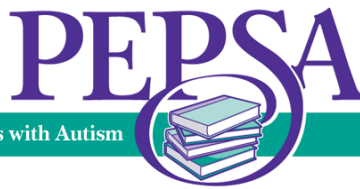




Free regional training provided by...



Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism

Nokomis, Florida

AM: EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORTS FOR LEARNERS WITH ASD

PM: SEXUALITY AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION FOR LEARNERS WITH ASD

Presented by Peter F. Gerhardt, Ed.D.

February 15, 2008
9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Registration begins at 8:30 am

Laurel Nokomis School - Media Center
1900 East Laurel Road
Nokomis, FL 34275

About the Presenter

Dr. Peter Gerhardt is President of the Organization for Autism Research, a nonprofit organization, the mission of which is to fund applied research and disseminate the relevant findings in support of learners with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. Dr. Gerhardt has over 25 years experience utilizing the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis in support of adolescents and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders in educational, employment, and community based settings. He is the author or co-author of articles and book chapters on the needs of adults with autism spectrum disorder, the school-to-work-transition process, assessment of social competence, and analysis and intervention of problematic behavior. He has presented nationally and internationally on these topics. Dr. Gerhardt received his doctorate from the Rutgers University Graduate School of Education. Dr. Gerhardt was recently awarded the John W. Jacobson Award for Significant Contributions to Effective Behavior Intervention by New York State ABA. Dr. Gerhardt has been an active member of Maryland ABA since relocating to Maryland (from New Jersey) 6 years ago and he is currently the President-Elect. Previously, he had served on the Board of Directors on New York State ABA and was a founding director of Connecticut ABA.

Training Description

Employment Development and Supports for Learners with ASD

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Today, professionals, families and learners with ASD are beginning to redefine the outcomes of the transition process beyond simple job placement to focus on career development and measures of personal competence and life satisfaction. To this end, this presentation will provide an overview and practical suggestions for transition planning in support of desirable and individualized employment outcomes with attention to assessment, community based training, employment development, job-related social skills and quality of life concerns.

Sexuality and Sexuality Education for Learners with ASD

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Persons with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are sexual beings. However, individual interest in sex or in developing an intimate sexual relationship with another person varies widely across individuals at all ability levels and at different stages in their lives. As such, there is a significant need for individualized, effective instruction for persons with ASD across the ability spectrum. Unfortunately, despite much discussion about decision making skills in the self-determination literature (e.g., Clark, et al., 2004), there continues to be "lack of evidence [supporting the] effectiveness of sex education and training for persons with developmental disabilities" (Duval, 2002, p. 453) in general, and autism spectrum disorders in particular. This presentation will address the potential translation of instructional strategies based upon behavior analytic principles to the area of sexuality instruction for learners with ASD. In addition, particular areas of instruction and challenges (both individual, familial, and systemic) will be discussed.

DIRECTIONS TO TRAINING LOCATION

From I 75 Take exit 195 toward Nokomis/Laurel.
Travel on Laurel Road approximately .7 miles.
Laurel Nokomis School is on the left side of the road.

Be sure to contact your ESE District Staff or Staff Development
Contact to determine the process for receiving in-service.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY
DEADLINE: February 11, 2008

Register online at www.doepartnership.org/training.asp

For more information contact:
Tanisha Dobney

813.974.3126 - 800.333.4530 - tclarke@fmhi.usf.edu



Regional Trainings are hosted by the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, through the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA), a program funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, K-12 Public Schools, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B. www.DOEpartnership.org