AUTISM: Across the Spectrums of Age & Ability

**June 28-29, 2016**

**Objectives**

Upon completion of this educational activity, the participant will be able to:

- Clarify age-appropriate interventions for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Highlight successful strategies to address gaps in transition periods for persons with ASD
- Promote access and integration of service delivery systems between mental illness / substance use disorders and IDD, for persons with ASD
- Reframe perceptions and assist with understanding unique behaviors in persons with ASD
- Identify resources and catalyze ongoing training for providers and support for persons with ASD and their families

**Keynote Speaker**

David Pitonyak

David Pitonyak, PhD, completed undergraduate work at the University of Vermont and received a PhD in Urban Services at Virginia Commonwealth University. More importantly, he is an expert in meeting the needs of individuals with disabilities. David works with individuals who have been said to exhibit “difficult behaviors,” and in most cases, he believes that what underlies the behavior is a sense of feeling grossly misunderstood, devalued by others, lonely, powerless, devoid of joy, and without the kinds of educational experiences that most of us take for granted. David’s specialty is educating friends, families, educators and other caregivers about how to reverse limiting beliefs and assumptions, adding meaning to people’s lives, and helping them recover from trauma while building bridges. David believes that behaviors are “messages” which can tell us important things about the person and the life he/she is living. He teaches families how to genuinely listen, helping individuals find meaning and create healthier stories. David is a firm believer in ensuring that those who care for others are rested, grounded and self aware. He often quotes Jean Clark, that a “person’s needs are best met by people whose needs are met.” He regularly provides workshops and seminars on a variety of topics, including the provision of support for a person’s friends, family, and caregivers. David provides consultation and training for individuals, families and professionals throughout the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. He has worked with people in a variety of settings, including: home residences, professionally-staffed residential settings, schools, supported competitive job sites, sheltered workshops, and a variety of day activity programs.

**Scholarships Available**

Limited scholarships may be available to applicants from the conference planning partners. Please e-mail barbara.warren@mahec.net with a written request.

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**Location:** MAHEC Mary C. Nesbitt Biltmore Campus
121 Hendersonville Rd. Asheville, NC 28803

**Date:**

- **Tuesday, June 28, 2016**
- **Wednesday, June 29, 2016**

**Registration:**

- **6:00 am - 8:30 am (light breakfast provided)**
- **8:30 am - 5:45 pm (lunch provided)**

**Program:**

- **8:30 am - 1:30 pm (lunch provided)**

**Early registration fees through June 21st:**

- **Mental & Allied Health**
  - June 28th:
    - Professionals: $90.00
    - Group: $80.00
  - June 29th:
    - Professionals: $50.00
    - Group: $40.00
  - Both days:
    - Professionals: $125.00
    - Group: $100.00

- **Intensive In-home Providers & Teachers:**
  - $80.00
  - $40.00
  - $100.00

- **Students:**
  - $75.00
  - $35.00
  - $90.00

**Group:**

- $40.00
- $100.00

**Professionals:**

- $90.00
- $50.00
- $125.00

**MAHEC Employee:** Fee Waived, but must register

**Registration:**

- 8:00 am - 8:30 am

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**Mission Family Support Network**

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**Support Network**

- Autism Society of North Carolina
- St. Gerard House
- Asheville TEACCH Center
- Smoky Mountain LME-MCO
- Mission Children’s Hospital
- Olson Huff Center

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**Audiocast**

Intensive In-Home Providers, Licensed Mental Health Practitioners, Teachers, Early Intervention Specialists, Occupational Therapists & Assistants, Physical Therapists & Assistants, Speech-language Pathologists, Parents & Families and Self-Advocates and interested other healthcare professionals
# AGENDA

**Tuesday, June 28, 2016: Early Childhood -- School Age / Primary Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-8:30am</td>
<td>Registration and Exhibitors <em>(Refreshments provided)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-10:00am</td>
<td>Keynote - David Pitonyak, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-10:15am</td>
<td>Break and Exhibitors</td>
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| 10:15am-12:15pm | **Concurrent Sessions**  
| 1A: An In-Depth Look at the Characteristics of Autism  
Louise Buchholz Southern, MEd, BCBA  
Suggested Audience: teachers and early intervention specialists | 1B: Reframing Behavior  
David Pitonyak, PhD  
Suggested Audience: intensive in-home providers |
| 1C: Part 1 Assessment  
Steven Love, PhD  
Suggested Audience: mental health practitioners | 1D: Navigating the System  
Kerri Eaker and Robin VanWy, PhD, LPC  
Suggested Audience: parents and families |
| 12:15-1:30pm  | Lunch *(provided)* and Exhibitors                                      |
| 1:30-3:30pm   | **Concurrent Sessions**  
2A: Reframing Behavior in the Classroom  
David Pitonyak, PhD  
Suggested Audience: teachers and early intervention specialists | 2B: Understanding and Addressing Sensory Processing Difference in Early Childhood Natural Environments  
Linn Wakeford, MS, OTR/L, PhD Candidate  
Suggested Audience: intensive in-home providers |
| 2C: ASD & Neurobiology  
Pete Sansbury, PhD  
Suggested Audience: mental health practitioners | 2D: Basics in Behavioral and Organizational Strategies  
Louise Buchholz Southern, MEd, BCBA  
Suggested Audience: parents and families |
| 3:30-3:45pm  | Break and Exhibitors                                                    |
| 3:45-5:45pm   | **Concurrent Sessions**  
3A: Sensory Processing in the School Environment: What Does It Mean for You?  
Lauren Holahan  
Suggested Audience: teachers | 3B: Power of Reinforcement: Strategies for Teaching Skills and Motivating Positive Behavior  
Hannah Roy, MS, BCBA  
Suggested Audience: intensive in-home providers |
| 3C: Reframing Behavior-Shifting Clinical Paradigms  
David Pitonyak, PhD  
Suggested Audience: licensed mental health providers | 3D: Early Screening Strategies and Early Intervention Approaches  
Michele Villalobos, PhD  
Suggested Audience: early intervention specialists |
| 5:45pm        | Adjourn Day One                                                         |

**Wednesday, June 29, 2016: Adolescence / Transitioning to Adulthood**

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<td>8:00-8:30am</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 8:30-10:00am  | **Concurrent Sessions**  
4A: Transitions: Self-Advocacy, Sexuality, and Fostering Healthy Habits  
Mary E. Van Bourgondien, PhD  
Suggested Audience: teachers / life skills educators for teens and young adults | 4B: Reframing Behavior in the Home and School Settings  
David Pitonyak, PhD  
Suggested Audience: intensive in-home providers |
| 4C: Autism in Middle Adulthood: A Study of Individuals Diagnosed at TEACCH Between 1970 and 1999  
Mark Klinger, PhD  
Suggested Audience: mental health practitioners | 4D: How to Get to the Right Provider  
Maureen Morgan, Kerri Eaker and Parent Panel  
Moderated by Steven Love, PhD  
Suggested Audience: parents and families, self-advocates, care coordinators |
| 10:00-10:15am | Break and Exhibitors                                                    |
| 10:15am-12:15pm | **Concurrent Sessions**  
5A: Transitions: Self-Advocacy, Sexuality and Fostering Healthy Habits for Life  
Mary E. Van Bourgondien, PhD and Mindy Govan  
Suggested Audience: teachers / life skills educators for young adults | 5B: Interventions for Teens and Adults with ASD  
Laura Klinger, PhD  
Suggested Audience: intensive in-home providers |
| 5C: Navigating the System  
Jen Branhm, BS and Robin VanWy, PhD, LPC  
Suggested Audience: licensed mental health practitioners and care coordinators | 5D: Considering College - Prepare, Plan, Succeed  
Emily Furgang, Kertcher, PhD, OTR/L  
Suggested Audience: families, self-advocates, and teachers |
| 12:15-12:30pm | Break to Pick Up Lunch in Looking Glass Commons                        |
| 12:30-1:30pm  | Lunch and Learn | Closing Remarks | Addressing Questions Yet Unanswered  
David Pitonyak, PhD |
| 1:30pm        | Adjourn Day Two *(Exhibitors will remain at tables until 2:30pm)*       |
Faculty

Jen Branham, BS, is employed by Smoky Mountain LME/MCO and has worked in the human services field for more than 25 years. In her current role, Jen is I/DD Olmsted Care Coordinator Supervisor. Jen is passionate about helping persons transition out of institutional settings and live in the community of their choice.

Kerri Eaker, is the Family Support Outreach Coordinator for the Family Support Network of WNC a program of Mission Children’s Hospital. Kerri has been active in advocacy for children with special health care needs and their families for over 20 years in NC. She is the parent of a 26 yo young man with mental health and developmental disability challenges.

Mindy Govan, is a TEACCH Certified Advanced Consultant working as an Autism Specialist for the Chapel Hill TEACCH Center. She holds a BS in psychology and has over 20 years of experience working with adolescents and adults with Autism and their families.

Laura Grofer Klinger, PhD, is a leading autism researcher and the Director of the Treatment and Education of Autistic and Communication related handicapped Children (TEACCH) program in the UNC School of Medicine. She also serves as Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Mark Klinger, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling at UNC-Chapel Hill. Dr. Klinger’s research interests include cognitive neurosciences of autism; longitudinal outcomes of autism; transition to college and employment for adolescents with autism; and learning disabilities.

Steven Love, PhD, is the Director of the Olson Huff Center Autism program at Mission Children’s Hospital in Asheville, NC, which serves a broad geographic region in the western part of North Carolina and far eastern Tennessee. His clinical focus as a psychologist is concerned with diagnostic evaluation, assessment and consultation for children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders.

Hannah Roy, MS, BCBA, is a Senior Program Coordinator at the St. Gerard House in Hendersonville, NC, which provides evidenced based treatments for families with Autism. As a Program Coordinator, Hannah primarily works with students and families in the early intensive intervention program

Adrian D. Sandler, MD, FAAP, is the Medical Director, Olson Huff Center for Child Development, at Mission Children’s Hospital in Asheville, NC. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of North Carolina. Dr. Sandler’s research interests include attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, spina bifida, megalencephaly, autism, and Tourette syndrome. His team published the first clinical trial of secretin in autism. He is the President-Elect of the Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics.

Pete Sansbury, PhD, is a psychologist at Sansbury Psychological Services, PA in Asheville, NC.

Louise Buchholz Southern, Med, BCBA, is the Associate Director of the Autism Society of NC, where she is a lead trainer and lead behavior analyst. She provides direct consultation to families and delivers presentations, workshops, and ongoing coaching to a variety of groups, including special and general education teachers, self-advocates, adult day program and residential staff, employers, post-secondary educators, and early-intervention clinicians.

Mary E. Van Bourgondien, PhD, is a Clinical Psychologist and Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the Clinical Director of the Chapel Hill TEACH Center, which is part of the statewide wide TEACCH Autism program that serves children and adults with autism and their families. She is the co-author of the most recent edition of the Childhood Autism Ratings Scale- Second Edition (CARS2).

Robin Vanwy, PhD, LPC, is the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Director for Smoky Mountain LME/MCO, which covers 23 counties in North Carolina. Her areas of research involve family crisis, co-occurring disorder and coping strategies.

Michele Villalobos, PhD, is the Clinical Director of the TEACCH Autism Center in Asheville, NC and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UNC. She specializes in Autism Spectrum Disorders and early development.

Linn Wakeford, MS, OTR/L, PhD Candidate, is an Associate Professor in the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she teaches a variety of clinical content, including assessment and intervention for children. Her research and practice interests include early intervention, autism, infant mental health, therapeutic use of self (therapist-client relationships), working with parents/using coaching models, and teaching graduate students.

Credits

NCBPTE: MAHEC, as part of the NCAHEC system, is a NCBPTE-approved provider of continuing competence for activities directly related to physical therapy. NCBPTE 7.5 contact hours (day one) and 4.5 hours (day two)

NBCC: Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 5514. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. MAHEC is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

Psychologists: MAHEC is recognized by the North Carolina Psychology Board as an approved provider of Category A Continuing Education for North Carolina Licensed Psychologists. Full attendance at each part is required to receive credit from the NC Psychology Board. 7.5 hours (day one) and 4.5 hours (day two)

Speech-Language Pathologists: MAHEC will issue Certificates of Completion only; the participant must self-track and record the certificate for ASHA Certification documentation.

CEUs: MAHEC designates this continuing education activity as meeting the criteria for 0.8 CEUs (day one) and 0.5 CEUs (day two) as established by the National Task Force on the Continuing Education Unit. You must attend the entire workshop to receive CEUs. 7.5 Contact Hours (day one) and 4.5 Contact Hours (day two)

Directions to MAHEC Biltmore Campus

121 Hendersonville Rd., Asheville, NC, 28803
From I-40 Eastbound, take Exit 50 and turn left onto Hendersonville Road.
From I-40 Westbound, take Exit 50B and merge onto Hendersonville Road.
At the first light, turn left into the DoubleTree Hotel complex. Turn left (away from the hotel). You will see a steep driveway on your right. Turn right and go up that driveway to the MAHEC Biltmore Campus.
From 19-23 (I-26) take 240 East to Exit 5) (Charlotte Street). Exit right onto Charlotte Street. At the 4th light, make a left onto Biltmore Avenue. Proceed through 8 traffic lights. At the 9th light turn right into the DoubleTree Hotel complex. Turn left (away from the hotel). You will see a steep driveway on your right. Turn right and go up that driveway to the MAHEC Biltmore Campus.
Both days: $25.00 per day for parents, families and self-advocates. Required at check-in) for day one, $35.00 for day two, and $90.00 for both days; $75.00 for students (proof of enrollment required at check-in) for day one, $35.00 for day two, and $90.00 for both days; $80.00 for intensive in-home providers and teachers for day one, $40.00 for day two, and $100.00 for both days; $80.00 for group (five or more from same agency, registering and paying at same time) for day one, $50.00 for day two and $125.00 for both days; $80.00 for mental & allied health professionals: $90.00 for mental and allied health professionals.

Early registration deadline: June 21, 2016

Early registration fee is $90.00 for mental and allied health professionals for day one, $50.00 for day two and $125.00 for both days; $80.00 for groups (five or more from same agency, registering and paying at same time) for day one, $40.00 for day two, and $100.00 for both days; $80.00 for intensive in-home providers and teachers for day one, $40.00 for day two, and $100.00 for both days; $75.00 for students (proof of enrollment required at check-in) for day one, $35.00 for day two, and $90.00 for both days; $25.00 per day for parents, families and self-advocates. Registration fee includes administrative costs, educational materials, and light breakfast and lunch each day. If registration is received after the deadline, the total fee will be the registration fee + $15.00.

MAHEC has a pay-up-front policy for all CE programs. The only exceptions will be for pre-approved programs where an individual payment plan is appropriate. Registrations received without accompanying payment will not be processed and participants who have not paid the course fee will not be admitted into the program.

Cancellations received at least two weeks in advance of the program date will receive a full refund unless otherwise noted. Cancellations received between two weeks and up to 48 hours prior to the program date will receive a 70% refund unless otherwise noted. No refunds will be given for cancellations received less than 48 hours prior to the program date. All cancellations must be made in writing (fax, mail, or email). Substitutes can be accommodated in advance of the program.

DoubleTree is offering a MAHEC rate of $125 per room, per night, plus tax. Call (828)274-1800 and ask for the MAHEC rate or click here to register online.

Please choose the breakout sessions for each day you will attend:

**Tuesday, June 28th:**

Concurrent Session 1:
- 1A: An In-Depth Look at the Characteristics of Autism
- 1B: Reframing Behavior
- 1C: Part 1 Assessment AND Part 2 Medication Management
- 1D: Navigating the System

Concurrent Session 2:
- 2A: Reframing Behavior in the Classroom
- 2B: Understanding and Addressing Sensory Processing Difference in Early Childhood Natural Environments
- 2C: Topic TBD on ASD & Neurobiology, Neuropsychology
- 2D: Basics in Behavioral and Organizational Strategies

Concurrent Session 3:
- 3A: Sensory Processing in the School Environment: What Does it Mean for Student Engagement? CANCELLED
- 3B: Power of Reinforcement: Strategies for Teaching Skills and Motivating Positive Behavior
- 3C: Reframing Behavior-Shifting Clinical Paradigms
- 3D: Early Screening Strategies and Early Intervention Approaches

Concurrent Session 4:
- 4A: Transitions: Self-Advocacy, Sexuality, and Fostering Healthy Habits
- 4B: Reframing Behavior in the Home and School Settings
- 4C: Autism in Middle Adulthood: A Study of Individuals Diagnosed at TEACCH Between 1970 and 1999
- 4D: How to Get to the Right Provider - CANCELLED

Concurrent Session 5:
- 5A: Transitions: Self-Advocacy, Sexuality and Fostering Helathy Habits for Life
- 5B: Interventions for Teens and Adults with ASD
- 5C: Navigating the System
- 5D: Considering College—Prepare, Plan, Succeed - CANCELLED

Please choose the breakout sessions for each day you will attend:

**Wednesday, June 29th:**

Concurrent Session 4:
- 4A: Transitions: Self-Advocacy, Sexuality, and Fostering Healthy Habits
- 4B: Reframing Behavior in the Home and School Settings
- 4C: Autism in Middle Adulthood: A Study of Individuals Diagnosed at TEACCH Between 1970 and 1999
- 4D: How to Get to the Right Provider - CANCELLED

Concurrent Session 5:
- 5A: Transitions: Self-Advocacy, Sexuality and Fostering Helathy Habits for Life
- 5B: Interventions for Teens and Adults with ASD
- 5C: Navigating the System
- 5D: Considering College—Prepare, Plan, Succeed - CANCELLED

MAHEC has a pay-up-front policy for all CE programs. The only exceptions will be for pre-approved programs where an individual payment plan is appropriate. Registrations received without accompanying payment will not be processed.

Full payment must accompany all registrations unless a payment plan has been approved in advance. Registrations received without accompanying payment will not be processed.

After June 21st, add a $15.00 late fee to the total.

Have a question? Special Services: 828-257-4485

CE Planner:
Barbara Warren, MSW, LCSW, LCAS-A, CFT 828-257-4728
barbara.warren@mahec.net

Registration Information: 828-257-4475
Fax Registration: 828-257-4768
Online Registration: www.mahec.net