



REFLECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE

META ECHO 2023 GLOBAL CONFERENCE

Several of our team members attended the MetaECHO 2023 Global Conference which brought together 900+ Project ECHO partner teams, global health policy experts, government officials, academic leaders, and funders. Our team members presented on numerous topics and collaborated with and met ECHO programs from around the globe!



Congratulations to Kristin Sohl who was named the 2023 recipient of the David Meyers Service Award!



NEW ECHO AUTISM PROGRAM LAUNCHES



Congratulations to **NHS Midlands** for launching their ECHO Autism program on October 19th, 2023. This program, ECHO Autism: Children and Young People Inpatient Services aims to improve the understanding of and responses to behavioral communication causing risk in autistic children and young people who are on acute, pediatric, and child/adolescent mental health service inpatient wards.

New Jersey AAP also just launched a new program focused on Mental Health in Education. This ECHO program, Growing Healthy Minds Project ECHO, brings together school personnel from all 21 counties in New Jersey with the overarching goal to increase knowledge and competency related to managing student mental/behavioral health concerns and fostering student social emotional well-being.



SAVE THE DATE!

2024 ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 11, 2024

ECHO AUTISM 2024 SYMPOSIUM

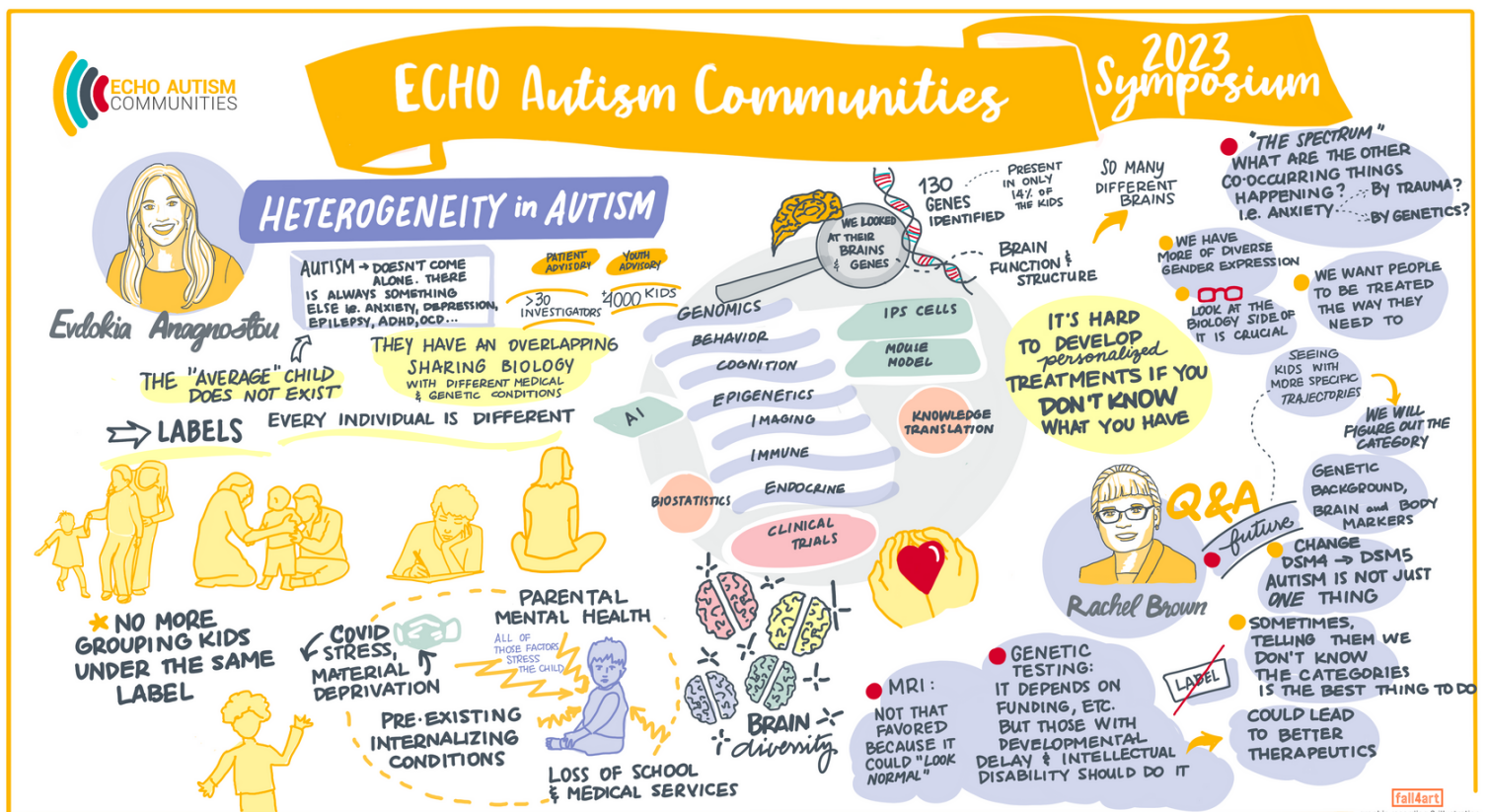
ECHO Autism Communities is excited to announce the 2024 Symposium date: April 11, 2024. Each month, we are highlighting presentations from our 2023 Symposium. This month, we are featuring the graphic recordings and participant quotes about their biggest takeaway from the presentation “Heterogeneity in Autism”, which was presented by Evdokia Anagnostou, MD.

“We need to remain cognizant of the complexity within an Autism diagnosis and remain flexible and focus on individual needs and strengths.”

“It was very informative, and I will use the information gathered to educate others while advocating for the individuals I serve.”

“I will be sure to create and share a hierarchy of goals with families whom I work with to not underestimate anyone.”

“Rethinking the manner in which we approach identifying ASD, and the heterogeneous way it presents even within the same genetic tree.”



ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES: BRIDGING GAPS IN CHALLENGING REALITIES OF LATIN AMERICA

In Latin America, the path to improving autism care can be especially challenging due to limited access to professionals, scarce training opportunities, financial constraints, and language barriers. Despite these obstacles, the commitment to advancing autism awareness and support remains unwavering.

We are thrilled to share some exciting news from three of our ECHO Autism programs that have been making remarkable progress. ECHO Autismo Serendipia in Bolivia, ECHO Autismo Puebla in Mexico and ECHO Autismo PROTECTEA in Argentina have recently completed their cohorts, and the results have been nothing short of outstanding.

Bolivia: Early Identification and Treatment in ASD

ECHO Autismo Serendipia in Bolivia has been diligently working to empower healthcare professionals and educators in rural areas to enhance early identification and treatment for ASD. The program's first cohort has not only expanded knowledge but has also led to improved practices for providing timely support to individuals with autism in Bolivia. The impact is felt in communities where previously, these vital services were limited.

Mexico: Detecting Autism in Healthcare

In Mexico, ECHO Autismo Puebla has been committed to the critical mission of ASD identification for healthcare providers. The primary focus consisted of equipping frontline healthcare personnel with the tools and knowledge necessary for the early detection of ASD. By targeting the medical field, this ECHO Autism program is contributing significantly to the early identification of autism cases in Mexico, offering a better chance for timely interventions.

ECHO Autismo PROTECTEA: Empowering Autism Care since 2020

ECHO Autismo PROTECTEA (Early Intervention and Awareness Program for Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Autism Spectrum) has also finished another cohort and kept bringing together pediatricians and neurodevelopment teams from Health and Community Action Centers and Referral Medical Specialty Centers, working in collaboration with government hospitals in the City of Buenos Aires and other provinces in Argentina. Their dedication and collaboration have played a crucial role in advancing autism awareness and support, particularly in a complex healthcare landscape.

All three programs are set to continue their transformative work in the coming year, building on their initial success and expanding their positive impact. These milestones are a testament to the dedication and collaborative spirit of all those involved. What's truly remarkable is that they are only two of the twenty (and more to come) ECHO Autism teams working tirelessly in the region.

We look forward to seeing the ongoing contributions and meaningful changes these programs will continue to bring to their respective regions. Keep up the great work, ECHO Autismo Puebla, ECHO Autismo Serendipia, and ECHO Autismo PROTECTEA! Together, we are making a real difference in the field of autism.

Stay tuned for more updates and inspiring stories from our ECHO Autism Communities!