Developing a Districtwide Autism Program: A **Training Model for Serving Students with ASD**



Research Guides Practice

National Professional Development Center on ASD and National Standards Report



http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/ www.nationalautismcenter.org

Research on **Professional Development**

□Content Focus ☐ Active Learning **□**Coaching

- To achieve **fidelity of implementation** of behaviorally based curricula, it requires a system-wide response at the local level via in-service training that provides for on-going support (National Autism Center, 2009).
- Research has documented that when teachers are **engaged in active learning** (observation, practice and collaboration with professionals) they are more likely to improve their practice (Lieberman, 1996; Louks-Horsley, Hewson, Love, & Stiles, 1998).
- The best staff training includes demonstration, coaching and follow-up training

Building Sustainable Systems of Support Within Local School Districts

What:

- Focus on positive outcomes for:
 - o Students, Staff and Parents

Why:

- Research guides us:
 - o Effective practices for students
 - o Effective staff development

- Empower school districts:
 - o Implementation and training sites throughout the state/district
 - Practical solutions for teachers
 - o District level coaches for sustainability

Use Evidence-Based Practices

Principles of ABA Task Analysis **Discrete Trial Training** Reinforcement Systems **Peer Mediated Instruction Schedules Visual Supports Aug Communication Self-Management** Modeling/Imitation **Pivotal Response Training**



How do we get there? Science into practice...... It's Hard!!

Use the National Standards Report and NPDC Reports as a guide:

Effective practices for students

Create practical solutions:

- Programs and services that are comprehensive, aligned with state and district goals
- Provide continuity among service-providers across all grade levels and classrooms within the district

Build capacity:

Establish Implementation Sites, Training Sites and District Coaches

Replicate effective practices: Use tools that can be replicated

We must make the transfer from "ideas" into practice to make a difference in schools

Teachers Need Tools



ORPATS Oregon Regional Program Autism Training Sites



ORPATS: Statewide Training Network

Established 42 School District Training Sites modeling research-based methods and established a cadre of school district coaches

Outcome data on student progress collected



Curricula for EI/ECSE and Elementary Level Children

Developmental curricula across all domains

- STAR Program (Strategies for Teaching based-on Autism Research, Arick, Loos, Falco and Krug, 2004)
- Parent training component at the EI/ECSE sites (Ingersoll and Dvortscak, Guilford Press, 2009)
- · Inclusion and mainstreaming
- Peer tutoring and peer buddies
- PECS (Pyramid Educational Consultants, 2005)
- Additional Augmentative Communication Systems
- Structured Teaching
- Incidental Teaching
- Commercial academic programs

The STAR Program



STAR Program(Arick, Loos, Falco and Krug, 2004)

How, What, Where......





Expressive Language (PRT)



Receptive Language (DT)



Routines-Arrival (FI

PROGRESS VIDEO



Routines-Handwashing (FR)



Spontaneous Language (Progress Video)

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Parent Component

Parent Training for Preschool and Elementary



Middle and High School Students



Themes:

- Independence and Self-Determination
- Functional and Generalized Skills
- Strength-Based Curriculum
- Post-Secondary Transition and Employability

Content:

- Expressive/Receptive Language
- Academics in the Context of Daily Life
 Routines
- Social Communication
- · Complex Vocational Tasks
- Functional Daily Routines



Assessment and Instruction for Secondary Students



Monitor Progress

School Job Routine (#27) Recycling



Training Process

- ♦ Workshops
- Training in assessment and program development
- ♦ Classroom consultation
- Fidelity of implementation checklists



Individual Student Supports and Planning



Variety of Research-based **Tools Provided**



Example Fidelity Checklists: Preschool/Elem

	_			_		_	_			
Staff Standards	Teacher			At least one Instructional Assistant			At least one Specialist			Comments If you need additional space, please us back of this form.
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	
ABA Program Finning and Implementation Can demonstrate the three behavioral methods (DT, PRT, FR).			X			X			X	
Can manage student behavior using the basic behavioral poinciples. Can manage student behavior using appropriate consequences.			X			X		F	X	
Can observe assecodents in order to change behavior.			X			X			X	
Can use data to modify DT/PRT/PR programs and report progress. Can get child's attention and provide an appropriate cur.			X			X			X	
Can describe the use of a functional assessment, behavior plans, and data collection for making decisions to change behavior.			x		100	À			x	
Can complete the student learning profile and explain it to parents and others.			X						X	
Can select appropriate DT/PRT/FR programs for each student based on the student learning profile or other curriculars based assessments.			X					Г	X	
Reinforces child at appropriate times to increase appropriate behavior			X						X	
Can teach parents to help their child learn to generalize skills at horse.			X						X	
Can modify his/her behavior in order to accommodate the student's behavioral needs (e.g., makes tasks easier when needed, provides needed resulforcers to prevent behavior issues, vanies programs at needed).			X						X	
Using ARA programs, can teach 13 morphise language, 23 expressive language, 33 spontaneous language, 43 social interaction and play, 53 functional routines, and 63 processforms skills. NOTE: if help is needed to neach any of these 6 skill aroun, please list the skill where teaching help is needed in the comments section.			x			X			X	
Discrete Trial (DT)										
Can demonstrate DT basic tracking strategies (e.g., cus/response/consequence, correction procedures, and data collection).			X			X		П	X	
Can demonstrate DT introduction procedures for introducing new target skills during instruction.			X			X			X	
Can demonstrate DT advanced strategies (e.g., programming, generalizing skills, fading)			X			X			X	
Can demonstrate how to implement DT initial level programs (e.g., object imitation, musching, receptive labels)		Г	X			X			X	
Can demonstrate how to implement DT mid level programs (e.g., accelerated labels, identifying people, emotions)			X			X			X	
Can demonstrate how to implement DT advanced. level programs (e.g., functions of objects, opposites, academics)			X			X			X	-not often needing this level but would be fine it they did

OrPATS Consumer Survey: Spring 2012

- Did you receive on-site support in your classroom?
 - YesNo 97.9%
- 2.1%
- Was the support helpful?
 - Strongly Agree 77.8% Agree 22.2% Disagree Strongly Disagree 0%
- Given the level of support you received, were you able to implement some of the strategies suggested?
 - Yes

The complete survey results are available at www.orpats.org

OrPATS Training Site Fidelity of Implementation Data: Spring 2012 (Average Rating of 42 Training Sites)

Fidelity Area Teacher Instructional **Autism** Assistant Specialist **ABA Program Planning** 2.90 2.75 2.94 Discrete Trial Training 2.91 2.92 2.80 Pivotal Response Area 2.77 2.62 2.85 **Functional Routines** 2.82 2.76 2.93 **Classroom Environment** 2.91 n/a n/a **Student Programs** 2.64 n/a n/a

Overall Average

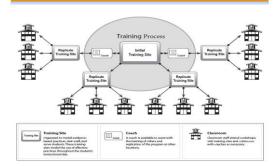
Key: 1.0= Needs help with this; 2.0= Can implement; 3.0 Proficient level A rating of 2.5 or above is expected for ORPATS Training Sites

2.84

2.74

2.92

Empower School Districts Administration, Instructional Staff, Parents, Students Training Site Development Process



Additional Components of a District Wide Model

❖ASD Program Self-Assessment



Obtain further information on the Self-Assessment at: sa.orpats.org

- ❖ General Education Training
 - ❖ An On-line resource to train General Educators



OrPATS Website: www.orpats.org





Easter Seals Arkansas

Outreach Program

Support school districts throughout the state of Arkansas in implementing evidence-based instructional practices for students with ASD across the grade range (preschool through secondary)

- Summer weekly "Basic Training" and now a new and improved version called "CONNECT"
- Workshops and in-classroom coaching throughout the school year
- Coordinate with local school districts, state education department and Arkansas Autism Commission

Easter Seals Presentation:

Saturday April 11th 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM SUSTAINABLE STAFF DEVELOPMENT by Debbie Ware

Outcome Data Easter Seals Preschool



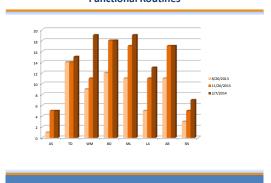
2013-2014 Results: Discrete Trial



2013-2014 Results: Pivotal Response Training



2013-2014 Results: Functional Routines



The Philadelphia AIMS Project

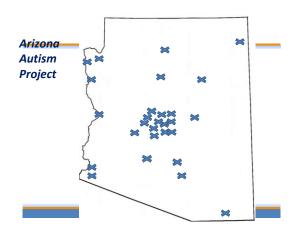
The Philadelphia Autism Instructional Methods Study (AIMS) represents an academic-public per persents and to improve intervention quality for elementary school children with autism in the School District of Philadelphia.

AIMS continues to support more than 120 classroom teams in kindergarten-through-5th-grade autism support classrooms across the School District of Philadelphia.

The Philly Aims Project conducted a randomized control trial study of the STAR Program directed by Dr. David Mandell. In a presentation at the 2014 National Council for Exceptional Children's Conference, Dr. David Mandell stated that students in the K–3 classrooms that implemented the STAR Program with fidelity made significantly greater IQ gains than students in the control group.

Philly AIMS





Arizona Early Childhood Autism Project Goals

2012-2014

Provided training and curriculum materials to 27 early childhood teams throughout the state in evidence-based practices for students with ASD.

2014-2015

- · Expanded project to include elementary teams.
- Address program specific needs to assist in implementation of curriculum.
- Assist teams when transitioning students from preschool to school age.

2015-2017

- Expand project to include secondary teams.
- Establish regional Training Sites

How Will These Goals Be Accomplished?

- 1. Comprehensive Workshop (3 days)
 - a. Knowledge: a. ASD

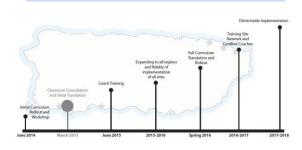
 - b. Evidence-based strategiesc. Behavioral Principles

 - b. Strategies
 a. DT, PRT, Functional Routines, PBIS
 c. Programming for individual student needs and team planning for implementation
- 2. Materials for Implementation
 - a. Fidelity of implementation
 - b. Consistency between staff
- 3. On site program implementation and hands-on training
 - a. 4 days per school team
 - b. 1 day workshop/collaboration meeting at end of year

Puerto Rico Project



Phase 2 Progress Progreso Fase 2



Puerto Rico Autism Project Web Page Página cibernética: Proyecto de Autismo de PR



Spring 2015 Plan

♦ Develop Implementation and Training Sites

♦ Evaluate Student and Fidelity of Implementation



♦ Needs Analysis, Feasibility Study and Bilingual Programs (localized curriculum)

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Positive Student Outcomes Through Comprehensive Districtwide Solutions

