GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
CONTINUING EDUCATION

TOPIC
Recommendations and Resources to Do Better for Children with Autism and their Families

In this presentation, we will cover some of the latest information about service delivery and resources to support children with autism and their families. This presentation will offer an overview of the characteristics of autism as they relate to service delivery, new research in the field, along with the current thinking about autism advocacy and family support. A significant part of the presentation will focus on recommendations and resources for professionals who are providing services and supports to children and youth with autism. This will include current evidence-based practices, using data-based decision-making models to improve service delivery, community resources, and above all the delivery of services while respecting the uniqueness of autism.

Recommended for LBSW and LMSW beginner/intermediate skill level; for additional information, please visit our website: www.gvsu.edu/swce

OBJECTIVES
1) Describe how understanding the characteristics of autism may positively influence the delivery of services.
2) Explain educational and insurance-based service available to individuals with autism in Michigan.
3) Discuss evidence-based practices, evidence-based decision making, and effective service delivery.
4) Identify resources available for working with individuals with autism and their families.
5) Discuss current values and practices in autism advocacy and inclusion.

DATE:
Friday, January 28, 2022
8:45am—12:00pm

LOCATION:
Live, online webinar via Zoom

Amy Matthews is a Professor of Psychology at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) and has served as the director of the Statewide Autism Resources and Training Project (START), funded by the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education, for 20 years. The START Project is focused on a statewide collaborative effort to make systems level changes to improve the educational programming and quality of life for students with autism and their families. Dr. Matthews is involved in various state projects to increase integrated opportunities and improve post school outcomes for individuals with ASD, including serving as vice chair of the Michigan Autism Council. Dr. Matthews is a licensed psychologist and a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). She teaches courses in the GVSU School Psychology Graduate Program and the Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Certificate program.

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