

# **Professional Development**

**UF** Center for Autism and Related Disabilities UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

### Dates:

October 17, 2024 October 24, 2024 November 7, 2024 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: Online via Zoom

### **Registration Deadline:**

October 9, 2024 Limited to the first 500 online participants.

**Register Online** Registration is mandatory.

### For more information contact:

card-training@ufl.edu or (352) 265-2230

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

### **Achieving Autism Success with Visual Strategies: Meeting Communication Needs of Neurodiverse Learners**

Presented by: Linda Hodgdon, CCC-SLP(R) Hosted by: UF-Gainesville CARD

### **About the Presenter**

Linda Hodgdon, CCC-SLP(R), is a Speech Pathologist and Autism Consultant who has been supporting autistic students, their educators and families for more than 40 years. Known as a pioneer in developing many different uses for visual strategies, she has traveled over a million miles around the world sharing her visual communication techniques with teachers, Speech Pathologists, parents and others who are communication partners with these students. Linda's best-selling classic, Visual Strategies for Improving Communication, challenges professionals and parents to look at communication differently. She has authored many books, articles and training materials to guide communication partners to communication success with their neurodiverse students. Linda has a passion to take the mystery out of autism and help everyone discover exactly what students need to gain success in their life opportunities. For more information, visit: www.UseVisualStrategies.com

### **Training Description**

### Target Audience: Educators, Administrators, SLPs, OTs, PTs, & Family Members

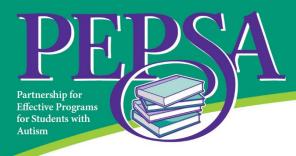
We have a new understanding of autism. It's important for the educational community to really grasp the meaning of neurodiversity because it opens different doors for teaching students with an ASD diagnosis.

This program will explore multiple ways to use a variety of visual communication essentials. We'll go beyond the basics to explore unique visual tools to manage more complex neurodivergent needs.

Visual tools are simple to use. They are not "magic." They won't fix every problem. Yet their impact for neurodiverse individuals of all ages and skill levels can be profound.

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## Program 1: Foundational Understanding of Autism, Communication & Visual Strategies

- Communication is more than just talking
- In one ear and out the other
- Visuals to support neurodiversity & learning styles

### Program 2: Creating Environments to Support Neurodiverse Needs

- Quick Behavior Assessment
- Sensory dysregulation, invisible memories, compounding effect and other characteristics
- Samples of visual strategies and how to use them

### Program 3: The Carpenter Needs More Than a Hammer

- Identifying each student's personal "formula"
- Examples of visual tools to support many different needs
- The Operating Manual & the Autism Tool Box
- Favorite tools and resources for building your visual collection
- Visual tools for building a life-long support system

Information in each program will build on the information that was presented in the previous program/s.

### **Training Objectives**

- Explore some often misunderstood or confusing characteristics and behaviors of autistic / neurodiverse students and discover how visual strategies can become an important part of managing them.
- Go beyond the basics and recognize situations where visual strategies provide support so students can understand, learn new skills and get their needs met.
- Learn additional visual tools to add to your toolbox to accommodate neurodiverse needs as life-long supports.



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