



Autism Community Network WORKSHOPS

2010 Education and Training for Providers and Parents

Curriculum and Instructors:

This series has been developed by Autism Community Network's team of professionals led by Executive Director Jessica H. Franco, PhD (CCC-SLP, BCBA) in consultation with ACN Medical Director Chris Plauché Johnson, MEd, MD. Sessions are taught by practicing, behavior analysts, physicians, and speech-language pathologists — giving participants an opportunity to acquire cutting edge information from some of the area's most highly-qualified professionals.

For Providers and Educators:

If you are a provider of care for children with autism, we can help you increase your knowledge and skills. We can help you learn how to screen children for autism, how to teach children with autism, how to deal with challenging behaviors, and how to make referrals in our community.

For Parents and Families:

Our year-round schedule of workshops will help you learn how to better interact and teach your child.

2010 Schedule

DATE	TITLE
February 5	Family Advocacy – Helping Families Through the Special Education Process
February 19	Managing Challenging Behaviors
March 5	Autism 101
March 19	Developing Joint Attention in Children – Strategies and Techniques
April 2	Accessing Funding Sources (presented in English and Spanish)
April 16	Teaching Social Skills/Relationship Development
May 7	Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
May 21	Managing Challenging Behavior (presented in Spanish)
June 4	Utilizing Visual Supports
June 18	Autismo 101 (presented in Spanish)
July 11-16	Autism Institute for Teachers & Therapists*
August 6	Treating Sensory Integration Disorders
August 20	Autism 101

Check online for updates: www.autismcommunitynetwork-sa.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

All workshops are held at the Autism Community Network, 701 South Zarzamora, San Antonio, TX 78207. Sessions start at 9:00 am and run until 4:00 pm, with a 1-hour lunch break. Fee is \$50 per person, per class.

For families on Medicaid workshop fees are \$5 • Childcare is available with advance registration.

*Please contact Brooke Lamartina for the July Institute registration fee: brooke@autismcommunitynetwork-sa.org

To Register: contact brooke@autismcommunitynetwork-sa.org • 210-435-1000

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Descriptions of each session are provided on the reverse side of this sheet (page 2).

2010 Workshop Descriptions

Family Advocacy

Navigating through the maze of autism services offered by public school districts, service agencies, and government programs can be a frustrating and costly challenge, and often leads to closed doors and seemingly endless reams of paperwork. In this workshop the most vital information families must have to leverage the available resources will be covered in detail.

Managing Challenging Behaviors

The Challenging Behaviors workshop covers strategies for managing difficult behaviors in children with autism spectrum disorders. The workshop breaks behavior down into observable and measurable terms. Using this information, participants learn to determine intervention strategies and antecedent strategies and how to manage difficult behaviors in crisis situations.

Autism 101 (Autismo 101)

The Autism 101 workshop answers basic questions about autism. This workshop covers topics including defining an autism spectrum disorder and describing its characteristics, diagnosis criteria, services for children with ASDs, and implementing a behavior plan for an autistic child.

Developing Joint Attention in Children - Strategies & Techniques

Joint attention is the process by which one person alerts another to an object or event using verbal and nonverbal signals, such as pointing or looking. The lack of joint attention is the key factor in diagnosing a child with autism spectrum disorder. Methods for identifying and teaching joint attention will be taught in this interactive workshop.

Accessing Funding Sources

The costs associated with autism can be overwhelming. From the therapy and individual training a child needs to make lasting progress, to the special education needs many children with autism require, family finances often become as significant a worry as the autism itself. This workshop will provide specific funding sources and proven strategies for accessing them.

Teaching Social Skills

Even after they make progress in acquiring basic behavioral skills and joint attention, children with autism often have difficulty developing friendships and enjoying social situations. This workshop will cover specific tricks and techniques parents and others can use with children in order to give them confidence to interact with family members and peers.

Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

The Introduction to Verbal Behavior workshop will examine the basic principles of applied behavior analysis and its application in autism intervention. The term 'behavior analysis' was coined by B. F. Skinner, considered the founder of behavior analysis. The term was meant to distinguish the field as one that focuses on behavior as a subject in its own right, rather than as an index or manifestation of something happening at some other level. This workshop will explore how these ideas form the core of behavior analysis today.

Utilizing Visual Supports

Have you ever used a cookbook or studied a roadmap? These are visual supports. Using natural visual supports such as a road map, we can help children with autism prepare themselves for navigating their own lives. In this workshop participants will learn about some easy-to-use visual supports for everyday life.

Treating Sensory Integration Disorders

Although an estimated 70 percent of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders have Sensory Integration Disorders, many people do not really understand what that entails. This workshop covers terminology related to sensory processing disorders and how these sensory issues can affect a child in terms of behavior, cognition, language, motor skills, and social-emotional equilibrium. The workshop also covers treatment plans and strategies tailored to the needs of a child with an ASD.

— PRESENTED BY AUTISM COMMUNITY NETWORK —

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