



Jean R. Ruttenberg
Executive Director

Serving as Executive Director since 1985, Jean Ruttenberg provides strategic leadership to The Center for Autism and advances the organization's mission of improving the quality of life for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. In addition to being the key spokesperson for the Center on the state and local level, she actively provides consultation and training services to children, adults and families affected by autism, school districts and county programs throughout the Delaware Valley.

Ruttenberg is the author of the Profile Assessment Book, which aims to sensitize and train direct-care personnel working with autistic individuals. In 2004, she was a member of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare's Autism Task Force and played a key role in the development of the Final Report. Ruttenberg is a board member of the Autism Society of America, Philadelphia Chapter and past president of the Philadelphia Alliance of Specialized Agencies.

Prior to joining the Center, Ruttenberg was the Mental Health Director for the School District of Philadelphia, where she developed and implemented a mental health service delivery program for handicapped children enrolled in the nationally acclaimed Head Start programs. She holds a masters degree in Special Education from Beaver College and a masters in Education/Elementary Counseling from Villanova University. Ruttenberg also received certification in the Family Studies Program from the Family Institute of Philadelphia. She currently resides in Montgomery County, Pa. with her husband, Fred.