



CT Autism Spectrum Resource Center, Inc.

## **On-Site Workshops for Professionals**

### ***If you:***

Work with children and/or families of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD),

### ***Then....***

You need information about autism spectrum disorders

- Agencies
- Schools
- Birth-to-Three programs
- Camps
- Parent organizations
- Therapists
- Transition coordinators
- Daycare programs
- Emergency responders
- School nurses
- Others

# **We'll Come To You!**

## ***ASRC provides training opportunities in your location***

The CT Autism Spectrum Resource Center is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization run by family members of individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Each year, ASRC has provided workshops for families, school personnel, service providers, and other interested professionals. We will continue to offer these workshops, many of which are scheduled on Saturdays.

Over the years ASRC has received many requests from agencies, schools, or other organizations to provide on-site workshops about autism spectrum disorders. Because of the number of requests, it became clear that our method of providing information could not fill the needs of all professionals. Many workplaces that need to understand autism spectrum disorders are often simply not able to send their staff to us. So we decided to develop a variety of workshops to bring to you – in your location, at your convenience.

## ***What makes these workplaces unique?***

Different types of professionals require different types of information to care for children and adults with ASD and their families. On the next page is a listing of available workshops that target the specific needs of a variety of professionals – school districts, adult providers, social workers/case managers, home service providers, coaches, etc. If you do not see what you need, we can design a workshop to match your objective. More detailed information can be obtained from ASRC by calling (203) 265-7717 or visiting our website at [www.ct-asrc.org](http://www.ct-asrc.org).

These workshops are intended to offer helpful information at an introductory level. They do not offer legal or medical advice. Individual workshops (or combinations of same) DO NOT constitute the extent of training needed by professionals dealing with children, adults, and families involved with the autism spectrum. The ASRC can offer suggestions on how more extensive training can be obtained. One of the few areas of agreement among experts in the field of autism is that knowledgeable parents, teachers and other service providers are essential for the success of children and adults with ASD. We at ASRC wholeheartedly support this belief.

## ***School Districts***

School districts might consider providing these training opportunities in special education and/or for the parents within their district as part of the IDEA requirements and/or state improvement plans. Districts are welcome to call ASRC and discuss your needs and ideas.

# The Workshops

*The below listed workshops can be combined for an extended workshop day(s), and tailored (within reason) to fit time restraints. More detailed information about the content and cost of workshops can be obtained from ASRC.*

- 1) Autism Spectrum Disorders: An Overview
- 2) For School Paras: Preparing the Para to Work More Effectively with Their ASD Students
- 3) For Parents: Safety in the Community for Children and Adults with ASD
- 4) Components of Appropriate School Programming for Kids with ASD (consistent with the CT Guidelines for Identification and Education of Children and Youth with Autism)
- 5) For Parents: PPT Protocol and Communication Skills
- 6) For School Staff: How to Work Effectively with Parents in PPT Teams
- 7) Behavioral Factors in ASD
- 8) For School Bus Drivers: Basic Strategies
- 9) Transition Plans for Teens – Think School to Career/Higher Education
- 10) For School Resource Officers: Assisting in ASD
- 11) For Service Providers: Working with Families of Kids with ASD – Their Perspective
- 12) For Adult Service Providers: Working Effectively with Adults with ASD
- 13) For Emergency Responders: Managing Emergencies with Kids/Adults with ASD

*If you don't see what you need, just ask us!*

## ***About ASRC:***

The Connecticut ASRC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. It is our mission to serve individuals with ASD, their family members, and interested professionals in the State of Connecticut.

Through our variety of programs and services, ASRC helps parents and professionals understand the barriers and challenges people with ASD face everyday, and raises public awareness about autism spectrum disorders. We are especially dedicated to educating families, professionals, and the general public about the many strengths that people with ASD have, and to promoting the respect that they deserve. Visit our website at [www.ct-asrc.org](http://www.ct-asrc.org) for more information about ASRC, its programs, and mission.

The CT Autism Spectrum Resource Center, Inc. does not endorse or recommend specific products or treatment choices. These decisions are best made by parents with consultation from trusted and experienced professionals.

**Contact ASRC (203) 265-7717 or visit our website at [www.ct-asrc.org](http://www.ct-asrc.org)**

## ***Our Presenters:***

### **CAROL BARANS**

Mrs. Barans has over 30 years of experience in the public schools in Connecticut as a special education teacher and administrator. As such, she was instrumental in developing and supervising a community based independent living program for 18-21 year old youths, an extracurricular social skills club at the secondary level, as well as individualized education and transition plans for many different students. She has also worked in the field of young adult services developing vocational and independent living opportunities for young adults with autism spectrum diagnoses. In addition, she is a parent of a son on the autism spectrum.

Carol brings her skills, passion, common sense and commitment to the ASRC. She understands the unique challenges facing families as well as school administrators, as she has walked in both paths. She knows the fears and anxieties of parents and she has lived with the pressures and constraints that district administrators experience. She is uniquely capable of bringing districts and families together to develop secondary education and transition plans that meet unique needs.

### **SARA LOCKE**

Sara Locke is the parent of a young child with an autism spectrum disorder, and a child with learning and medical disorders. She is a certified special education teacher with experience in the middle school and preschool populations. She has served as an educational advocate for families and children affected by autism spectrum disorders, an early childhood researcher, a community collaborative consultant, and is a primary contact for the North Star Parent Support group serving the Lower Naugatuck Valley. She has conducted safety workshops around the state, including Recognition Response and Risk Recognition workshops for New Haven Police Department and others.