



REFLECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MARCH 2022 ISSUE

THE ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES SYMPOSIUM IS AROUND THE CORNER

Can you even believe it? The ECHO Autism Communities Symposium is only a few weeks away! We're so excited to be bringing you our second annual virtual symposium dedicated to igniting important conversations and taking action together.

If you haven't yet, be sure to check out this year's list of expert speakers on [our website](#)! Professionals, family members, and individuals with autism alike will be presenting on a myriad of topics. Some of which include cracking the code of social interactions, weathering autism and relationships, and global policy and advocacy initiatives happening in the country *right now*.

What are you waiting for? Make sure you're **registered for the ECHO Autism Communities Symposium** this April 7, 2022.

Already signed up? Awesome! Now all you have left to do is invite a friend or peer to attend with you and share on social media that you're attending! We can't wait to see you all there.



ECHO AUTISM:FAMILY ADVOCATES

ECHO Autism: Family Advocates is a program that aims to develop a network of well-equipped advocates, who are familiar with complex systems and passionate about connecting autistic people and their families to high-quality, evidence-based resources, supports and services.

How it helps:

- People with autism and their families get greater access to faster, easier care for their children with trusted local professionals close to home
- Families and providers have lower costs by reducing travel, creating more efficient visits and shorter wait for care
- Provides a long-term solution in communities by building local capacity for autism care and support

Are you an autistic person, family member of an autistic person, or do you want to learn more about autism and how to support the community? Consider joining the ECHO Autism: Family Advocates Program?

Sign up today at <https://bit.ly/3rl3ssQ>
Questions? Email Maria Seville at mariaseville@health.missouri.edu



OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Researchers are requesting participants in a for a new research study. Youths (age 12-17) with autism and anxiety and parents of youth (age 7-17) with autism and anxiety to participate in a research study being conducted by Dr. Brenna Maddox at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The purpose of this study is to help us understand more about the clinical needs of youth with autism and anxiety and their families. The information we learn from this study will inform a community-based anxiety treatment program tailored for youth with autism.

Participants in this study will participate in a 30 to 60 minute interview over a secure videoconferencing platform. Participation is voluntary. During the interview, we will ask questions about your experiences, needs, and recommendations related to anxiety treatment for youth with autism.

Each person will be compensated \$20 for participation in the interview.

For more information, please email (sara_stahl@med.unc.edu) or call (919-843-5259) Sara Stahl.

If you have questions for the Institutional Review Board, you may call 919-966-3113 or email IRB_subjects@unc.edu.

SPOTLIGHT ON: MOADD ECHO

MOADD bridges the care gap between professional mental health providers, state agencies and service systems, and children with dual diagnoses.

How It Works:

- Presenting providers receive specific case guidance to better support children with dual diagnoses
- All participate in a convenient, web-based, small-group format
- Learn and share best practices for supporting children with dual diagnoses/behavioral health diagnoses and for trauma responsive care

How It Helps:

- Children and families have improved treatment outcomes and quality of life experience closer to home
- Missouri mental health providers get greater access to cross system resources and supports to provide comprehensive care for people with dual diagnoses
- Improve communication and collaboration between state agencies and the service systems for children with dual diagnosis in order to identify gaps in care and develop long term solutions

Learn more at the [DMH-MOADD website](https://dmh-moadd.org).

Sign up today at echoautism.org/register/

