

2011 Agenda

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2011

7:00 am - 5:30 pm Exhibit Hall Open

7:00 am - 8:15 am Registration

8:15 am - 10:00 am Opening Session:

Succeeding with Asperger Syndrome

Dan Coulter

Nationally Recognized Speaker and Producer, Asperger Syndrome Advocate

Dan Coulter explores his life from the perspective of being diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome at age 59. From elementary school student to corporate executive, he describes learning to use Asperger-related strengths to compensate for Asperger-related challenges in school, work, relationships, and life in general. Dan offers insights into the way a person with Asperger Syndrome sees the world – and how managing that perspective can help be a route to achieving specific goals and succeeding.

[Handout](#)

10:00 am - 10:15 am Break

10:15 am - 11:45 am Concurrent Session I:

Raising Multiple Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders - Family Perspectives

Rene' Daman, PT, MS

Director, Oklahoma Autism Network, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Duane and Danielle Howell

Parents of triplets with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Albert and Whitney Villanueva

Parents of two children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Two couples will share their experiences parenting their children with autism spectrum disorder. Participants will learn about how they keep their family and marriage strong by working together and keeping their sense of humor.

[Handout](#)

Social Skills on the Go: Building Social Awareness Throughout the School Day

Rebecca Duchon, MS, CCC-SLP

Speech Language Pathologist/Autism Resource Specialist

ASHA Certification, ASD Certificate

Bonnie Johnson, M.A., CCC-SLP

Speech Language Pathologist/Augmentative Communication/Assistive Technology Consultant

ASHA Certification, AT Certificate, Instructional Technology Certificate

Strong social skills are a key to independence and success. Discover how to support students with autism in developing social skills throughout their school day. Hear how educators are integrating social lessons into everyday activities and building social awareness by providing a variety of student relevant social learning opportunities.

[Handout 1](#)

[Handout 2](#)

Challenging Behavior and Emotional Meltdowns: What To Do When Therapy and Drugs Are Not Enough?

Chuck Edgington, PhD

Today's Therapy Solutions

Billee Swallow

Mother of three

This presentation is for those who have struggled with their child's/client's challenging behavior and have not been able to break through the meltdowns, mood swings, hyperactivity, anxiety, etc. A mother shares her journey to help her son, with insights and a review of the literature by Dr. Edgington. Learn to recognize signs of inflammation, allergies, intolerances, and deficiencies and understand their impact on brain development and function. Learn how to talk to your doctor and advocate for your child/client with confidence. Handouts will be provided.

[Handout](#)

Project Search: A Job Readiness Program for Young Adults with Disabilities

Kim Osmani, MEd

Transition Coordinator, Department of Rehabilitation Services

Project SEARCH enhances student development through internships in host companies that provide soft skill and occupational development leading to successful employment outcomes. Tools and information on implementing the model in a variety of settings (urban and rural) and creative funding will be shared. Outcome data will be presented.

[Handout](#)

Facilitating Literacy Skills in Young Children with ASD

Ilene Schwartz, PhD, BCBA

Professor and Chair, Special Education at the University of Washington;

Director of the Haring Center for Applied Research and Training in Education

Literacy is a key skill for all students. With effective and intensive instruction, students with ASD can succeed in the domain of literacy. The purpose of this presentation is to share the results of a current research study designed to teach literacy skills to elementary school students with ASD and to suggest practical classroom based strategies that come from this research.

[Handout](#)

11:45 am - 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Extended Session: (participants in the Extended Session will not attend Concurrent Sessions II & III)

Finding and Keeping a Job with Asperger Syndrome

Dan Coulter, President

Coulter Video

Dan Coulter shares practical advice gathered from researching the DVD “Asperger Syndrome at Work” -- and from his 44 years’ experience in the workplace as a subordinate, supervisor and business owner. For the video, Dan and his wife interviewed employees with Asperger Syndrome working in a variety of jobs, as well as their supervisors, coworkers and job coaches. The Library Journal said of the DVD, “Most interesting are the candid discussions about coping mechanisms people with AS use in order to be successful in the workplace...excellent film...valuable reference tool...strongly recommended for all public and business libraries.”

[Handout](#)

[Handout 2](#)

Implementing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in Schools

Ilene Schwartz, Ph.D., BCBA

Professor and Chair, Special Education at the University of Washington;

Director of the Haring Center for Applied Research and Training in Education

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is an academic discipline that uses behavioral principles to address socially important problems. Educating children with ASD is clearly a socially important problem and ABA has a long history of effective interventions for students with ASD. The purpose of this presentation is to describe how the essential components of ABA can be implemented effectively in public schools.

[Handout](#)

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Concurrent Session II:

Grant Funding for Best Practice Programs – Advancing the Field of Autism in Oklahoma

Dee Blose, MEd, Melinda Lauffenburger, Crystal Frost, Kathy Thompson, Angela Donley, and the 2011 grant winners

The presenters will provide information about the AutismOklahoma.org Grants program. The 2011 grant winners and their projects will be featured. The presenters will explain their vision of promoting best practice programs in Oklahoma and how it is bringing change to the state and improving services to families affected by autism. PieceWalk mascot DASH will be available to unveil his latest endeavor to promote Autism Awareness.

An Apple A Day: Using the iPad and iTouch in the Educational Setting

Rebecca Duchon, MS, CCC-SLP

Speech Language Pathologist/Autism Resource Specialist

ASHA Certification, ASD Certificate

Bonnie Johnson, M.A., CCC-SLP

Speech Language Pathologist/Augmentative Communication/Assistive Technology Consultant

ASHA Certification, AT Certificate, Instructional Technology Certificate

Discover how educators implement Apple's iPod Touch and iPad to engage and enhance the learning of individuals with autism. See and hear real-life examples of how these tools can be beneficial in improving academic, communication, social, behavioral and motor skills.

[Handout 1](#)

[Handout 2](#)

Challenging Behavior and Emotional Meltdowns: What To Do When Therapy and Drugs Are Not Enough? (REPEAT)

Chuck Edgington, PhD

Today's Therapy Solutions

Billee Swallow, Mother of three

This presentation is for those who have struggled with their child's/client's challenging behavior and have not been able to break through the meltdowns, mood swings, hyperactivity, anxiety, etc. A mother shares her journey to help her son, with insights and a review of the literature by Dr. Edgington. Learn to recognize signs of inflammation, allergies, intolerances, and deficiencies and understand their impact on brain development and function. Learn how to talk to your doctor and advocate for your child/client with confidence. Handouts will be provided.

Anxiety and Emotional Control in Autism Spectrum Disorders

Jennifer Morris, PhD

Moore Counseling Center, PC

Anxiety and mood concerns are becoming more prevalent for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Common anxiety/mood symptoms, prevalence, and treatment for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders will be discussed, as well as common sources of anxiety and emotional reaction.

[Handout 1](#)

[Handout 2](#)

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm Break

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Concurrent Session III:

Supporting Children with ASD in Early Education Settings

Annie T. Baghdayan, PhD Candidate, BCBA

Lead Behavior Analyst, Oklahoma Autism Network, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Several Oklahoma school districts will share their experiences developing quality programs for young children with autism spectrum disorders. Panel members will discuss the core elements to consider when developing services to meet the needs of children across the autism spectrum, including assessment, instruction methods, inclusion with peers, and how to involve families in their child's education experience.

Teaching Functional Communication Using a Functional Behavioral Approach

Mansur Choudry

BSc Engg, MBA, Med, BCBA

Every child on the autism spectrum is different and each child learns differently. Participants will learn to use functional assessment to develop functional communication based on B.F. Skinner's analysis of Verbal Behavior and other supporting empirical works. Based on BF Skinner, Michael Sundberg and Vincent Carbone's works on increasing vocal responding, the participants will select the appropriate form of communication (vocal, signing, pointing to or exchanging pictures, or activating an augmentative device) for a child to be taught first, using errorless teaching, specific-quick transfer (prompting and fading) procedures and the use of Discrete trial training both in the natural environment and the intensive teaching sessions.

[Handout](#)

Understanding the Struggle to Speak: ASD and Verbal Language Development

Kelli Marshall, MS, CCC-SLP

Today's Therapy Solutions

There are multiple reasons why children with autism struggle to develop verbal language. In this session participants will learn about different types of developmental speech disorders (articulation, phonological processes, apraxia, etc.) and how they relate to children on the spectrum. They will be given a variety of ideas regarding strategies and tools to use to bridge the gap toward functional verbal language development.

[Handout](#)

Boogers, Butts, and Boobs: Family-Friendly Sexual Education for Child and Adolescents with ASD

Amanda Thompson MS, OTR/L

Therapy Works

Lindsay Reed, COTA/L

Therapy Works

Parents, teachers, and professionals will learn the importance of family-friendly sexual education for children and adolescents with ASD using multiple therapeutic approaches for a variety of ages and cognitive abilities including sensory strategies, social stories, and cognitive behavioral retraining. Topics include appropriate/inappropriate behaviors, preparing for puberty, teaching stages of sexual development including health/hygiene, and social skills for relationships/dating. Presenters will review personal case studies and outcomes, parent/teacher resources, resources designed for teens/adults as well as outline current scholarly articles about the importance of sexual education for special needs children and teenagers.

[Handout](#)

NOVEMBER 19, 2011 – SATURDAY

7:00 am - 5:30 pm Exhibit Hall Open

8:00 am - 8:30 am Registration

8:15 am - 8:30 am Excellence in Autism Award Presentation

8:30 am - 10:00 am Keynote:

The Future of Applied Behavior Analysis in Autism Spectrum Disorder: New Opportunities for Improving Lives

Doreen Granpeesheh, PhD, BCBA

Founder and Director of the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)

Treatment approaches grounded in Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) are now considered to be at the forefront of educational interventions for children with autism. However, there are many misconceptions about ABA and its applications to the treatment of Autism. CARD recognizes that Autism is not a purely behavioral disorder and the underlying causes of the symptoms are associated with a number of medical issues which when treated appropriately result in stabilization of the child's medical condition and subsequent growth and improvement.

While ABA and Biomedical practitioners have individually helped provide successful treatment models for autism, in developing a "Best Practices" Model, these interventions must work together to provide the best possibilities for successful outcome.

10:00 am - 10:30 am Break

10:30 am - 11:45 am Concurrent Session IV:

Looking to the Future: Transitioning to Adult Life

Dee Blose, MEd

Executive Director, Youth and Family Services, Canadian County

Three young adults with ASD will share their successes, challenges, and perspectives on the transition to adult life.

The Beat Goes On

*Jennifer Carlson, MT-BC, NMT
Special Care, Inc.*

Research in music therapy and autism has been a breakthrough discovery in the past century. Learn more about current research and evidence-based practices as well as case studies with children in the music therapy setting. Included in the presentation are valuable take-home resources for parents and therapist as well as live music demonstrations.

[Handout](#)

Mom Tricks for Helping your Child at Home and in the Community

Kathy Labosh, BS

Mother of two sons with autism

Author of "The Child with Autism: Home and Community"; "The Child with Autism Learns About Faith"; "The Child with Autism Goes to Florida" and "The Child with Autism Learns More about Faith"

Why learn the hard way? A mother with two sons on the spectrum shares tips on maintaining a happy family life and taking our children out in the community.

[Handout](#)

Using the ME! Lessons to Teach Self-Advocacy and Self-Awareness

*James Martin, PhD, Zarrow Family Professor of Learning Enrichment
University of Oklahoma*

*Penny Cantley, PhD, Researcher/Educator
Oklahoma State University*

The need to provide self-awareness and self-advocacy instruction to students with disabilities will be addressed. Attendees will learn about *ME!*, a free, web-based curriculum available for teaching valuable transition skills to students with mild/moderate disabilities. Some of the topics to be covered during the presentation include self-awareness, self-advocacy, disability knowledge, communication, and rights and responsibilities.

[Me Brochure](#)

[Handout](#)

Gut – Autism – Nutrition: The Connection

Elizabeth Strickland MS, RD, LD

Owner of ASD Nutrition

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) have an increased incidence of gastrointestinal disorders. Untreated GI disorders may have an adverse effect on the child's nutritional status and also contribute to behavioral problems. Nutrition interventions such as diet modification, elimination of problematic foods, and supplements can help to correct the child's GI disorder and lead to significant improvement in their overall digestion, health, behavior, and brain function.

[Handout](#)

The IEP from A to Z: How to Create Meaningful and Measurable Goals and Objectives

Diane Twachtman-Cullen, PhD, CCC-SLP

Editor-in-Chief, Autism Spectrum Quarterly

This presentation is based on the recently released book of the same title. The essential elements of the IEP and how they are tied to student progress will be addressed. Practical in focus, sample vignettes addressing such neglected areas of functioning as social cognition, executive function, and critical thinking will be used to illustrate how to move from present levels of performance to creating goals and objectives that are both meaningful and measurable.

[Handout](#)

11:45 am - 1:00 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00pm - 4:00 pm Extended Session: (participants in the Extended Session will not attend Concurrent Sessions V & VI)

The CARD Program: Procedures & Curriculum

Doreen Granpeesheh, PhD, BCBA

Founder and Director of the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)

The Center for Autism and Related Disorders is among the world's largest and most experienced organizations effectively teaching children with Autism and related disorders. Following the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, a behavioral treatment approach that has been thoroughly researched and empirically validated by the scientific community, CARD develops individualized treatment plans that focus on teaching vital skills.

HELP – My Child Won't Eat!

Elizabeth Strickland MS, RD, LD

Owner of ASD Nutrition

For many families of children diagnosed with autism, mealtime is a battleground where their child tantrums, refuses to eat, or limits their diet to carbohydrate foods. Parents are often at a loss of how to help their child. Strickland will discuss the difference between a “picky eater” vs. a “problem feeder”, and the 10 major factors which contribute to feeding problems in children with autism. Discussion will include basic mealtime strategies families can implement at home and helpful feeding therapy methods to improve the mealtime experience and expand the child’s diet to include a variety of nutritious foods.

[Handout](#)

1:00 pm - 2:15 Concurrent Session V:

Teaching Children with Autism about God

Kathy Labosh, BS

Mother of two sons with autism

Author of “The Child with Autism: Home and Community”; “The Child with Autism Learns About Faith”;

“The Child with Autism Goes to Florida” and “The Child with Autism Learns More about Faith”

Detailed instructions on how to set up religious education classes in your church or home. Sample lessons plans for the children and parent’s scripture study are provided.

[Handout](#)

OMazing Kids Yoga: Therapeutic Yoga for Kids and Teens with Autism

Angela Moorad, MS, CCC-SLP, IAYT, RCYP-2

Founder of OMazing Kids Yoga

Want to learn how yoga can be used in a therapeutic way to foster improved motor coordination, body awareness, balance, concentration, social skills, self-calming, self-control and self-esteem in kids and teens with Autism Spectrum Disorders? This presenter will share practical information about fun basic yoga poses, breathing exercises and relaxation techniques as well as ways to adapt activities to individual needs. Information about the sensory aspects of yoga, potential benefits, and research relating to yoga will also be shared.

[Handout](#)

Tools for Person Centered Thinking and Person Centered Planning: The Communication Chart

Jenifer Randle, BS

Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council

Tara Ford, Family Advocate

Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Individuals who are dependent on others for support need to have their communication understood, especially when they communicate in atypical ways. This workshop will focus on a simple way to record how someone communicates with his or her behavior while taking into account what is important TO and important FOR the person receiving supports.

[Handout](#)

How to Shore-Up an Impaired Executive Function System: Educational and Organizational Supports at the Elementary, Middle, and High School Levels, Part I

Diane Twachtman-Cullen, PhD, CCC-SLP

Editor-in-Chief, Autism Spectrum Quarterly

This presentation will demystify the “High Priestess” of cognitive development by outlining its important functions, and defining both its crucial role in everyday life and the devastating impact of deficits on students with ASD. The behavioral manifestations of executive function (EF) impairment will be discussed as they relate to problem behavior and overall functioning. Specific, easy-to-apply ways to support the student in the school setting will be given for students with ASD at all grade levels.

[Handout](#)

2:15 pm - 2:45 pm Break

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm Concurrent Session VI:

Teaching Conversational Language to Individuals with Autism

Paul A. Böer, Sr, MEd

Education Director, Rose Rock Academy

Skinner’s conceptual analysis of language has influenced one model of early and intensive behavioral intervention with children, which incorporates verbal operants including mands, tacts, intraverbals, etc. Many studies have examined the mand and tact relations, with little focus on teaching intraverbal behavior. Following a review of the literature on teaching intraverbals, this presentation, describes a case study of teaching intraverbals using a transfer-of-stimulus-control procedure (i.e., tact to intraverbal) in combination with errorless learning (i.e., delayed prompting). An adolescent male was successfully taught to name items associated with preselected categories with limited generalization to

a fourth, non-targeted category, and limited maintenance of skills.

[Handout](#)

The Beat Goes On (REPEAT)

*Jennifer Carlson, MT-BC, NMT
Special Care, Inc.*

Research in music therapy and autism has been a breakthrough discovery in the past century. Learn more about current research and evidence-based practices as well as case studies with children in the music therapy setting. Included in the presentation are valuable take-home resources for parents and therapist as well as live music demonstrations.

[Handout](#)

Animals Connecting People - One Family's Experience

Dean, Melinda, Joy and Sarah Lauffenburger

Penny Nichols, Executive Director
Creatures and Kids, Inc.

Joy Lauffenburger, an 18 year-old who has high functioning autism will discuss her life journey including how her dog, Goldie, has helped her overcome some of the challenges of autism. Dean and Melinda, Joy's parents provide the background of Joy's diagnosis and the family dynamics that eventually made this family strong. The family will share how we engaged Joy by using her interests to increase her social interaction and confidence. Sarah, Joy's sister discusses how she is affected, having a sister who has autism. They will take a humorous, sincere, and an honest look at their family who still face challenges. However, Joy's outlook on life inspires all of us to continue to keep working hard together.

Animals and people interaction can be useful for educational and motivational effectiveness for participants by helping a person to communicate. Animals can help a person feel safe and loved. Since animals do not communicate with words, instead body language and dog signals a person can feel more comfortable connecting with an animal. A full range of information will be provided about dogs including how to choose a dog, an example of how a dog can be used in therapeutic environments, information about training your dog, becoming a therapeutic animal interaction team and psychiatric service dogs.

How to Shore-Up an Impaired Executive Function System: Educational and Organizational Supports at the Elementary, Middle, and High School Levels, Part II

Diane Twachtman-Cullen, PhD, CCC-SLP

Editor-in-Chief, Autism Spectrum Quarterly

This presentation will demystify the “High Priestess” of cognitive development by outlining its important functions, and defining both its crucial role in everyday life and the devastating impact of deficits on students with ASD. The behavioral manifestations of executive function (EF) impairment will be discussed as they relate to problem behavior and overall functioning. Specific, easy-to-apply ways to support the student in the school setting will be given for students with ASD at all grade levels.