

Friday, May 11, 2012

THE HELP GROUP'S

Advance LA

prep. launch. elevate.

C O N F E R E N C E

For Parents & Professionals

**Supporting Teens & Young Adults
in their Transition to Independence**



LOCATION American Jewish University | Los Angeles, CA

Advance LA is a program of The Help Group that provides individualized support services including one-on-one life skills coaching and workshops for young adults with unique challenges in their transition to adulthood.



www.thehelpgroup.org | www.advancela.org  

On their journey to adulthood, many young people with social challenges, learning differences and developmental delays find it difficult to achieve success independently.

At **Advance LA**, we answer one of the most frequently asked questions posed by parents of these teens and young adults: “What happens next?”

Advance LA offers three highly specialized, individualized and scientifically-based programs – prep, launch, elevate – which are age-specific and focused on developing and implementing interventions that are practical, successful and accessible.

Our services include one-on-one coaching; workshops for teens, young adults, parents and professionals; social opportunities including **club I.a.**, and college/career planning.

DIANE FLANNERY, PHD

Conference Director

Senior Director of Design & Strategy, The Help Group

SESSION SCHEDULE

7:00 AM-8:00 AM

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:00 AM-8:45 AM

Opening Proceedings

BARBARA FIRESTONE, PhD

President & CEO, The Help Group

Chair, Statewide Coordinating Council of Autism Taskforces of the Calif. Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders

SUSAN BERMAN, PhD

Chief Operating Officer, The Help Group

AMY-JANE GRIFFITHS, PhD

Director of Advance LA, The Help Group

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

select one

9:00 AM-10:30 AM

1A Executive Skills in Adolescents and Young Adults: Strategies for Assessment and Intervention (Part 1)

RICHARD GUARE, PhD, D-BCBA

Neuropsychologist & Director of The Center for Learning and Attention Disorders, Seacoast Mental Health Center, Portsmouth, NH

Co-Author of *Smart but Scattered, Coaching Students with Executive Skill Deficits*, and the forthcoming book *Smart But Scattered for Teens*

COLIN GUARE

Co-Author of *Smart but Scattered Teens*

1B Preparing for Transition to Independence: A Mindfulness-Based Approach

LIDIA ZYLOWSKA, MD

Co-founder of Mindful Awareness Research Center at UCLA

Author of *Mindfulness Prescription for Adult ADHD*

1C Evidence Based Practices and Quality of Life for Young Adults with Autism

PETER GERHARDT, EdD, BCBA

Director of Education at the McCarton School in New York City, Chairman of the Scientific Council for the Organization of Autism Research

10:45 AM-12:00 PM

2A Executive Skills in Adolescents and Young Adults: Strategies for Assessment and Intervention (Part 2)

RICHARD GUARE, PhD, D-BCBA

Neuropsychologist & Director of The Center for Learning and Attention Disorders, Seacoast Mental Health Center, Portsmouth, NH

Co-Author of *Smart but Scattered, Coaching Students with Executive Skill Deficits*, and the forthcoming book *Smart But Scattered for Teens*

COLIN GUARE

Co-Author of *Smart but Scattered Teens*

2B Parenting Outside the Box

FRANK SHAPIRO, MFT

Director of Student Development, North Hills Prep, The Help Group, Los Angeles, CA

Author of four books including *The Oppositional Teenager: A Parents' Survival Guide* and *Parenting Outside the Box*

2C Sexuality Instruction & ASD: What Parents and Professionals Need to Know

PETER GERHARDT, EdD, BCBA

Director of Education at the McCarton School in New York City, Chairman of the Scientific Council for the Organization of Autism Research

12:00PM-1:15PM

Lunch

LEE CHERNOTSKY, MBA

Director of Community Partnerships of Advance LA

Performance by
RIO WYLES

Rio, a rapper, performer, and composer is fast becoming the next big thing in the music industry. What makes Rio's story so inspiring is that he is diagnosed with ASD.

DAVID WYLES & JUDITH FELDMAN

A parents' perspective on helping your child maximize their strengths to realize their dreams.

1:15PM-2:30PM

3A The Building Blocks of Transition: Creating a Plan for Success

AMY-JANE GRIFFITHS, PhD

Director of Advance LA, The Help Group

JASON BOLTON, PsyD

Chief Psychologist, The Help Group

3B Substance Abuse and Transition: Practical Strategies for Assessment, Intervention and Support

SAVANNAH GANJE, MSW, ACSW; and JASON THOMAS

Milestones Ranch, Malibu

3C The Science of Making Friends: Teaching Social Skills to Adolescents and Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders

LIZ LAUGESON, PsyD

Director, The Help Group-UCLA Autism Research Alliance and UCLA PEERS Program

2:45PM-4:00PM

4A What you Need to Know: Identifying and Accessing Resources on a College Campus

Moderator

SARITA FREEDMAN, PhD

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Author of *Developing College Skills in Students With Autism and Asperger's Syndrome*

Expert Panel

JEFF ROSS, MA

Director of Student and Support Services, Taft College, Taft, CA

ELLEN WEISS-PHELPS, PhD

Coordinator of Psychological and Career Services at the American Jewish University, Los Angeles, CA

JODI JOHNSON, MEd

Director of California State University Northridge Office of Disability Resources and Educational Services, Northridge, CA

4B The Secrets to Finding and Keeping a Job

Moderator

LOU VISMARA, MD

Policy Consultant to Senator Darrell Steinberg

Board Chair, UC Davis MIND Institute

Expert Panel

DANIELLE HECK

Employment Specialist, Harbor Regional Center

RACHEL SPOONER

Program Supervisor, Best Buddies

HARVEY LAPIN, DDS

Autism Activist and Parent

4C Being Nerdy where Nerdy can be Cool: Preparing for and Surviving College 101

LARS PERNER, PhD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Marketing at the University of Southern California. Author of *Delightful Reflections: Quips, Conjectures, and Pontifications* as well as publications and articles on Asperger's Syndrome and related topics.

Continuing Education

According to the guidelines set forth by the accrediting organizations, to receive credits and your certificate, you **MUST SIGN IN** prior to the first session of the morning and **MUST SIGN OUT** at the conclusion of the day. 8 total credits. **NO PARTIAL CREDITS WILL BE GIVEN**

PSYCHOLOGISTS

The Help Group is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. This course is eligible for up to 8 hours of continuing education credits (provider #1444). The Help Group maintains responsibility for the program and its content.

SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS

This course has been approved for up to 8 hours of continuing education credits (provider #PDP86) by the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board.

SOCIAL WORKERS AND MFCC/MFT

The Help Group is an accredited provider for continuing education credits for LCSWs and MFCC/MFT (provider #PCE940). This course meets the qualifications for up to 8 hours of continuing education credits as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

The Help Group is approved by The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA) to assign continuing education for Occupational Therapists (provider #6193). This course is eligible for up to 8 hours of CEUs. The assignment of AOTA CEUs does not imply endorsement of specific course content, products or clinical procedures by AOTA. The Help Group maintains responsibility for the program and its content.

TEACHERS

Professional development hours are available.

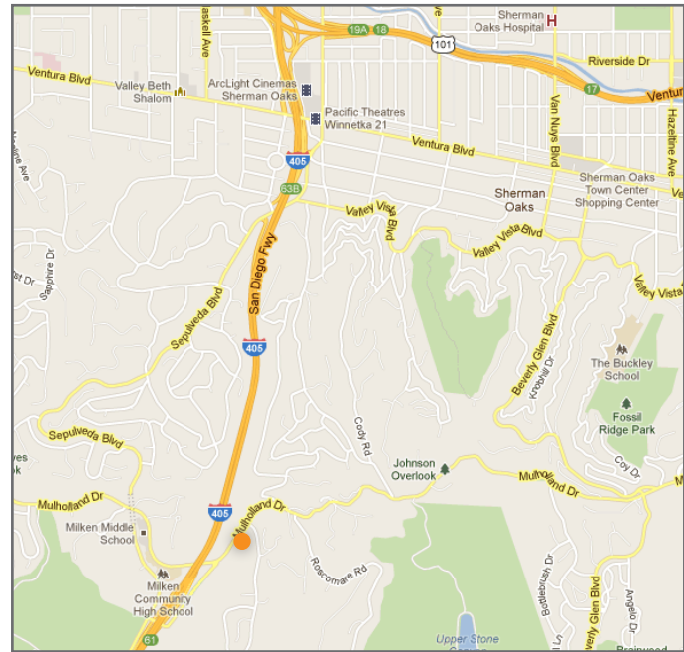
BCBA

Please contact us for details at advancelaconference@thehelpgroup.org

Conference Location

American Jewish University

15600 Mulholland Drive Los Angeles, CA 90077



Hotel Accommodations

For a discount please let the hotel know you are with The Advance LA Conference

LUXE SUNSET

11461 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90049

COURTYARD MARRIOTT

15433 Ventura Blvd.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

For More Information

advancelaconference@thehelpgroup.org

818.778.7140

www.advancela.org

www.thehelpgroup.org



or complete this form and mail/fax your registration and payment to

The Help Group ~ Advance LA

13130 Burbank Blvd ~ Sherman Oaks, CA 91401 | PHONE 818.778.7140 | FAX 818.947.5580

REGISTRATION

Early Bird Rates through April 13
Standard Rates after April 13

Please Print

FirstName _____

LastName _____

Profession(ifreceivingCE's)LicenseNumber _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZipCode _____

HmPh _____ WkPh _____

Fax _____ Email _____

PROFESSIONALS RECEIVING CEU CREDITS

Early Bird (through April 13).....\$110

Standard Rates (after April 13).....\$135

Continuing Education Category

- Psychologist MFCC/MFT LCSW
 Speech-Language Pathologist Occupational Therapist
 BCBA (please contact us for information)

PARENTS & OTHERS

Early Bird (through April 13).....\$75

Standard Rates (after April 13).....\$95

Regional Center Vendor Number: PL0230

STUDENTS

Early Bird (through April 13).....\$60

Standard Rates (after April 13).....\$75

Includes Breakfast & Lunch

Make check payable to: The Help Group

Charge my: Visa Mastercard Amex

CardNumber _____

Exp. Date _____ SecurityCode _____

Cardholder's Name (please print) _____

Signature _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS CONFERENCE?

- Mailing Help Group Web Site E-mail
 Conference Posting Other _____

SESSION SELECTION

CONCURRENT SESSIONS (select one)

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1C Evidence Based Practices and Quality of Life for Young Adults with Autism - Peter Gerhardt, EdD, BCBA

10:45 AM-12:00 PM

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2B Parenting Outside the Box- Frank Shapiro, MFT

2C Sexuality Instruction & ASD: What Parents and Professionals Need to Know - Peter Gerhardt, EdD, BCBA

1:15PM-2:30PM

3A The Building Blocks of Transition: Creating a Plan for Success - Amy-Jane Griffiths, PhD, Jason Bolton, PsyD

3B Substance Abuse and Transition: Practical Strategies for Assessment, Intervention and Support - Savannah Ganje, MSW, ACSW; and Jason Thomas

3C The Science of Making Friends: Teaching Social Skills to Adolescents and Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders - Liz Laugeson, PsyD

2:45PM-4:00PM

4A What you Need to Know: Identifying and Accessing Resources on a College Campus
Moderator: Sarita Freedman, PhD

Expert Panel: Jeff Ross, MA Ellen Weiss-Phelps, PhD, Jodi Johnson, MEd

4B The Secrets to Finding and Keeping a Job
Moderator: Lou Vismara, MD

Expert Panel: Danielle Heck, Rachel Spooner, Harvey Lapin, DDS

4C Being Nerdy Where Nerdy can be Cool: Preparing for and Surviving College 101 - Lars Perner, PhD

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13130 Burbank Boulevard
Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

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Since 1975, The Help Group has provided cutting edge programming for children and families with special needs. Advance LA is the next generation of ground-breaking services being offered by the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit of its kind in the United States.

At Advance LA we offer the answer to one of the most frequently asked questions by parents of teens and young adults with special needs, "What happens next?" We provide that much needed support that facilitates a greater level of independence for each of our clients based on their individual needs. The specialized and individualized nature of our program has allowed us to be successful with teens and young adults with a wide range of needs and diagnoses including: autism spectrum disorders, Asperger's syndrome, learning disabilities, executive functioning challenges, ADHD, and emotional and/or behavioral challenges including dual diagnosis.

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