

Summer 2022 Newsletter



UW AUTISM CENTER
CENTER ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & DISABILITY
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

UWAC AUTISM STORIES

New Episode! Marikay and Maci

In this installment of Autism Stories, Marikay talks with her almost 16 year old daughter, Maci, about autism, her service dog, and other favorite topics.

The University of Washington Autism Center: [Autism Stories Project](#) is an idea inspired by [StoryCorps](#), based on the belief that everyone has an important story to share, and that these stories connect and strengthen us. We invite 2 people to have a conversation about how their lives have been touched by autism, and we audio-record these conversations so that others may hear.



Do you have an Autism Story to share? If you would like to learn more about this project, please contact Dr. Kelly Johnson at uwautism@uw.edu.

[Click here to listen!](#)

APEX Summer Camp



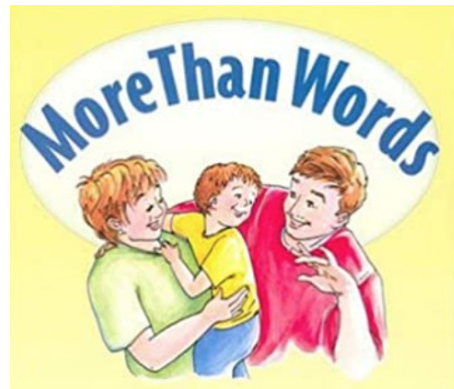
A Decade of Camp!

The APEX Summer Camp program at the UW Autism Center is designed to provide advanced peer experiences for children with autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, and related disorders. APEX focuses on building social and behavioral skills in real-world environments. APEX celebrated its tenth summer this July! In addition to serving as a day camp for children, APEX also serves as a clinical internship site for graduate and undergraduate students, as well as professionals in the field. APEX trained 80 staff members this summer and served over 150 campers! Camp Nurses **Rikhia Chatterjee, BSN** and **Rebecca L. Ebsworth, BSN, RN** (pictured

Clinical Services

New Group Starts September 2nd!

Hanen "More Than Words" is an 8 week parent group specifically designed for parents of young children (under 6) with ASD. It is an evidence-based program designed to teach and empower parents to build interactions and communication with practical tools in everyday activities, meeting the child where they are at and following their lead. At the same time they will build connections and find support from other parents with similar experiences.



[Learn More](#)

UWAC Training

Registration is now open for University of Washington Autism Center's Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule 2nd ed. (ADOS-2) workshops in September! The ADOS-2 is a standardized diagnostic tool considered to be the "gold standard" in diagnosing autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Workshops will be held in person on UW Seattle campus.

[ADOS-2 Introductory Clinical Workshop](#)

Monday-Tuesday, September 19-20, 2022

9:00 AM-4:30 PM PT

UW Seattle Campus

[ADOS-2 Toddler Module Workshop](#)

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

8:00 AM-3:00 PM PT

UW Seattle Campus

[ADOS-2 Advanced Research Workshop](#)

Thursday-Friday, September 22-23, 2022

9:00 AM-4:30 PM PT

UW Seattle Campus



[Learn More About Our Trainings](#)

Early Autism ECHO

Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a participatory online cohort of EI providers working with children with autism three and younger. Our goal is to increase knowledge and support around resources and navigation for providers serving families of children with autism.



[Click here to learn about our ECHO for Early Intervention Educators, SLPs, OTs, and BCBA's!](#)

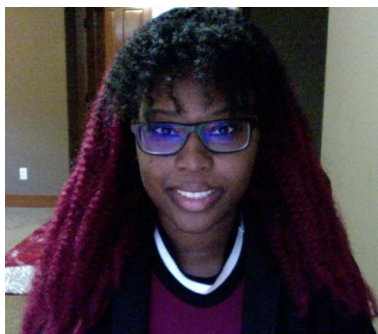
[Click here to learn more about our ECHO: Navigation For EI Providers](#)

Staff Spotlight



Flo Perry has worked at the clinic since December 2021 after transitioning from scheduling for UW Medicine's primary and specialty care clinics. Born in Zimbabwe and raised between there and sunny California; Flo, her partner, young child, and pup relocated to Washington two years ago. She studied Public Policy & Social Development at the University of Cape Town and has worked in a variety of fields (from aerospace to healthcare, with stints at King Canyon & Bryce Canyon National Parks in between). Flo found her way to UWAC when her own child was diagnosed as autistic last fall and is passionate about connecting families to resources, socio-economic justice, and improving healthcare inequities. In her free time, Flo enjoys baking, camping, photography, and road trips.

Chelsea Deaconson, M.Ed., BCBA., LBA is the Lead BCBA in the ABA LAUNCH program and a member of the Training and Consultation Services team. Chelsea received her M. Ed. from Washington State University and earned her BCBA credential in 2018. Chelsea has worked with autistic children, teens, and adults in center, home, and community settings. She also has experience in staff training, parent training and center management. Chelsea is passionate about partnering with autistic individuals and their families to find practical strategies to teach important skills. Outside of the office, she loves baking, hiking, snowshoeing, and exploring the PNW.



Alexxia Woods, M.A. is a graduate student in the Counseling Psychology program at Northwest University. Alexxia received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Washington, and her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Northwest University. She is currently completing a practicum at the UW Autism Center.



Cale Smart is a graduate student studying Counseling Psychology at Northwest University. He is excited to be participating at UWAC as a graduate student trainee. He is fascinated by human development and how each person develops uniquely along their own arch. Outside of school and work, Cale loves being a father to his son, Oliver, and going on hikes with his family and their dog Maisie.



Sandy Dempsey (she/her) is a graduate student in University of Washington's School of Social Work, specializing in clinical social work for young children and their families. She is currently engaging in a practicum with the On-Time Autism Intervention (OTAI) team at the UW Autism Center.



A RESOURCE HOME FOR THE ASD COMMUNITY IN WASHINGTON STATE TO CONNECT ONLINE THROUGH THE AS360 FAMILY NAVIGATION PLATFORM (FNP)

FEATURES INCLUDE:

- ▶ Life Stages Checklists - to help families navigate their ASD journey
- ▶ Resource Finder - find resources that fit your needs
- ▶ Self-Assessments - modeled after what providers would ask
- ▶ Book Learning Center, Community Forum and more!

Seattle Children's and the UW are collaborating on AS360, a family navigation platform! It's focused on improving outcomes for individuals and families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Washington State through timely access to care, resources, information and community for individuals and families. We encourage you to visit the site, create an account, and browse the available assessments, resources and more! www.as360.org

If you're an autism resource provider, complete the [survey](#) to be added to the resource database!

Participate in research on how children learn – from home!

The NeuDLL Lab at the University of Washington (PI: Sara Kover) is conducting a remote study on how children learn new words.

Eligibility:

autism, ages 5 to 10 years

fragile X syndrome, ages 5 to 10 years

neurotypical, ages 2 to 6 years

Tell us you're interested with this quick form: <https://redcap.link/neudll>

Participants receive an electronic gift card (\$20)

To learn more,
contact us at:
NeuDLL@uw.edu
or 206-685-2202



UW College of Education Graduate Research Study

Recruiting! The purpose of this project is to work with parents and caregivers to help them facilitate the communication skills of their children with disabilities. All session activities will be done at home via video conferencing.

We are looking for families who:

- Have a 1–7-year-old child with a disability or developmental delays
- Are not currently receiving in-home behavioral services
- Are on a waiting list to receive services

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Contact: Katelin A. Hobson, M.S., BCBA, LBA, Doctoral Candidate Katelh@uw.edu



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