

# 2013 Webinar Calendar

ALL WEBINARS ARE SCHEDULED 12:00-1:00PM CST

## SYMPHONY FOR SUCCESS

Presented by Kelly Barnhill, MBA, CN, CCN

◆ THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

There are many reasons the puzzle piece is a symbol for autism; one is that intervention and therapies come in many shapes and sizes, and often overlap in terms of goals and objectives. This presentation covers the key disciplines needed to form a solid foundation of appropriate intervention. Whether you are new to intervention or an old hand, this global perspective has something to offer everyone.

## SUMMER CAMPS & PROGRAMS

Presented by Nisey Webb and Jeanna Martinez, CCLS

◆ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Do you steer away from summer camp enrollment due to worrying questions or fears? Is your child ready for camp? Would they benefit? And are there safe, fun camps they can go to? Get these questions answered and find out more about camps in Texas, as well as nationally recognized programs around the U.S., that can accommodate the special needs of your child.

## TAX ISSUES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

Presented by Yolanda Baker, CPA

◆ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Therapy and intervention expenses can add up quickly when you have a child with special needs, and most people are looking to save money wherever they can. This seminar will focus on tax deductions that might apply to medical, educational, and behavioral expenses for a child with special needs.

## A PARENT'S GUIDE TO ASSESSMENT 1: WHY IS ASSESSMENT HELPFUL?

Presented by Claire Schutte, PsyD., BCBA-D, Psychologist at The Johnson Center

◆ TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Assessment is crucial in identifying a child's special needs; this webinar provides an overview. Important topics, such as understanding different types of assessment (diagnostic, educational, etc.), what parents should look for in an evaluation, and the advantages of on-going assessment and evaluation will be covered.

## A PARENT'S GUIDE TO ASSESSMENT 2: MY CHILD HAS BEEN EVALUATED, NOW WHAT? PUTTING RESULTS IN MOTION

Presented by Claire Schutte, PsyD., BCBA-D, Psychologist at The Johnson Center

◆ TUESDAY, MARCH 19

This webinar is about how to better understand assessment results, as well as how to use on-going assessment to guide treatment planning and implementation. Understanding common assessment scores, the importance of individualized treatment recommendations, and measuring progress will be covered.

## A PARENT'S GUIDE TO BIOMARKERS FOR AUTISM: UNDERSTANDING HOW THEY CAN BE USED TO DETERMINE RISK, PROVIDE EARLY DIAGNOSIS, AND DEVELOP TREATMENT OPTIONS.

Presented by Dr. Laura Hewitson, Director of Research at The Johnson Center

◆ THURSDAY, MARCH 28

There is a lot of interest in the development of a biomarker for autism that could predict autism risk, assist in diagnosis, or even provide targets for possible treatment options. This presentation will walk you through the status of current biomarker research, providing realistic assessments of how biomarkers could be used clinically, and will address some of the ethical and social implications.

## A MODERN WORLD: USING THE IPAD AND OTHER DEVICES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH ASD

Presented by Melissa Olive, PhD, BCBA

◆ TUESDAY, APRIL 16

Technology is changing the way we live and learn. Used appropriately, it can be a powerful tool to help people with autism spectrum disorders communicate and learn. Hear more about ways to incorporate technology into programs and daily life to help people with ASD.

## EATING WELL FOR IMMUNE HEALTH

Presented by Alan Gutierrez, MS, RD

◆ THURSDAY, APRIL 25

The foundation for healthy immunity includes an eating plan that supports the body's natural defenses. Learn practical ways to make your kitchen a powerful tool for enhancing your family's health. All are welcome, no kitchen experience required.

## MEETING THE NEEDS OF SIBLINGS, PART 1

Presented by Claire Schutte, PsyD, BCBA-D

◆ TUESDAY, MAY 7

This webinar reviews the challenges that siblings of children with autism often face. Family communication, siblings' understanding of autism, peer issues, and coping mechanisms will be discussed. Parents will acquire a greater understanding and insight into their child and the family dynamics.

## MEETING THE NEEDS OF SIBLINGS, PART 2

Presented by Jeanna Martinez, CCLS

◆ TUESDAY, MAY 21

In part 2 of this series we will discuss strategies for families on how to help support healthy sibling relationships and open communication with all family members. It will include feedback from the SibConnections group at The Johnson Center.

## HEALTHY SIBLINGS: CONSIDERATIONS FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH ASD

Dr. Dane Mosher, Physician, The Johnson Center

◆ THURSDAY, MAY 30

Siblings have the same susceptibilities and environmental exposures as their brother or sister with ASD. There are often co-morbid health conditions or health concerns that may be overlooked in the presence of the more pressing symptoms of their ASD sibling. This presentation looks at some of the more common health issues seen in families, and simple strategies to address the health and wellness of the entire family.

## WHAT DOES A GOOD ABA PROGRAM LOOK LIKE? IS IT WHAT MY CHILD NEEDS?

Presented by Bobbie Edwards, BCBA

◆ TUESDAY, JUNE 4

There are many misconceptions about ABA and how it is used in people with ASD. Learn the basic components of a quality program, questions to ask potential and current providers, and how to tell if your child is getting what he or she needs.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GUARDIANSHIP, ESTATE PLANNING, & SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS

Presented by H. Clyde Farrell, certified Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation and Certified Financial Planner

◆ TUESDAY, JUNE 18

It's imperative that appropriate planning is done to ensure your loved one with special needs will be cared for in the long-term. Tune in to learn where to start your planning, and key aspects to focus on.

## COMPLEMENTARY CARE & ASD: WHAT WE DON'T KNOW, WHAT WE THINK WE KNOW, & WHAT WE KNOW

Dr. Dane Mosher, Physician, The Johnson Center

◆ THURSDAY, JUNE 27

Research suggests that between 30-95% of children with ASD have used Complementary and Alternative Medical (CAM) treatments. However, there is little research that has been published on the safety and benefits of these interventions for autism; this avenue of research is relatively new. Learn about what research has been done, what some of the potential risks and benefits might be, and what questions you can ask to educate yourself on these treatments.

## AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION & ASD

Presented by Melissa Olive, PhD, BCBA

◆ TUESDAY, JULY 2

Many people with ASD are non-verbal, or have limited verbal abilities while having age-appropriate (or better) receptive language skills; this can cause problems with communicating wants and needs and lead to frustration and problem behaviors. With the use of augmentative or alternative communication, children with ASD can learn to communicate, sometimes leading to verbal communication. This webinar will focus on the use of iPad applications and Proloque2go combined with ABA therapy to teach children with ASD how to expressively communicate.

## NEEDLES, AND NURSES, AND LABS! OH, MY! HELPING CHILDREN WITH ASD THROUGH BLOOD DRAWS AND MEDICAL PROCEDURES

Presented by Jeanna Martinez, CCLS and Rebeca Flores, RN

◆ TUESDAY, JULY 16

Getting blood drawn for labs, shots, vitals checks and other medical procedures are often very stressful for children, compounded in children with ASD because of transition and communication issues. Learn some simple strategies and tips to make these experiences less stressful and more successful for the children (and their parents).

## NUTRITION AND AUTISM: WHAT IS THE CONNECTION AND WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH TELL US?

Presented by Kelly Barnhill, MBA, CN, CCN, Director of Clinical Services at The Johnson Center and Dr. Dane Mosher, Physician, The Johnson Center

◆ THURSDAY, JULY 25

Is there an "autism diet"? What is dietary intervention? What role does nutrition play in autism spectrum disorders? In this webinar we will look at what answers the existing research gives us, and discuss areas where more research is needed.

## MEDICAID-FUNDED LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN TEXAS

Presented by Ms. Colleen Horton, MPAff, program officer of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

◆ TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

Registrants get an overview of each Medicaid Waiver Program in the state of Texas, the history of why these programs were developed, and the eligibility process.

## SEXUALITY AND AUTISM: HOW TO ADDRESS SEX ED AND ASD

Presented by Claire Schutte, PsyD, BCBA-D and

◆ TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

Few parents relish the idea of tackling sexual education with their children. But it is critically important that parents of children with autism do so; many children with ASD will not have much opportunity to learn from friends, television, and movies, and there are areas of intimacy, privacy, and protection that may be too challenging for them to navigate on their own. Understanding how their bodies work, what is appropriate behavior, and the social issues that arise as they mature are areas that often need to be directly taught to people with ASD. Learn about available resources and age appropriate lessons for children with ASD.

## PREPARING FOR THE COLD AND FLU SEASON

Presented by Alan Gutierrez, MS, RD

◆ THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

Did you know there are dietary and lifestyle changes that support the body's natural defenses against viruses like the flu and common cold? This presentation will cover foods, supplements, and other pharmaceutical interventions that will help support the immune system.

## TRANSITIONS FOR ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS WITH ASD: 4 PART SERIES

Presented by Claire Schutte, PsyD, BCBA-D

### PART 1: OVERVIEW

◆ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

The journey from adolescence to adulthood is exciting and also complicated. Part 1 of this webinar series will provide an overview of the changes commonly involved for adolescents and young adults with ASD as they transition to adulthood. Advice on how to support them through the process will be provided.

### PART 2: INDEPENDENT LIVING

◆ THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Housing, budgeting, time management, and self-care are just a few of the "to-do's" involved in independent living. Learn more about planning for and supporting independent living for adolescents and young adults with ASD.

### PART 3: SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

◆ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

The transition to adulthood brings many new types of social relationships and potential challenges. Specific social situations adolescents and young adults might face such as making new friends, roommates, dating, and work relationships will be discussed. Helpful tips on navigating these relationships will be provided.

### PART 4: HIGHER EDUCATION AND JOBS

◆ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

This webinar will review how to help adolescents and young adults with ASD succeed in college and work-life. A thorough overview, from supporting interest and career exploration to finding specific support services, will be provided.

## INTERVENCIÓN DE AUTISMO: LA GRAN FOTO

Presented by Carmen Arroyo Otero, MD

◆ THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Hay muchas razones que el simbol del autismo es una pieza de un rompecabeza. Una es que la intervención y las terapias se hacen en formas muy variadas que aunque diferentes pueden entrelazarse con los mismos propósitos y metas. Esta presentación cubrirá las disciplinas fundamentales para formar una base sólida de la intervención apropiada. Si usted es nuevo en la intervención o tiene experiencia, esta perspectiva global tiene algo que ofrecerles a todos.

## TOILET TRAINING: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

Presenter: TBD

◆ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Are you ready to move on from diapers? Is your child ready? What do you need to think about and prepare for when toilet training a person of any age? We will discuss planning, barriers, and strategies to successfully implement a toilet training program.

## FEEDING ISSUES IN PEOPLE WITH ASD

Presented by Melissa Olive, PhD, BCBA

◆ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Many children with autism spectrum disorders develop food selectivity, or what may be called "picky eating." It is not uncommon for children to restrict their diets to one or two things, to refuse to eat certain colors or textures, or to consume only pureed foods. This session will focus on strategies that have been demonstrated to be successful in helping children with autism learn to eat a wide variety of new foods. Participants will also learn what assessments should be completed before starting feeding therapy. Time will be available for questions and answers immediately following the webinar.

## TIME MANAGEMENT & ORGANIZATION FOR THE SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILY

Presented by Anissa Ryland, Director of The Johnson Center

◆ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Do you always make a New Year's resolution to organize your life? Are calendars, supplement charts, therapy schedules, data sheets, and IEP documents taking over your house? If you were to fall ill or were needed elsewhere could someone else step in and appropriately cover your child's needs? Join us for an online discussion on how to conquer the paper and get some peace of mind about your child's needs, and family schedule.

## TEACHING PLAY SKILLS TO CHILDREN WITH ASD

Presented by Bobbie Edwards, BCBA

◆ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Play is essential in a child's development and is frequently overlooked as a critical domain with children with ASD. Learn about the importance of developing these skills, strategies to teach them, and some resources to learn more.

## HEALTHY LIVING FOR THE NEW YEAR: SET YOUR 2014 RESOLUTIONS

Presented by Alan Gutierrez, MS, RD

◆ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Learn about 12 goals you can set in the New Year that will improve and update your family's health and well-being. We will give you the tools and information you need to make these changes happen, one month at a time.

These webinars are offered free of charge, but registration is required. Visit [johnson-center.org](http://johnson-center.org) for registration links or call 512-732-8400 for more information.



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