

Oklahoma Statewide Autism Conference Presenters

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Jacquelyn Fede, PhD

**Assistant Research Professor, University of Rhode Island
Self-Advocate**

Jacquelyn Fede, PhD is a super fun, Autistic Self-Advocate, developmental psychologist and program evaluator. Her research interests include immigration policy, autism, and community engagement. She uses her experience to help educate others about autism through lecturing, blogging and consulting on evaluation projects. A full scholarship Division 1 athlete in college, Dr. Fede continues to meet her sensory needs by seeking extreme physical activity. She also enjoys the use of creativity and art for expression.



Amy Laurent, PhD, OTR/L

**Developmental Psychologist
Adjunct Faculty, Department of Psychology,
University of Rhode Island**

Amy Laurent, PhD, OTR/L specializes in the education of autistic children. Her work involves creating learning environments designed to facilitate children's active engagement at home, in schools, and throughout their communities. She is a co-author of the SCERTS model and frequently lectures around the globe. She is passionate about neurodiversity and helping others to honor and understand the implications of "different ways of being" in relation to navigating the physical and social world.



Justin Leaf, PhD, BCBA-D

Co-Director of Research, Autism Partnership Foundation

Director of Training, Autism Partnership Foundation

Justin Leaf, Ph.D., is the Co-Director of Research and Director of Training for Autism Partnership Foundation. Justin received his doctorate degree in Behavioral Psychology from the Department of Applied Behavioral Science at the University of Kansas. Currently, Justin leads the research team at Autism Partnership Foundation, which conducts research nationally and internationally. His research interests include examining methods to improve social behaviors for children and adolescents with autism and developing friendships, comparing different teaching methodologies, evaluating parameters of reinforcement, and evaluating long term outcomes for individuals diagnosed with autism. Justin has over 80 publications in either peer reviewed journals, books, or book chapters and has presented at both national and international professional conferences and invited events. Justin also recently edited a book entitled Handbook of Social Skills and Autism Spectrum Disorder: Assessment, Curricula, and Intervention. Justin is an Associate Editor for Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. Justin also serves or has served on the editorial board for the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities, and the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders.



Steve Ward, MA, BCBA

Co-Owner, Whole Child Consulting, LLC

Steve Ward, MA, BCBA has been working in the field of Behavior Analysis since 1995, and is currently co-owner of Whole Child Consulting, LLC. Steve has been consulting with individuals, teams, schools and companies around the world. As the consultant and Lead Behavior Analyst for a center school, Steve conducted functional assessments, wrote behavior plans, and trained staff to address a wide range of behaviors. He has also designed programming for a wide variety of repertoires, including verbal behavior, daily living skills, and academics, and a host of others. Steve authored What You Need to Know about Motivation and Teaching Games: An In-depth Analysis, The Inventory of Good Learner Repertoires, and Teaching Good Learner Repertoires, and Teaching Advanced Learner Repertoires. These publications reflect Steve's passion not only for what students learn, but also for the manner in which they learn it. Steve specializes in teaching social behaviors, incorporating knowledge from a variety of perspectives and remaining at all times behavioral in his own perspective.

OTHER DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Doni Albright, OTR/L

School Based Occupational Therapist, Edmond Public Schools

Doni is an occupational therapist in the Edmond Public School district in Edmond, Oklahoma. She earned her Master of Science in Occupational Therapy in 2006 from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. She began her therapy career working on the neurorehabilitation unit at Jim Thorpe Rehabilitation Hospital, Integris Southwest Medical Center. Doni began researching pediatric practice when her own daughter began exhibiting signs of sensory processing difficulties. She has been practicing as a school-based occupational therapist in Oklahoma since 2010, where she has served children with a wide range of disabilities, including Autism. Doni resides in Edmond, Oklahoma with her husband and two children.

Lacey Anderson, MS, CCC-SLP

Speech-Language Pathologist, Edmond Public Schools

Lacey has been a Speech-Language Pathologist at Santa Fe High School in Edmond for 4 years. She graduated with her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Central Oklahoma. She is passionate about Augmentative Alternative Communication methods and finding practical ways to support teachers in the classroom setting. She also loves to craft, sing, and help lead worship at her church.

Emily Boyett, M.A., CCC-SLP, ATP

Speech-Language Pathologist & Assistive Technology Consultant, Edmond Public Schools

Emily has worked for 19 years providing assistive technology (AT) and augmentative/alternative communication (AAC) evaluation and intervention services in educational, vocational and residential settings for individuals across the life span. Emily currently works for Edmond Public Schools as a speech-language pathologist and an assistive technology consultant. Prior to joining EPS 7 years ago, Emily worked for the Oklahoma Assistive Technology Center on a contract with the Oklahoma State Department of Education, providing assistive technology training, consultation and assessment services to public schools throughout Oklahoma. She started her career as a speech-language pathologist and assistive technology consultant for Sand Springs Public Schools. Emily has taught the graduate level Augmentative and Alternative Communications class at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. She has also served individuals with a variety of abilities for over 25 years through the recreational camping program, Make Promises Happen.

Virginia Burk, Psy.D.

Licensed Psychologist, Moore Autism Center

Virginia is a licensed psychologist specializing with adults on the spectrum. She has been working specifically with adults on the spectrum since graduate school. Dr. Burk is invested in making sure her sessions are collaborative, client-focused, and non-judgmental. Her goal is to listen to what the client wants to improve upon, and give them the skills to use, when they want to use them. Many of her sessions focus on building social skills, assisting with coping and emotional regulation, and helping strengthen independent living skills (when necessary). Dr. Burk also works with a variety of comorbid diagnoses that can coexist with autism spectrum disorder, such as anxiety, depression,

attentional difficulties, and trauma. She attended Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida for graduate school, and currently works at the Moore Autism Center providing evaluations and therapy for teens and adults. She's also a giant nerd and loves it when her clients' interests and hers intermingle.

Riley Carbone Kern, Attorney & Laurel Carbone Kern, Attorney

Founders and Partners, Tallgrass Estate Planning, LLP

Riley and Laurel Carbone Kern are spouses, attorneys, and the founders of Tallgrass Estate Planning, LLP, a home-based, family-oriented law firm that focuses exclusively on estate planning. They have three children, Norah, Bruno, and Prairie, and a fluffy goldendoodle named Luna. Riley and Laurel started Tallgrass as a way to reach out to and work with people who are routinely overlooked by traditional law firms or who are hesitant to work with traditional firms. Their goal is to create an estate planning process that prioritizes hospitality, education, and inclusion.

Justin Chase, BA

RiverHawks Scholar Program, Northeastern State University

Justin Case has worked in the field of education in Oklahoma for the past 27 years. After receiving his bachelors from NSU in Business Administration, Justin felt called to teaching and returned to NSU to complete a degree in education. He enjoys working with students and feels that investing into the lives of young people is extremely fulfilling. Justin has experience working with students from middle school through college. He hopes to make a difference in the lives of the students from the Riverhawks Scholar Program. His professional goal has always been very simple, "to make a difference in the lives of the students I serve."

Angela Donley, BS

LEND Fellow

Autism Family Support Coordinator, Oklahoma Family Network

Angela Donley grew up in Texas and graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Agriculture, never thinking her path would change so dramatically over the years. She has lived in Edmond Oklahoma for the last 16 years with her husband Steve and son Jackson who is 14 and in 8th grade. Jackson was diagnosed with autism at the age of 20 months which began her journey in advocacy, family support and professional trainings. Angela works for the Oklahoma Family Network as the Statewide Autism Family Support Coordinator and Central Regional Coordinator. She is a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel Advisory Committee to the Governor's Executive Council. She is also a Commissioner on the Oklahoma Commission for Children and Youth representing children with disabilities. Angela is a 2012 graduate of Partners in Policymaking and also a 2015 LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) Fellow in the family discipline. She also works with the Oklahoma Autism Center providing the parent perspective at professional trainings for educators in Oklahoma and sits on various other committees to try and provide a strong voice for all families raising children with Autism and other developmental disabilities.

Delayna Gary, M.S. CCC-SLP, ATP

Speech-Language Pathologist, Today's Therapy Solutions

Speech-Language Pathologist, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Adjunct Professor, University of Central Oklahoma

Assistive Technology Professional

Delayna is a speech language pathologist and assistive technology professional with extensive experience working with children and adults with autism and other complex communication needs. Delayna received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Speech Language Pathology from the University of Central Oklahoma. Since then, Delayna has worked in a variety of settings including the public schools, private practice, in homes, and as an AAC consultant. Delayna enjoys working closely with families to educate, train, and support implementation of AAC in all environments.

Julie Lackey

Founder & Executive Director, LeadLearnLive

Julie Lackey is honored to be the parent of a son with Asperger's Syndrome. Her passion is advocating and working to overcome obstacles that pertain to youth and young adults with disabilities similar to what her son is challenged with. She has worked with several school systems to implement social skills programs for students with Asperger's Syndrome/High Functioning Autism as well as co-facilitating a support group for mothers of kids with Asperger's/High Functioning Autism for several years. She received the 2012 Outstanding Board Member of the year from the Autism Center of Tulsa, the 2013 Parent Advocate of the Year award from TARC and the 2018 Catalyst of Change award for Oklahoma from TARC. She is the Founder/Executive Director of LeadLearnLive, a non-profit, which has the mission of establishing fully integrated, comprehensive post-secondary programs in Oklahoma for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities. LeadLearnLive partnered with Northeastern State University to begin the RiverHawks Scholar Program, the first comprehensive, fully integrated college program in Oklahoma for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities which began in August of 2018. When Julie is not serving as wife, mother and community advocate, you can find her at MATRIX Architects and Engineers in the position of Sr. Associate and Director of Interior Design.

Mindy Lingo, MEd

Research Assistant, Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment, University of Oklahoma

Program Coordinator, Sooner Works, University of Oklahoma

Mindy is currently the Program Coordinator for Sooner Works. She is also a research assistant at The Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment and a doctoral candidate in special education at the University of Oklahoma where she will complete her dissertation this spring. Her research interests include transition education, postsecondary education options for students with intellectual disabilities, and behavioral interventions.

Sonja Mangrum, MOT, OTR/L**Occupational Therapy Director, Moore Autism Center**

Sonja graduated from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 2004 with a Master's in occupational therapy. She began her career working at The Children's Center in Bethany, OK and enjoyed working with children who had experienced traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injuries, and other neurological conditions. In 2007 she joined the team at Today's Therapy Solutions and began a career focused on working with children and families of children with autism spectrum diagnoses. In that time, she worked in home and clinic based services as well as school-based services. She also served on training teams with Project PEAK, University Continuing Education, and the Oklahoma STAR program through University of Oklahoma to provide statewide trainings to educators, para-educators, therapists, and families on various continuing education topics related to autism, sensory processing, developmental disabilities, and team collaboration. In 2015, Sonja's career path shifted toward that of education. She became the program director for the Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Brown Mackie College in Oklahoma City. In 2018, she moved back into the clinic and is currently the Occupational Therapy Director at Moore Autism Center. Sonja has been a fieldwork educator for the University of Oklahoma since 2005 and enjoys mentoring and teaching OT students about practical and evidence based practice. Sonja is married and has three children who keep her very busy. In her spare time, she enjoys sewing, embroidery, and other crafts.

Teri Martin**Special Education Teacher, Edmond Public Schools**

Teri Martin has been a special education teacher for the past 27 years. She currently teaches at Edmond Santa Fe High School. She has worked with students in the moderate cognitive program for all her career. She is a member of the Francis Tuttle Team through the OTI and has served as a team member for many years. When she taught at Deer Creek High School she served as a department head for 10 of her 14 years there. For three summers (2015-2017), she worked on the DLM assessments and iSmart Review. She served as a panelist for the first 2 summers where she helped to create cut scores for students at the 5 levels in both ELA and Math. The final summer, she participated in the iSmart Review where she helped to map out the essential elements for the DLM high school science tests. During the summer of 2019 she piloted a new program for Edmond Public Schools called STEP (Summer Transition Employment Program) working alongside the Department of Rehabilitation Services and The Galt Foundation. Teri is also a Special Olympics Coach and has been coaching multiple sports since 1988.

Kelly Murray, PharmD, BCACP**Clinical Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy,****Department of Emergency Medicine, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences****Emergency Medicine Clinical Pharmacist, Oklahoma State University Medical Center****Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy**

Kelly Murray is a Clinical Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences. She practices pharmacy in the OSU Medical Center Emergency Department and is her department's Resident Research Director. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy in 2007 and became board certified in ambulatory care pharmacy in 2011. She is the hub team pharmacist on the Pediatric Behavioral and Emotional Health ECHO line.

Whitney Nall, MD

**Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences,
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine**

Dr. Whitney Nall was born and raised in Oklahoma City. She is a Sooner through and through – born at OU Presbyterian Hospital, completed an undergraduate degree and medical degree at the University of Oklahoma, and currently practicing in the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the OU Health Sciences Center. She was even married on the OUHSC campus and will be delivering her first child at OU in December. She completed general psychiatry residency and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis. While in fellowship she had the opportunity to spend a substantial amount of time in specialized autism clinics, experience that shapes her practice today.

Kim Osmani, MEd

Extention Associate, Yang-Tan Institute

Kim Osmani is an Extension Associate with the Yang-Tan Institute serving in two capacities. She works with the Vocational Rehabilitation(VR) Youth Technical Assistance Center (Y-TAC) and also the Transition Services Professional Development Center (PDSC) with the NY State Education Department. She initially worked with the Y-TAC for two years as a subject matter expert on transition while she was the Statewide Transition Coordinator for the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services. She now serves as a Technical Assistance (TA) Liaison with the Y-TAC for Institute of Educational Leadership's National Center for Workforce Development (NCWD).

Tim Powell, Attorney

Partner, Tallgrass Estate Planning, LLP

Tim Powell is an Attorney and Partner at Tallgrass. He and his wife, Erin, have one daughter, Gracie. Tim joined Tallgrass' Tulsa team in 2017. His straightforward and educational approach helps make estate planning accessible to everyone.

M'Lisa L. Sheldon, PT, PhD

Chair & Program Director, Department of Physical Therapy, Wichita State University

Dr. Shelden received her degrees in physical therapy and early childhood special education from the University of Oklahoma. She has over 30+ years of experience working in the fields of developmental disabilities and early intervention. Dr. Shelden currently serves as the Chair and Program Director of the Department of Physical Therapy at Wichita State University. Prior to joining the faculty at WSU, she served as the Director of the Family, Infant and Preschool Program (FIPP) in Morganton, North Carolina from 2002-2018. Dr. Shelden was Assistant Professor of Research in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center from 2002-2018. She is a former Certified Pediatric Clinical Specialist and Practice Chair for the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy of the American Physical Therapy Association. M'Lisa is a graduate Fellow of the ZERO TO THREE National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families and a recipient of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research Mary E. Switzer Merit Fellowship. Dr. Shelden has coauthored several articles on early intervention and book chapters related to physical therapy personnel preparation and service delivery, coaching, and use of a primary service provider approach to teaming. She has coauthored several texts, including Physical Therapy

under IDEA, Coaching Families and Colleagues in Early Childhood Intervention, The Early Childhood Coaching Handbook, and The Early Intervention Teaming Handbook: The Primary Service Provider Approach. Dr. Shelden has consulted with over 35 states and numerous programs across the country presenting within the U.S. and internationally on topics related to coaching, use of a primary service provider approach to teaming, and provision of services in natural environments. Dr. Shelden served as the teaming strand chair for the revision of the International Division of Early Childhood Recommended Practices in Early Childhood/Early Childhood Special Education.

Emily Sullivan, MS, CCC-SLP

Director of Speech Pathology, Moore Autism Center

Emily is a licensed Speech- Language Pathologist who has been in practice since graduating with her Master's in Speech Pathology from the University of Central Oklahoma in 2009. Upon graduating, Emily completed her Clinical Fellowship year at a private practice that promoted the Greenspan Floor Time Approach and autism based services. It was there that Emily developed a passion for working with individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. In 2018, Emily became part of the faculty at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in the department of Communication Sciences and Disorders where she teaches classes on Autism Spectrum Disorder, Articulation Disorder, and Foundations to Speech Pathology, as well as providing clinical supervision to graduate clinicians. Emily has worked in a variety of settings including the public school system, skilled nursing facility and additional private practice work. In her spare time, Emily volunteers for Autism Oklahoma, a non-profit organization, where she is on the committee for the annual Piecewalk Fundraiser. She is also the leader of the Heroes Team of Autism Edmond, a support group for adults over the age of 25 who have a diagnosis of ASD.

Emily has experience in evaluation and treatment of the following: receptive/ expressive language, articulation, apraxia, augmentative-alternative communication (AAC) devices, dysphagia/swallow function, aphasia, dysarthria, fluency, voice, and cognitive rehabilitation for neurogenic communication disorders such as traumatic brain injury and stroke. Emily has experience in hosting social skills groups for both children and adults. Emily is a member of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association and Oklahoma Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Kodey Toney, MEd

Director, Pervasive Parenting Center

Kodey Toney is the director of the Pervasive Parenting Center, but most importantly he is a father and husband. He and his wife Jennifer have two sons, Konner and Kruz. Kodey has an Associate's Degree in Broadcast/Journalism from Carl Albert State College; a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts from Rogers State University, and a Master's Degree in Education Administration from East Central University. He has 18 hours of training in special education law through Wrightslaw, is a 2013 graduate of the Partners in Policymaking program through the Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council, 2014 Graduate of William and Mary Institute of Special Education Advocacy, Appointed to the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, TARC 2015 Parent Advocate of the Year. Konner's diagnosis of autism at the age of three sparked him to do many of the things he has to help bring awareness to the rural area of eastern Oklahoma.

Kendra Williams-Diehm, PhD

Associate Professor, Special Education, University of Oklahoma

Director, Sooner Works, University of Oklahoma

Kendra is an Associate Professor in Special Education in the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education at the University of Oklahoma. She is the Director for The Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment and Sooner Works. Her primary research interests include comprehensive transition services with a focus on self-determination for students with an intellectual and/or developmental disability. A secondary research interest focuses on the role culture and family plays in both the education and development of self-determination for students from diverse backgrounds.