

South Sound Autism Partnership Minutes

Friday, January 8, 2021

Next Meeting: Friday, February 5, 2021 at 9:30 AM with guest speaker Heather Swanson, Founder/Facilitator of Square Pegs on the UW Tacoma Campus.

In Attendance: **Patti Matestic**-UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Laura O'Rourke**-Behavior Bridges; **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); **Anne Hand**-A Step Ahead; **Jamie Graham**-Hope Sparks; **Andy Song**-Developmental Disabilities Administration; **David Stenger**-Maxim Healthcare Services; **Dan Tolson** – Department of Developmental Pediatrics at Madigan Army Medical Center; **Gabrielle Marina Miller**- UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Teresa Kapelle**- UW Autism Center, Tacoma; **Ashley Mangum**-Kids Mental Health Pierce

- I. Guest Speaker
 - A. **Ashley Mangum, Project Manager from Kids Mental Health Pierce County**
 1. Kids Mental Health Pierce County spearheads an effort to combine community resources to improve access to care for families during a mental health crisis. To learn more, see attached powerpoint presentation.
 2. Families can access care through the Pierce County Crisis Line at 1-800-576-7764. This line provides the point of entry into the behavioral health services system with possible resources including mobile crisis teams, referral to services and care coordination.
- II. Resource Sharing
 - A. Patti Matestic of UW Autism Center Tacoma invites all to join the UW Autism Center for our 5th Annual *Virtual* Benefit Event on January 30, 2021 with keynote speaker Temple Grandin. Go to <https://uwautismejoinme.org/tickets> to register.
 - B. Katherine Thorn of Parent to Parent 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. Anne Hand from Step Ahead reports that they are preparing to meet again with clients face to face soon.
 - D. Kindering is providing a special Spanish-language radio series for parents of children with special needs at 3:00 PM Tues, January 26 on radio station El Rey 1360 AM. See attached brochure for further information.
 - E. Square Pegs Adult Autistic Meetup meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. See attached brochure for further details.
 - F. SSAP is thrilled to congratulate Andy Song of the Developmental Disabilities Administration who has been appointed by Governor Inslee to a committee tasked with addressing community access to mental health services in our state.