



# REFLECTIONS

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A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2023 ISSUE

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## ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES 2023 SYMPOSIUM

ECHO Autism Communities 2023 Symposium is coming up on April 20, 2023! There is an amazing lineup of presentations with expert speakers.

Here are some presentations to look forward to:

- *Implementing the WHO-Caregivers Skills Training (CST) Program in Low Resourced Communities*, presented by Cecilia Montiel-Nava, Ph.D
- *Heterogeneity in Autism*, presented by Evdokia Anagnostou, MD
- *Listen to the Spectrum Panel: See Possibilities in All Abilities*, presented by Stephen Shore, Ed.D, Crystalena Oberweiser, Ph.D., Patrina Dixon, CESP, and Andrew Arboe
- *Charting Your LifeCourse: Planning for Now and the Future*, presented by Michelle Reynolds, Ph.D.
- *Listen to the Spectrum Panel: Understanding Profound Autism*, presented by Judith Ursitti, Kate Movius, Dilshad Ali, and Sabrina Vaughn
- *Autism in Adults: Considerations for First Time Diagnosis*, presented by Vanessa Hus Bal, Ph.D.
- *Partnering with Communities: What Works, and What Doesn't*, presented by Brian Boyd, Ph.D.

**You can register now [here](#)!**

Learn more about the 2023 Symposium Speakers [here](#).





## **EXTERNAL PARTNER: CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA**

This month we are turning the spotlight on Children's Hospital of Philadelphia who just launched a new ECHO Autism series called ECHO Autism @ CHOP: While You Wait which runs from January – June 2023 every 1st and 3rd Thursday, 10:15 – 11:30 AM ET

ECHO Autism: While You Wait is an evidence-based virtual community that allows family members of a child awaiting an autism evaluation or access to developmental services to learn about what they can do while they wait for those appointments. A multidisciplinary group of autism and developmental experts will lead the discussion and encourage family participation with questions, suggestions, and polls.

Topics include: What is Autism? What to Expect During an Autism Evaluation, How to Access Important Services (e.g., early intervention, special education), and Parenting Skills for Children with Developmental Differences.

This series is designed for family members of young children who have not received a diagnosis of autism and are awaiting an autism evaluation, have recently been diagnosed with autism, and are in the process of accessing services and/or have a developmental difference and are in the process of accessing services.

Each 75-minute session includes a presentation from subject matter experts about key topics and best practices for children awaiting an evaluation, an interactive discussion about a clinical case study presented by an ECHO team member, Q&A session with the presenter, and the opportunity to provide recommendations and access to relevant resources to continue families' learning journey and help them support their child.

ECHO Autism HUB Team members include Amanda Bennett, MD, MPH: Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician, Katharine Bouser, MS, CCC-SLP: Speech Language Pathologist, Amy Kelly, MBA, MNM: Family Partner and Parent, Judith Miller, PhD: Clinical Psychologist, Kristy Pucci, OTR/L: Occupational Therapist, Susannah Reimer, MSW, LCSW: Clinical Social Worker, and Monica Schrank: Family Partner and Parent

Learn More! [ECHO Autism While You Wait Flyer](#)

To register for the series, please fill out [this](#) form.

If you have questions, please send an email to [echoautismchop@chop.edu](mailto:echoautismchop@chop.edu).



## **SPOTLIGHT ON ECHO AUTISM BEHAVIOR SOLUTIONS IN HOSPITALS**

This month we are highlighting ECHO Autism: Behavior Solutions in Hospitals. We will be starting the second round of this series on April 3, 2023.

ECHO Autism: Behavior Solutions aims to bring knowledge of best practice care to healthcare teams in hospital settings.

### **What is ECHO Autism: Behavior Solutions in Hospitals?**

ECHO Autism: Behavior Solutions in Hospitals is a virtual learning program intended to improve care for autistic people within the hospital setting. Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder are known to have increased utilization of emergency room visits and they sometimes require hospitalization. Understanding and meeting their needs can be challenging in these settings, therefore, it is essential the Emergency Departments and Hospital-based Healthcare Teams have the knowledge and training to support patients with autism spectrum disorder effectively.

This program launches with a kickoff training on April 3rd. The program includes six virtual ECHO sessions on Mondays from 1:15pm to 2:30pm CST, beginning on April 10th and going through May 22nd.

Participation in this program is suited for hospital-based healthcare teams including mental healthcare teams and emergency departments. This includes nurses, physicians, social workers, child life specialists, security, psychologists, quality improvement specialists, patient advocates, hospital administration, etc.

This program is spearheaded by an interdisciplinary panel of leading experts in the autism field. The hub team consists of an autistic adult, a clinical psychologist, a child and adolescent psychiatrist, a family advocate, a hospitalist, and a resource specialist.

Participants can expect to learn and share best practices for interfering behaviors, managing medical conditions, including psychiatric conditions, connecting with community resources, and family/caregiver support.

Space is limited. Register soon [here](#).

**ECHO Autism Communities is excited to announce this opportunity for hospital-based healthcare teams to join the program! To learn more, contact Melinda Odum at [odumm@health.missouri.edu](mailto:odumm@health.missouri.edu)**

## **ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES PARTNER LAUNCH CLASS OF JANUARY 2023 AND FEBRUARY 2023**

We had an incredible turnout for our January 2023 and February 2023 ECHO Autism Communities Partner Launch Trainings!

Look at these organizations who are changing the world!

### **Class of January 2023**

Autism Speaks

The Center for Autism & Developmental Disorders  
at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Nationwide Children's Hospital

The Autism Collective

Cincinnati Children's Hospital

McGill University Health Center

University of Rzeszów of Poland

### **Class of February 2023**

Clínica Neuroinfantil Divino Niño (Nicaragua)

Universidad de la República (Uruguay)

Clínica Neuraxis (Colombia)

APEPLAC SAC (Peru)

Avanza Neuropsicología (Panama)

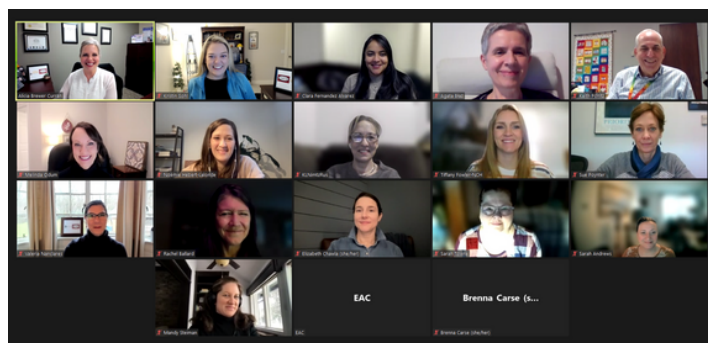
CAI Costa Rica

In-Neuro (Spain)

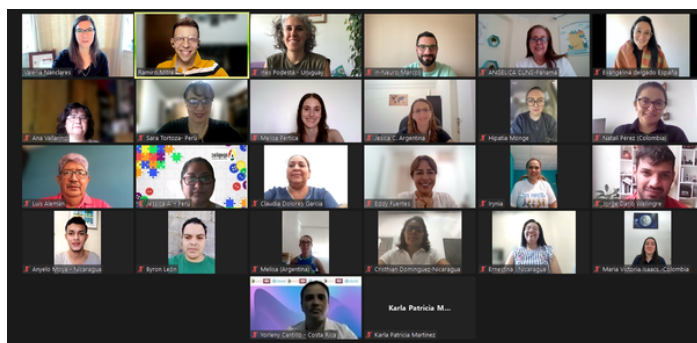
CIPRAC (Argentina)

Click [here](#) to learn more about the ECHO Autism Programs across the globe!

**We are grateful to Autism Speaks for their sponsorship of the ECHO Autism Communities Global Superhub.**



**Class of January 2023**



**Class of February 2023**