

☞ *Deanna Walsh-Bender, M.S.Ed., L.M.S.W.* ☛

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Education & Training

- 2008 State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York
Master of Social Work
- 1994 Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus, New York
Master of Science in Special Education/Autism
- 1991 Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island
Bachelor of Arts in Elementary & Special Education

Licenses & Certifications

- 2010 Licensed and Credentialed Social Worker
1994 Permanently Licensed and Credentialed Special Education Teacher
1994 Permanently Licensed and Credentialed Elementary School Teacher
1991 New York State Certification in Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse

Professional Experience

1999-Present

Child Advocacy & Parent Empowerment Services (CAPES), East Setauket, NY
Private Practice

Providing therapy, family intervention, DBT treatment, educational consultation, behavior intervention education, client school/court advocacy, curriculum/IEP evaluation, agency seminars, and service provider resource referrals. Clientele includes children, adolescents and young adults with various disorders, their families who love them, the professionals who serve them, and the community at large.

2009-Present

Suffolk DBT Psychological Services, East Setauket, NY
Affiliated Clinician & Consultant

Providing individual DBT treatment sessions, co-leading DBT skills groups, and engaging in weekly DBT consultation team meetings. Consultation services are made available to clients in need of ancillary school/court advocacy. Working on modifying the standard DBT treatment protocol to meet and serve the needs of people challenged by Autism Spectrum Disorder (herein ASD) and related conditions.

2007-2008

Hope House Ministries, Port Jefferson, NY
Social Work Intern

Provided individual, marital, and family therapy in the Counseling Center as well as advocacy and support group facilitation for the men at the Pax Christi Men's Hospitality Center - an emergency homeless shelter.

2007

Lobbying Session at Senator Hillary R. Clinton's Office, NY
Mental Health Advocate

Advocated for mental health parity before Ms. Hanley, the Senator's Special Assistant for Government and Community Relations and Ms. Burns, the Senator's Constituent Liaison. The specific objective of the session was to inform the Senator and staffers of the effects that a lack of mental health parity has on Long Island constituents and encourage support of The Paul Wellstone Mental Health & Addiction Equity Act (H.R. 1424).

2006-2007

Mather Memorial Hospital, Adolescent Psychiatric Unit, Port Jefferson, NY
Psychiatric Social Work Intern

Responsibilities included completion of psychosocial assessments, participation at treatment team meetings, implementation of individual, group and family therapy, arrangement of discharge planning including referral and follow up services as well as family contracting.

1999-2001

Stony Brook Resource Center for Autism & Developmental Disabilities
(Currently the Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities)
Seminar Presenter & Consultant

Created, organized, and routinely presented a series of ongoing seminars designed to educate parents and professionals with a clear working knowledge of various issues related to ASD. The series grew out of a professional consultative alliance with the newly developed Autism Resource Center.

1991-2003

Eastern Suffolk BOCES, North Country Learning Center, Stony Brook, NY
Special Education Teacher

Educated adolescent students challenged by moderate to profound developmental disabilities who most often presented with dual diagnoses (autism spectrum disorders, learning disorders, communication disorders, attention deficit and disruptive behavior disorders, tic disorders, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, epilepsy, visual and hearing impairments, as well as sensory integration disorders). Functional academics, social and life skills, community education, transition to adult outcome readiness and vocational training were the core daily teaching components of the program that adhered to the NY State Standards. Vast experience with IEP creation, implementation and CSE attendance all in collaboration with the multidisciplinary team: parents, administrators, district personnel, paraeducators, speech therapists, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, vision and hearing teachers, as well as agency case managers.

Voluntary Educational Service

- 2001-2003 Assessment Committee Member: In Response to the "No Child Left Behind Act"
- 2001-2003 Autism Spectrum Disorders Committee Member
- 1992-2003 School Wide Newsday Work Simulation Project Developer and Facilitator
- 1992-2003 School Wide Recycling Program Developer and Facilitator
- 1999-2002 Annual Student Profile Teacher Representative and Building Trainer
- 1998-2001 Building Token Economy Committee Member
- 1999-2001 School Store Committee Member
- 1993-2000 Supervisory Cooperating Teacher of Undergraduate/Graduate Student Teachers from Suffolk Community College, Dowling College, St. Joseph's College and Old Westbury College
- 1995-2000 School Environmental Fund Raiser Coordinator
- 1991-2000 Home Program Development and Home Based Parent Trainer
- 1999 Student/Staff Handbook Committee Member
- 1997-1999 Safe Schools Committee Member
- 1997-1999 Shared Decision Making Committee Member
- 1998 Behavior Management System Facilitator for School Wide Programming
- 1996 Building Earth Day Fair Developer and Coordinator
- 1992-1996 Peer Tutoring Program Developer and Coordinator with a Neighboring College Preparatory Junior/Senior High School
- 1993-1994 Community Education Curriculum Committee Member

Voluntary Community Service

2001-Present

Consultant

Providing parent/professional consultation services, Suffolk County, NY

2006

Counselor

Hope House Ministries, Children and Family Center: A not-for-profit organization "committed to young people and families in crisis who are seen as abandoned and neglected," Port Jefferson, NY

2005

Parent Advocate & CSE Participant

Represented parents at Student Committee on Special Education Annual Review Meetings, Suffolk County, NY

2004

Team Fundraiser Coordinator

Alliance for Lupus Research Walk with Us to Cure Lupus, East Meadow, NY

2000

Invited Advocate

The Awareness Committee of the Subcommittee for the Autism Coalition of the Empire State (ACES): A unified statewide group that, at the legislative level, addressed the unprecedented growth in ASD diagnosis and the shortage of effective educational programs, appropriate placements, and trained professionals in New York State, Albany, NY

1997-2000

Board Member & Educational Liaison

Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger Syndrome & other Pervasive Developmental Disorders (herein AHA/AS/PDD while currently renamed AHANY: Asperger Syndrome and High Functioning Autism Association of New York) A not-for-profit parent and professional support, education, and advocacy group, NY

1995-1996

Children's Support Group Facilitator

Rainbows: "An international, not for profit organization that fosters emotional healing among children and adults grieving a loss created by a life-altering crisis," St. James, NY

Professional Memberships

Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR)
American Federation of Teachers (AFT)
AmeriCorps Member 2007-2008
Asperger Syndrome and High Functioning Autism Association (AHA)
Autism Society of America (ASA)
BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk (BEES)
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
Lupus Foundation of America (LFA)
Mental Health America (MHA)
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
New York State United Teachers (NYSUT)

Awards

2007-2008

AmeriCorps Member

AmeriCorps Education Scholarship Recipient, Stony Brook University AmeriCorps Volunteers for Community Service.

1992-1994

Competencies in Autism for Special Educators (CASE) Scholarship Recipient

The CASE grant, funded by the Office of Special Education Programs of the US Department of Education, awarded full tuition reimbursement to obtain a M.S.Ed. in Special Education and ASD. The goal of this grant was to address the critical need to train qualified, specialized professionals to facilitate effective educational services for youth with autism spectrum disorder, a nationally recognized, under-represented population.

1993

Mid East Suffolk Teacher Center Mini Grant

Funds obtained enabled the development and implementation of a yearlong community education inclusion program in the least restrictive environment for adolescents challenged with various developmental disabilities.

Seminar Presentations

- 4/01 **Behavior Intervention in the Home: A One-Month Series**
5/00 The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY
- 1/01 **Understanding Your Child's Sensory Processing Challenges**
5/00 The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY
- 5/00 **Understanding Diagnosis & Symptom Presentation of Autism Spectrum Disorder**
1/00 The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY
- 1/00 **Advocating on Behalf of Your Child in the School Setting**
The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY
- 1/00 **What's Next? Dealing with the Overwhelming Monster Named Transition**
The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY

Invited Lectures

- 5/08 **Autism Spectrum Disorder: Diagnosis, Symptom Presentation, Sensory Integration & Behavioral Intervention**
4/08 Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Graduate Psychopathology Course, SUNY Stony Brook, M.S.W. Program, Stony Brook, NY
- 4/08 **Autism Spectrum Disorder: Diagnosis, Symptom Presentation, Sensory Integration & Behavioral Intervention**
Hope House Ministries, Port Jefferson, NY
- 1999 **Understanding Your Child's Sensory Processing Challenges**
North Shore Special Education Parent Teacher Association (SEPTA), Miller Place, NY
- 1998 **Teaching Methodologies & Strategies for Educating Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder**
Educating Children with Special Needs, Graduate Special Education Course, Long Island University CW Post, M.S.Ed. Program, Brookville, NY

1994 **Behavioral Intervention Strategies for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Annual Conference of the New York State Federation of Chapters of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) – Poster Presentation, Westbury, NY

1994

In Cahoots with the Community

Mid East Suffolk Teacher Center: Mini-Grant Exhibiter, Dowling College, NY (Invited)

Publications & Presentation Documents

Walsh-Bender, D. M. (2008). The sensory detective. In *The Voices of Autism*. New York: La-Chance Publishing.

Walsh, D. M. (2000). Behavior Intervention in the Home: A One-Month Series.

Walsh, D. M. (2000). Dear Deanna column. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 18(August).

Walsh, D. M. (2000). Understanding Diagnosis & Symptom Presentation of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Walsh, D. M., & Feldbau, J. (2000). Understanding the Emotional Responses of Family Members after Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Walsh, D. M., & Kuhn, S. (2000). Advocating on Behalf of Your Child in the School Setting.

Walsh, D. M., Schissel, P. & Sherwood, C. (2000). What's Next? Dealing with the Overwhelming Monster Named Transition.

Walsh, D. M., & Trent, L. (2000). Understanding Your Child's Sensory Processing Challenges.

Walsh, D. M. (1999). Dear Deanna column. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 17(December).

Walsh, D. M. (1999). Dear Deanna column. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 16(June).

Walsh, D. M. (1999). Dear Deanna column. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 15(January).

Walsh, D. M. (1998). Dealing with problem behavior in the home, school & community. *Advocates for Individuals with High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders Newsletter*, 13(March).

Walsh, D. M., Davi, M., Stone, V., & Cunniff, S. (1994). *Transition Area Curricula of the North Country Learning Center*. Patchogue, NY: Eastern Suffolk B.O.C.E.S.

Walsh, D. M., Kennedy, P., & Shweers, C. (1994). Behavioral intervention strategies for parents of children with autism. *The Forum*, 20.