

# An Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders

*While there is not a standard training protocol to prepare professionals to work with children with autism, there is a general acceptance that for intervention to be effective, the team should have a collective pool of knowledge about autism.*

*Report of the Connecticut Task Force on Issues for the Education of Children with Autism (Draft, 2005)*

Autism is a developmental disorder involving impairments of social interaction, communication, and symbolic abilities. Participants will be provided with an overview of autism spectrum disorders, including information pertaining to characteristics of the disorder, diagnosis and assessment, and strategies and interventions. Connecting information regarding student strengths, abilities and challenges to their IEP goals and objectives will be explored.

This awareness-level session will enhance the knowledge of education personnel and families to meet the needs of children and youth with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). The variability of student needs and learning profiles will be discussed. Information on instructional strategies, interventions, and curricular accommodations and modifications for children and youth, in preschool to grade 8, will be provided.

## Participants in this professional development activity will:

- explore various characteristics of autism spectrum disorders, in addition to diagnosis and assessment considerations;
- discuss how to connect information regarding student strengths, abilities and challenges to the student's IEP in order to develop programs aimed at improving his/her success and achievement; and
- examine strategies and intervention options for children/youth with autism spectrum disorders, PreK to grade 8, including specialized treatments and inclusive strategies, and identify how they enhance educational outcomes.

## Date, Time, Location:

Tuesday, October 30, 2007  
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza, Cromwell

## Presenter:

Linda Grimm  
Director  
Benhaven Learning Network  
Wallingford

## Audience: PreK-Grade 8

Seventy-five (75) early childhood, general and special education teachers and administrators, student support services professionals, paraprofessionals, and family members

## CEUs: .7

Includes:  
Full Attendance  
Post-Activity Application of Learning

## Registration Fee:

\$45.00 per person  
Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford  
Payment is due prior to the session upon confirmation of participation.

## Questions/ Special Needs:

Contact: Karyn Champion  
Education Services Specialist  
(860) 632-1485, ext. 225

## Register By:

Tuesday, October 16, 2007



www.ctserc.org



Focus on Autism Initiative

Please return application to SERC, Focus on Autism Initiative, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Participants will be selected on a first come, first served basis with regional consideration. Applicants will receive written confirmation regarding participation shortly after the registration closing date. The registration fee is payable upon notice of acceptance.

## APPLICATION FORM: An Introduction to ASD

(08-43-010 -IDEA/Autism)kc

(Please print clearly.)

District/Region \_\_\_\_\_ School/Program \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Email (Please Print.) \_\_\_\_\_

Release time is approved for educators: Administrator's Signature is required \_\_\_\_\_

In which region do you receive/provide services? \_\_\_ ACES // \_\_\_ CES // \_\_\_ CREC // \_\_\_ EASTCONN // \_\_\_ ED CONNECTION // \_\_\_ LEARN