

Accepting the Spectrum

A monthly newsletter sharing information and support for families, caregivers, and friends of children on the Autism Spectrum

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The month of April is celebrated as autism acceptance and awareness month. Individuals with autism need awareness, acceptance, and inclusion for genuine community support. Today, society has a greater awareness of autism than ever before. However, the world can still be challenging for an individual with autism. By ensuring they have the necessary accommodations and support, they can flourish in the community as well as at home.

Ways we can help:

- Understand that individuals with autism may communicate differently. It is important to recognize that they may have a low tolerance to specific sounds, smells, or textures. They may also thrive on routines, have certain interests, and express their feelings differently.
- Educate family members, friends, and other loved ones about autism and how it impacts your child. This may include ways to communicate with them and what your child may need during social interactions with others.

- Advocate for your child's needs. This may include advocating for the necessary accommodations at school, receiving speech/OT/PT services, and alternative communication resources such as an AAC device.



- Support your child when they are engaged with preferred activities, and provide social stories to your child when their typical routine may be altered due to going to an upcoming doctor appointment for example. Visual schedules can also be a great resource to support your child and prepare them for what is to come.



Agency News:

Please welcome our new staff that have joined Collaborative ABA Services!



Meet Kyle, the new Speech-Language Pathologist at Collaborative ABA Services. Kyle was always a non-traditional learner who took a non-traditional path to becoming an SLP. Kyle received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Marquette University in Milwaukee Wisconsin in the summer of 2005. After graduation, he moved to Colorado and joined the National Civilian Community Corp. He spent the next two years providing community outreach, responding to natural disasters, and operating as a Wild Land Fire Fighter with the US Forest Service. After AmeriCorps, Kyle developed a passion for working with children and adults with disabilities as a paraprofessional, life skills counselor, and job coach. In 2013, he pursued a Master of Arts degree in Speech Language Pathology from the University of Northern Colorado. Since graduation, he has specialized in the evaluation and treatment of individuals with complex communication needs, integrating Augmentative and Alternative Communication strategies, and helping to connect families with the services they need. After 17 years in Colorado, Kyle moved to Connecticut in 2022 to be closer to family and is helping to establish the Speech Therapy Department at Collaborative ABA Services.



Myla is a new Behavioral Technician at Collaborative ABA Services. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from The University of Connecticut in 2021. She is currently pursuing a career as a BCBA. She is currently studying at The University of Saint Joseph to get her Master of Science in Applied Behavioral Science. She was encouraged to become a BCBA after working in the Mental Health field. She also recently became a Registered Behavioral Technician. She has experience working in various settings including working in clinics and in school settings. She enjoys working with children and families and is excited about her future career in ABA. She enjoys watching sports, bingeing Netflix shows and reading.



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