

Celebrating Differences in Our Classrooms: Understanding Neurodiversity from a Strengths Based Approach

Presented by: Chris Abildgaard, Ed.D., NCSP, LPC, NCC

Hosted by: UM-NSU CARD

About the Presenter

Dr. Chris Abildgaard is the owner and director of the Social Learning Center (SLC), LLC. located in Cheshire, CT. Chris earned his Doctor of Education in School Psychology from Loyola University Chicago. He is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist & a Licensed Professional Counselor with a specialization in autism spectrum disorders and Neurodivergent learners. Chris holds a Graduate Certificate from the University of Massachusetts Lowell in Behavioral Interventions in Autism. Dr. Abildgaard also teaches at several top universities in Connecticut. He was heavily involved as an Adjunct Professor in the Special Education Department at the University of St. Joseph (USJ) as he helped to update and enhance their Master's in Autism and Neurodiversity program. He currently holds an Adjunct Professor position at the University of Hartford in the Psychology Department. His duties at both universities include teaching, curriculum development and supervision.

Training Description

Target Audience: Educators, Administrators, Psychologists, School Psychologists, SLPs, OTs & Family Members.

With teacher burnout at a national high, supporting educators in their effort to successfully understand the needs of students from a cognitive, social, and mental health perspective is vital for positive learning outcomes. This one-day seminar will establish an educational understanding for who a neurodivergent learner is, strategies for promoting social, executive function, and mental health growth and effective methods for communicating with families and caregivers. Evidence-based practices and clinical examples will be provided to empower educators to best support a student's natural style of learning.

Training Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Describe the social and executive learning styles of children with ASD and other neurodiverse learners.
- Identify the challenges families with children with ASD may experience and develop skills for improved collaboration with families.
- Identify current research and developments in the field of parent and family disability and autism spectrum disorders issues and support.
- Develop skills in modifying and adapting instructional and related materials to support students with ASD and other neurodivergent learning styles.

Date:

April 10, 2024

8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Registration begins at 8:00 am

Location:

University of Miami

Watsco Center Hurricane 100 Room

1245 Dauer Dr.

Coral Gables, FL 33146

Registration Deadline:

April 8, 2024

Limited to first 150 participants

Register [Online](#) or scan the QR code below:

Registration is mandatory.



For more information contact:

Contact Name

CARD@miami.edu

or (305) 284-6563

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.