SUMMER-- University of Washington Autism Center (UWAC) Caregiver Support & Resource ZOOM Group

The University of Washington Autism Center (UWAC) is starting a support and resource group for UWAC families. This will be open to caregivers of all clients 12 and under currently receiving services at the UWAC including applied behavior analysis (ABA) services, speech-language therapy and/or summer camp. In addition, caregivers of children diagnosed with autism in the past 3 years at UWAC who are either awaiting or receiving intervention services elsewhere are welcome. Again, children must be 12 and under and have ASD.*

The group will be facilitated by Jessica Greenson, Ph.D., Director of Clinical Services at UWAC, a psychologist with expertise in the early diagnosis of ASD and support/navigation of services in the early years. Dr. Greenson is an ESDM certified practitioner who has supervised our ABA clinicians in both research and clinic settings for many years.

The group will start with an overview of the topic for discussion (e.g., helping family members understand ASD, self-care, DDA/respite, planning for the future, neurodiversity, identity first vs. disability first language, sibling support, evidenced based intervention strategies such as ABA) followed by an opportunity to share as a group and/or in break-out rooms for more intimate discussions.

This is meant to be a safe and supportive space for group members to share experience, ask questions and support one another, without judgment.

Group will meet twice a month on Fridays from 12-1 PM via Zoom starting June 3. Suggested donation of \$10 per week in attendance can be made at the UWAC (<u>https://give.uwmedicine.org/supporting-families-affected-by-autism/</u>). Please indicate in the note section that this is for group. Dates: June 3, 17, July 1, 15, 29, August 12 & 26.

Please send inquiries to Dr. Greenson at <u>greenson@uw.edu</u> or register to get the Zoom link at <u>https://redcap.iths.org/surveys/?s=CD8KLX9MX3XJP9XX</u>. We hope to see many of you there!

*We will collect information on interest for parents/caregivers of older children and hold a group at a later date if there is enough interest.