

Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series



SPRING 2021 WEBINARS



Friday, April 16, 2021 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Preparing Families to Support Youth on the Autism Spectrum as They Transition to Adulthood



Julie Lounds Taylor, PhD

Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Investigator
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, Nashville, TN

Friday, April 23, 2021 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Nothing About Us Without Us: Centering Disabled People in Disability Advocacy



Emily Ladau, BA

Disability Rights Activist, Writer, Digital Communications Consultant
Words I Wheel By, Long Island, NY

Friday, May 14, 2021 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Beyond Traditional Job Development: The Art of Creating Opportunity



Denise Bissonnette, MEd

Speaker, Author
Diversity World, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Friday, May 21, 2021 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



Andrea Witwer, PhD

Associate Professor, Director of Training, and LEND Associate Director
Nisonger Center, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Friday, April 16, 2021 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Webinar

Preparing Families to Support Youth on the Autism Spectrum as They Transition to Adulthood



When supporting individuals on the autism spectrum, it is important to consider the role of the family. Parents often provide critical assistance to their autistic sons and daughters during the transition to adulthood. Yet, many families are inadequately supported during this time. This presentation will describe the important roles that parents can play in the lives of their young adults on the autism spectrum, and discuss the potential benefits of a new program that professionals can use to support families by teaching them about adult service systems.



Julie Lounds Taylor, PhD is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and an Investigator at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center. She received her PhD in Developmental Psychology from the University of Notre Dame, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in lifespan family research at the Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research focuses on understanding the factors that promote positive outcomes for adults on the autism spectrum disorder and their families, particularly during the transition to adulthood. Dr. Taylor's work has been funded by the National Institutes of Mental Health, Autism Speaks, the FAR fund, and US Department of Defense. She was the 2014 recipient of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Early Career Award, is an associate editor for *Autism: The International Journal of Research and Practice*, and has served as a member of the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee.

Webinar registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1583028874840244240>

Friday, April 23, 2021 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Webinar

Nothing About Us Without Us: Centering Disabled People in Disability Advocacy

Even informed advocates and allies can still fall into the trap of speaking either for or over disabled people rather than centering their authentic stories and experiences. This presentation will address ways those with disabilities have reclaimed their power after historically being excluded from advocacy efforts. Together, we will explore how the implicit and explicit biases we hold can disempower the disability community, and we will reframe our thinking and actions to ensure our work uplifts intersectional disability perspectives.



Emily Ladau, BA is a passionate disability rights activist, writer, storyteller, and digital communications consultant whose career began at the age of 10, when she appeared on several episodes of Sesame Street to educate children about her life with a physical disability. A native of Long Island, New York, Emily graduated with a BA in English from Adelphi University in 2013 and now serves on their Board of Trustees. Emily is the Editor in Chief of the *Rooted in Rights Blog*, a platform dedicated to amplifying authentic narratives on the disability experience through an intersectional lens. She also provides communications and social media strategy consulting as well as editorial services for multiple disability-related organizations and initiatives and co-hosts "The Accessible Stall Podcast," a show that dives into disability issues. Emily's writing has been published in outlets including *The New York Times*, *SELF*, *Salon*, *Vice*, and *HuffPost* and she has served as a source for outlets including NPR, *Vox*, and *Washington Post*. Her first book, *Demystifying Disability*, is being published in fall 2021. Central to all of her work is a focus on and harnessing the power of storytelling as a tool for people to become engaged in disability and social justice issues.

Webinar registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3674158153760537101>

Friday, May 14, 2021 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Webinar

Beyond Traditional Job Development: The Art of Creating Opportunity

This lively presentation will give us new eyes and a new mind about the possibilities for individuals with developmental disabilities to bring their gifts to the world of work. Based on concepts from her book of the same title, the presenter will share her transformation from practicing traditional job placement to engaging in true job development which involves spotting opportunity in every corner of the local community and matching to the “individual genius” of each person. This engaging presentation will couple sound principles with hands-on techniques, practical demonstrations, and real-life examples.



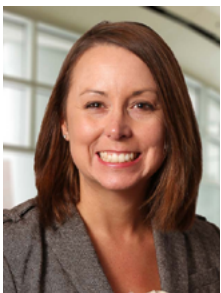
Denise Bissonnette, MEd is an internationally renowned writer, trainer, and keynote speaker. For two decades, she has inspired people and organizations throughout North America to look beyond traditional concepts of job and career development and to craft livelihoods rooted in the individual genius of each person. She has authored several publications on creative job development, state of the art job search techniques, the cultivation of the human spirit, and how to “shine” on the job. With a style all her own, Denise’s work is a rich tapestry of her talents as a poet, writer, storyteller, teacher, and career developer. Denise received her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of California in Santa Cruz, California and her Master’s Degree from the University of San Francisco. Denise resided in Santa Cruz for 35 years before moving to Winnipeg, Canada in 2006.

Webinar registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1372763768592844813>

Friday, May 21, 2021 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Webinar

Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

This presentation will focus on the co-occurrence of mental health concerns in individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), providing information on the presentation of psychiatric disorders in individuals with IDD and the treatments available to meet their unique needs. It will also lay out practical steps that all members of a support team can take to help to ensure that those with IDD and psychiatric disorders are appropriately diagnosed, and the best ways to support their treatment.



Andrea Witwer, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health and Psychology at The Ohio State University, the Director of Training, and the Associate Director of the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Training Program (LEND) at The Nisonger Center. Dr. Witwer has extensive experience providing interdisciplinary clinical services and conducting research in the field of intellectual and developmental disability (IDD). Dr. Witwer has published research related to co-occurring emotional, behavioral, and psychiatric disorders in those with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities as well as assessment of autism spectrum disorders. She is currently an investigator on the Nisonger Center Rehabilitation and Research Training Center on Health and Function for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The goal of her project is to identify promising practices in the treatment of psychiatric disorders in individuals with intellectual disability and to provide a research framework for future research in this area.

Webinar registration link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6813721247898203917>

Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series

SPRING 2021 WEBINARS

The Boggs Center's Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series is a community and continuing education program provided for professionals, policymakers, individuals with disabilities, and family members to enhance their knowledge and skills in innovative approaches and state of the art practices for people with developmental disabilities. Nationally known speakers with expertise in their field serve as faculty for the program. Eight sessions of the Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series are held each year, four in the Fall, and four in the Spring.

Funding for the Series is provided by the Division of Developmental Disabilities, Department of Human Services, State of New Jersey (Contract #04ME21C) and the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Administration for Community Living, US Department of Health and Human Services (Grant # 90DDUC0036).

REGISTRATION

To access the webinars, you must register in advance on GoToWebinar using the registration link for each session. The webinars are free of charge. Space is limited for each of the sessions.

- You will receive a confirmation email and reminder emails with the unique link to join each webinar. When you complete the registration form, please make sure your email address is correct since all emails will be sent to the address you enter.
- The "join webinar" link in the confirmation and reminder emails is unique to your registration and should not be shared with others. Please note that each person who wishes to participate must register and log in using their own email and device in order for their attendance to be recorded.
- If you need closed captioning, please email your request to deborah.mahovetz@rutgers.edu at least 2 weeks before each session.

For additional information about DDLS Webinars, including system requirements, please view [Frequently Asked Questions](#). If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Mahovetz at deborah.mahovetz@rutgers.edu or 732-235-9543.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE

As part of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, The Boggs Center offers this program for social work continuing education credit per NJAC 13:44G6.4.c(5). The Boggs Center is a registered NJ Department of Education Professional Development Provider. The Spring 2021 sessions have been submitted to the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) for continuing education program approval. The April 16 and May 21 sessions have been submitted to the Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association (DDNA) for continuing education program approval.

Each session is eligible for 2 hours of continuing education recognition. Please note the following requirements to demonstrate completion and receive a Certificate of Attendance for each session:

- You must be logged onto the webinar from start to finish.
- You must complete a survey at the webinar's completion.

Certificates of Attendance will be emailed to attendees meeting these requirements the week following each event. Please see our website at: <http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter> for Continuing Education approval information.

RUTGERS

Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School

The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities | rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter
Department of Pediatrics
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Liberty Plaza, 335 George Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
p. 732-235-9300
f. 732-235-9330