

## South Sound Autism Partnership Minutes

Friday, February 12, 2021

**Next Meeting: Friday, March 12, 2021 at 9:30 AM** with guest speakers Dr. Gary Stobbe, Neurologist, Medical Director of UW Medicine Adult Autism Clinic; David Eaton, Family Nurse Practitioner, Seattle Children's Autism Center; Dr. Alan Gill, Family Physician, Tacoma Family Medicine, Director of Multicare Adult Developmental Clinic.

Our guest speakers will be sharing information about the COVID-19 vaccine including the importance of members of the Autistic and Developmental Disabilities community getting vaccinated due to their increased risk of having severe illness or death if they contract COVID-19. There will also be time for questions following the presentation.

**In Attendance:** **Patti Matestic**-UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Betsie Walter**-Mary Bridge Children's Hospital; **Katherine Thorn** – PAVE and mother of child with ASD; **Don Hamm** – Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) on JBLM; **Sandi Gruberg** –Pierce County Coalition for Developmental Disabilities (PC2); **Jamie Graham**-Hope Sparks; **Gabrielle Marina Miller**- UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Teresa Kapelle**- UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Ashley Mangum**-Kids Mental Health Pierce; **Kathryn Holly**-UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Ryan Hanning**-- Imagine Behavior; **Darcia King**—Developmental Disability Administration, Parent; **Heather Swanson**-NAMI and Square Pegs on campus, self-advocate, parent; **Amy Prezbonowski**—Multicare Child and Family Services; **Ronnie San Nicholas**—UW Tacoma, Social Work, Simon Family Endowment;

### **I. Guest Speaker --Heather Swanson UW Tacoma presented about NAMI and Square Pegs on UW, Tacoma campus.**

- A. NAMI on campus supports students, faculty and staff of the UW Tacoma campus struggling with mental health by providing mental health resources for those in need.
- B. Square Pegs Adult Autistic Meet Up-Currently an online meet up that is peer led intending to give a space for all those with a diagnosis or self-identifying over 18 years of age to meet and share experiences and feelings. Meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. *Please see attached flyer for further information*
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### **II. Resource Sharing**

- A. Kathryn Holley of UW Autism Center Tacoma announced the following upcoming seminars:  
Executive Functioning Series—Beginning February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Sleep Webinar—March 13<sup>th</sup>  
Autism/ADHD Series—March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
*See attached flyers for more information*
- B. Katherine Thorn of PAVE reports that the monthly family support group has changed to the second Thursday of each month at 12:30 PM with topics including Sleep and Eating Issues. Further information can be found at <https://wapave.org/event/awesome-autism/>
- C. Ryan Hanning of Imagine Behavior announced the opening of their covid friendly in-house Early Intervention Center intensive program in Federal Way. They also offer in-home therapy services. For more information go to [www.imaginebehavior.com](http://www.imaginebehavior.com).
- D. Ronnie San Nicholas of UW Tacoma announced the upcoming third annual Autism Awareness Colloquium presented by the Simon Family Endowment. Presentations will provide a macro and micro perspective supporting a neurodiverse perspective.
- E. Sandi Gruberg of PC2 announced their Estate Planning for family with special needs series. Please see [www.pc2online](http://www.pc2online) and attached brochure for further information.

- F. Do You Want to Make Your Voice Heard? Join Kindering for a free 2-part virtual workshop on advocacy and leadership beginning Monday, March 15, 2021. *For more information, please see the brochure.*
- G. 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WA Fatherhood Summit presents an opportunity to gain further resources for fathers out there from March 16<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>. *See attached flyer for more details.*