

Conference Information

Conference Location

Sheraton Hotel of West Des Moines
1800 50th Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265
Phone: 515-223-1800

Rooms have been reserved for the conference participants under the Autism Society Group Block. Rooms will be held until October 23, 2014.

Continuing Education Units

5.0 hours will be credited for Social Work and Speech Language Pathology.

Conference Scholarships

There are family scholarships available for this conference, based on financial need. Please fill out the family scholarship form on our web site www.autismia.org and send it to autism50ia@aol.com or call the Autism Society of Iowa at 1-888-722-4799.

ADA Accommodations

If ADA accommodations are needed for you to attend this conference, please contact ASI by October 15, 2014, at 1-888-722-4799.



Registration for Fall Conference and Auction

Fax – 515-457-7225
Phone: 515-327-9075 or 1-888-722-4799
Email: autism50ia@aol.com
Mail: 4549 Waterford Drive, West Des Moines, IA 50265

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Registration fee (includes lunch)

☐ Early bird (before 11/10/14)

_____ \$75.00 for ASI Members (\$100 after 11/10/14)

_____ \$50.00 for additional ASI Family Members

_____ \$85.00 for non-member (\$110.00 after 11/10/14)

_____ \$10.00 ASI Membership Dues

_____ \$10.00 ASI Benefit Auction Registration

_____ Tax-Deductible donation for scholarship for parent to attend

_____ **Total Amount**

Check Payment: Please make check payable to ASI

Charge Card Payment:

☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

Card # _____

Exp. Date ____/____/____

3-digit number on back _____

Name on Card _____

Purchase Order Payment:

Please mail to or fax to the Autism Society of Iowa.

Fax: 515-457-7225

PayPal available at www.autismia.org

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Autism Society of Iowa

4549 Waterford Drive
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

Autism Society of Iowa Fall Conference & Auction



Friday, November 14, 2014

***Transition for
Individuals On the
Autism Spectrum:***

***What Are We
Aiming For?***

**Keynote Speaker:
Cathy Pratt, Ph.D., BCBA**

Conference Speakers

Cathy Pratt, Ph.D., BCBA

Dr. Cathy Pratt is the Director of the Indiana Resource Center for Autism at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community located at Indiana University. Dr. Pratt is on faculty at Indiana University, and presents internationally. Dr. Pratt serves on numerous Advisory Boards, including the Advisory Boards of Maap Services, Inc., the College Internship Program, the Autism Society of Indiana, and the Temple Grandin/Eustacia Cutler Autism Fund. In the past, she served on the Board of the national Autism Society and is the Immediate Past Chair. Dr. Pratt also serves on the Panel of Professional Advisors for the Autism Society and is a member of NATTAP (Network of Autism Training and Technical Assistance Programs). Dr. Pratt served on the advisory board for the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders grant funded through the US Department of Education and has recently been asked to serve on the advisory board for the Center for Secondary Education for Students with ASD also funded through the US DOE of Education. Dr. Pratt also assists with the coordination of the Autism Special Interest Group (SIG) through the Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD). She served as a member of the public review committee for the Research Roadmap of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee and in 2010 was invited to the White House to provide feedback on the president’s initiatives on autism spectrum disorders. Dr. Pratt has been honored by the Autism Society with the Individual Achievement Award, with the 2005 Princeton Fellowship Award, and with various awards through NYFAC (New York Families for Autistic Children, Inc.), including recognition from the United States House of Representatives. In 2008, Dr. Pratt was awarded with the Distinguished Service Award by the Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education. In 2010-2012, she served as the Shibbes Distinguished Visiting Professor in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine. She writes and presents on the following topics: autism spectrum disorders, functional behavior assessment/positive behavior supports, applied behavior analysis, instructional approaches, systems change, and policy. Prior to pursuing her doctorate at Indiana University, Dr. Pratt worked as a classroom teacher for students across the autism spectrum and with other disabilities. Dr. Pratt earned her BCBA-D and is a board certified behavior analyst.

Mike Dierdorff

Mike Dierdorff lives in Grundy Center with his wife Margo, his two stepsons, Alex Eichholz, 16, and Drew Eichholz, 14. Both are on the spectrum. He currently works at Adams Thermal Systems in Cedar Falls as an assembler. He is looking to become a public speaker about his life with autism, tailoring his presentations to his audience. He has spoken at UNI and Autism Champs in Waterloo. He is on the Adult Services committee for the ASI.

Lori Moore, M.A.E.

Lori Moore, M.A.E. is the program coordinator for the post-secondary transition project at the ASK Resource Center. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After teaching six years in Milwaukee, Lori returned to Madison to pursue her interests in supporting students with disabilities. While earning her Master of Science degree in Special Education from UW-Madison, Lori served as grant coordinator for the Wisconsin School Inclusion Project. She returned to teaching and served as an Inclusion Facilitator for two years where she assisted other teachers in establishing learning environments where all students successfully participate and learn. Currently, Lori is the Program Coordinator for the Post-Secondary Transition project at ASK Resource Center where she enjoys providing information and support to people with disabilities and their families. She strives to collaborate with families, schools, community agencies and the Iowa Department of Education to positively impact outcomes for youth with disabilities.

Wendy Trotter

Wendy Trotter, MS, CCC-SLP has nearly 20 years of experience working with individuals with autism in a variety of settings including: specialty school, public school, pediatric outpatient therapy and medical diagnostics. She has just recently joined the Iowa Department of Education as an educational consultant in the area of autism. She has training in a variety of therapeutic techniques/intervention approaches and strongly advocates for integrating various effective treatment models to best meet the needs of the individual child with ASD at any given developmental level.

Conference Agenda

7:30 – **Registration**

8:00 – **Welcome and Announcements**

8:15-9:45 – **Transition for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum: What are We Aiming For?**
Part 1 – *Speaker Cathy Pratt, Ph.D., BCBA*

Much of the focus for students on the autism spectrum has been on the early intervention and school years. As students age into the adult world, the transition process becomes increasingly important. This can be a difficult and confusing time for students and for their family members. This process will discuss issues, strategies and considerations for transitioning an individual across the lifespan.

As a result of this presentation, participants will increase their understanding of:

- The role of transition planning across the school years
- Strategies that are critical to ensuring maximum outcomes
- Behavioral, social, sensory, and communication issues

- and concerns and how they play into transition planning
- Options available during the adult years

9:45-10:00 – **Break**

10:00-11:30 – **Transition for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum: What Are We Aiming For?**
Part 2 – Speaker: *Cathy Pratt, Ph.D., BCBA*

11:30-11:45 - **Break**

11:45 – 12:00 – **Transitioning From the Perspective of Someone on the Autism Spectrum**
Speaker Mike Deardorff

12:00-12:15 – **Awards**

12:15 – **Lunch served in atrium**

1:00 - **Room will divide.** Please select one breakout session.

1:00-2:00 – **Navigating Transitions Across Grade Levels from Early Access through Middle School**
Part 1 – Speaker: *Wendy Trotter, MS, CCC-SLP*

Change is a part of life, but change can be hard. And change can be especially difficult for an individual with ASD. Yet, it is impossible to live in an environment free of change and transition, especially when it comes to school. In the educational system, students are expected to adjust to changes in teachers, classrooms, schedules, classmates, school rules, school buildings, etc. These transitions can be a source of great anxiety and trepidation – even more so for the student with ASD. However, with careful planning and preparation we can help the student to cope with change and adapt to a variety of settings. Discussion will center on pivotal transition periods (Early Access to Early Childhood/Preschool, Early Childhood/Preschool to Kindergarten, Elementary to Middle School, and Middle School to High School) as well as navigating transitions across grade levels.

As a result of this presentation, participants will increase their understanding of:

- Ideas and tools to facilitate transitions
- Ways to minimize frustration and anxiety for students with ASD

1:00-2:00 – **Preparing for Post-Secondary Learning and Working**
Speaker: *Lori Moore, M.A.E.*

Through various projects and partnerships, ASK Resource Center provides information, training, advocacy, support and resources related to the needs of people with disabilities and their families. In this session, Lori will provide information about options for education beyond high school for youth with disabilities and discuss ways in which youth with disabilities

can explore the world of work. Because work looks different for everyone, a variety of work experiences and environments will be discussed.

As a result of this presentation, participants will increase their understanding of:

- The importance of work and how it effects the other aspects of adult living
- Ways to incorporate work expectations and goals into a student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- The importance of strengthening self-determination and advocacy skills for youth with disabilities
- A variety of post-secondary education and work-based experiences and environments

2:00-2:15 – **Break**

2:15- 3:15 – **Navigating Transitions Across Grade Levels: from Early Access through Middle School**
Part 2 – Speaker: *Wendy Trotter, MS, CCC-SLP*

2:15- 3:15 – **The Road to Discovery: The power of high expectations & planning for adult living, learning and working**
Speaker: *Lori Moore, M.A.E*

Through various projects and partnerships, ASK Resource Center provides information, training, advocacy, support and resources related to the needs of people with disabilities and their families. In this session, Lori Moore will present information and lead activities to establishing high expectations, setting specific goals and planning successful transitions to education and work after high school.

As a result of this presentation, participants will increase their understanding of:

- The importance of having high expectations for youth and disabilities
- What transition planning is and why it is vital
- How the special education transition process works and how to effectively participate
- How to make IEP goals connect to a student’s expectations for living, learning, and working
- How to encourage and support youth participation in transition planning

6:00 – **Evening Benefit Auction**