The University of Maine Digital Commons @UMaine

Poster Presentations

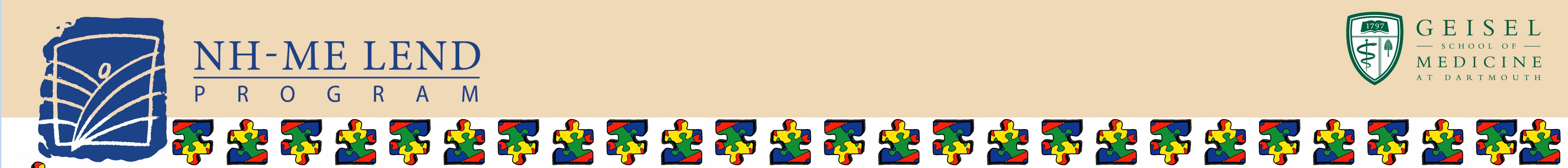
Center for Community Inclusion and Disability
Studies

4-2019

ASM – A Friend for Life: A Training Manual and Guide for Parents, Providers, and Individuals

Allan French

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/ccids_posters Part of the Disability Studies Commons







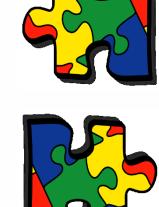


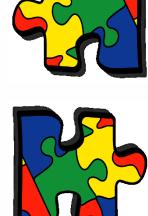






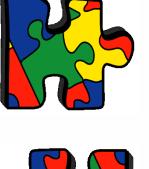




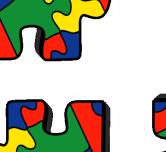






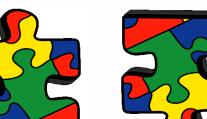












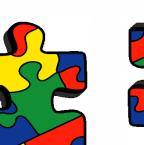




















Summary:

This work is a collaborative effort with members of the

society, and strongly supports the ASM options policy,

which is: "The ASM promotes the active and informed

services and supports." In order to access supports for

each individual, the information has to be obtainable,

comprehensive manual serves to accomplish this need.

LEND and ASM will produce a working document that

professionals, while also being amenable to any future

Conclusions:

The final product of this manual is a reflection on the

invaluable educational tool to support the valued lives

families. With the help of this manual, it will be easier

for families to navigate complex systems in ways that

friends through ASM. For further information, please

visit the ASM website at: https://www.asmonline.org

will ultimately benefit both the families and their

children with ASD. Along the way, there will be a

reliable resource and a welcoming family of new

can be easily referenced by individuals, families, and

clear, and current, and successful completion of this

In being actively engaged throughout this project,

changes in policy and resources as they develop.

mission and purpose statements of ASM. It is an

of individuals on the autism spectrum and their

involvement of family members and individuals with

autism in the planning of individual appropriate



















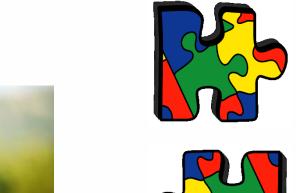








































In collaboration with the NH – ME LEND Program, the Autism Society of Maine (ASM) has set forth the goal of providing an up-to-date, accurate, relevant, and easy to follow manual that highlights nearly every aspect of **Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). From initial** questions and concerns, to resources for independent living as adults, this nine module "How to" manual will provide guidance throughout the lifetime to individuals and families facing the challenges associated with ASD.

Background:

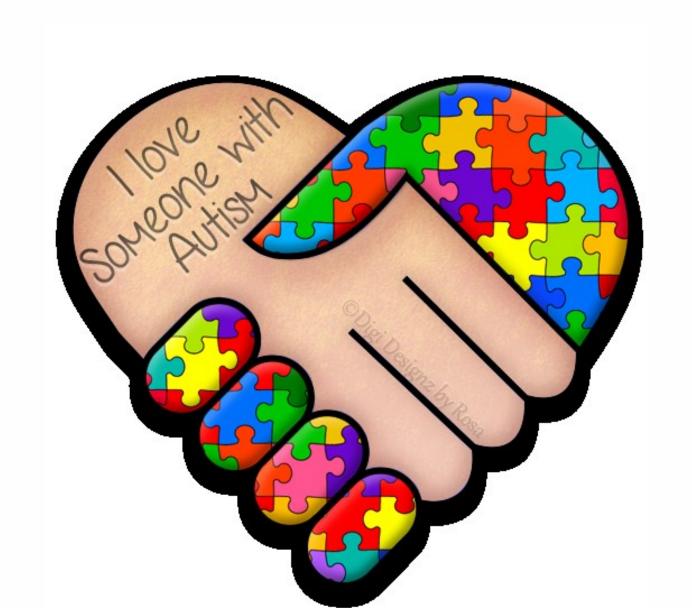
Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a unique and often challenging developmental disorder with a broad range of symptoms and presentations. Resources to help individuals and their families who discover a diagnosis of ASD are critical to lifelong care and successful outcomes of day to day living. Agencies such as the Autism Society of Maine (ASM) help to promote access to these varied resources, and ultimately to assist in navigating opportunities that are available to all individuals on the autism spectrum. Through advocacy, education, awareness and support, ASM seeks to build the bridge between initial diagnosis and eventual participation as active members of the community for individuals with ASD.



ASM – A Friend for Life:

A Training Manual and Guide for Parents, Providers, and Individuals

By: Al French BSN, BA Biology, ME LEND Biology Trainee Leadership Mentors: Cathy Dionne – Executive Director Autism Society of Maine, and Nancy Ponzetti-Dyer – President Autism Society of Maine



Description:

Building off the prior version of the ASM Manual, some strategic organizational changes have been made for this edition. We have modified content to match that of current information about ASD, including updated: statistics, diagnostic definitions, valuable tips and resources, and perspectives from individuals living with autism. The manual is comprehensive, yet user friendly and voiced in an informative and caring manner. The nine modules are presented as follows:

Module 1: What is Autism? Module 2: What can families with an autism diagnosis expect? Module 3: Acquiring social services for your child **Module 4: Autism and Strategies for Healthy Living Module 5: Self-Advocacy** Module 6: Autism and the Education System **Module 7: Getting Older Module 8: Public Services for Autistic Adults**

Module 9: Useful Resources





