



REFLECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2022 ISSUE

MANAGING FAMILY STRESS DURING THE HOLIDAYS WEBINAR

The holiday season is quickly approaching, and we couldn't be more excited! While the holidays are a great opportunity to spend time with friends and family, they can also be stressful.

Changes in routines, managing different schedules, and trying to maintain traditions can be overwhelming to some and exhilarating to others.

This in-depth webinar tackles this important topic. Alongside our professionals, two dads of children on the spectrum discuss ways to manage family stress during the holiday season.

You can watch the full webinar [here](#).

Check out other webinars and resources on our site [here](#).



ECHO AUTISM: ADOS-2 TRAINING

ECHO Autism Communities supported 19 professionals in learning the leading tool in diagnosing autism spectrum disorder across the lifespan. Access to professionals with clinical expertise to evaluate for autism spectrum disorder characteristics across the lifespan is essential for equitable autism best practices.

We thank the organizations and the dedicated professionals who joined us in learning the ADOS-2 and expanding capacity. We are thrilled to continue growing expertise across Missouri.

We are committed to building local access to best practice autism evaluations and supports and services around the world.

ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES GLOBAL PARTNER: UMASS MEDICAL SCHOOL/EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER CENTER

This month we are turning the spotlight on the UMass Medical School/Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center. They have launched a brand-new ECHO Autism program called MCPAP For Autism Spectrum Disorders and Intellectual Disabilities (ASD-ID) - ECHO Autism Crisis Care.

Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Program for Autism Spectrum Disorders and Intellectual Disabilities was established in July 2020, and it trains emergency responders (MCI) to work effectively with children and young adults with ASD and ID who are experiencing psychiatric crises. They are also trained to provide additional support to those individuals and their families via behavioral psychopharmacologic consultations. This addresses a major gap in care that has helped divert and decrease emergency department visits for people with ASD-ID by 35%.

Survey data after the first year and a half pointed to a need for additional specialized training and support for the MCI teams in working with ASD and ID. MCPAP ASD-ID - ECHO Autism: Crisis Care was created to fill that gap and will test the effectiveness of ECHO Autism added to MCPAP vs MCPAP ASD-ID alone.

This ECHO program launched in November of 2022. The initial pilot will run for 6 months with plans to run continuously.

Congratulations to Dr. Jean Frazier and her amazing team for their work and dedication to providing support to autistic people and their families during crises to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations, and ensure they get best-practice care.

Questions? Reach out to Lauren Venuti at Lauren.Venuti@umassmed.edu

WELCOME NEW ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES TEAM MEMBERS



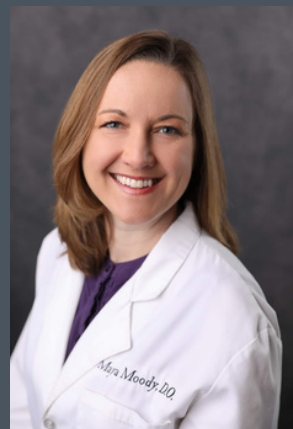
Maggie Harl

-Program/Project Coordinator
-Fun Fact! I love to crochet little stuffed animals!



Shawna Shelton

-Nurse Clinician/Project Management
-Fun Fact! I love to bake!



Maya Moody

-Pediatrician/Content Expert/Co-Investigator
-Fun Fact! I am an outdoor enthusiast!



Clara Janicel

Fernandez Alvarez

-Visiting Scholar
-Fun Fact! I love animals!



SPOTLIGHT ON ECHO AUTISM: PRIMARY CARE

This month we are highlighting the ECHO Autism: Primary Care program.

The ECHO Autism: Primary Care program bridges the care gap between autism specialists, community health care clinicians, and children with autism. Clinicians receive case guidance on children at risk for or diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and they learn and share best practices for managing medical and psychiatric conditions, connecting with community resources and family/caregiver support.

How It Helps: Families get greater access to faster and easier care for their children with trusted local clinicians close to home. Family and clinician costs are decreased due to reduced travel, creating more efficient visits and a shorter wait for care. This provides a long-term solution in communities by building local capacity for autism care.

Who Should Attend: Primary Care Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and other community health clinicians who are interested in learning and sharing best practice autism care.

Topics for Learning & Discussion: Supporting families, Key Differential Diagnosis, Best practice primary care for ASD, Sleep and Autism, Feeding Issues, Constipation and Autism, Medical Follow Up, Role of Medication in Young Children with ASD.

HUB Team:

Kristin Sohl, MD, FAAP- Pediatrician

Valeria Nanclares, PsyD - Clinical Psychologist

Rachel Brown, MBBS -Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist

Sheila Chapman, MS, RD, CSP, LD - Pediatric Dietitian

Melinda Odum, MSW, LCSW – Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Resource Specialist

Alicia Brewer Curran, BS, Grad. Cert. - Family Advocate

ECHO Autism: Primary Care Sessions occur every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 11:45am – 1:15pm.

If you are interested in joining this program, please register [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

2023 ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 20, 2023