# Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism

## Professional Development



### Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

#### Date:

March 28th, 2025 8:00 am – 3:30 pm Registration begins at 7:45 am

#### **Location:**

Online via Zoom

#### **Registration Deadline:**

March 25, 2025 Limited to first 300 participants

#### Register **Here**

Registration is mandatory.

## Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Individuals with ASD

Presented by: Danielle Liso, Ph.D., BCBA-D

**Hosted by: UCF CARD** 

#### **About the Presenter**

Dr Liso earned her Master's in severe and profound disabilities from Johns Hopkins University, and her Doctorate in early childhood special education with a focus on autism from Vanderbilt University. She is a board-certified behavior analyst and has been working in the field of autism since 1996. Her previous roles have included special educator, researcher, clinical director, private practice owner, assistant professor, and director of an inclusive preschool program. Dr. Liso serves as Associate Director of UF CARD. Her special interests include peer awareness and acceptance of differences, dual diagnosis in ASD, and how to support the mental health and resilience of professionals in the field.

#### **Training Descriptions**

**Target Audience:** Professionals who work with school-aged individuals with ASD who also struggle with anxiety, depression, and related mental health challenges will benefit.

Students with ASD often have co-occurring mental health diagnoses, including depression and anxiety. Impacts of COVID-19 on student mental health, as well as instigating factors caused by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) will be discussed. Participants will learn how mental health challenges impact the social, emotional, and cognitive abilities of individuals with autism. They will learn how to bolster the mental health and academic success of students. Lastly, recommendations for a mental health curriculum will be shared.

#### **Training Objectives**

Participants will be able to:

- Understand the impact on the pandemic on mental health and learning
- Identify intervention approaches to addressing the mental health needs of individuals with dual diagnosis
- Identify topics and activities for a structured curriculum designed to address the mental health needs of individuals with dual diagnosis

#### For more information contact:

Training Coordinator ucfcard@ucf.edu or (407) 823-6001

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

