



Autism in Somali Children: Building Partnerships to Improve Care

Working together with Education and Medical systems, Families and Interpreters

Friday, June 12, 2009 8am -2:00pm

Conference to be held at the MN Department of Education, Conference Center B (park on West Side of building)
1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113 for directions go to: http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/About_MDE/004657

Professional Program Agenda

- 7:30- 8:00** Check-in and Coffee
- 8:00- 8:10** Introductions/Welcome- **Anne Edwards, MD, FAAP**
- 8:10- 8:30** A Framework on Autism in Minnesota; **Judy Punkyo, Ph.D., MS, MDH**
- 8:30- 9:15** Autism 101 brief background, info on medical evaluation, benefits for child and tools, information on educational evaluation, benefits and tools- **Michael Reiff, MD, FAAP**, U of M Autism Center
Donna Asher and **Lisa Bechtold**, Minneapolis Public schools
- 9:15- 9:30** Break
- 9:30- 10:30** Keynote: **Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp, MD, FAAP**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National and cultural perspectives on autism
- 10:30-11:00** Parent perspectives: **Idil Abdull and Abdulkadir Diriye**, Parent experience and aspirations, what was challenging, what worked, what you would like everyone to know and what will make systems better?
- 11:00-12:30** Creating the Roadmap- working sessions (All participants will rotate through four sessions)
Each session will be lead by topic experts and include parents:
- Screening
 - Evaluation
 - Intervention (Treatment and Education)
 - Resources:
- 12:30- 1:00** Lunch (Somali food), networking and information about Somali culture
- 1:00- 1:20** Teaming Success - real life experience: (a panel of parent, educator, health care provider, and agency)
- 1:20- 1:50** Next steps- Reports from each break-out group for implementation/work planning
- 1:50- 2:00** Wrap-up and evaluation (door prize drawings) Closing Remarks by Ann Edwards, MD