

FAMILIES ON THE SPECTRUM CONFERENCE

April 23rd, 2022
Virtual Conference



CHESTNUT
HILL
COLLEGE

Philadelphia Association for
Couple and Family Psychology

General Information

To support the ongoing development and expansion of clinical understanding and practice, Families on the Spectrum is being presented on April 23rd, 2022. The prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) continues to rise; in 2018, the CDC reported that 1 in 59 children in the United States will be diagnosed with ASD. Conventional views of treatment have focused on the individual patient diagnosed with ASD, with a focus on developing awareness, sensory integration, and behavior modification. Families on the Spectrum will present a view of ASD through a broader, family systemic lens. When exploring families on the spectrum, we can fortify the traditional interventions to include family/caregiver integration and self-care. This workshop will include 5 CEU credits for Psychologists, lectures about the most current treatment approaches, clinical application, and assessment tools.

This conference offers clear models for creating healthy, thriving family relationships and frameworks for working with individuals and families on the spectrum. These trainings will provide you with practical recommendations for working with diverse families, and will be useful for therapists, counselors, and doctoral students who work with complex families on the spectrum.

This unique workshop is presented by:
Scott Browning, Ph.D., Robert Naseef, Ph.D., Eric Mitchell, Ph.D., Cora Taylor, Ph.D., Robert Schmus, LCSW, SPIN Inc.



Scott Browning, Ph.D., ABPP, has taught at Chestnut Hill College in Pennsylvania since 1987. His primary areas of interest include: treating diverse families, advances in family therapy, and creating a spectrum of treatment for autism and children with developmental disorders. Dr. Browning was the recipient of the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching in 2003, PPA Distinguished Contributions to the Science and Practice of Psychology 2022, and is also a loving parent of a man on the spectrum.

Robert Naseef, Ph.D., has spoken around the country and trained professionals internationally in treating autism and other developmental disorders and supporting families. Dr. Naseef served as a lead consultant to the Arc of Philadelphia and SAP's "Autism at Work" program, collaborating with the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. In 2008, Dr. Naseef was honored by Variety, the Children's Charity, for his outstanding contributions to the autism community. In 2013, Dr. Naseef wrote the book titled, *Autism in the Family: Caring and Coping Together*, which integrates advances in research and treatment with clinical experience to help families navigate the emotional landscape and the practical roadmap through the lifespan.

Dr. Jessica Lax, Psy. D., is a graduate of Chestnut Hill College and a licensed psychologist. She completed her Pre-Doctoral Internship and post-doctoral Fellowship at SPIN, Inc.. SPIN is a nonprofit organization targeted to provide the highest quality services to people of all ages with autism and intellectual/developmental disability. SPIN is also a leading provider of inclusive, early childhood education. At SPIN Inc., Dr. Lax is the Assisting Clinical Director and Supervising Psychologist overseeing autism evaluations, providing consultation and supervision, and treatment of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the lifespan.



Eric Mitchell, Ph.D., attended the University of Pennsylvania, and earned his Ph.D. in community and child clinical psychology. The following year, he completed his post-doctoral fellowship: Alaka'i Na Keiki, in association with UCLA and the Center for Autism and Related Disorders. Dr. Mitchell currently is the owner, director, and head psychologist at Neurodiversity Consultants LLC . Dr.

Mitchell's primary interests are developing provider-community partnerships, innovative program development, training initiatives, workshop/speaking engagements, research consultation, expert consultation/evaluations, and therapeutic interventions with diverse populations.

Additionally, Dr. Mitchell is also a certified school psychologist in private practice, a consulting psychologist for the Foundations Behavioral Health, and a psychologist for Quest Behavioral Health.

Robert Schmus is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) in the Philadelphia and South Jersey region. Outside of therapy, he serves as an advocate and mentor for individuals on the autism spectrum. He has published various articles in support of his autism advocacy; his most recent publication was in 2020, which is titled "When Can We Be Romantic? Supporting Individuals on the Autism Spectrum in Their Right for Deeper Relationships." Robert currently serves on the board of The Autism & Asperger's Alliance of Greater Philadelphia (ASCEND) by working with professionals in the community to spread awareness for autism, as well as, serving as an advisory board member at the Drexel University Autism Institute.

Dr. Cora Taylor, Ph.D., attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where she earned her PhD in psychology. She completed her post-doctoral fellowship in clinical developmental psychology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Dr. Taylor's current research interests focus on early screening and identification of children with autism. Dr. Taylor's publications, presentations, and lectures throughout her career have focused on Autism diagnosis and early interventions. Currently, Dr. Taylor is a licensed pediatric psychologist at Geisinger Medical Center as well as an Assistant Professor at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine.



Schedule Virtual Conference

9:00 am Introduction -Dr. Scott Browning

9:15- 10:15 am Dr. Robert Naseef

10:15- 10:20 am Break

10:20 - 11:20 am - Dr. Cora Taylor

11:20- 11:25 am Break

11:25am -12:25pm Dr. Jessica Lax
from SPIN Inc

12: 25-1:25 p, Lunch

1:25-2:25 pm Dr. Eric Mitchell

2:25-2:30 Break

2:30-3:30 Mr. Robert Schmus

3:30-3:45 Closing/ Conference Evaluations

CE Credit Information

For questions and requests for information about CE information please contact:

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Chestnut Hill College

Chestnut Hill College is an academic institution that is committed to professional and personal growth. The mission of Chestnut Hill College is to provide students with an inclusive and holistic education that emphasizes academic excellence, shared responsibility, personal and professional growth, and service to one another and the global community.

The PsyD program at Chestnut Hill College is APA accredited. The Master's Program in Clinical/Counseling Psychology is accredited by Master's in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Council (MPCAC).

Chestnut Hill College is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Chestnut Hill College maintains responsibility for this program and its content.



There is no known commercial support for this program.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Price: \$90

Free for students

ADA: If you have special needs or accommodations please contact Gwen Edwards at 267-571-4668