

The Autism Society of Pittsburgh

The Autism Society of Pittsburgh is the local action arm of the nation's original grassroots organization, committed to increasing awareness of truths - and dispelling myths - about autism. This includes teaching and training those with autism how to strive for incrementally higher levels of copiability as they grow and develop.

This was our founding goal and operational imperative in 1966, and it still is. Knowing that we are successfully providing useful information, referral, and advocacy advice is how we justify our existence. The only measure of our success is the improved lives of those we serve through realistic programs and services.

Audience

This event will contain content for young adults, families, advocates, clinicians, supervisors, supports coordinators, social workers and those serving and working with individuals with autism.

Social Work Continuing Education

This program is offered for two hours of social work continuing education through co-sponsorship of the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work, a Council on Social Work Education-accredited school and, therefore, a PA pre-approved provider of social work continuing education. These credit hours satisfy requirements for LSW/LCSW, LPC and LMFT biennial license renewal. For information on social work continuing education call (412) 624-6902.

CEU fees will be covered by the Hussman Foundation grant.



Autism Society of Pittsburgh
11676 Perry Highway
Building 1, Suite 1106
Wexford, PA 15090

(412) 856-7223
www.autismsocietypgh.org



presents

April *is for* **AUTISM** Annual Capstone Assembly

*"Understanding and Navigating Autism
Spectrum Disorder and Depression"*

April 4, 2019
6:00 – 9:00 pm

The Priory Hotel
614 Pressley Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Co-Sponsored by

The Hussman Foundation
University of Pittsburgh
School of Social Work

www.autismsocietypgh.org

Program Description

The purpose of this event is to identify individuals on the spectrum who are also suffering from depression and identify appropriate resources for treatment.

Learning Objectives

This program is designed to help the attendee:

1. Receive an overview of the challenges facing individuals with ASD who present with co-occurring mental health needs
2. Learn how systems of care are working to develop the ability to support individuals with ASD who present with co-occurring needs.
3. Learn how to access resources/trainings that have been developed to support individuals with ASD who present with complex, co-occurring needs.
4. Appreciate the increased risk for emotion dysregulation and suicidal ideation in autism spectrum disorder
5. Become familiar with a new intervention to improve emotion regulation in autism spectrum disorder called the Emotion Awareness and Skills Enhancement (EASE) Program



Evening Agenda

6:00 – 6:45 **Registration & Light Reception**

6:45 – 7:00 **Introductions & Recognitions**

Mary Ellen Greacen, MEd, RRT

Vice president of Operations
Autism Society of Pittsburgh

Jesse Torisky, Esquire

President/CEO
Autism Society of Pittsburgh

7:00 – 8:00 **Accessing Mental Health Services with an Autism Spectrum Diagnosis**

Nina Wall, MSS, LSW

Director for the Bureau of Autism Services
PA Department of Human Services

8:00 – 9:00 **Emotion Dysregulation and Suicidality in Autism**

Carla A Mazefsky, PhD

Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology

9:00 **Questions and Wrap-Up**

Mary Ellen Greacen, MEd, RRT

Vice President of Operations
Autism Society of Pittsburgh

**Registration and valet parking
are free! Please register at
www.autismsocietypgh.org or
412-856-7223**

Our Speakers

Nina Wall, MSS, LSW is the director for the Bureau of Autism Services in the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. Prior to this position, she served as co-chair of the Autism Task Force, commissioned in July 2003. She was a founding member and first president of the Pennsylvania Action Coalition for Autism Services (PACAS), a statewide board of regional autism advocates. She has served as a board member for Pennsylvania Protection and Advocacy and served for seven years as the information and referral director for the Autism Society of Greater Philadelphia. Nina has worked as a family, child, and adolescent therapist with a specific focus on clinical work with families of children and adolescents with ASD and other behavioral health challenges. Nina is the parent of a young adult with autism



Dr. Carla Mazefsky is currently an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She is Co-Director of the Center for Autism Research (CeFAR) and Director of the Regulation of Emotion in ASD Adults, Children, and Teens (REAACT) Program. Her research involves investigations of mechanisms underlying emotion regulation, psychiatric and behavioral problems in ASD, and the development of new assessment and treatment approaches. She is co-author of the Emotion Awareness and Skills Enhancement (EASE) Program and developer of the Emotion Dysregulation Inventory. She is an Associate Editor for the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders and is Co-Editor of the soon-to-be-published Oxford Handbook of Co-Occurring Psychiatric Conditions in Autism.

