Introduction to Visual Supports

Presented by: Chelsea Pierce, M.Ed., Ph.D. Scholar
Hosted by: UF Health/Jacksonville CARD, UF Health FDLRS - MDC

About the Presenter
Chelsea Pierce is a current Ph.D. student in the Exceptional Student Education Program at UCF. Her area of research focuses on supporting parents and families of children with complex needs. Chelsea has experience as an Inclusion teacher and a Special Education teacher. She worked with the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) at the University of Central Florida, as well as CARD at the University of Florida (UF) Health Jacksonville. She worked for the UF Health Neurodevelopmental Pediatric Center, serving on the Multidisciplinary Developmental Assessment Team, and administering assessments and consultations through the Florida Diagnostic Learning and Resource Systems, Multidisciplinary Center (FDLRS-MDC). She is presented at local and statewide conferences in areas of interest, including the use of visual supports and behavior management strategies.

Training Description
Target Audience: educators, caregivers, and others who work with students with ASD.
Often, individuals with autism face challenges with transitions, emotional regulation, and communication. This session will introduce the use of visual supports to aid in these areas and increase the compliance of individuals with autism. Attendees will learn about different types of visual support systems including visual timetables/schedules, token boards, choice boards, first-then sequences, and contingency maps. Those who attend this session will learn effective ways to organize routines and events to provide students with the opportunities needed to be successful in areas of transition.

Training Objectives
Participants will be able to identify various and real-life:

- Types of visual supports and describe their purposes.
- Applications of visual supports in the classroom.
- Applications of visual supports in the home and community settings.