

2016 ASRC AUTISM RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, November 5, 2016 - 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

OAKDALE THEATER COMPLEX—95 SOUTH TURNPIKE ROAD, WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

PARENTS • EDUCATORS • PROFESSIONALS: DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT EVENT!

This is Connecticut's largest event for national, regional, and state resources for the entire autism community. Schools, programs, camps, service providers, respite care, social skills development, state agencies, therapists, and many more resources will be exhibiting, all under one roof! Food concessions will be open for your convenience. Activities for kids - Face painting; Lego® tent sponsored by Bricks & Minifigs of Southington; Puzzlethon™/Arts & Crafts Tent

FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING • FREE WORKSHOPS • KID'S ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOPS DESCRIPTIONS

SESSION 1: 9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM (2 Workshops Offered)

1A - ABC-CT – Autism Biomarkers Consortium for Clinical Trials (Yale) – (3 TOPICS):

TOPIC: Improving Clinical Practice in ASD by Discovering Biomarkers –

Presented by: James McPartland, PhD, Director, Yale Developmental Disabilities Clinic Yale Autism Program - Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is understood to have a biological basis. Yet, decisions about diagnosis and treatment are reliant upon subjective clinical observations. There is an urgent need for biomarkers: economical, accessible, objective clinical tools. Dr. McPartland will review the state of the science from the perspective of a clinical psychologist and describe promising biomarkers in ASD. The study will highlight Yale's leadership of a new nationwide consortium to develop new biomarkers to improve treatment research.

TOPIC: Meeting the Needs of Siblings of Children with ASD

Presented by: Julie M. Wolf, PhD, Yale Autism Program - The experience of growing up with a sibling with an autism spectrum disorder is characterized by unique joys and challenges. Siblings play an important role in the lives of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and it is important to ensure that their own unique needs are met. In this presentation, Dr. Wolf will describe characteristics of the sibling relationship, when one child has ASD. She will then discuss common experiences of living with a sibling with ASD, including the kinds of opportunities, joys, and challenges that children who have a sibling with ASD may experience. Finally, she will present strategies to ensure that caregivers are meeting the unique needs of their children not affected with ASD.

TOPIC: Enhancing Learning and Social Success at School: Strategies for Parents and Teachers of Children with ASD

Presented by: Brianna Lewis, PhD, Yale Autism Program - Children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) benefit from specialized strategies to support social behavior, communication, and learning. Dr. Lewis will discuss principles and specific supports for working with these children to enhance learning and social success within school. Broad strategies, appropriate for both parents and teachers, will be discussed, in line with the goal of generalizing skill acquisition across contexts and building a collaborative team between parents, teachers, and school providers.

1B- ASRC WORKSHOP:

TOPIC: The Power of Peer Mentoring (ASRC):

Presented by: Carol Barons - ASRC - Sponsored by Gengras Center School:

Want to increase your son's/daughter's motivation AND have them included in the social fabric of their school? Come learn about the power of peer mentoring and the collaboration between ASRC, the Center of Excellence in Autism at CCSU and the Center for Independence in Glastonbury to pilot & make available this evidenced based and cost effective model in public schools. This approach is great for all students but can be a real "game changer" for children and adolescents with Asperger's Syndrome, High functioning autism, PDD-NOS, Nonverbal LD and social anxiety.

2016 ASRC AUTISM RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, November 5, 2016 - 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

SESSION 2: 11:00 AM TO 12:30 PM (2 Workshops Offered)

2A - KEARNS & KEARNS WORKSHOP:

TOPIC: The Nuts and Bolts of Special Needs Trust Process

Presenter: John F. Kearns III, CELA, Attorney at Law; Kearns & Kearns, PC - Have you heard of Special Needs Trusts and wanted to learn more? This informative seminar will explain the different types of Special Needs Trusts, and why you need one and how to set one up. The Special Needs Trust is not just a form, it's a process. Learn how the Special Needs Trust works with SSI (Social Security – Supplemental Security Income) and other public benefits.

2B - YALE CHILD STUDY CENTER (2 TOPICS):

TOPIC: NOVEL PHARMACOTHERAPIES BEING EVALUATED FOR AUTISM

Presenters: DR. Roger Jou, MD, PhD, MPH - The core symptoms of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), including social and communication deficits, are thought to be the most disabling aspects of the condition. While there are currently no FDA-approved pharmacotherapies for treating the core symptoms of ASD, this is an active area of research with multiple investigational medicinal products (IMPs) in various phases of development. This presentation will review several agents currently being evaluated as potential treatments for ASD.

TOPIC: UPDATE ON BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLSCENTS WITH AUTISM

Presenters: Denis Sukhodolsky, PhD and Pam Ventola, PhD - This presentation provides an update on behavioral interventions for children and adolescents with ASD. The Yale Child Study Center is currently conducting two clinical trials of cognitive-behavior therapy – one for irritability and the other for anxiety in children with ASD. Both anxiety and irritability are common and impairing problems in children and adolescents with ASD. Cognitive-behavioral interventions are well-established treatments for these problems in typically developing children without autism. Accumulating evidence suggests that with adequate adaptations, these treatments can be helpful for children with ASD. This presentation will help the audience to understand the roles of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) in treating irritability and anxiety in children with ASD. Another area of clinical research conducted at the Yale Child Study Center by Dr. Pam Ventola involves a behavioral intervention called Pivotal Response Training (PRT). PRT has been shown effective in improving social functioning in children with ASD as well as in reducing repetitive behavior and restricted interest. This presentation will provide an update on the recent finding on the effectiveness and mechanisms of PRT.

2016 ASRC AUTISM RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, November 5, 2016 - 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

SESSION 3: 1:00 PM TO 2:30 PM (3 Workshops Offered)

3A - CENTER FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS (CCSN) WORKSHOP:

TOPIC: What Parents Should Expect of an Evidence-Based School Program for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Effective is the New Appropriate

Presenters: Courtney Cotter, Ph.D., BCBA-D and Elizabeth Nulty, M.S., BCBA

This parent workshop will provide an overview of best-practice program features, a discussion on the development of effective objectives across various areas of learning including academics, socialization, communication, daily living, and community readiness; the standards for well-crafted objectives; and understanding the key features of effective collaboration among all school professionals. In addition, the workshop will review models for successful parent-school team meetings and for family communication between the team and family.

3B – CANCELLED - SOUTHERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS:

TOPIC: Sit For Autism – A Training for Short-Term Care Providers of individuals with ASD (MAXIMUM OF 15 PARTICIPANTS)

3C - DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES (DORS) WORKSHOP:

TOPIC: Level Up Program

DORS Level Up is managed by our Vocational Rehabilitation program, part of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), a division of the Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). DORS Level Up is all about providing students with the tools, training and resources to work competitively and forge a path to independence. Working together we are building relationships with schools, families and the community and have created a collaborative partnership that introduces students who have an IEP, 504 plan or related challenges to new possibilities. Our goal is to help students be prepared to go out and find their place in the world. Our services for DORS Level Up are designed for students ages 16 to 21. Our vocational services may be made available in the school setting, outside of school hours and in the summer months. By teaming with DORS Level Up counselors, students can move forward to pursue their career goals based on interests and abilities.