

Autism and Mental Health: Fostering Awareness and Resilience

Nothing Never Happens! Communication, Language, Speech, and Literacy on the Autism Spectrum



Sponsored By The Authors of “A Live Controversy”, Autism Training Opportunities of Southwest Virginia

Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Presenter: Pat Amos

Location: VCOM Conference Center, 2280 Kraft Drive (Same Building as Star One Bank), Blacksburg, VA 24060

Please remember to register early, since our workshops and training spaces fill-up fast. You now can access registration on line. Please visit our website www.alivecontroversy.com and visit the workshops/conference page.

You can register online — REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!

Register Early: there will be NO on site registrations.

Registration due by April 10, 2012

Hotel Accommodations provided by : Marriott Court Yard Hotel in Blacksburg
Telephone 540-552-5222 (Group rate \$98.00 per night per room)

If you are within a school system or agency, we highly recommend that you submit your name along with the number of spaces you will need on a printed registration form. We then will save your space(s) while you are working on obtaining the purchase order number.)

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Pat Amos, M.A., has been an advocate for people with disabilities and their families for over 25 years. She is a founder of Autism Support and Advocacy in Pennsylvania and the Family Alliance to Stop Abuse and Neglect, past president of the Greater Philadelphia Autism Society, a founder and past president of the Autism National Committee, has served as a member of Pennsylvania’s Developmental Disabilities Council, and is a Board member of international TASH. She currently works as an Inclusion Specialist with the Youth Advocate Program’s Autism Institute. Her involvement in the movement to prevent restraint and seclusion is longstanding, and she has worked with the national Alliance for the Prevention of Restraint, Aversive Interventions, and Seclusion (APRAIS) since

TRAINING GOALS

The goal of this training is for parents, professionals, and community members to recognize the mental health needs and challenges that may be experienced by people on the autism spectrum, to enhance their capacity to foster healthy emotional development and psychological resilience, and to become more aware of resources that can support those efforts. This training also enhances the ability of parents, professionals, and community members to recognize, support, and appreciate the development of communication, language, speech and literacy in the lives of persons on the autism spectrum.

Training Objectives:

- Become aware of the history of the autism diagnosis, and of past but lingering misunderstandings about the relation of autism to mental illness
- Identify the most frequent types of mental health challenges that may emerge in the lives of people with autism, what signs might signal their presence, and what to do if a problem is suspected
- Recognize the familial/hereditary patterns of development that may influence and help predict an individual's emerging needs and challenges
- Explore the environmental factors that can trigger and exacerbate mental health challenge, such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), in the lives of people with autism, and consider practical strategies to reduce their impact
- Consider a wide range of supports and strategies that can help people on the spectrum become proactive and resilient in maintaining well-balanced lives.
- View behavior as communication, be aware that communication is occurring all the time (i.e. that "nothing never happens"), and consider ways to respond respectfully through positive approaches
- Recognize and support different ways of using language and of speaking
- Explore ways to foster literacy as a participatory learning experience open to all

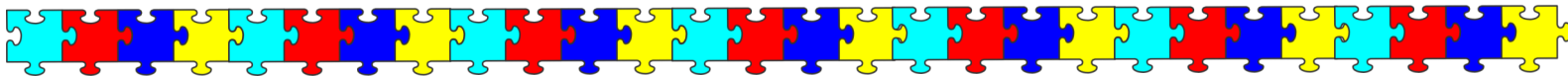
Location: VCOM Conference Center, 2280 Kraft Drive (Same Building as Star One Bank), Blacksburg, VA 24060

FEES: \$70 per person. There is no funding for this event.

For more information, e-mail r.hartmann@alivecontroversy.com

Morning coffee and Lunch are included. We will begin registration by 7:30 a.m. Training will begin by 8:30 a.m. and will end by 4:00 p.m.

THERE WILL BE NO ON SITE REGISTRATION. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 10, 2012



REGISTRATION FORM

Autism and Mental Health: Fostering Awareness and Resilience"; Nothing Never Happens! Communication, Language, Speech, and Literacy on the Autism Spectrum, Presented by Pat Amos — Wednesday, April 18, 2012

You can save your space by early registration on line by visiting www.alivecontroversy.com

REGISTRATION DUE BY APRIL 10, 2012. Please write clearly. complete one form for each person to attend the workshop

Name: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

School/Organization Representing: _____

Please Check All Appropriate Descriptions: () Parent () Teacher () Other _____

Enclosed is a Check: () OR Credit Card: (Mastercard/Visa) (circle one only). Credit Card No: _____

Expiration Date : (mm/yy) ___/___ Billing Zip Code _____ Card Holder's Name: _____

Registration for this training event is on a first come - first served basis. This training is open to anyone interested in improving the quality of life for a person with a disability; but also for everyone who provides support in the school environment and at home. Reservations cannot be made without payment.

We accept Purchase Orders from schools and agencies, with the following established guidelines. Once the purchase order is sent and invoice is faxed, your school/agency is responsible for the payment regardless of cancelation. Nonetheless, the school/agency may send a different staff member as a replacement attendee. We reserve space for each registration; therefore, we considered it sold. Please send the registration form no later than the April 10, 2012 deadline.

Cancellations: The following policies apply to registrations secured by cash, check, or credit card: 50% refund if cancelled by April 10, 2012. No refund for registrations cancelled after April 10, 2012. In extenuating circumstances, transfers of the training registration to another person will be allowed.

For mailing, faxing or e-mailing your registration, below is additional information. Also, please make all checks or purchase orders payable to: Training Opportunities of Southwest Virginia. Return this form to: Roxana Hartmann, 404 Clairmont Drive, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, Fax: 1-888-200-4241. For Additional information: r.hartmann@alivecontroversy.com