

## Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

March 15, 2024 | 9:00-10:30 am

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89306733290>

9:00 **Opening Circle & Approval of February 2023 Minutes and March 2024 Agenda** (5 min)

*Materials: January Minutes and February Agenda*

9:05 **Work Plan and 2024 Priorities** (60 min)

*Materials: 2024-2025 Work Plan (REVISED)*

Discuss and outline monthly engagement of Collaborative partners based on work plan priorities.

10:05 **Business Actions and Updates** (15 min)

*Materials: Coordinator Update*

- Review and vote to approve scholarship requests
- Questions related to Coordinator update

10:50 **Partner Updates** (10 min)

10:30 **Adjourn**

## 2023-2025 Work Priorities

Updated 3/9/24

To ensure that the initiatives of CMHC effectively address and reduce racial disparities, it is imperative to adopt a racial equity approach in the development of this work plan.

<u>Long-Term Goal</u>	<u>Strategic Actions</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Lead/Support</u>	<u>Outputs &amp; Outcomes</u>
<u>Improve responsiveness to, and communications with, families and children through increased access children's mental health services</u>	1. <u>Increase engagement of underrepresented families, with specific focus on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) families, to inform change within the children's mental health system.</u>	<u>Engage parents and families to ensure parent, caregiver and family needs are responded to and represented in policy and practice changes.</u>	1.1. <u>Increase the number of parent/caregiver engagement opportunities to learn more about children's mental health issues and services.</u> 1.2. <u>Implement culturally appropriate communication strategies to reach underrepresented families in parent/caregiver strategies.</u> 1.3. <u>Identify BIPOC-led community organizations and/or partnerships to improve communication, practice, and access to information that are culturally and linguistically appropriate about children's mental health services.</u> 1.4. <u>Create a process to discern when issues and challenges raised by families are identifying gaps in the system and have broader practice and policy implications.</u> 1.5. <u>Each quarter policy and practice concerns, and innovative responses, related to children's mental health services will be generated and shared through CMHC Governance and Executive Committees. These</u>	1.1. <u>Family Coordinator, PCLG Coordinator, and CMHC Coordinator</u> 1.2. <u>Family Coordinator, PCLG Coordinator, &amp; CMHC Coordinator</u> 1.3. <u>Family Coordinator, PCLG Coordinator, &amp; CMHC Coordinator</u> 1.4. <u>County and Collaborative SoC Coordination Team</u> 1.5. <u>County and Collaborative SoC Coordination Team, CMHC Executive Committee</u>	1.1. <u>500 diverse parents/caregivers will participate in the engagement events, meetings, and training opportunities</u> 1.2. <u>CMHC will engage 20 new community partners from BIPOC-led organizations in its meetings, events and decision-making</u> 1.3. <u>Increased knowledge about policy and practice issues affecting access to CMH services</u> 1.4. <u>Children's mental health providers and stakeholders will identify potential innovative solutions to addressing concerns</u>

			<p><u>concerns will highlight which stakeholders within the CMHC Collaborative may have influence over responses.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>What data? Who collects the data?</u></li> <li>- <u>Who is making the decisions about the data and input from families?</u></li> </ul>		
2.	<p><u>Increase mental health literacy and build cultural responsiveness and inclusiveness of adults working with children and youth.</u></p>	<p><u>Build knowledge and capacity of adults working with children and youth in non-clinical settings to support children’s mental health wellbeing and mental health needs</u></p>	<p>2.1. <u>Coordinate and provide Youth Mental Health First Aid trainings to youth workers and adults working with youth in out-of-school time and community programs</u></p> <p>2.2. <u>Develop and offer training to adults/providers on mental health cultural responsiveness and inclusiveness</u></p> <p>2.3. <u>Pilot family centered strategies with county case managers to increase awareness of culturally and linguistically appropriate strategies when responding to parent/caregiver requests and challenges.</u></p>	<p>2.1. <u>Beacons/YMCA, CMHC Coordinator</u></p> <p>2.2. <u>CMHC Coordination team and SoC Coordination Team</u></p> <p>2.3. <u>Coordination team, Hennepin County leadership and case managers</u></p>	<p>2.1. <u>A culturally and linguistically diverse set of trainers will be available in Hennepin County to train 450 adults in Youth Mental Health First Aid</u></p> <p>2.2. <u>Training measure: Create and offer culturally responsive and inclusion training for children’s mental health providers</u></p> <p>2.3. <u>Identify common challenges for providers when listening to family needs, and identify strategies to improve responsiveness based on needs, not eligibility alone.</u></p>
3.	<p><u>Increase awareness of families, caregivers, and youth on how to access children’s mental health services</u></p>	<p><u>Families, caregivers, and youth will know how to access children’s mental health services and know why to access children’s mental health resources</u></p>	<p>3.1. <u>Update CMHC website to include outward facing information and resources on how and where to access children’s mental health services for parents, caregivers, youth, and providers</u></p> <p>3.2. <u>Share information with community partners, youth workers, parents, and youth to increase knowledge and access to information to support children’s mental health,</u></p>	<p>3.1. <u>Coordination Team</u></p> <p>3.2. <u>Coordination Team</u></p> <p>3.3. <u>Coordination Team</u></p> <p>3.4. <u>Coordination Team</u></p>	<p>3.1. <u>CMHC website will be updated with resources for families, caregivers, youth and providers, including culturally and linguistically focused resources; and stories of parent/family success</u></p> <p>3.2. <u>Families will access information on how to access and utilize</u></p>

			<p>through convenings, new partnerships, and e-newsletters</p> <p>3.3. <u>Create a work plan to expand navigational support for families and caregivers, building off 2022 work group recommendations, e.g. secure funding and identify key partners</u></p> <p>3.4. <u>Provide training &amp; support resources to families and/or organizations working with children and families to increase knowledge and awareness of children’s mental health needs and understand how mental health and trauma are reflected in children and youth behaviors (e.g. through Coffee &amp; Connect and family engagement meetings)</u></p>		<p><u>children’s mental health resources.</u></p> <p>3.3. <u>Community partners will know how to update information on children’s mental health services</u></p> <p>3.4. <u>Clear path to expanding navigational services to families in Hennepin County</u></p> <p>3.5. <u>Increase connections among families with children experiencing mental health challenges</u></p>
<p><u>Improve coordination of and access to children’s mental health services</u></p>	<p>1. <u>Improve access to trauma and culturally informed youth mental health services for youth engaged in or directly impacted by gun violence and other violent behaviors impacting children and youth</u></p>	<p><u>Increase trauma and culturally-informed mental health resources to youth and families directly impacted by gun violence and other violent behaviors</u></p>	<p>1.1 <u>Identify organizations working directly with youth experiencing gun violence and provide resources to support their mental health services</u></p> <p>1.2 <u>Create communication pathways for organizations serving children, youth and families experiencing violence with organizations and strategies to support mental health</u></p> <p>1.3 <u>Convene organizational leaders working to improve trauma-informed youth mental health and reduce youth gun violence to address policy and practice issues</u></p>	<p>1.1. <u>Safe Communities, CHIP, Coordination Team</u></p> <p>1.2. <u>Safe Communities, CHIP, Coordination Team</u></p> <p>1.3. <u>Coordination Team, &amp; County grantees</u></p>	<p>1.1. <u>A resource list will be created with organizations focused on youth gun violence prevention and shared with Collaborative partners and stakeholders</u></p> <p>1.2. <u>Hennepin County Safe Communities, CHIP, and DOCCR grantees serving youth engaged in violence will receive additional information about youth mental health and learn how to access services and supports</u></p> <p>1.3. <u>Collaborative tools will be created to track</u></p>



					<u>policy and practice issues negatively impacting youth and families</u>
2.	<u>Connect youth and families to needed children's mental health services and supports, focusing on culturally and linguistically appropriate options</u>	<u>Help connect youth and families to needed children's mental health services and supports to best meet their needs</u>	<p>2.1. <u>Connect and refer community partners with children's mental health services and programs to culturally specific resources</u></p> <p>2.2. <u>Promote family response and stabilization services to families, caregivers and youth as an early and easily accessible resource.</u></p> <p>2.3. <u>Expand professional peer support specialists and navigator support across Hennepin County</u></p> <p>2.4. <u>Collaborative will offer WRAP training to parents and caregivers</u></p> <p>2.5. <u>Increase engagement of youth and engagement opportunities with youth around accessing mental health services</u></p>	<p>2.1. <u>Family Coordinator &amp; PCLG Coordinator</u></p> <p>2.2. <u>Soc Coordination team and CMHC Coordination Team</u></p> <p>2.3. <u>Coordination Team, PCLG, &amp; CMHC partners</u></p> <p>2.4. <u>PCLG and Family Coordinator</u></p>	<p>2.1. <u>Strengthen partnerships with schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations, and identify up to 6 new culturally diverse partners.</u></p> <p>2.2. <u>Increase access to family response and early intervention of children's mental health services across Hennepin County</u></p> <p>2.3. <u>30 parents and/or caregivers will participate in WRAP training.</u></p> <p>2.4. <u>Youth will inform Collaborative response to youth input and concerns.</u></p>
3.	<u>Gather information about and manage access and coordination issues through collective action</u>	<u>Convene stakeholders to address key barriers and challenges in children's mental health services and identify solutions</u>	<p>3.1. <u>Convene providers, practitioners and stakeholders to regularly share system of care goals and progress</u></p> <p>3.2. <u>Convene BIPOC-led or focused Children's Mental Health providers to identify barriers and needs to improve coordination and access to children's mental health services</u></p> <p>3.3. <u>Convene county agencies and community partners to respond to the identified barriers and needs of BIPOC providers and families to increase access for BIPOC families</u></p>	<p>3.1. <u>Coordination Team and Hennepin County leaders</u></p> <p>3.2. <u>Family Coordinator, Coordination team, and Collaborative partners</u></p> <p>3.3. <u>Coordinator, Family Coordinator, county teams/ reps</u></p>	<p>3.1. <u>Increased community knowledge and commitment to system of care values and services</u></p> <p>3.2. <u>Community meetings will be used to elicit barriers and needs faced by families and/or provider</u></p> <p>3.3. <u>Regular county meetings will be led each quarter to respond to barriers and needs</u></p>

			3.4. <u>Convene community stakeholders to increase knowledge and capacity to respond to the identified barriers and needs of BIPOC providers and families to increase access for BIPOC families</u>	3.4. <u>Coordinator, Family Coordinator, Collaborative partners</u>	3.4. <u>Two community stakeholder meetings will be led each year to respond to barriers and needs</u>
<u>Increase data-driven decision making to improve the children's mental health service system</u>	1. <u>in partnership with the Hennepin County, develop an assessment of system values or key implementation issues</u>	<u>Have system implementation data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity to identify and understand specific mental health needs, barriers to access and outcomes for different populations/communities.</u>	1.1. <u>Create county and community partner group to outline assessment goals, objectives and timeline</u>	1.1. <u>CMHC evaluator, Hennepin County team, &amp; coordination team</u>	1.1. <u>A project plan will be established</u>
	2. <u>Conduct data reviews and disseminate children's mental health to collaborative partners and families/caregivers and youth</u>	<u>Share data on children's mental health with partners and use data to track change</u>	2.1. <u>Conduct reviews on youth mental health and wellbeing needs on emerging issues and on a regular timeline; and share with Collaborative partners</u> 2.2. <u>Disseminate data through website, e-newsletter and Collaborative meetings</u>	2.1. <u>CMHC evaluator and Coordinator,</u> 2.2. <u>CMHC evaluator &amp; Coordination team</u>	2.1. <u>Updated information will be accessible to stakeholders.</u>
	3. <u>Evaluate the work of the Children's Mental Health Collaborative</u>	<u>Track results and impact of collaboratives projects and work</u>	3.1. <u>Conduct evaluation of Collaborative Activities</u> 3.2. <u>Prepare Annual Report to communicate work of Collaborative and partners</u>	1.1. <u>CMHC evaluator   &amp; Coordination Team</u> 1.2. <u>CMHC evaluator &amp; Coordination Team</u>	3.1. <u>Evaluation data will inform Collaborative's future work plans and priorities.</u> 3.2. <u>Community partners will understand impact of Collaborative</u>

Recommendations and questions from Coordination Team Members:

1. The current workplan focuses on the work of the CMHC Coordination Team and SoC Coordination Team. Where do we include the work of Executive Committee members or Governance Committee members?
2. In light of the collaborative's focus on data-driven decision-making, we want to include ways that evaluation can be used strategically to support the work laid out in in the workplan. For example, prioritizing what is evaluated early in the year will drive the Collaborative's annual report, and we need to make these decisions soon.
3. Consider strategies to improve access to CMH resources (online and community), including resources for youth and families, e.g. youth friendly page and the culturally specific directory.
4. Discuss action step 2.3 on page 2 to move this from a high-level idea to a clear workplan item. This is critical to complete prior to Cindy's retirement.
5. How might we begin measuring increased utilization of children's mental health services by youth and families, specifically of racial and culturally diverse backgrounds?
6. Additional discussion and clarification is needed on how the Collaborative can/should respond to what families said they need, e.g. peer support specialists, peer support from other parents with lived experience and/or navigational support (see Strategy 3, page 3 and strategy 2.3 on page 4). Is the Collaborative Governance Committee the best place to engage in this discussion?
7. Additional clarity on how to identify, or choose, BIPOC-led organizations to partner with to increase engagement with culturally diverse families is needed.
8. Upon completion of the workplan, create a version for the coordination team mapping out the work over the year, with a reflection of how the coordination team time will be allocated to support the work. This will increase the likelihood we will focus on what is manageable rather than aspirational. We may need to dust off the strategy screen and do some prioritization so that the work not only aligns with parent feedback and partner input, but also with our capacity to do the work well.

Hennepin County Children's Mental Health Collaborative (CMHC)  
**Scholarship, Training, & Sponsorship Application**

Name: Alissa Babcock Organization: Bloomington Public Schools  
Address: 1300 E 88th Street  
Bloomington Mn 55425 Email: ababcock@isd271.org  
Phone: 612 220 7894

**Please choose the type of scholarship you are requesting:**

- Individual Scholarships  
 Training grants  
 Sponsorship for organizations or individuals

**Information about training opportunity**

*Please provide the name of the training, the sponsoring organization/agency for the training, dates for the training and what types of continuing education credits are available. If you are creating the training or sponsoring the event, please indicate your target audience.*

*Minnesota Autism Conference-April 17-19 2024  
AuSM  
CEU's for Minnesota Educators*

**Please describe briefly how the training or sponsored event goals align with the CMHC as well as the guiding principles of the CMHC:**

- The children's mental health service continuum includes a *comprehensive and integrated* array of services and supports.
- Services are *individualized* to meet the unique and specific needs of the child, youth and family.
- Services are provided in the *least restrictive* and most appropriate setting.
- Services are *coordinated* at the system and individual service levels.
- *Youth and family are at the center* of all planning, at both an individual service level and a larger system level.
- *Prevention and early intervention* strategies are necessary in the overall continuum of services.
- Utilize a *health equity lens and cultural humility perspective* to address disparities and ensure access to culturally and linguistic competent services.
- Decisions are *driven by data and research on best practice*.

I am an educator in Bloomington Public Schools. I am hoping to attend the Minnesota Autism Conference this year to stay up to date on the latest practices and research in the area of autism. I current work with secondary student with autism and I am most looking forward to any information on transition and topics related to employment. Our goal in Bloomington is to create person centered plans for students with IEPs. I look forward to learning more strategies to share with students, families, colleagues and other professionals I encounter.

**Amount (and Percent) of funds Requested**

*Please refer to scholarship application criteria regarding amount of funds available for individuals or agencies. Please describe how these scholarship, training or sponsorships funds would be used.*

**I would like to attend the full conference and I am a non member of AuSM so the cost will be \$395.00. I have not received any financial funds from my school district.**

**Please include a copy of the following items with your application.**

- a. A copy of the literature or schedule of training
- b. A copy of the marketing materials
- c. Include any other financial support you have received for the training. Examples include funds from an employer, service organization, and scholarship or reduced fee from the training opportunity. Include any requests that are pending for financial support. Any opportunity to document how other funds are leveraged to augment total training costs is always encouraged.



Events » Minnesota Autism Conference 2024



**17-19**  
**APRIL 2024**

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**WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE MINNESOTA**

# AUTISM CONFERENCE



Doubletree by Hilton Minneapolis Airport, 2020 American

Blvd. E. Bloomington, MN 55425

**NEW name, same hotel**



AuSMConf2023

The 29th Annual Minnesota Autism Conference will be held April 17-19, 2024 at the Hilton Doubletree Minneapolis Airport. We're thrilled to offer another in-person conference with all of the latest information on autism, all in one place. This year's conference will feature keynote speakers Dr. Devon Price and Dr. Paula Kluth, as well as breakout sessions tailored for all audiences including autistics, family members, educators, and professionals. Visit the AuSM Shop, gather information from key autism exhibitors, and spend your conference days networking and learning from expert speakers.

## PRICING

### FOUNDATIONAL WORKSHOP

- Held 12:30-4:30 p.m. on April 17
- Introductory content plus trending topics

MEMBERS: \$95  
NON-MEMBERS: \$125  
AUTISTIC ADULT: \$75

### FULL CONFERENCE

- Includes pre-conference and virtual access
- 2 full days of breakouts and keynotes
- Includes two lunches

MEMBERS: \$295  
NON-MEMBERS: \$395  
AUTISTIC ADULT: \$195

### VIRTUAL CONTENT

- Asynchronous access to 1 keynote and 8 breakout sessions
- Available April 22-May 24

\$125 FOR MEMBERS, NON-MEMBERS, AND AUTISTIC ADULTS

Scholarships are available for Minnesota residents. Apply for a scholarship through the registration form. If you work in Ramsey or Hennepin County, you may be eligible for a scholarship through the county to cover the full cost of the conference. Click below for details.

[Ramsey County](#)

[Hennepin County](#)

**REGISTER**

**SEE THE FULL SCHEDULE**

## CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS





## **DR. PAULA KLUTH**

Thursday, April 18

8-9:30 a.m.

### **“YOU’RE GOING TO LOVE THIS KID”**

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## **DR. DEVON PRICE**

Thursday, April 18

1:15-2:45 p.m.

### **THE FUTURE OF AUTISTIC SELF- ADVOCACY: SELF-REALIZATION, SOLIDARITY, AND GROWING CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS**

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## **JOYNER EMERICK**

Friday, April 19  
8-9:30 a.m.

## **BEYOND WORDS: EXPLORING AUTISTIC MULTIMODAL COMMUNICATION**

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex neurodevelopmental condition characterized by differences in social communication and restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior. This session explores the challenges and opportunities of multimodal communication for autistic individuals, focusing on the integration of verbal and non-verbal cues. We will discuss the importance of understanding individual communication styles and the role of technology in enhancing communication. The session is designed to provide practical insights and strategies for supporting autistic individuals in their communication.

# ACCESSIBILITY

AuSM is dedicated to making our events as accessible as possible. To help our participants feel more comfortable, we've created a document laying out the accommodations in place, those available when requested, and current barriers.

We are also in the process of creating a social narrative to help you know what to expect. That will be shared here as soon as it is available.

[\*\*SEE THE ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE\*\*](#)



## **FOUNDATIONAL WORKSHOP: DISABILITY, NEURODIVERGENCE, AND AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER**

Join us on April 17 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. for a workshop that lays the foundations to the rest of the week. We'll start with Autism 101, a session that will help you to understand the experience of autistic individuals, and expand your idea of what ASD is. The second portion will cover currently trending topics in the autism world. The final hour will include small group discussions.

[LEARN MORE](#)



## VIRTUAL CONTENT

Eight select breakout sessions from the 2024 Minnesota Autism Conference will be recorded and available for on-demand viewing for one month (April 22-May 24, 2024) as part of your in-person registration for Minnesota's conference.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

The Autism Society of Minnesota has submitted requests to provide CEUs for licensees under the following governing boards (CEU provider #CEP-911).

- MN Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy (LPC/LPCC)

- MN Board of Marriage and Family Therapy
- MN Board of Psychology
- MN Board of School Administrators
- MN Board of Social Work



Regarding CEUs for MN Educators, the Professional Learning Renewal Opportunities (PELSB) and your local teacher association can assist with questions pertaining to qualifying conference session topics for relicensure. You can also consult PELSB Renewal Requirements Chart for a high-level overview of all requirements for MN Educator Licensing. The MN Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board does not have a singular application for CEU providers to seek approval to provide CEUs. Certificates of attendance will be provided to every attendee post-conference.

## **WHO SHOULD ATTEND AUTISTICS**

The conference presents a great opportunity to meet your peers, learn more about services that can improve your life, trade strategies with other self-advocates, and even help expand people's conceptions of what autism can look like.

You'll learn from autistic presenters, find resources and services, and connect with your community.

## **EDUCATORS**

The Minnesota Autism Conference is a great place for educators to stay up to date on the latest best practices and research for autism. Connect with other educators and learn practical strategies that will help you with everything from behaviors to classroom management. You'll receive a Certificate of Attendance for CE credits.

## **FAMILY MEMBERS**

The Minnesota autism conference presents opportunities to connect with other caregivers, meet adults on the spectrum, find new resources, and get revitalized! You'll come away with new strategies, new resources, and a community of people who understand.

## **PROFESSIONALS**

Autism professionals of all kinds come the Minnesota Autism Conference to learn new strategies, research, and ideas. You can earn CE credits, connect with colleagues, and gain practical skills.





## **THE VENUE**

The 2024 Minnesota Autism Conference is held at the Hilton Doubletree Minneapolis Airport, 2020 American Blvd. E. Bloomington, MN 55425. Your registration includes lunch on April 18 and 19, as well as complimentary coffee all three days.

To book a reduced rate of \$159 per night, click below! To book by phone, call 952.854.7441, and ask for the AuSM Conference block of rooms.

[\*\*BOOK A HOTEL ROOM\*\*](#)

## **SPONSORSHIP**

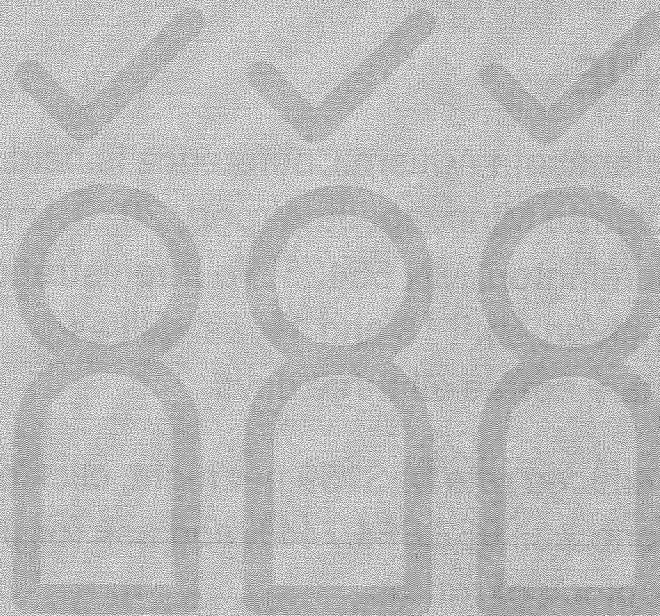


You can become a part of this amazing event as a sponsor! 400+ caregivers, parents, educators, individuals with autism, professionals, and more participate.

Throughout the event, there are more than 25 educational sessions presented by experts, including three keynote speakers. Participants come eager for resources; exhibits are open and busy throughout this three-day event.

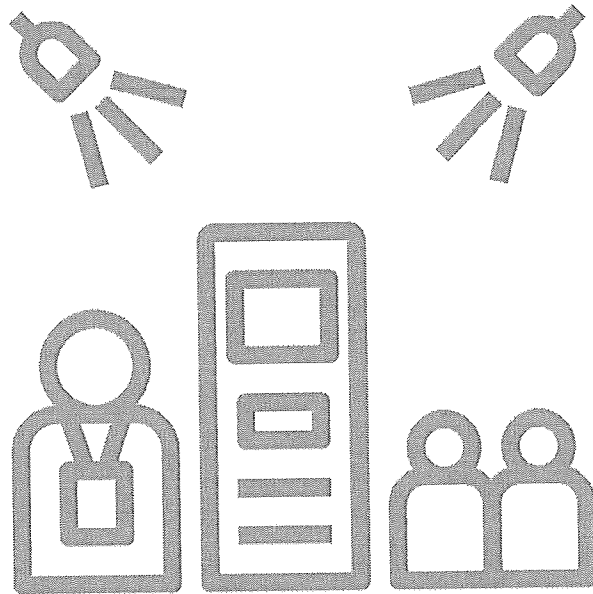
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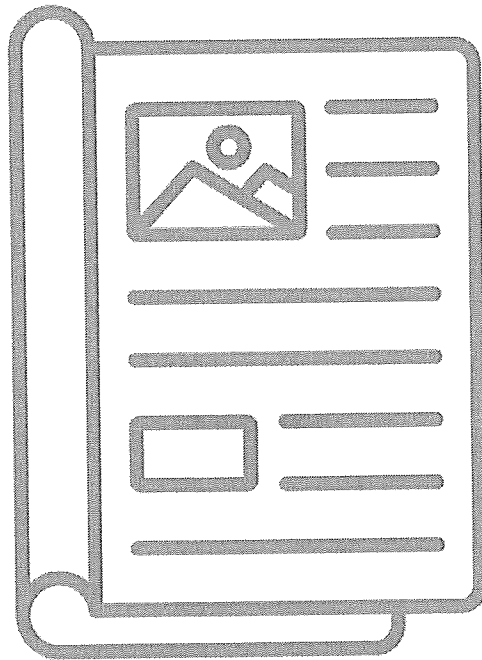
## **CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS**

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## **EXHIBIT BOOTH**

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## **DESCRIPTION IN PROGRAM**

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## **2024 SPONSORS**

**PRESENTING**

# **BEST CARE**

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Midwest Autism & Therapy Centers

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## **EXHIBIT BOOTHS**

Developmental Discoveries Neuropsychology

Franklin Center

Grand Canyon University

Infant Brain Imaging Study (IBIS)

Laura Baker Services

Looking Forward Life Coaching

Minnesota Disability Determination Services

MNProv

Roots and Wings Therapeutic Services

Today's Autistic Moment

## **PRINTING SPONSOR**

Allegra Downtown St. Paul



## **Cancellation Policy**

**Notification of cancellation:** If an event or class is cancelled or postponed, AuSM will attempt to notify you via phone, using the phone number provided with your registration. We also will post notice of cancellations and postponements on [www.ausm.org](http://www.ausm.org).

**Cancellation by registrant:** Refunds less a \$25 processing fee will be given for cancellations received in writing to [info@ausm.org](mailto:info@ausm.org) ten business days prior to the start of the event or class. Following this date, no refunds will be given. Requests for transfer of registration to another individual will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Cancellation by program organizer:** AuSM reserves the right to cancel an event or class due to low registrations or other circumstances that make the event or class non-viable. If AuSM cancels an event or class, registrants will be offered a full refund. If the event or class is postponed, registrants will have the option to either receive a full refund or transfer registration to the same event or class at the new, future date.

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autism society of minnesota



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About Autism

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## **THERAPY**

Meet Our Therapists

Ask the Therapist

Support Groups

Make an Appointment

ACCS Publications

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## **EVENTS**

Event Calendar

Minnesota Autism Conference 2024

Autism Acceptance Month

Steps for Autism in Minnesota

Puzzle Competition

Give to the Max Day

Autistic Community Summit

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## **EDUCATION**

Social and Recreation Programs

Workshops

Adult Coffee Club

Classes

Training

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## **CAMPS**

Hand in Hand

Discovery

Day Camp

Work at Camp

## **TAKE ACTION**

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Events » Minnesota Autism Conference 2024 » Minnesota Autism Conference Schedule

# MINNESOTA AUTISM CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

**DAY 1: APRIL 18**

- 8-9:30 A.M. KEYNOTE:  
PAULA KLUTH
- 10-11 A.M. BREAKOUT 1
- 11:15 A.M.-12:15 P.M.  
BREAKOUT 2
- 12:15-1:15 P.M. LUNCH
- 1:15-2:45 P.M. KEYNOTE:  
DEVON PRICE
- 3:15-4:15 P.M. BREAKOUT 3

**DAY 2: APRIL 19**

- 8-9:30 A.M. KEYNOTE:  
JOYNER EMERICK
- 10-11 A.M. BREAKOUT 1
- 11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.  
BREAKOUT 2
- 12:30-1:30 P.M. LUNCH
- 1:30-2:30 P.M.  
BREAKOUT 3
- 2:45-3:45 P.M.  
BREAKOUT 4

**SPECIALTY CONTENT (INCLUDED IN  
FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION)**

**FOUNDATIONAL  
WORKSHOP**

**VIRTUAL  
CONTENT**

**REGISTER**

## **DETAILED CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 2024**

Hover over the title of each session to see a full description, and hover over the name of each presenter to read their bio.

Information may change or be updated, so check back often!

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### **THURSDAY, APRIL 18**

**8-9:30 A.M.**

**Keynote: You're Going  
to Love This Kid!**

**Presented by Dr. Paula  
Kluth**

In this session, participants will learn practical ways of supporting students with autism spectrum labels and other disabilities within a general education classroom. Topics addressed include listening to the voices of those on the spectrum, teaching to fascinations and providing opportunities for communication skill development. The session will focus on the importance of

pushing beyond access and asking schools to challenge students and to understand each learner as complex and capable.

**Dr. Paula Kluth** is a consultant, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. She is a former K-12 special educator who has served as a classroom teacher, co-teacher, and inclusion facilitator. Paula has also been a university professor and has taught courses on both inclusion and disability studies. Most recently, Paula's work has centered on helping teachers and administrators educate all students in their schools and classrooms. She also frequently works with families and advocacy groups to support goals related to inclusion. In addition to inclusive education, her professional interests include Universal Design for Learning, coteaching, and educating students with complex support needs.

*All In: 18 Ways to Include All Students in Virtual Classrooms* is Paula's newest book. She is also the author or co-author of 15 other titles including *Universal Design Daily*, *30 Days to the Co-Taught Classroom*, *Don't We Already Do Inclusion?*, and *"You're Going to Love This Kid!": Teaching Students with Autism in Inclusive Classrooms*. She is also the author of a few books for children including *Coaster*, a story of a puppy with wonderful wheels.

Paula has won several awards in her field. She is the recipient of the PEAK Parent Center's Ally for Inclusion Award; The PEAL [Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership] Center's Inclusive Education Champion Award; The National Down Syndrome Congress's Educator of the Year; The Belle Center of Chicago's Inclusion Advocate of the Year; and the University of Wisconsin's "Forward Under 40" Award.

**10-11 A.M.**

**Breakout Session  
1**

**Session 1-How to Write  
a Neurodiversity-  
Affirming IEP presented  
by Maren Christenson**

Hofer\*, Joyner Emerick, and Ryan Haenze

**Session 2-Accessibility At Work – Disability Justice in the  
Workplace presented by Megan Perera**

**Session 3-Trauma in Autistic Children and Young Adults  
presented by Beth Pitchford, Barb Luskin, and Sara Lahti**

**Session 4-Estate Planning For Families with Special Needs  
presented by Jason Schellack**

**11:15 A.M.-12:15 P.M.**

**Breakout Session  
2**

**Session 1-The Roots of  
Behavior: A  
Neurodiversity-  
Affirming Perspective**

presented by Elizabeth Duffy and Michelle Pettit

**Session 2-Social Security Disability: What You Need to Know  
presented by Tanya Heitzinger and Sarah Dicks**

**Session 3-Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth: Tools for Parents and  
Other Adults presented by Cat Hammond**

**Session 4-Trauma in Autistic Adults presented by Beth  
Pitchford, Barb Luskin, and Sara Lahti**

**LUNCH**

**12:15-1:15 P.M.**

**1:15-2:45 P.M.**

**Keynote: The Future of  
Autistic Self-Advocacy:  
Self-Realization,  
Solidarity, and Growing  
Class Consciousness  
Presented by Dr. Devon  
Price**

In the last few years, the Autistic self-advocacy community has witnessed an explosion in public awareness of our disability, with a growing number of late-diagnosed and late-realized Autistic individuals joining our community and more and more organizations making gestures at broader neurodiverse inclusion, to varying degrees of success. Our prior frameworks for understanding Autism have been challenged, the diagnostic procedures of the past have been revealed to be bias-laden and counter-productive to our community, and regular debates within our own ranks reveal the need to redefine for ourselves who we are and what our broader political goals are as a marginalized group fighting for justice. In this talk, Dr. Devon Price will discuss the Autistic self-realization movement, recent major wins in the fight for Autism acceptance, and explore synergies with other justice movements that are currently running in parallel to ours, such as the Mad Pride movement and anti-psychiatry movement, to provide a vision of what the future of neurodiverse self-advocacy might look like.

**Devon Price**, PhD, is a social psychologist, professor, author, and proud Autistic person. His research has appeared in journals such as the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, and the *Journal of Positive Psychology*. Devon's writing has appeared in outlets such as the *Financial Times*, *HuffPost*, *Slate*, *Jacobin*, *Business Insider*, *LitHub*, and on PBS and NPR. He lives in Chicago, where

he serves as an assistant professor at Loyola University Chicago's School of Continuing and Professional Studies.

**3:15-4:15 P.M.**

### **Breakout Session 3**

**Session 1-Taking a Person Centered Approach to ADLs**  
presented by Nicole

Ogren and Jake Archbold

**Session 2-Leadership: Leading Without Conforming** presented by Jillian Nelson

**Session 3-Assessing Transition Needs Among Individuals With Disabilities and Caregivers** presented by Mahasweta Bose, Carl Arps, Dr. Rebekah Hudock\*, Dr. Chimei Lee, and Maren Christenson Hofer\*

**Session 4-What's Behind the Mask: An Exploration of Masking, Burnout, and the Autistic Experience** presented by Santanna Ficken and Sophie Tomsy

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

**8-9:30 A.M.**

**Keynote: Beyond Words: Exploring Autistic Multimodal Communication**  
Presented by Joyner Emerick

What does it mean to communicate with gestures, movie scripts, sound effects, and music? Joyner Emerick, an autistic adult, parent, and educational leader, presents a keynote that challenges traditional communication boundaries and highlights how autistic people of all ages and abilities utilize



diverse methods to express themselves and relate to each other. Emphasizing sensory-rich, emotion-driven communication, we'll uncover how colors, places, and melodies can both convey complex narratives and serve day to day communication functions. This session advocates for inclusive approaches that are responsive to autistic culture, and creative strategies that empower autistic people and those supporting them. Join us in redefining communication to embrace the multifaceted nature of the autistic experience.

**Joyner Emerick**(any pronouns) is an autistic storyteller, parent, and advocate, and was the first openly autistic person elected to the Minneapolis Public Schools Board of Education. With a background in grassroots organizing and a passion for communication and literacy access for all, Joyner's world centers on their family, which includes two autistic children. Joyner's lived experiences as an autistic person, caregiver across diverse support needs, educational advocate, and school board member have shaped their perspective on supporting neurodivergent development.

**10-11 A.M.**

## **Breakout Session 1**

**Session 1**-The Art of Coregulation: Strategies to Regulate Emotions from Neurodivergent

Perspectives presented by Tiffany Schroeer, Chelsey Hendrickx, and Revel Weber

**Session 2**-Setting and Keeping Boundaries presented by Sara Lahti

**Session 3**-Accessible Healthcare presented by Dr. Rebecca Vaurio

**Session 4**-Centering Joy: Lessons Learned from a Family Camp for Autistic Children in the Somali and Oromo Communities

presented by Rufo Jiru, Delia Samuel, and Fatima Molas\*

**11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.**

## **Breakout Session 2**

**Session 1-**  
Empowerment and  
Belonging for Adult  
Women with Late

Diagnoses presented by Laura Adrian

**Session 2-**Bridging Silos presented by Sara Swan

**Session 3-**Let's Talk About 'It:' Building Comfort Around  
Sexuality and Development presented by Elissa Marble and  
Alyssa Perau

**Session 4-**Autistic Mental Health: Preventing and Responding  
to Crisis presented by Amelia Maciejewski

**12:30-1:30 P.M.**

## **LUNCH**

**1:30-2:30 P.M.**

## **Breakout Session 3**

**Session 1-**"Subtle but  
Significant" Autism  
presented by Dr. Megan  
Helmen

**Session 2-**Beyond To-Do Lists: Executive Function from an  
Affirming Perspective presented by Elizabeth Duffy and  
Santanna Ficken

**Session 3-Obtaining Assent in Service Provision for Autistic Individuals** presented by **Rebecca Kolb**

**Session 4-Takeaways from the 2023 International ADHD Conference: RSD, Hormones, and More** presented by **Beth Pitchford**

**2:45-3:45 P.M.**

## **Breakout Session 4**

**Session 1-Research on Autism, Driven by Autistic Researchers (RADAR)** presented by

**Isabelle Morris\***, **Freya Doherty\***, and **Jesica Sykes**

**Session 2-Helping Autistic Minnesotans Make Friends: Lessons Learned from Hosting Events** presented by **Mitchell Schaps**

**Session 3-Sleep Well: Tips and Tricks for Effortless Sleep** presented by **Jeremy Goldberg**

**Session 4-Gifted and Autistic: Unique Strengths, Challenges, and Therapeutic Considerations** presented by **Jaime Ascencio**

**REGISTER**

\*MNLEND speaker

## **EVENTS**

### ***Minnesota Autism Conference 2024***

- » Foundational Workshop 2024
- » ***Minnesota Autism Conference Schedule***
- » 2024 Minnesota Autism Conference Virtual Content

### **Give to the Max Day**

### **State Autism Conference**

## Steps for Autism in Minnesota

## Autism Acceptance Month

## Autistic Community Summit

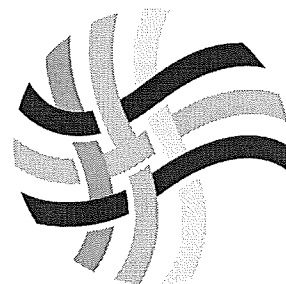
- » Join the Autistic Community Summit Committee
- » Autistic Community Summit: Detailed Schedule

## Puzzle Competition

## SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

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autism society of minnesota



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Email: [info@ausm.org](mailto:info@ausm.org)

Phone: 651.647.1083

Fax: 651.642.1230

Contact Us »



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## **AUSM RESOURCES**

Resource Directory  
Information and Resources  
About Autism  
Participate in Research

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## **THERAPY**

Meet Our Therapists  
Ask the Therapist  
Support Groups  
Make an Appointment  
ACCS Publications

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## **EVENTS**

Event Calendar  
Minnesota Autism Conference 2024  
Autism Acceptance Month  
Steps for Autism in Minnesota  
Puzzle Competition  
Give to the Max Day  
Autistic Community Summit

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## **EDUCATION**

Social and Recreation Programs  
Workshops  
Adult Coffee Club  
Classes

Training

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## **CAMPS**

Hand in Hand

Discovery

Day Camp

Work at Camp

Camp Info and Paperwork

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## **TAKE ACTION**

Donate

NeurodivergArt: Spotighting Autistic Artists

Fundraise

Partner

Advocate

Become a Member

Connect

Join Our Team

Volunteer

Participate in Research

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## **ABOUT**

Staff

History and Mission

Board of Directors

Join Our Team

News

Media Inquiries

Financials

Policies and Initiatives

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## **NEWS**

AuSM Event

Call to Action

General

AuSM Class/Training

AuSM Social and Recreation Programs

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## Scholarship, Training, & Sponsorship Application

**Name:** Chantel Browne  
**Address:** 829 Marshall St. NE Apt. 200 Minneapolis, MN 55413  
**Phone:** 608-738-5119

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities/  
**Organization:** Fraser  
  
**Email:** brow4437@umn.edu

**Please choose the type of scholarship you are requesting:**

- Individual Scholarships  
 Training grants  
 Sponsorship for organizations or individuals

**Information about training opportunity**

*Please provide the 1) name of the training, 2) the sponsoring organization/agency for the training, 3) dates for the training, and 4) what types of continuing education credits are available. If you are creating the training or sponsoring the event, please respond to these same questions and indicate your target audience.*

- 1) AUSM 2024 Conference
- 2) Autism Society of Minnesota
- 3) April 18th-19th
- 4) Continuing Education for me as a student (research lab was accepted on the panel) and as a future behavior analyst

**Please describe briefly how the training or sponsored event goals align with the CMHC as well as the guiding principles of the CMHC:**

- The children's mental health service continuum includes a *comprehensive and integrated* array of services and supports.
- Services are *individualized* to meet the unique and specific needs of the child, youth and family.
- Services are provided in the *least restrictive* and most appropriate setting.
- Services are *coordinated* at the system and individual service levels.
- *Youth and family are at the center* of all planning, at both an individual service level and a larger system level.
- *Prevention and early intervention* strategies are necessary in the overall continuum of services.
- Utilize a *health equity lens and cultural humility perspective* to address disparities and ensure access to culturally and linguistic competent services.
- Decisions are *driven by data and research on best practice*.

AUSM will include multiple keynote speakers and breakout rooms to discuss autism services such as providing neurodiversity affirming services, addressing trauma in autistic adults, person-centered approaches, taking a non-conforming approach to children's mental health services and supports, as well as addressing what assent/consent looks like in non-speaking children's services which is the panel my research lab will be supporting. These trainings and event goals align with the following CMHC guiding principles: comprehensive and integrated array of services and supports, services and individualized to meet the unique and specific needs of the child, youth, and family, services and provided in the least and restrictive and most appropriate setting, services are coordinate at the individual service level, utilize a cultral humility perspective as well as decisions are driven by data and research based practices.



**Amount (and Percent) of funds Requested**

*Please refer to scholarship application criteria regarding amount of funds available for individuals or agencies. Please describe how these scholarship, training or sponsorships funds would be used.*

I am requesting the amount of the two-day training (\$395)

I have not requested any other financial support for this training.

**Please include a copy of the following items with your application.**

- a. A copy of the literature and/or schedule of training
- b. A copy of the marketing materials to promote your own training
- c. Include any other financial support you have received for the training. Examples include funds from an employer, service organization, and scholarship or reduced fee from the training opportunity. Include any requests that are pending for financial support. Any opportunity to document how other funds are leveraged to augment total training costs is always encouraged.

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2024

### Opening Circle & Approval of Minutes and Agenda

- Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn shared that minutes will have to be approved next month as an error needs to be corrected.
- Krista Phillips moved to approve the March agenda with the adjustment of moving scholarship discussions to the top and Angela Watts seconded. Amended agenda approved.

### Business Actions and Updates

- Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn shared that we have multiple scholarship requests. Two requests came in for the Minnesota Autism Conference, Laura shared details of who applied and what their role is within the organization. Cindy Slowiak moved to approve Alissa Babcock and Chantel Browne's scholarship applications, each at 75% of costs to attend training, and Pat Dale seconded. Motion approved. Laura shared that we also have three PCLG members planning to attend the MACMH conference. These include Sara Venueza, Jennifer Bertram, and Amy Hanson. Laura shared that Hayley Tompkins is unable to attend the conference but she and Fatima Muhammad will be providing support to parents during the conference. Cindy motioned to approve the scholarship requests for the three PCLG parents, Laura, and Fatima and Angela seconded. Motion approved.

### Work Plan and 2024 Priorities

- Laura provided an update on the Coordination team making time to go through the 2023-2025 workplan and shared the high-level recommendations and questions. One of the overarching goals is to ensure that the Collaborative's initiatives are culturally and linguistically appropriate. Laura shared the workplan and highlighted overall goals as well as major strategic actions. An important aspect of this workplan is working in SoC coordination.
  - Angela highlighted that in some parts of the workplan, we state that we want to engage 'BIPOC families' and in another, we say 'diverse families'. Angela pointed out that these do not mean the same thing and stated that if we truly want to engage more Indigenous families we must engage in Indigenous-focused outreach. Cindy clarified that we used the word 'diverse' because that was the wording in the grant. Angela shared that she feels it would be beneficial for all members of the Collaborative if the workplan outlined what was grant-focused and what was strictly CMH-focused.
- Cheryl Holm-Hansen shared a diagram illustrating the Collaborative's contributions to the system of care work as well as Hennepin County's contributions. Some of the Collaborative's contributions include YMHFA training, peer navigation support, and more. Some of the county's contributions include FRSS, wrap-around, and more. The

diagram also includes questions surrounding how we can collaborate and coordinate with the county in this system of care work. The Coordination Team suggests we Collaborate on the family engagement goals as we have similar goals and initiatives.

- Laura then highlighted some of the key questions related to the workplan. One question that Laura highlighted was how and where we can best include the work of Executive and Governance Committee members in our overall goals. Another question was how can we support addressing cultural and linguistic needs in mental health services. Laura highlighted that we have lots of different languages surrounding increased access to peer support for parents, including peer support specialists and navigational support and she would like to take some time discussing if supporting these separate goals would address what parents are saying they need or if we should put our focus in one place. Laura shared that we will provide WRAP training and train-the-trainer opportunities for parents in Hennepin County.
  - Cindy shared that for all of these goals, she would like to have more discussion surrounding what the desired outcomes of these goals are and what steps we can take to support those outcomes.
- Laura then asked for guidance on how we can continue the conversation about key recommendations from parents and caregivers. Krista shared that what she remembers from last month is the lack of time to discuss these recommendations and that her suggestion would be to ensure we had more time. Cindy suggested that we focus the conversation on what can we as partners of the collaborative so we do not take on more than what we can do.
- Lastly, Laura shared that the recommendation on how we schedule and plan our meetings from the coordination team was that we continue to have our monthly meeting where we dive into these discussions around how we are supporting the workplan and once a quarter have a business section where we do reports, voting, and other required actions.

### **Partner Updates**

- Cindy shared that she will be retiring in May and has been working with her team to be able to provide a smooth transition. She will share more information as its available.

### **Adjournment**

- Krista moved to adjourn and Cindy seconded. Meeting adjourned.