

Saturday Schedule – February 6, 2010

7:30-8:30am – Registration

8:30-8:45am – Welcome

8:45-10:15am – Keynote: Life on the Autism Spectrum - Stephen Shore, Ed.D.

Stephen will share his story from his non-verbal days through adolescence to finally becoming a college professor. As he discusses his journey, he will share insights into what it is like to live with autism and Asperger's, and discuss strategies that have helped him and many of his peers.

Dr. Stephen Shore was diagnosed with "strong autistic tendencies," and is now a professor of education at Adelphi University. He is the author of "Beyond the Wall: Personal Experiences with Autism and Asperger Syndrome," Editor of "Ask and Tell: Self-advocacy and Disclosure for People on the Autism Spectrum," co-author of "Understanding Autism for Dummies"; and featured on the Newly released DVD "Living Along the Autism Spectrum: What it means to have Autism or Asperger Syndrome". He serves as board member for the Autism Society of America and several other similar organizations.

10:15-10:45am – Morning Break / Visit Exhibits

Breakout Sessions: (Choose any talks from 4 parallel tracks)

10:45am-12:15pm – Promoting Life-long Success for People with Autism by Using Our Strengths: Just Like Everyone Else -

Stephen Shore, Ed.D.

[Stephen Shore Track]

This presentation will look at how to enable people with autism to arrange their lives spending more time engaged with their strengths rather than struggling through weaknesses.

10:45am-12:15pm – Building Bridges: A Multidisciplinary Team Approach to Social Skills and Supporting Students with Asperger's Syndrome and Autism in the Classroom - Laura Phipps & Susan Marshburn M.Ed.

[Education Track]

Participants will be introduced to the Building Bridges Guide (brief history) and learn how to implement Building Bridges and the component pieces with all key stakeholders (students, educators, and parents) to establish a "Bridge" for success; and gain knowledge about the program that has been supporting Anne Arundel County Public School students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other disabilities to remain the least restrictive environment(s).

Laura Phipps has her Masters in Social Work and has been working with AACPS as the Social Skills Specialist in the Division of Special Education for 4 years. In her position, Laura is responsible for facilitating Building Bridges in all county schools at elementary, middle, and high school levels. Laura has co authored the newly released supplemental materials which support the Building Bridges guide. As the mother of a son with multiple disabilities, Laura understands the need for social relationships and continued disability awareness in the school setting. She works collaboratively with outside community resources to build Bridges of support for those with and without disabilities.

Susan Marshburn M.Ed. is the Coordinator of Interagency and Nonpublic Placements for Anne Arundel County Public Schools; Susan's responsibilities involve coordinating all aspects of nonpublic special education placements, assisting her staff to support students with disabilities to achieve academic/social successes while monitoring special education compliance in the nonpublic facilities. Her areas of expertise have extended from being a classroom teacher to her current position in which Susan has developed a strong voice advocating for community partnerships to assist children with disabilities and their families to achieve to their fullest potentials.

10:45am-12:15pm – Understanding the Law: Accessing Early Intervention Services for Special Needs Children in the Aftermath of the California Budget Crisis - Areva D. Martin

[Family Track]

It is well documented that children with special needs or those at risk for cognitive, language, and social deficits benefit from comprehensive intervention programs including a myriad of therapies such as Applied Behavioral Analysis. Both the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) and the Lanterman Act provide for services ranging from speech and language therapy to behavioral therapy. However, many of these services are being cut as a result of the ongoing California budget crisis. In this workshop attendees will learn the federal and state laws which govern intervention services including how such services are accessed through regional centers and school districts. The workshop will provide strategies for keeping existing regional center services and responding to notices to cut services. Participants will also learn how to develop effective IEP's and to close the service gap created by recent regional center cuts in services.

Areva D. Martin is Founding and Managing Partner of Martin & Martin, LLP. Areva Martin is an award-winning attorney, television personality, author and public speaker. A legal analyst for the Dr. Phil Show, Areva is a noted authority on autism and advocacy. Her second book, "The Everyday Advocate" will be released by Penguin Books in April 2010. Areva has developed a multi-disciplinary practice in which she is a nationally recognized expert on advocacy and issues related to the education of children with autism and other developmental disabilities. Under her leadership the firm has established a School and Education Law Practice group, which advocates on behalf of students with special needs.

10:45am-12:15pm – How Training One's Brain Can Change One's Life - Dr. Martin Eaton

[Therapy for Autism Track]

Research show that underdeveloped cognitive skills are responsible for 88% of all Learning Disorders. Those students and adults on the spectrum have consistently shown to have underdeveloped Executive Functioning (Attention, Working Memory and Processing Speed) Cognitive Skills as well as Underdeveloped Logic and Reasoning Skills that relate to Social Awareness and Relationship Development. Research shows that you can change these cognitive skills through Cognitive Exercise in a relatively short time (12-32 weeks) that often shows dramatic improvement. Hear about the breakthrough scientific research that four universities have conducted and how parents and educators can apply this to their current interventions.

Dr. Martin Eaton is a clinical psychologist and former graduate professor in Cognitive Psychology and Learning at U.S.C. His research on learning has been published in the number one Journal Internationally in Education. He has worked with students and adults for the last thirty years and is the clinical director for four private practice learning and counseling centers in Orange County. His Cognitive Brain Training Solutions are now also available online and is being used nationally and overseas.

12:15-1:30pm – Lunch (on your own) / Visit Exhibits

12:30pm – Moms Panel – Special Lunchtime Session (Lunch on your own)

Breakout Sessions: (Choose any talks from 4 parallel tracks)

1:30-3:00pm – Promoting Social Inclusion of People with Autism and other Disabilities in Education - Stephen Shore, Ed.D. [Stephen Shore Track]

This presentation examines the development and use of educational accommodations as extensions of good teaching practice. For example, a student with special needs in a regular education choral class who is unable to stand still and sing can be afforded another way of meaningfully participating in the choir performance. Attendees will come away with easy to implement, practical solutions for including children with autism and other special needs into the regular education experience.

1:30-3:00pm – The Effect of Sensory-Cognitive Instruction on Reading and Comprehension - Angelica Benson, M. Ed. [Education Track]

This presentation will present a model of language processing skills and the effect of instruction based on developing imagery and its application to reading and comprehension. A high number of individuals diagnosed with Asperger's and autism have received this instruction, and the results will also be highlighted.

Ms. Benson, M. Ed., has spent the last 15 years in the field of education, focusing her efforts on the critical role that learning difficulties play in student performance both in and out of the classroom. Through her work at Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes, where she is currently Associate Director of Development, Angelica has worked extensively with parents and educators seeking to appropriately identify and address the underlying causes of learning weaknesses.

1:30-2:15pm – The Law-Enforcement Cooperative: Dealing with the Police - Detective Gilbert Escontrias, LAPD & Emily Iland [Family Track]

People with autism are 7 times more likely to have an encounter with law enforcement than people who don't have a disability. Parents, professionals, and individuals on the spectrum need to know how to reduce this risk. Det. Escontrias will explain the ASA-LAPD Autism Awareness Program and share the police perspective about emergency and criminal situations involving people on the spectrum. Emily Iland will highlight important skills needed for safety and independence in the community.

Detective Gilbert Escontrias, Los Angeles Police Department, is assigned to the Mental Evaluation Unit, Training Detail responsible for developing and coordinating training for police officers who deal with the mentally ill and persons with developmental disabilities. Emily Iland, MA, is the Secretary of the ASA-Los Angeles Chapter, and the Coordinator of the ASA-LAPD Autism Awareness Project. She is also the award-winning co-author of Autism Spectrum Disorders from A to Z.

2:15-3:00pm – Autism Public Policy in California: The New Agenda of Hope - Dr. Barbara Firestone [Family Track]

Dr. Barbara Firestone will address the recent and current legislative & public policy autism efforts in the state. She will review the trailblazing work of the three-year California Legislative Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism and the new Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders, both established and Chaired by California Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg. She will discuss the momentum for public policy reform that has been propelled by greater awareness, expanding clinical and applied research, the focus on the development and use of best practices in education and treatment and intensified advocacy that signal a new era of hope for individuals with autism and their families.

Dr. Barbara Firestone is the President, CEO and founder of The Help Group. Under her leadership, The Help Group has become the nation's largest and most comprehensive nonprofit of its kind serving children with autism and other special needs. She collaborated with the Semel Institute to create The Help Group/UCLA Autism Research Alliance dedicated to applied research, and is the author of the highly acclaimed and award winning book Autism Heroes: Portraits of Families Meeting the Challenge. Dr. Firestone served as Vice Chair of the California Legislative Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism and this year, she was appointed Chair, Statewide Coordinating Council of Autism Task Forces and Chair, North Los Angeles Autism Regional Task Force of the California Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders.

1:30-3:00pm – Relationship Development Intervention (RDI) - David Sponder, L.E.P., BCBA & Suzette Ventura, B.A. [Therapy for Autism Track]

David Sponder and Suzette Ventura, both RDI Program Certified Consultants will present an overview and demonstration of Relationship Development Intervention.

David Sponder is a Licensed Educational Psychologist, Board Certified Behavior Analyst and RDI Certified Consultant. He is the Director of Sponderworks Children's Services and specializes in the treatment of developmental, behavioral/psychiatric and attachment disorders in the Greater Los Angeles area.

3:00-3:30pm – Afternoon Break / Visit Exhibits

Breakout Sessions: (Choose any talks from 4 parallel tracks)

3:30-5:00pm – Music Lessons as a Positive Change Agent for People with Autism - Stephen Shore, Ed.D. [Stephen Shore Track]

This presentation focuses on teaching a person with autism how to play a musical instrument. Many of the techniques are applicable to learners with other disabilities or even no disabilities at all. In addition to all the therapeutic benefits of interacting with music, learning to play an instrument can serve as an important gateway to developing relationships with others and engaging in the community as a musician.

3:30-4:15pm – General Education for Special Students - Nancy Miller [Education Track]

Teachers and parents can work together to give students with special needs, including children with autism and Asperger's, a more successful experience in the general education classroom. There are specific actions that parents and professionals can take to build an optimal working relationship, and combine their knowledge and skills to better meet the needs of each child.

Nancy Miller has been a general education and special education teacher since 1980. She has successfully included students both as a general education teacher and as a special education teacher working in inclusive programs. She is currently working with students with high functioning autism who are all fully included in general education classrooms within a public school. She has been an adjunct professor at National University in the special education department for the past seven years.

4:15-5:00pm – Mothers of Students with Autism; Their Experiences with Public Schools - Patrick Hill, Ed. D. [Education Track]

This study describes and analyzes the experiences of twenty-five mothers of students with autism as they encountered the public school system. The participants comprised five subgroups based on the grade level of their children: kindergarten to grade two, grade three to grade five, grade six to grade eight, grade nine to grade twelve, and post high school to age twenty-two. Overall, the lived experiences of the mothers as they accessed public education for their children were positive with the exception of mothers of high school students. This presentation will add insight to the relationships between parents and schools, and provide recommendations for teachers, state policy makers, and school administrators.

Patrick Hill, Ed. D., is a twelve year veteran teacher of students with autism. Patrick has years of experience as a college instructor for teachers in training: Ed. D. La Sierra University, M.Ed. University of Washington- Severe and Profound Disabilities. Patrick Hill has provided private consultation to families and schools assisting people with autism for eight years.

3:30-5:00pm – Marriage Reality Boot Camp -- “Changing the “NORMAL” in your Relationship” & Learning to live above the line

- Ron & Tina Konkin

[Family Track]

The seminar will cover practical applications on how to change what “normal” looks like without losing your sanity. We all face life changing events that shape what “normal” is, or what we thought it would look like. Learn practical tools and how to apply them to your relationship to keep it strong and vibrant. How often do we live “below the line” where anger, resentment and hurt lie? Is there a way to live above that line when life gets so overwhelming? Open dialogue and participation encouraged.

Ron & Tina Konkin are relationship experts that have been working with singles, couples and families for the past 17 years. Along with being counselors and professional life coaches and speakers, the Konkins are directors of several programs that have been attended by thousands of people whose lives have been radically transformed.

3:30-4:15pm – Understanding the impact of impaired vision- our dominant sense in autism - Kausar Sharieff, OD, FCOVD, FNORA

[Therapy for Autism Track]

Vision impairments in autism affect visual perception and hence decrease optimal learning, comprehension and can impact behavior. Effective multi-sensory approach reinforced with visual management strategies to improve visual perception will be discussed.

Kausar Sharieff, OD, FCOVD, FNORA is a graduate of the Southern California College of Optometry, a Fellow of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, and a Fellow of the Neuro-optometric Rehabilitation Association. He has a private practice in Yorba Linda and Orange County.

4:15-5:00pm – BrainGym: Enhancing the Brain Body Connection - Barbara Schwartz, M.A.

[Therapy for Autism Track]

Learn how easy, scientifically-based Brain Gym movements enable children with special needs to access all areas of the brain and body for improved neurological organization and whole brain learning. Brain Gym can provide calming, focusing, anxiety and stress reducing movements that can encourage positive interactions and improved family dynamics. This session will teach several Brain Gym movements that participants can integrate into their daily life for themselves and their children.

Barbara Schwartz, M.A., worked over 25 years as a classroom teacher, and then became an Educational Kinesiologist, Developmental Specialist, certified Brain Gym Instructor, and holistic health practitioner.

Special Plenary Session

5:15-6:00pm – Using special brain imaging to guide treatment for anxiety, OCD, hyperactivity and other problems – Jeff Bradstreet, M.D. and Michael Uszler, M.D.

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Several techniques are available to investigate brain structure and function, including MRI, Spect Scan, and EEG. One recent study revealed nearly half of children with autism had abnormal MRI imaging, and even more have abnormal EEG measurements. Additionally, most children with autism present with abnormalities on functional imaging studies of the brain. These observations can help to direct our interventions in more effective ways.

Jeff Bradstreet, M.D., is an internationally known clinician who specializes in treating children with autism. He is one of the leading trainers of Defeat Autism Now! physicians, and his clinical research is advancing our understanding of autism and how to treat it. He is licensed and practices in California, Florida, Arizona, and Dubai.

Michael Uszler, M.D., specializes in the use of SPECT Scan to image the brain for a wide range of medical conditions including autism. He is the medical director of Santa Monica Imaging and Therapy in Santa Monica, CA.

6:00pm – End

Sunday Schedule – February 7, 2010

7:30-8:30am – Registration

8:30-8:45am – Welcome

8:45-10:15am – Keynote: Understanding and Treating Anxiety in Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders – Doreen Granpeesheh, Ph.D.

Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders often present with anxiety disorders that cause significant functional impairments. While Anxiety Disorders such as Generalized Anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Phobias and other anxiety symptoms are common amongst individuals with ASD, the identification and treatment of these disorders are made more difficult by the presence of communication delays, behavior problems and the lack of standardized assessments for patients with ASD. This presentation reviews the literature on prevalence, features and assessment of anxiety in ASD individuals and offers guidelines for treatment through the use of cognitive behavioral protocols that have been found to be effective in this field.

Doreen Granpeesheh, Ph.D., is the Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) and the Founder and President of the Board of Autism Care and Treatment Today (ACT Today). Dr. Granpeesheh is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and has been providing behavioral therapy for children with autism since 1979. She is a member of numerous Scientific and Advisory Boards, and Dr. Granpeesheh currently serves as first Vice Chair of the Autism Society of America. Dr. Granpeesheh has had numerous publications on issues concerning the diagnosis and treatment of Autism and currently oversees the behavioral treatment of over 1000 patients through CARD's 20 clinic sites across the globe.

10:15-10:45am – Morning Break / Visit Exhibits

Breakout Sessions: (Choose any talks from 4 parallel tracks)

10:45am-12:15pm – Behavioral Supports Specific to Inclusion in General Education – Rick Clemens [Education Track]

This session will address the unique behavior challenges that many children with ASD experience when included in general education classrooms. This session is not an introduction to behavior interventions, but rather an advanced look at the unique characteristics of a general education environment and their effects on the behaviors of children with autism. Participants will leave with an understanding of the strategies and principles to assist students with autism in being successfully included.

Rick Clemens, M.A. is the founder and Director of Inclusive Education and Community Partnership (IECP). IECP supports children with autism in inclusive school and community environments.

10:45am-12:15pm – Biomedical Treatments for Autism - James B. Adams, Ph.D. [Medical Track]

This presentation will provide parents with a very practical explanation of the major biomedical treatments for autism, including how to test if a treatment is needed or not. Treatments include special diet (healthy, allergy-free), vitamins, minerals, essential fatty acids, amino acids, digestive enzymes, GI treatments, chelation, immune system therapy, and more.

James B. Adams, Ph.D., is a professor at Arizona State University, where he directs the Autism/Asperger's Research program, which researches many biomedical treatments for autism. He is the Science Panel Co-Chair of the Autism Research Institute, President of the Autism Society of Greater Phoenix, serves on the board of the Autism Society of America, and is President of Autism Conferences of America. He is the proud father of a happy teenage daughter with autism.

10:45am-12:15pm – Enhancing Comprehension and Conversation – Lauren Franke, SLP [Social/Speech Track]

This presentation describes a language intervention protocol for children across developmental levels to develop social communication and language skills in the context of learning to retell and share personal stories that can be embedded across the child's day. Children follow a progression across five steps and utilize the 6 M's, key components to establish the relationship and context for learning.

Lauren Franke is a Speech Language Pathologist and a Clinical Psychologist specializes in helping families, teachers and therapists create learning environments to promote the acquisition of communication skills in children with complex language problems.

10:45am-12:15pm – Teaching Teens with Autism Spectrum Disorders the Art of Making Friends: Evidence-based Approaches to Social Skills Training – Elizabeth Laugeson, Psy.D. [Teen/Adult Track]

This presentation will report the short-term outcome of two studies of a parent-assisted social skills intervention known as PEERS (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills), for teens with high-functioning autism and Asperger's Disorder. Effective methods of treatment delivery to improve friendship quality will be discussed and an overview of the intervention will be provided. Targeted skills include conversational skills, peer entry and exiting skills, developing friendship networks, appropriate use of humor, good sportsmanship, good host behavior during get-togethers, changing bad reputations, and handling teasing, bullying, arguments, and rumors/gossip. Treatment findings will be presented, along with efforts to adapt the PEERS intervention to the classroom setting through The Help Group – UCLA Autism Research Alliance.

Elizabeth Laugeson, Psy.D. is the Director of The Help Group - UCLA Autism Research Alliance and is a licensed clinical psychologist and a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. She is also the Director of the UCLA Early Childhood Clubhouse Program, a partial hospitalization program for preschool children with autism, and is the Associate Director for the UCLA Children's Friendship and Parenting Program. Dr. Laugeson is the co-developer of PEERS, a parent-assisted social skills intervention for teens with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Dr. Laugeson has been involved with a number of NIH and CDC-funded studies investigating the effectiveness of social skills training for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders, Mental Retardation, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, and ADHD.

12:15-1:30pm – Lunch (on your own) / Visit Exhibits

Breakout Sessions: (Choose any talks from 4 parallel tracks)

1:30-3:00pm – Curricular Adaptations for Learning and Positive Behavior in the Inclusive Classroom – Rick Clemens [Education Track]

In a general education classroom the curriculum and instructional activities are the environmental stimuli that children experience most often in their day. In other words, without appropriate curriculum and activities, a child with autism will not have a positive experience. This session provides practical ideas on ways to accommodate and modify the classroom work so that children with autism are learning and being successful. Participants will leave with a knowledge of accommodations and modifications and practical tools for application.

1:30-3:00pm – Medications in the Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders - Joshua Feder, M.D. [Medical Track]

Medications are often used for the treatment of a variety of symptoms for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders. It is important to look carefully at the entire program and think about how medication might help a good plan succeed, without trying to have medication make up for an inadequate intervention plan. This talk helps people think through the decision to use medication, how various medications might be used to help people with

ASDs, and how to work with prescribing doctors in a cooperative productive way. Several classes of medications will be covered including serotonin specific reuptake inhibitors (SSRI's), stimulants, neuroleptics, anticonvulsants, and many others.

Joshua Feder, M.D., is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Dept. of Psychiatry at UCSD School of Medicine, and a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. He has served on the Autism Committee and the Medications and Autism Panels of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and he trains the residents and fellows in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in this area at UCSD.

1:30-3:00pm – The “Art” of Developing Social and Life Skills – Keri Bowers

[Social/Speech Track]

Keri Bowers will focus on FREE and LOW costs strategies parents and professionals can learn today and use tomorrow. From fine art, to music, dance, theater, writing and other expressions of a creative nature, Keri shows how these alternative and expressive mediums will support the development of essential life and social skills, self-esteem, self-awareness, confidence and self-determination for kids and adults.

Keri Bowers' passion for advocacy began 20 years ago when her son Taylor was born with developmental delays and eventually diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. A paralegal in the entertainment field, the challenge of autism redirected her career goals and today her work includes advocacy, legislative reform and education for teachers and others touched by developmental disabilities. Today Keri's film credits include: Normal People Scare Me, The Sandwich Kid, and ARTS.

1:30-2:15pm – Teach Life Skills to Children on the Autism Spectrum, Please! - Jennifer McIlwee Myers

[Teen/Adult Track]

Integrating life skills training into the education of people with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) is an often neglected area. These vital skills can be taught within an “autism/Asperger's point of view.” Yes, it can be done! This talk is packed with practical examples and tips for teaching real skills to real people with ASDs, from crossing the street to ordering in a restaurant. Hints on using the strengths of people on the autism spectrum will be included.

Jennifer McIlwee Myers was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome in 2002 and has a younger brother with autism. She is a writer/speaker with a BS in Computer Science who has contributed to several books, including a chapter in Asperger's and Girls and sections in Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships by Grandin and Barron.

2:15-3:00pm – The Transition to Adulthood: Independent Living Skills and Social Thinking Strategies for Individuals with Asperger's/ Autism - Bill Greenfield, M.A.

[Teen/Adult Track]

This presentation introduces the essential independent living skills and social competencies needed for the world of work, as they relate to young people with Asperger's/Autism. Using current research and best practices, this presentation will teach practical strategies for mastering these skills. Specific emphasis is placed on using social thinking in the workplace and independent world.

Bill Greenfield, M.A., has been an educator for more than 12 years in both the public and private sectors. He is currently a Transition Specialist, running high school and adult transition programs for New Vista School, a non-profit school serving the needs of students with high functioning Autism/Asperger's Syndrome. Bill earned his Bachelor of Arts in Communications from the University of Southern California, and his Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from National University. He is currently a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, the Orange County Adult Transition Task Force, and the Orange County Crisis Intervention Network. Mr. Greenfield is an assertive advocate for the rights of, and opportunities for, his students.

3:00-3:30pm – Afternoon Break / Visit Exhibits

Breakout Sessions: (Choose any talks from 4 parallel tracks)

3:30-5:00pm – Individualized Education Plan (IEP) - Mark Woodsmall

[Education Track]

The IEP (Individualized Education Program) is a meeting held to design a unique and tailored education plan for your child. This workshop provides helpful tips and suggestions for a successful IEP meeting. This workshop is suitable for new and experienced parents and professionals.

Mark Woodsmall is the founder of Woodsmall Law Group, PC, a law firm based in the San Gabriel Valley area. The firm practices exclusively in the areas of Special Education and representation before the Regional Center. In 2006 Mr. Woodsmall joined the faculty of the USC Gould School of Law as a Professor Adjunct, teaching in the area of special education law. He has also served as a teaching attorney in the Special Education Advocacy Training Project - Los Angeles. The SEAT Project, an innovative nationwide advocacy training project, is funded under grant from the US Department of Education and administered through COPAA, The Council of Parent Attorneys & Advocates and the USC Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (Children's Hospital Los Angeles). Mr. Woodsmall sits on the UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART) Community Advisory Committee.

He has been an active volunteer with Autism Speaks, serving as the Chair of the Board of Directors on the Los Angeles Chapter. He is also active in the Walk Planning Committee and the State and Federal Government Relations Committees. Mr. Woodsmall is a national lecturer on parent's rights under the IDEA, Section 504 and the Lanterman Act. Mark & Eva Woodsmall are parents of a child with autism.

3:30-4:00pm – Video Special: Co-Occurring Medical Conditions in Autism

[Medical Track]

This 28-minute video highlights the major co-occurring medical conditions in autism, including seizures, gut problems, mitochondrial disorders, sensory sensitivities, and more. Produced in 2009 by Arizona State University and the Autism Society of Greater Phoenix.

4:00-5:00pm – Q&A with Panel of Physicians

[Medical Track]

3:30-5:00pm – Maximizing Your Experiences at Home and in the Community – Victoria Berrey & Michelle Held

[Social/Speech Track]

This workshop is designed to teach parents practical tools and strategies for enhancing their family's daily routine. Topics will include positive behavior support strategies for the home, organizational tools, and maximizing social opportunities. Kid and teen culture will also be discussed along with tips for helping kids on the autism spectrum fit in with their peers.

Victoria Berrey is a parent of a teen and tween on the autism spectrum. In addition to her hand-ons ASD parenting experience, she works as a resource coordinator for other special needs parents and is a community volunteer.

Michelle Heid is the parent of a child on the spectrum as well as a professional working in behavioral services. She has experience in early intervention, positive behavior support, and biomedical treatments as well as being an active volunteer in her local autism community.

3:30-5:00pm – Panel of Teens/Adults

[Teen/Adult Track]

5:00pm – End