

Navigating the Complex World of Autism Spectrum Disorder for Children and Adolescents of Color – A Parent Perspective

Program Description

Learning that your child has autism spectrum disorder (ASD) can have a profound impact on parents, caregivers, and other family members. In this highly personal narrative, the presenter, a mother of a child with autism and a licensed clinical social worker, describes her own journey of adjustment to the reality of her child's autism. Learning to navigate complex service systems and learning how to be a strong advocate are necessary skills needed to ensure that their child receives seamless, timely, and quality services.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. List at least 2 myths of a stereotypical clinical presentation of autism and ADHD.
2. Describe at least 1 possible cultural difference and experiences of oppression faced by African American children with ASD and their families.
3. Identify at least 2 strategies for supporting children of color who have autism and their families.
4. Explain at least 2 strategies for supporting children of color who have autism and their families.

Target audience

Human service professionals, school personnel, and mental health professionals interested in learning about the challenges of Navigating the Complex World of Autism Spectrum Disorder for Children and Adolescents of Color – from A Parent Perspective.

Contact Hours

4.0 credit hours (able to offer 2-6 hours)

Program Agenda

9:00 – 9:15 AM	Introduction/Background
9:15 – 10:30 AM	Impact of disability
10:30 - 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 - 12:00 NOON	The importance of Early Diagnosis
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Working with Professionals
12:45 – 1:00 PM	Strategies/Supports
1:00 – 1:15 PM	Wrap up/closing
1:15 PM	Adjourn

Faculty

Danyale Sturdivant, MSSW, LCSW-S, NADD-DDS. Danyale is a graduate of Russell Sage College and Columbia University and holds a master's degree in advanced clinical social work. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Supervisor in the State of North Carolina. She also holds a certification as a Dual Diagnosis Specialist through the National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (IDD/MI). Ms. Sturdivant has worked in the mental health field for over 20 years in various settings in the public sector. Ms. Sturdivant has an interest in how ASD/IDD is perceived in communities of color by professionals as well as closing the gap between children of color and their counterparts with early detection, treatment and wrap around services.