to network local providers and local resources not just in the Tuscaloosa County area, but in all of the counties this region will serve," Ryan said.

The University of Alabama is now one of five autism resource hubs in the state.

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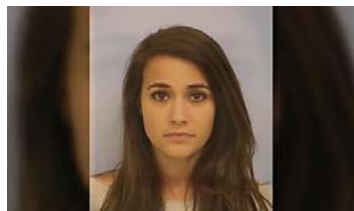
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