

PRESENTER BIO'S:

Greer Aukstakalnis:

Greer has worked as an occupational therapist with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit since 1998, where she has furthered her training and education in the areas of sensory processing and applied behavioral analysis. She has served as a consultant on autism and behavior disorders within the occupational therapy department. Greer currently provides OT services to preschool through high school level students with an emphasis on children with autism.

Greer is a graduate of Elizabethtown College with a B.S. in Occupational Therapy and is a licensed and registered Occupational Therapist.

Catherine Eicke:

Catherine has spent the last three years working at the NHS Autism School Carlisle where she is the Senior Support Staff, supporting students, aides, and teachers in their daily work. She is also the art teacher and the Safe Crisis Management and First Aid/CPR trainer for the school. Previously, she worked for two years at the Ivymount School in Rockville, Md. Before working in special education, Catherine was a lead instructor for four years at a martial arts school in the DC area, which was her initial introduction to working with autistic students.

Catherine has a BA in Psychology from the University of Maryland, College Park.

She moved to the Central Pennsylvania area two years ago from the Washington DC area.

Dr. Deborah M. Evans:

Deb has been employed by Capital Area Intermediate Unit as an Educational Consultant / Trainer for Transition Support for nearly 20 years. Prior to this assignment, she served for 6 years as a CAIU Vocational Learning Facilitator at Cumberland/Perry Area Vocational Technical School. She has worked as an educational / career placement counselor within the college community and as an assistant professor for the Department of Special Education at Bloomsburg University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. As a classroom teacher, she worked directly with students with moderate disabilities through community-based instruction and travel training experiences while employed for 5 years through Montgomery County IU #23.

Dr. Evans completed a doctorate in 1986 in Vocational Education with Special Needs Emphasis through the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master's degree in Special Education from Bloomsburg University of PA in 1979.

Linda Franchock:

Linda Franchock currently serves as an Educational Consultant and BCBA for the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) working with the autism initiative to provide consultation and training for staff serving students with autism and related disorders. Prior to coming to PaTTAN, Linda served as a consultant for the PA VB project for three years, where she provided training and guided practice to participating classrooms. Previous work also includes serving as a para-professional for State College Area School District, as well as an Itinerant Autistic Support teacher for Intermediate Unit 8.

Linda received her B.S. and M.S. in Special Education from Penn State University and has certification in elementary education. She completed her ABA coursework through Penn State University and is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. Linda has provided numerous trainings in the area of autism, applied behavior

analysis, and using Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior to teach language and other skills to students with autism

Paula Madey:

Paula joined Shippensburg University in 1998 as the Coordinator of Disability Services and was promoted to Director of Disability Services in 2005. Prior to coming to Shippensburg University, Ms. Madey was the Director of Placement at Metropolitan Rehabilitation Services in St. Louis, Missouri. She has also served as a consultant for the West Virginia State Attorney General's Office as well as families and school districts in Pennsylvania.

She earned a Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio in 1995. Ms. Madey has made national, state and regional presentations on topics dealing with transitioning to college and reasonable accommodations.

Liz Maher:

Liz Maher has extensive experience working in schools throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network's (PaTTAN) Autism Initiative. As part of the initiative, Liz trains teachers to use the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis and Skinner's Analysis of Verbal Behavior with their students with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Liz holds a Master's degree in Special Education with a minor in Applied Behavior Analysis and became a Board Certified Behavior Analyst in March 2008.

She is the co-founder of Data Makes the Difference, LLC and was the designer of the applications Behavior Tracker Pro and Skill Tracker Pro. She also has a teenage daughter with Autism.

Karen Schmick:

Mrs. Schmick is an itinerant elementary autism support/emotional support teacher for Northern York County School District. She's worked in this position for five years and previously was also a middle school emotional support teacher. Prior to coming to Northern, she was an elementary Life Skills Support teacher for Cumberland Valley School district. This is her 20th year of teaching.

Karen has a Bachelor's degree in Special Education and a masters in Elementary Education from Millersville University and certificates in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis from Penn State.

Chrissy Staats:

Ms. Staats is the itinerant autistic support teacher at Northern York Middle and High schools. She has worked in this position for two years. Prior to teaching at Northern York, Chrissy worked at Cumberland Valley as an autism support teacher and a learning support teacher. This is Ms. Staats's tenth year of teaching.

She has a Bachelor's degree in Special Education from Penn State University.

Katie Staub:

Katie is an Educational Consultant for the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN), working with the autism initiative and the special education paraprofessional initiative. Within the autism initiative, she provides consultation and training for staff serving students with autism and other related

disorders. Katie previously taught kindergarten through 4th grade as an autistic support teacher for 9 years at the Lincoln Intermediate Unit #12.

She has a Master's in Special Education and Bachelor's in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education.

Rhonda Toohey:

Mrs. Toohey is an itinerant elementary autism support/emotional support teacher for Northern York County School District. She has worked in this position for four years.

Rhonda has a Bachelor's degree in Special Education and Elementary Education from Lock Haven, and Art Education from Penn State University, along with multiple middle level teaching certifications.

Delilah R. L. Wilcox:

Delilah has been the Clinical Director for NHS Autism School Carlisle for the past six years. For the past 17 years, she has worked solely with individuals with autism. Starting as a direct care staff, TSS, BSC and MT, she also was Central Region Autism Director for 2 years before moving into the clinical position at the autism school.

Ms. Wilcox is a board member on the local Autism Society Chapter- Greater Harrisburg Area Chapter and gladly promotes autism awareness at every opportunity.

She holds a Master's degree in Psychology and received her Board Certified Behavior Analyst certification in 2005. Delilah resides with her family in Central Pennsylvania.

Alice Womer:

Mrs. Womer is an Educational Consultant employed by the Capital Area Intermediate Unit where she has worked for 29 years. She is a certified Speech Pathologist and holds a Master's degree in Speech and Language Pathology. She has worked extensively in the diagnosis and treatment of students with communication disorders related to Autism, Asperger Syndrome and other developmental disabilities.

Alice also does consulting work with IU staff and local school district staff regarding the communication needs of a wide variety of student populations.