2018 Conference Overview

8:30-8:45am  Introduction  Berg Hall
8:45-10:20am  Keynote Panel: Living in Community  Berg Hall
10:20-10:35am  Break
10:35am-noon  Autism Data / RC Directors Forum
   Transition Planning for Non RC Clients  Berg Hall
Noon-12:15pm  Please pick up your bag lunch  Foyer
12.15-1.10pm  Lunch discussion groups or presentations —13 options
1.15-2.20pm  Flash Talks on Enriching Our Community
   Women’s Health, Hormonal Management  Berg Hall
   Estate and Financial Planning  LK120
   Or choose from 7 breakout groups
2:20-2:35pm  Break
2.34-3.40pm  Residential Solutions for Challenging Behaviors
   Closing the Cannabis Gap  Berg Hall
   Special Needs Trusts, SSI, Conservatorship 101  LK130
   Or choose from 7 breakout groups
3:40-3:55pm  Break
3:55-5:00pm  Innovations in Employment
   Accessory Dwelling Units  LK120
   Navigating the Maze of Special Needs Planning  LK130
   Or choose from 7 breakout groups

Details start on page 4
Welcome to our fifth annual conference

ISO: the Mary Poppins of Autism

Funny how it happens, but every year my children grow older, as do I. My two kids with nonverbal autism—Jonny, a strapping young man of 19, and Sophie, an energetic 12 year-old smile machine—will surely outlive me, and before that, outlive my ability to care for them.

No amount of yoga classes or kale salads can ward off the harsh reality that inevitably my earthsuit will crumble, leaving my severely disabled, hyper-vulnerable kids as adult orphans. This sucks. It’s terrifying. They need and deserve perma-parents who can safeguard and support them, but unless an ageless Mary Poppins of Autism appears out of nowhere, no such miracle is forthcoming.

The grim truth for most of us is that we face crushing responsibilities — to help our kids today and into a distant future — responsibilities that often feel impossible to discharge. We are often case managers, conservators, IHSS managers, IPP advocates, SSI payees, special needs trusts trustees, trainers, employment supervisors, ABLE managers, hair washers, cooks, iPod fixers, launderers, medical advocates, recreation leaders, and of course, panicky prognosticators. Against this backdrop, just making it to Stanford for a one-day conference can seem quite the ordeal.

Nevertheless we convene each year precisely because we know that pragmatic planning and advocacy today can help our children tomorrow. Even if Mary P. floats down from above, we need robust public benefits, solid legal and financial plans, strong IPPs, a community that understands and supports our special kids, the widest array of living, work and supervision options. Our theme this year reflects our community’s yearning for a true “Spectrum of Choice” to address the immensely diverse lifespan needs.

We are incredibly fortunate to feature five keynote speakers discussing intentional communities for adults with I/DD from across the country as our keynote speakers, and all four Bay Area regional center directors addressing pressing issues facing our community, in addition to honored guests, including Dr. Michael Policar from UCSF, Lauren Libero and Tiffani Andrade from DDS, Steve Keisman from Identifor, and many others sharing ideas and insights for financial and legal planning, housing, transition, employment, and health care.

We are grateful to our generous sponsors, talented speakers, conference committee, tireless board and volunteers, and the Stanford Autism Center at Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital. SFASA is a volunteer-run nonprofit aiming to build a stronger autism community here in the Bay Area, and we could not do our work without you.

Jill Escher
President, Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area
Conference chair
Conference FAQs

What if my preferred breakout session is full?
Please go to your Plan B. We regret that sessions may fill up, but note that many of our speakers are presenting at multiple times—by design there is lots of redundancy in this event, please check the schedule. In addition, mainstage sessions will be taped so you can watch them later.

Where can I access the mainstage videos after the conference?
On our website, sfautismsociety.org.

What about lectures and breakouts? Will those be taped?
No, we are only videotaping mainstage (Berg Hall) sessions. However, we will ask our presenters to share PDFs of their materials on our website after the conference.

How can I access Spanish translation?
For real-time translation of mainstage session, please use your cell and call: (319) 527-4192.
Para la traducción al español, por favor llame: (319) 527-4192.
Livestream en español: http://www.facebook.com/shareavision

What if I don’t want to be recorded?
If you prefer not to show up on livestream or video of mainstage sessions, please save your questions for presenters for the breaks when the cameras are off.

Where are the breakouts?
LK120 and LK130 are large lecture halls on the first floor. Please take the elevator or stairs.
LK101/102 is also on the first floor, toward the front of the building (toward Campus Dr)
The LK2xx rooms are located on the second floor, to the left of Berg Hall.
The LK3xx rooms are located on the third floor. Please take the elevator or stairs.

What’s for lunch?
We are providing bag lunch with sandwich, fruit, cookie and water.

How do I access Stanford wifi?
(1) Select the SSID Stanford Visitor from your device’s list of available wireless networks.
(2) Open a browser and load any URL; you will be redirected to an access page (on a mobile phone, the access page should open automatically).
(3) Click Accept to acknowledge the terms of use. Your browser will be sent to a confirmation page, and from there you can get online.

Are there charging stations?
Yes, look for them at the rear of Berg Hall.

I brought flyers to share, where to leave them?
Please leave them at the General Information Tables near registration.

Where can I find SFASA on social media?
Find us on Facebook: facebook.com/AutismSocietySanFranciscoBayArea
Find us on Twitter: @SFAutismSociety
Conference hashtag: #SFASA2018

How can I give feedback about the conference?
We will circulate a survey via email after the event.

Other questions? info@sfautismsociety.org. Thank you for joining us today!
SESSION 1: KEYNOTE PANEL

INTRODUCTION: Jill Escher, president, Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area  Berg Hall

KEYNOTE PANEL — LIVING IN COMMUNITY: RESIDENTIAL OPTIONS DESIGNED TO ENRICH THE LIVES OF ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Each year, SFASA brings our audience a taste of models and programs from far beyond our borders. This year we are pleased to feature five renowned intentional communities.

Moderator: Ashley Kim, Elevare Community

Krista Mason, Founder and Executive Director, Benjamin’s Hope, Michigan
k.mason@benjaminshope.net
Benjamin’s Hope is a nonprofit “live, work, play, worship” community designed to address the multifaceted needs of individuals and families affected by autism and I/DD. Opened in 2013, it is inspired by Krista’s son, Ben, now 23 and profoundly impacted by autism. It celebrates that all people are uniquely created, and deserve a life of purpose and dignity. The 40-acre farmstead campus has become a destination for families and West Michiganders of all abilities to find friendship, meaningful work, and belonging.

Jim Whittaker, President and CEO, The Arc Jacksonville, and Arc of Putnam County, Florida
jwhittaker@arcjacksonville.org
The Arc Jacksonville Village is an affordable rental housing community in suburban Jacksonville that opened in May 2016. This apartment-style neighborhood features 97 one- and two-bedroom units and is home for 121 individuals. It has become a national residential prototype of independent living for adults with cognitive differences. Jim also provides consulting services nationally for the development of quality, inclusive housing options and actively promotes community-based employment opportunities.

James Stacey, President, and Scott McAvoy, Vice President of Operations, Marbridge, Texas
jstacey@marbridge.org, smcavoy@marbridge.org
Marbridge is a nonprofit residential community that offers transitional and lifetime care to adults with a wide range of cognitive abilities and, through compassion and faith, provides them opportunities to learn, work, and grow. Our speakers help manage programs for 240 residents, 200+ employees and 200 volunteers, working alongside an active board of directors, to promote and maintain the values that uphold the mission of Marbridge. founded in 1953. From the beginning it charted a dramatically different course compared to the institutions of the day.

Aaron Vorell, Executive Director, Casa de Amma, San Juan Capistrano, California
avorell@casadeamma.org
Casa de Amma is a nonprofit Independent Apartment Community (IAC) for adults with special needs, established in 2004. Aaron helped establish Casa as a unique model program for adults who want to achieve a greater level of independence, while also maintaining close social relationships and a sense of community. Casa has since grown a long waiting list and expanded services to those living in the local community. Aaron also created the IAC Group, promoting this often preferred option for housing and supports for those with I/DD.

Richard Neal, President, Camphill Village Copake Foundation, New York richard@camphillvillage.org
Camphill communities and affiliates are life-sharing communities where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and staff, called coworkers, live and work alongside each other. There are now 16 Camphill communities and Affiliates in North America and over 100 worldwide. Richard has lived in Camphill Communities for over 40 years—here and in Europe. He has held many positions in that time: Gardener, Executive Director, Director of Development and more as needed by the community.
10:35-noon  SESSION 2

AUTISM IN THE DDS: A DATA UPDATE  Berg Hall
Lauren Libero, Autism Specialist, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

REGIONAL CENTER DIRECTORS FORUM
The forum, featuring all four Bay Area regional center directors, will address a variety of policy, program, IPP, and housing issues. Moderator: Jill Escher
Javier Zaldivar  San Andreas Regional Center
Eric Zigman  Golden Gate Regional Center
Lisa Kleinbub  Regional Center of the East Bay
Gabriel Rogan  North Bay Regional Center

Or

TRANSITION PLANNING FOR NON REGIONAL CENTER CLIENTS  LK120
Jan Johnston-Tyler, EvoLibri  Presenter
Andy Aczel, Specialists Guild  Supported vocational training
Michael Noel, CIP  Supported college
Meg Fields, Aspen Network  Supported transition

Noon-12:15  GRAB A BOX LUNCH

12:15-1:10pm  SESSION 3—LUNCH GROUPS and PRESENTATIONS

CHAT WITH “LIVING IN COMMUNITY” KEYNOTE PANELISTS  Berg Hall
• Krista Mason: Creating a community of faith for adults with autism
• Jim Whittaker and Aaron Vorell: Independent apartment communities for adults with DDs
• Scott McAvoy, James Stacey: Creating a continuum of care
• Richard Neal: Therapeutic possibilities in work in agriculture
(Our panelists will be located at the four corners of Berg Hall, after the session please return chairs to original theater style. Thank you.)

CLOSING THE CANNABIS GAP: EPIDIOLEX AND CANNABIDIOL  LK120
Interest in medical cannabis for treatment of seizures, anxiety, behaviors, and sleep issues has been growing. But what does the science tell us so far?
• Lawrence Fung, MD, PhD, Stanford, moderator, presenter
• Fiona Baumer, MD, Stanford
• Deb Karhson, PhD, Stanford
• David Traver, MD

INTRO TO CONSERVATORSHIPS  LK130
When your child turns 18 he or she is considered a legal adult. But in many cases conservatorships or alternatives such as power of attorney are necessary to protect their interests.
• Lorna Drope, Special Needs Law Group
LUNCH GROUP WITH SARC’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Javier Zaldivar, Executive Director, SARC
- Sara Kole, moderator

LUNCH GROUP WITH RCEB’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director, RCEB
- Feda Almaliti, moderator

LUNCH GROUP WITH NBRC’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director, NBRC
- Stephen Prutsman, moderator

LUNCH GROUP WITH GGRC’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Eric Zigman, Executive Director, GGRC
- Denise Haas, moderator

SERVICE DOGS FOR TEENS/ADULTS WITH AUTISM
MTR’s service dogs are raised, socialized, and trained to help overcome the specific challenges of adults, children, and families who face the challenges of autism, post-traumatic stress, and anxiety issues.
- Elise Lalor, Tim Houweling, Monkey Tail Ranch, Hollister

GROUP LLC MODELS FOR SUPPORTED HOUSING, WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
With few housing options available in the community parent groups sometimes pool their resources to create new residential developments suitable for their adult children. Two leaders share their experience.
- Anna Wang, Peralta Apartments, LLC, Fremont
- Sarah Fairchild, Coastal Haven Families, LLC, Santa Cruz

MEET WITH DDS: Autism in the DDS and the DDS Safety Net
Want to learn more from our friends in Sacramento? This is an opportunity to learn more about autism in the DDS, and the crisis care DD safety net in California. Cathy McCoy, Mission Analytics, moderator.
- Tiffani Andrade, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Development and Housing, DDS
- Lauren Libero, Autism Specialist, DDS

1:10-1:15pm SHORT BREAK

1:15-2:20pm SESSION 4
FLASH TALKS: ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY
How can we enrich community life for individuals and families affected by autism/DD? Here we have short talks about services, first responders, siblings, informational resources, and even dogs.
Olenka Villarreal, moderator.
- Stanford’s Neurodiversity Initiative
- Inclusive Community: Magical Bridge
- Service Dogs for Autism
- GapMap Autism Resource Database
- Addressing Wandering in Adults with Autism
- The Siblings Connection

SFASA 2018 Conference Program
Finally, a conference session devoted to the important topic of female health. Michael Policar, MD, MPH, is Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine.

• Michael Policar, MD, UCSF

ESTATE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR LOVED ONES WITH DISABILITIES

What is available through public benefits? What are the options for special needs trusts and right financial tools to support and protect your loved one throughout their life?

Jon Elfin
Financial Planner, Sagemark Consulting
Kevin Urbatsch
Urbatsch Law Firm

ADU'S: AN EMERGING OPTION FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM/DD

An introduction to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), the legislative and regulatory environment designed to encourage ADUs, training and technical assistance resources, and a case study.

Jan Stokley
Housing Choices, moderator, presenter
Carol Berg
City of Santa Cruz
Craig Mizushima
Housing Trust of Silicon Valley
Bill Palmer
Parent
Heather Peters
San Mateo County Home For All

RESIDENTIAL HOMES: A PARENT’S GUIDE; AND STAFF TRAINING

Interested in residential group homes? Staff training (so important)! This session is for you.

Susan LeRitz, Life Services Alternatives
Benefits of Group Housing Models
Heidi Morgan, PhD, BCBA-D
Continuing Education For Support Staff

INDEPENDENT APARTMENT COMMUNITIES FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM/DD

IACs are an important emerging model for providing supported, affordable housing for adults with DDs.

Aaron Vorell
Casa de Amma, San Juan Capistrano
Jim Whittaker
Arc Jacksonville Village, Florida

DEVELOPING INDEPENDENCE

Leaders of two dynamic programs share their accumulated wisdom for promoting independence in young adults with autism and Aspergers.

Janet Lawson
Autistry Studios, San Rafael
Dan Swearingen
Autistry Studios
Meg Fields
Aspen Network, Orinda

USING PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING TO INFORM YOUR CHILD’S SERVICES

What are some of the person-centered considerations to improve planning for your loved one?

Jeff Darling
Associate Director, Community Services, SARC
Amanda Pyle
Director, Community Services Unit, GGRC
Ethan Robinson
Vendor perspective

FUNDING THE SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST: HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

How much one should leave for the benefit of a family member with a disability? What are different financial tools for funding Special Needs Trusts, including life insurance and other investments. Also discussed will be frameworks for determining the level of funding needed.

• Mark Gilfix, Gilfix & LaPoll

(Continued on page 10)
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<th>Housing</th>
<th>Medical</th>
<th>Legal/financial</th>
<th>Policy/governance</th>
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### ROOM —> Berg Hall (mainstage) | Lecture Hall LK120 | Lecture Hall LK130 | LK203/204 |

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.30-8.45am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<td>Keynote Panel: “Living in Community”</td>
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<td>SESSION 3</td>
<td>Meet the “Living in Community” keynote panelists</td>
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<td>SESSION 4</td>
<td>Flash talks: Enriching Our Community</td>
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<td>SESSION 5</td>
<td>Residential Solutions for Adults with Challenging Behaviors</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>3.55-5pm</td>
<td>SESSION 6</td>
<td>Innovations in Employment for Adults with Autism/DD</td>
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**SESSION 1**

- Keynote Panel: "Living in Community"

**SESSION 2**

- Autism Data in the DDS & Regional Center Directors Forum
- Transition and Services for Non Regional Center Clients

**SESSION 3**

- Meet the "Living in Community" keynote panelists
- Closing the Cannabis Gap: Epidiolex and Cannabidiol
- Intro to Conservatorships and Legal Alternatives to Protect Your Adult Child with Autism/DD

**SESSION 4**

- Flash talks: Enriching Our Community
- Clinical Pearls for Contraceptive Management for Adult Women with Autism/DD
- Estate and Financial Planning for Loved Ones with Disabilities
- Accessory Dwelling Units: an Emerging Option for Adults with Autism/DD
- Residential Homes — A Roadmap for Parents; and Training for Staff
- Independent Apartment Communities for Adults with DDs
- Developing Independence: Autistry Studios and Aspen Network
- Using Person-Centered Planning to Inform Your Child's Services
- Funding the Special Needs Trust: How much is enough?

**SESSION 5**

- Residential Solutions for Adults with Challenging Behaviors
- Accessory Dwelling Units: an Emerging Option for Adults with Autism/DD
- Special Needs Trusts, SSI, and Conservatorship 101
- Mindfulness Skills for Parents
- Work for All Abilities & “Shifting the Employment Paradigm with Cutting Edge Tech”
- Preparing Young Adults for Workplace & Social Franchising, Creating Employment
- Showing of "Extraordinary People," a Film About Employment
- Using Person-Centered Planning to Inform Your Child's Services
- The Sib Connection: Understanding How Siblings Contribute to Caregiving
- Managing Behavioral Challenges
- Service Dogs for Teens and Adults with Autism
- The Sib Connection: Understanding How Siblings Contribute to Caregiving
- Residential Homes — A Roadmap for Parents; and Training for Staff
- Parent-Created Autism/DD Friendly Housing Developments
- Using Person-Centered Planning to Inform Your Child's Services
- Funding the Special Needs Trust: How much is enough?

**SESSION 6**

- Innovations in Employment for Adults with Autism/DD
- Accessory Dwelling Units: an Emerging Option for Adults with Autism/DD
- Navigating the Maze of Special Needs Planning
- Mindfulness Skills for Parents
- Work for All Abilities & “Shifting the Employment Paradigm with Cutting Edge Tech”
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- Using Person-Centered Planning to Inform Your Child's Services
- Funding the Special Needs Trust: How much is enough?

**Breaks**

- Short break
- Lunch groups
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**Meeting Rooms**

- Berg Hall
- Lecture Hall LK120
- Lecture Hall LK130
- LK203/204
- LK205/206
- LK208
- LK209
- LK304/305
- LK306
- LK308
TRANSITION TO LIFE AFTER SCHOOL (En español) LK101/102
Esta sesión en español se centrará en temas de planificación para la vida después de la escuela.
• Martha Johanson, chair
• Claudia Harty, Disparity Project Manager, PHP
• Esmeralda García-Martínez, Bilingual Education Specialist, PHP
• Lisa Navarro, Disability Rights California
• Minerva Valdez, Rosa Linda Olgas, SARC
• Rafael Ponce, parent
• Luis Castilla, parent

2:20-2:35pm BREAK

2.35-3.40pm SESSION 5

RESIDENTIAL SOLUTIONS FOR ADULTS WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS Berg Hall
Finding housing is hard. But it’s especially hard when the adult exhibits disruptive or dangerous behaviors. Our panelists will discuss some of the options. Feda Almaliti, moderator
• Jeff Darling, Associate Director, Community Services, SARC, on supports in the family home
• Heidi Morgan, Ph.D., BCBA-D, on Level 4i licensed residential homes
• Doug Pascover, Imagine SLS, on supported living services
• Krista Mason, Benjamin’s Hope, Michigan, on intentionally supportive residential environments
• Tiffani Andrade, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Development and Housing, DDS, on crisis care and safety net

CLOSING THE CANNABIS GAP: EPIDIOLEX AND CANNABIDIOL LK120
Interest in medical cannabis for treatment of seizures, anxiety, behaviors, and sleep issues has been growing. But what does the science tell us so far?
• Lawrence Fung, MD, PhD, Stanford, moderator, presenter
• Fiona Baumer, MD, Stanford
• Deb Karhson, PhD, Stanford
• David Traver, MD

SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS, SSI, AND CONSERVATORSHIP 101 LK130
Three of the essential special needs legal and financial tools will be discussed.
• Lorna Drope, Special Needs Law Group

MINDFULNESS SKILLS FOR PARENTS LK203/204
What is mindfulness? How can we better manage our own difficult emotions as parents? How can we move from coping to living more meaningful lives? This will be a learn-by-doing session.
• Linda Lotspiech, MD, Stanford
• Parent panelists: Sara Kale, Anne Hare, Sheryl Munoz Bergman

WORK FOR ALL ABILITIES LK205/206
Grady and Sanders discuss Employment First and Customized Employment. Keisman discusses Identifor’s technology using objective metrics and data to reveal strengths in individuals with autism.
• David Grady, and Katherine Sanders, SARC
• Steve Keisman, Identifor Shifting the Employment Paradigm with Cutting Edge Technology

INTO THE WORKFORCE: PREPARING YOUNG ADULTS; SOCIAL FRANCHISING LK208
Noel will provide an overview of a curriculum designed to strengthen students’ perspective-taking, self-advocacy, and emotional regulation. Aczel will discuss technical and work readiness training for autistic adults and an innovative internship program.
• Michael Noel, CIP, Preparing Young Adults with ASD/LD for Workplace Success

SFASA 2018 Conference Program
• Andrew Aczel, CTO, The Specialists Guild, **Social Franchising: Creating Employment for Autistic Adults**

**SHOWING OF “EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE,” A FILM ABOUT EMPLOYMENT** LK209
Extraordinary People is a new documentary film profiling the successes and challenges of young adults employed through Extraordinary Ventures, a nonprofit based in North Carolina.

• Gina Ireland, Extraordinary Ventures, North Carolina

**USING PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING TO INFORM YOUR CHILD’S SERVICES** LK304/305
What are some of the person-centered considerations to improve planning for your loved one?

• Amanda Pyle, director, Community Services Unit, GGRC
• Ethan Robinson, vendor perspective

**THE SIB CONNECTION: UNDERSTANDING HOW SIBLINGS CONTRIBUTE TO CAREGIVING** LK306
The mission of California Sibling Leadership Network (CSLN) is to partner with sibs in finding and creating information, community, and tools to promote with their brothers and sisters the issues important to them and their entire families.

• Nikki Donnelly, Eunice Im, Kalyn Farris, Executive Committee Members, CSLN
• Julie Neward, President, CSLN

**SPANISH LANGUAGE BREAKOUT, continued** LK101/102

• Lisa Navarro, Multicultural Affairs Advocate, DRC
• Maricruz Magdalena, Multicultural Affairs Advocate, DRC

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3:40-3.55pm BREAK

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**3.55-5.00pm SESSION 6**

**INNOVATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM/DD** Berg Hall
Speakers address identifying strengths, training, specialized programs. **Katherine Sanders**, moderator.

**Steve Keisman**, Identifor **Shifting the Employment Paradigm with Cutting Edge Technology**
**Katherine Sanders**, SARC, and **David Grady**, SCDD
**Andy Aczel** The Specialists Guild
**Anna Wang** Friends of Children with Special Needs
**Gina Ireland** Extraordinary Ventures, North Carolina

**ADUs: AN EMERGING HOUSING OPTION FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM/DD** LK120
An introduction to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), the legislative and regulatory environment designed to encourage ADUs, training and technical assistance resources, and a case study.

• Jan Stokley, Housing Choices, moderator, presenter
• Carol Berg, City of Santa Cruz
• Craig Mizushima, Housing Trust of Silicon Valley
• Bill Palmer, parent
• Heather Peters, San Mateo County Home for All

**NAVIGATING THE MAZE OF SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING** LK130
Financial planner Prodger will cover special needs trusts, letters of intent, life care planning, ABLE accounts and obtaining and preserving need-based government benefits.

• Ken Prodger, Financial Planner

**MINDFULNESS SKILLS FOR PARENTS** LK203/204
What is mindfulness? How can we better manage our own difficult emotions as parents? How can we move from coping to living more meaningful lives? This will be a learn-by-doing session.

SFASA 2018 Conference Program
• Linda Lotspiech, MD, Stanford
• Parent panelists: Sara Kole, Anne Hare, Sheryl Munoz Bergman

RESIDENTIAL HOMES: A PARENT’S GUIDE; AND STAFF TRAINING
Interested in residential group homes? Staff training (so important!)? This session is for you.
Susan LeRitz, Life Services Alternatives Benefits of Group Housing Models
Heidi Morgan, PhD, BCBA-D Continuing Education For Support Staff

HCBS UPDATE AND IMPACT ON THE AUTISM/DD COMMUNITY
New Medicaid HCBS regulations threaten critical residential and day programming models across the nation. What is the status of the regs? Will compliance mean the end of critical options for our children?
• Ashley Kim, Elevare Community, moderator, speaker
• Jim Whittaker, Arc of Jacksonville, Florida
• Scott McAvoy and James Stacey, Marbridge, Texas
• Richard Neal, Camphill Village Copake, New York

PARENT-CREATED AUTISM/DD FRIENDLY HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS
Many innovations in autism housing are not coming from government but instead by parent-run LLCs and agile nonprofits. Learn about three of them and the lessons they can offer.
• Alex Krem, Living Unlimited, moderator, speaker
• Sarah Fairchild, Coastal Haven Families, Santa Cruz
• Krista Mason, Benjamin’s Hope, Michigan

SERVICE DOGS FOR TEENS/ADULTS WITH AUTISM
MTR’s service dogs are raised, socialized, and trained to help overcome the specific challenges of adults, children, and families who face the challenges of autism, post-traumatic stress, and anxiety issues.
• Elise Lalor, Tim Houweling, Monkey Tail Ranch, Hollister

THE SIB CONNECTION: UNDERSTANDING HOW SIBLINGS CONTRIBUTE TO CAREGIVING
The mission of California Sibling Leadership Network (CSLN) is to partner with sibs in finding and creating information, community, and tools to promote with their brothers and sisters the issues important to them and their entire families.
• Nikki Donnelly, Eunice Im, Kalyn Farris, Executive Committee Members, CSLN
• Julie Neward, President, CSLN

MEET WITH DDS: AUTISM IN DDS, AND THE SAFETY NET
Want to learn more from our friends in Sacramento? This is an opportunity to learn more about autism in the DDS, and the crisis care DD safety net in California. Irene Litherland, moderator
• Tiffani Andrade, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Development and Housing, DDS
• Lauren Libero, Autism Specialist, DDS

SFASA Conference Code of Conduct
SFASA is dedicated to providing a peaceful and harassment-free conference for everyone. Please ensure your interactions make other attendees feel safe, respected and valued in an environment focused on learning and networking. If a participant is creating a situation that is not conducive to learning, SFASA reserves the right to ask that person to exit the conference. Please make the most of your time at our event, taking advantage of every opportunity to network and learn. Please avail yourselves of the many supplemental materials provided by SFASA on the website and of the conference videos available following our event.

Disclaimer
This conference and conference materials (“program”) were created by volunteers of Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area (SFASA) in an effort to provide general information to the community. SFASA makes no representations or warranties in relation to this program. SFASA does not warrant that the information in the program is complete, true, accurate or non-misleading. Nothing in the program constitutes, or is meant to constitute, advice of any kind. If you require advice in relation to any legal, financial, medical or any other matter you should consult an appropriate professional. Inclusion of any organization or individual does not imply endorsement, and omission does not imply disapproval.
**About SFASA**

Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area (SFASA) is a grassroots, volunteer-run nonprofit organization of parents, family members, friends and professionals striving to build a stronger, more connected and influential Bay Area autism community. We began in 1967 and cover the six major San Francisco Bay Area counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara. We are an affiliate of the Autism Society of America.

In 2014, SFASA reinvented itself to focus on improved community outreach and on issues related to addressing the dire need to expand the limited lifespan care options for the dramatically increasing numbers of adults with autism. Rather than serving as a direct service provider to people with autism, we act as a hub for the broader autism community.

**Mission**

Our mission is to grow a stronger Bay Area autism community. By creating a robust hub of information, resources, networks, and advocacy, we help advance common goals for the Bay Area’s 20,000+ autism families.

**Vision**

We envision a Bay Area where families and individuals with autism are provided appropriate lifespan services and supports, and are thriving, engaged and valued parts of all our communities.

**Values and Beliefs** Please see sfautismsociety.org/about

**Board of Directors**

Jill Escher, President  
Feda Almaliti, Vice President  
Cristina Moretto, Secretary  
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Michelle Condit  
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**Now Accepting Board Applications**

Want to help support the Bay Area autism community? SFASA is seeking to add dynamic and committed new members to its board of directors. SFASA follows an active volunteer model with expectations including the following:

1. **Support for SFASA’s Mission/Vision/Values** (see http://www.sfautismsociety.org/about.html)
2. **Commitment to undertake volunteer tasks during term (approx 1-10 hours per week).** These tasks may include:
   - Fundraising
   - Treasury, bookkeeping, accounting
   - Communications: website, newsletter, blog, social media, etc
   - Database maintenance
   - Social media
   - Webinar planning and hosting
   - Events and conference planning
   - Information & Referral
   - Regional groups
   - Policy advocacy
3. **Commitment to attend five board meetings annually, typically held from approximately 10.30am-1pm in Palo Alto, on Tuesdays in January, March, May, September, and November, in addition to various committee meetings.**

If you are interested, please email us at info@sfautismsociety.org.

SFASA 2018 Conference Program
CONFERENCE TEAM

Chair: Jill Escher
Committee: Mawuko Nyuiadzi, Sara Hammer, Sara Kole, Anne Hare, Denise Haas, Heidi Cartan, Martha Johanson, Sara Hammer, Claire Hough, Kate Movius, Linda Lotspeich, MD, Lawrence Fung, MD, PhD
Registrar: Sara Hammer
A/V chair: Mawuko Nyuiadzi
Video and livestream: Dan White and Ana Maria, Share-a-Vision
Translation chair: Martha Johanson
Translator (mainstage): Lucy Navarro
Signage: Claire Hough
Printer: Accuprint, San Jose, Roger Ercolini
Event volunteers: Connie Boyar Frenzel, Sue Swezey, Irma Velasquez, Irene Litherland, Cristina Moretto, Alexander MacInnis, Cathy McCoy, Stephen Prutsman, Karen Kwong, Tracy Ligtenberg, Terri Scheufele, Sanusi Tandun, Amy Vasquez, Ashley Cardenas, Christina Cesnik.
Still photography: Michael Levy

SFASA is immensely grateful for its partnership with the Stanford Autism Center Parent Advisory Board.

The Stanford Autism Center at Packard Children’s Hospital is dedicated to providing specialized clinical services and advancing research in ASD.

The center brings together professionals across departments and disciplines at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford, Stanford Hospital, and Stanford University, who are committed to improving the diagnosis and treatment of ASD and related developmental disorders through research, professional training, community education, quality or process improvement, and advocacy.

Website: med.stanford.edu/autismcenter
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