

Addressing Relationship & Sexuality Issues with Individuals Who Have ASD

Presented by: Dr. Kimberly Spence, Ph.D. and Jason Klazon

Hosted by: UF Health/Jacksonville CARD, UF Health FDLRS – MDC

About the Presenter

Dr. Kim Spence has served as the Coordinator of Educational and Training Programs for the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) at the University of Central Florida (UCF) since 1999 and as the Clinical Director of Autism Support Services for Specialized Treatment & Assessment Resources since 2017. Dr. Spence developed and began providing specialized sexuality education training for parents, teachers, and care providers of individuals with autism spectrum disorders in 2000, and has lectured internationally about creating visual supports, discriminating between maladaptive sexual behaviors versus mental health issues, and specialized educational and behavioral interventions to support healthy sexual knowledge for individuals with ASD across the life-span. In 2001, Dr. Spence developed and began providing specialized training about autism and intellectual impairments with an emphasis on inappropriate social and sexual behaviors for emergency responders, law enforcement personnel, the criminal justice system, and public defender's offices across Florida. She has trained numerous law enforcement officers from all 67 districts within the state of Florida and provides training for the Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT) Schools in all regions of Florida.

Jason Klazon received his master's degree in special education from the University of Central Florida. Jason supports Brevard and Osceola counties. Prior to joining CARD, he worked within the Central Florida area as an ESE teacher, an employment program administrator, and an employment support coordinator. Jason also worked as a psychoeducation therapist at a psychiatric hospital while living in South Florida. He currently holds a professional teaching certificate and has experience working with individuals of all ages with varying disabilities. In addition to his responsibilities at CARD, Jason is an active member of local, state, and national professional organizations. His research and training interests include transition strategies for adolescent and adult populations, social skills training and strategies for all ages, and sexuality awareness training for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. Outside of his work, Jason enjoys hanging out with family and friends, his 2 Pugs, watching football, and exercising at his local fitness facility.

Training Description

Target Audience: Parents, teachers, and care providers of individuals with autism spectrum disorders

This training will provide information and suggested strategies for teachers and other school-based personnel supporting school-aged individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) who may be engaging in sexually maladaptive behavior at school including: touching others without permission, attempting to masturbate, unwanted attempts to engage in romantic relationships, and difficulty understanding physical boundaries with others. The presenters will review current research regarding individuals with ASD who engage in sexually inappropriate behavior, as well as research-based teaching techniques to improve appropriate social interactions between students with ASD and their same-aged peers. Examples of intervention plans and suggestions for program development will be discussed along with recommendations for: differentiating different types of friendships (levels of friendship), developing personal safety plans, and assisting students in avoiding behavior defined as sexual harassment. *This training is for teachers, parents, caretakers, and professionals only. It is not appropriate for children or adults diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. CAUTION: Language, pictures, and images presented will be graphic in nature and may be offensive to some individuals.*

Training Objectives

Upon completion of this educational activity, participants will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the current research regarding sexually maladaptive behavior by individuals with ASD.
- Identify specific, research-based teaching techniques best suited for intervening with sexually maladaptive behavior by students with ASD.
- Be able to effectively identify sexually maladaptive behaviors requiring the development of a safety plan for students with ASD.
- Demonstrate an understanding of evidence-based, intervention strategies for creating personal safety plans for individuals with ASD who engage in problem sexual behavior at school.
- Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate application(s) of evidence-based intervention strategies for clients with ASD who engage in problem sexual behavior at school, based upon specific behavioral presentations by students.

Date:

October 2, 2019

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Registration begins at 8:30 am

Location:

Adam W. Herbert University Center
Building 43, University Center
University of North Florida
12000 Alumni Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32224

Registration Deadline:

October 1, 2019

Limited to first 90 participants

Register Online:

<http://doepartnership.fmhi.usf.edu/trainings.html>

Registration is mandatory.

For more information contact:

Autumn Mauch

autumn.mauch@jax.ufl.edu

or (904)-633-0801

Directions:

For directions, click [HERE](#).

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