



Autism Services, Education, Resources and Training

ASERT is funded by the Bureau of Autism Services, PA Department of Welfare

- 11/07/12 **PaTTAN Assistive Technology Expo** is designed to provide educators, families, and service providers the opportunity to see and try a broad range of AT devices and software. 9AM-4PM at the Ramada Inn, 1450 S. Atherton, State College, PA. For more information contact Cathy Pfanders at (800)441-3215 or cpfanders@patten.net
- 11/08/12 **CBHNP Meet & Greet.** This event will give providers and family members an opportunity to meet, greet, learn from one another and chat. 2-6PM at the Park Inn Hotel, 5401 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA. For more information contact Lisa McCoy at (717)671-6502.
- 11/08/12 The Center for Autism Research (CAR) Distinguished Lecture Series Presents: "**Autism and Anxiety Disorders: Where are the Boundaries?**" 7-9PM at the Colket Translational Research Building, Rm. 1200AB, 3501 Civic Center Blvd Philadelphia, PA. For more information contact Julianne Fretz at (267)426-3518.
- 11/11/12 **SibShop Meeting.** 2-5PM for siblings of children with special needs, ages 6-12. 1254 West Chester Pike, Suite 206-A, Havertown, PA. For more information call (484)450-6476.
- 11/15/12 **Exploring Post-Secondary Education Options.** 9-11:30AM and/or 6-8:30PM. The York County Transition Coordinating Council (YCTCC) is sponsoring a panel presentation at the York Campus of the Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC), Glatfelter Community Room, 2161 Pennsylvania Ave, York, PA. The presentation will cover topics such as: choosing the best school for you, the application process, financial aid, securing accommodations, and services through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. For more information or to register contact (717)718-5810.
- 11/17/12 **Autism & Sexuality** presented by Shawn McGill and sponsored by ABOARD's Autism Connection of PA. 9:30AM-12:30PM at the Central Resource Center, 204 Hospital Ave, DuBois, PA. CEUs available. For more information call (800)827-9385 or visit www.autismofpa.org
- 11/20/12 **S.A.F.E. Teen Club Bowling Night.** 6:30-8PM at Stanton Lanes, 470 Stanton Street, Wiles-Barre, PA. Ages 13-17 with Asperger's/PDD-NOS/High Functioning Autism. This group emphasizes sharing interests, activities and interaction with age appropriate peers and mentors. For more information or to sign up call (570)822-7259.
- 11/28/12 **Social Skills Development & Techniques for Children with Autism.** 6-8PM at 3300 Henery Ave, Philadelphia, PA. FREE. Child care is available for all trainings. No registration needed for families. ACT 48 credits are available by registering at www.solutionwhere.com/elwyn. For more information call Karen Krivit at (267)784-2009 or email krivitz@elwyn.org
- 11/28/12 Philhaven's Autism Resiliency Center: **Autism Information Series.** (3 session workshop- 11/28/12, 12/05/12 and 12/12/12) 5:30-7:30PM at the Grace M. Pollock Training & Community Center at Philhaven, 283 S. Butler Road, Mount Gretna, PA. This series is open to all those interested in learning more about Autism. FREE. For more information and/or to register call (717)279-2764 or visit www.philhaven.org
- 11/30/12 **2012 ASCEND Group Conference: Social Thinking® & Transition Planning for the Adult World: Setting the Foundation for Success in Middle & High School** featuring Michelle Garcia Winner & Pamela Crooke. 7AM- 3PM at the Williamson's Restaurant & Caterers, 500 Blair Mill Rd, Horsham, PA. For more information visit www.ascendgroup.org
- 12/03/12 **Works for ME Training- An Introduction to Work Incentives & Ticket to Work.** FREE. 6-8PM at the ARC of Lehigh & Northampton Counties, 2289 Avenue A, Bethlehem, PA. For more information and/or to register call (866)865-7170.



HOLIDAY TIPS

- Plan ahead whenever possible. Compile a list of activities that can help your child fill his or her time wherever you go.
- Use rehearsal and role play to give children practice ahead of time in dealing with new social situations, or work together to write a "social story" that incorporates all the elements of an upcoming event or visit to better prepare them for that situation.
- If you are going to visit family or friends, make sure there is a quiet, calm place for retreat.
- Keep an eye out for signs of anxiety or distress, including an increase in behaviors such as humming or rocking - they may indicate it's time for a break.
- Try to relax and have a good time. If you are tense your child may sense that something isn't right.
- Don't shield your child from the extended family. Family members need to understand the challenges you face.

Bureau of Autism Services (BAS) Announcement

The Bureau of Autism Services is pleased to announce the availability of BAS-approved trainings on the Virtual Training & Resource Center (VTC) that can be completed toward the *Act 62 Behavior Specialist License* training requirements. Visit <http://bastraining.tiu11.org> and you will find:

- A catalogue of live and virtual trainings, with course numbers, that count toward each of the eight categories within the 90 hours of BS License training requirements
- Virtual trainings that can be completed to meet the requirements
- Information about the BAS-approval process for trainings that are developed or provided by other organizations



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And follow us on

- OAR's *Kit for Kids* guide is designed to teach elementary and middle school students about their peers with autism. The kit is centered around an illustrated booklet entitled "*What's Up with Nick?*" This colorful, kid-friendly booklet focuses on a boy with autism named Nick. It teaches children that students with autism may think differently or need some accommodations, but all students are of equal worth and should be treated as such. For more information or to order a print copy (limited quantity) of the *Kit for Kids*, please contact Ben Kaufman at (703)243-9762 or visit <http://www.researchautism.org/resources/KitForKids.asp>
- "Skills to Pay the Bills: Mastering Soft Skills for Workplace Success," is a curriculum developed by The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) focused on teaching "soft" or workforce readiness skills to youth, including youth with disabilities. Created for youth development professionals as an introduction to workplace interpersonal and professional skills, the curriculum is targeted for youth ages 14 to 21 in both in-school and out-of-school environments. The basic structure of the program is comprised of modular, hands-on, engaging activities that focus on six key skill areas: communication, enthusiasm and attitude, teamwork, networking, problem solving and critical thinking, and professionalism. It is free to download. Visit <http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/youth/softskills>
- The National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research states: to achieve and maintain good oral health, people with mild or moderate developmental disabilities often require a special approach to dental care. With some adaptation of the skills dental professionals use every day, most people with special needs can be treated successfully in the general practice setting. The series of FREE publications, *Practical Oral Care for People with Developmental Disabilities*, equips dental professionals in the community with the basic information they need to deliver quality oral health care to people with special needs. The publications present an overview of physical, mental, and behavioral challenges common in patients with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and intellectual disability and offer strategies for providing oral care. Also available are a guide for caregivers that explains home-based oral hygiene for the family member or client with special needs and a publication on safe wheelchair transfer. A two-credit-hour continuing education test for dentists and dental hygienists completes the series. For more information call (866)232-4528 or visit www.nidcr.nih.gov/OralHealth/Topics/DevelopmentalDisabilities/