Welcome to the 8th Annual Lighting The Way Conference
Autism Spectrum Disorders in Our Community
Solutions for Success: Diagnosis through Adulthood

The Schedule This Year
At this year’s conference, a highlight is the Dads Only Lunch/Breakout Session on Thursday. Fathers have the potential to be each other’s best resource by sharing experiences and interests. See schedule for more details.

A Parent Reception will be held on Thursday evening from 4:30 – 6:30 PM at Fellows’ Presidential Residence (located near campus at 2817 S. Grange Ave). This reception offers a networking opportunity with other parents, a chance to speak informally with the conference keynote speakers, and visit with LTW planning committee members. Snacks and beverages provided.

Conference Breakout Session Strands
- Supporting Families (SF)
- Best Practices in Education (BP)
- Health and Wellness (HW)
- Transitions Across the Lifespan (TL)

Door Prizes
Door prizes will be awarded at keynote sessions throughout the conference. All registered conference attendees will be automatically entered in the drawing for door prizes. Must be present to win.

Credits
Must sign-up by noon on Thursday to receive credits
DOE, Speech/Language and Social Work CEUs available at no cost.
Graduate credit available for an additional fee.

Wi-Fi Access
Password available at registration table and posted throughout conference.

Lighting The Way Autism Walk
Saturday, June 13th from 9AM - 11AM
Augustana College Campus Commons Circle
For more information contact Jennifer Miller at 605-376-5959
Conference at a Glance

Day 1- Thursday, June 11th

8:00-8:30    Registration
8:30        Welcome
8:30-10:00   Keynote Speaker- Tom Fields-Meyer
10:00-10:30  Break with snack
             Books on sale and for signing by Tom Fields-Meyer
10:30-12:00  Breakout Sessions
12:00-1:00   Lunch in the Commons
12:00-2:30   Dads Only Lunch and Breakout (Halverson Room)
1:00-2:30    Breakout Sessions
2:30-2:45    Break
2:45-4:15    Breakout Sessions
4:30- 6:30   Parent’s Reception

Day 2- Friday, June 12th

8:30-10:00   Keynote Speaker- Jennifer O’Toole
10:00-10:45  Break with snack
             Books on sale and for signing by Jennifer O’Toole
             Visit Vendor Exhibits
             Snacks available
10:45-12:15  Breakout Sessions
12:15-1:00   Lunch/Visit Vendor Exhibits
1:00-2:30    Breakout Sessions
2:30- 2:45   Break with snack
2:45-4:15    Breakout Sessions
About The Keynotes

**Tom Fields-Meyer** is the author of the critically acclaimed memoir *Following Ezra: What One Father Learned About Gumby, Otters, Autism, and Love from His Extraordinary Son*, which was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award. People magazine called Following Ezra “unexpectedly uplifting” and “a heart and mind-altering experience” and Kirkus Reviews said it “depicts parenting with grace and every child as a gift.” A popular speaker, Tom has delighted audiences in more than 30 communities around the country with his entertaining, humorous and moving talks, full of lessons for parents and professionals alike.


Tom was a longtime senior writer for *People* magazine, where he specialized in producing inspiring human-interest stories. His freelance articles have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post* and the *Los Angeles Times*. He has coauthored several memoirs and is an instructor of nonfiction writing at the UCLA Extension Writers’ Program. Tom lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Shawn Fields-Meyer, and their three teenage sons.

**Jennifer O’Toole** is the winner of the Autism Society of America’s 2014 Outstanding Literary Work of the Year, the 2012 Temple Grandin Award, a recipient of GRASP’s 2012 Distinguished Spectrumite Medal, 2012 AuKids Speaker of the Year, and a nominee for the 2012 Autism Society Book Award and Godiva’s Woman of the Year. TV actress/activist Holly Robinson Peete even listed Jennifer among her “Autism Parent Superstars!”

Most recently, she’s been invited to speak to the President’s Council on Fitness at the White House Summit on Americans with Disabilities, and was added to the “Who’s Who” list of International Aspie Mentors — along with Temple Grandin and Stephen Shore — to contribute to Dr. Tony Attwood’s “Been There. Done That. Try This.” anthology. She is founder of Asperkids, LLC, a multi-media social education company, and Academy AK, an online “school of awesomeness for all.”

Jennifer was diagnosed as an Aspie in adulthood, is the mother of three Asperkids, the wife of an Aspie, an award-winning educator and author of the internationally celebrated “Asperkids” book series. She is a featured columnist for *Autism Asperger’s Digest* and *The Australian Autism Asperger’s Network*, and contributor to *Autism Spectrum Quarterly Special* magazine.
Schedule: Thursday, June 11th

8:00AM - 8:30AM – EMC Student Street .......................................................... Registration (Snacks available)

8:30AM - 10:00AM - Edith Mortenson Theater............. Keynote Presenter, Tom Fields-Meyer
Following Ezra: What One Father Learned About Otters, Autism, and Love
When Tom Fields-Meyer's son Ezra was three and showing early signs of autism, a therapist suggested that the father should grieve "for the child he didn't turn out to be." That moment strengthened the father’s resolve to love the child Ezra was, a quirky boy with a fascinating and complex mind. With humor, insight and a writer’s keen eye, Tom will share the journey that became the basis of his critically acclaimed book.

10:00AM - 10:30AM - Foyer.......................................................... Networking Break/ Snacks
Tom Fields-Meyer will be available for book signing

Augustana College Credit Registration will be available at this time and again at lunch.

10:30AM - 12:00PM - Madsen Center / Edith Mortenson Theater............... Breakout Sessions

Strands: Transition Across the Lifespan (TL), Best Practices in Education (BP), Supporting Families (SF), Health and Wellness (HW)

SF: Edith Mortenson Theater

Tom Fields-Meyer— How to Ride an Elevator: And Other Things I Never Thought I’d Have To Teach My Kid
Most of us enter parenting expecting to teach our children the basics: manners and tooth brushing, right and wrong. But when autism enters the equation, we find ourselves having to help our kids with things other children figure out on their own: where to stand on an elevator, how to act at the dentist, what to say to a person who looks different. Sure, planning helps, but sometimes you’re just caught off guard. In this interactive session, we’ll share the trials and tribulations, the troubles and the triumphs of improvised parenting.

BP: Madsen Center 164

Julie Christian— Teaching Written Expression: A Structured Approach
Have you heard “I HATE to write!” Why do written assignments cause meltdowns? Or maybe you know prolific writers who have trouble organizing and sequencing their thoughts. This session will address how to teach skills in written expression with practical strategies covering a range of issues. Leave this session with ideas and resources you can implement immediately.

This session will be repeated at 1:00 - 2:30PM in the same room

SF: Madsen Center 255

Page Hudson— Accessibility in Apple’s iOS and PC Based Assistive Technology
This presentation will discuss the Accessibility Features in Apple’s iOS and new and emerging PC based Assistive Technology. As technology changes, Page will discuss how to keep up to date with the plethora of apps and devices that are relevant and also the technology that has passed its time. We will also discuss Augmentative Communication.

HW: Madsen Center 201

Tony Boer— Stress, Anxiety, and Autism
This session will focus on stress, anxiety and how it manifests in individuals who have Autism. We will talk about symptoms and treatment of anxiety in general and how that it differs in those that have autism. Special focus will be on social anxiety and ideas on how to manage it.
12:00PM - 1:00PM - Commons Dining Room .......................... Lunch  
Augustana College Credit Registration will be available at this time in the Commons Dining Room. This is the last opportunity to register for credit.

Dads Only Session will begin with lunch in the Halverson Room - right off the Commons Dining Room. If you would like to join this conversation, please get your lunch and meet in the Halverson Room. This conversation will continue through the next breakout period.

1:00PM - 2:30PM - Madsen Center ............................................................... Breakout Sessions

Strands: Transition Across the Lifespan (TL), Best Practices in Education (BP), Supporting Families (SF), Health and Wellness (HW)

SF: Halverson Room in the Commons Building
Tom Fields- Meyer— For Dads Only: A Space for Discussion
In raising children with autism, fathers face a unique set of challenges, doubts, worries and pleasures. This interactive session, led by the father of a 19-year-old with autism, will offer a safe and supportive space for dads with children of all ages to share our journeys, our successes, and our concerns. Come prepared to share and listen.

BP: Madsen Center 164
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TL: Madsen Center 255
John Hamilton— Transfer of Rights, Power of Attorney, and Guardianship/Conservatorship: Options for Parents and Students When Students Turn Age 18
Not only do all special education parental rights transfer to South Dakota students upon turning age 18, but all other adult rights and responsibilities transfer or are automatically assumed as well. If parents believe their adult child will have difficulties making some or all of life’s decisions as a result of the student’s disability, options should be considered and acted upon prior to the 18th birthday. This presentation will discuss transfer of rights at age 18, options of Power of Attorney and Guardianship/Conservatorship, and specific information regarding these options. The presenters will also discuss and provide participants with a resource for parents and students they helped create that covers these topics.

This session will be repeated at 2:45 - 4:15PM in the same room

SF: Madsen Center 202
KD Munson, Brenda Smith, & Julie Hand— Envisioning a Good Life- Charting the Life Course
Every person, from a very young age, dreams about what they want to be, where they want to live, and what their life will look like when they are grown. It should be no different just because a person experiences disability. During this session, participants will learn about tools and strategies to think, plan, and explore experiences that lead to a good life. Tools included in this session will provide a person centered thinking structure and employment strategies. The best gift any of us can give is optimism, high expectations, and life experiences that help prepare those we care about for the road ahead. Are you ready for a full and interactive session with tools to take with you?

This session will be repeated at 2:45 - 4:15PM in the same room

SF: Madsen Center 257
Sean Gallup— Techniques to Reduce Stress
This workshop will give easy steps to reduce the stresses of life. Learning to agnoliq and control our stress is important before it leads to physical and emotional health issues.
2:30PM - 2:45PM - Madsen Center Atrium………………………………………………..Networking Break with Snack

2:45PM - 4:15PM - Madsen Center…………………………………………………………….. Breakout Sessions

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**TL: Madsen Center 255**

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**SF: Madsen Center 201**

*Robin Mills— Home Program Suggestions for Children with Sensory Challenges*

Children with sensory processing challenges require family centered services including a sensory diet to use at home and in the community. This workshop will discuss and present activities to keep calm, alert, and/or organize your child. Come ready to play!

**BP: Madsen Center 164**

*Lance DeRoos— Autism Tips and Resources for Parents and Teachers: A Personal History and Professional Challenge*

Understanding the diverse needs of students with ASD can be overwhelming for parents and educators. Through personal stories and practical insights, this presentation provides parents and educators options for accommodations at home and in the classroom.

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**Parent Reception at President’s House**

*(Located near campus at 2817 S. Grange Ave)*

**4:30PM - 6:30PM**

*Meet in Madsen Center lobby if you need directions and the group will head over together.*
Schedule: Friday, June 12th

8:00AM - 8:30AM – EMC Student Street ................................................................. Check-In
(Snacks available)

8:30AM - 10:00AM - Edith Mortenson Theater ................. Keynote Presenter, Jennifer O’Toole

Been There. Get That: The Secret Social Rules Every Aspie Kid Needs to Know (But No-one Ever Tells Us)

Being a teen or tween isn’t easy for anyone—but it’s especially tough for Asperkids. I know. I was one, I

taught a whole bunch, and I am going to be raising three! That’s also why I know that Asperkids deserve their

very own guide to all of the hidden social rules that are awfully confusing to us, even if they seem obvious to
everyone else. This isn’t your momma’s Emily Post, and there is no “don’t do this” finger-wagging or

patronizing “high and mighty preaching” here. Instead, this is funny, honest, real stuff. It’s first-hand advice
from an Aspie to Aspies, the talk that leaves teens asking out loud, “How did she get inside my head?” and
walking away believing in their own awesomeness.

10:00AM - 10:45AM - Foyer ......................... Break / Jennifer O’Toole will be available for book signing

Madsen Center ................................................................. Visit Vendor Booths / Snacks

10:45AM - 12:15PM – Madsen Center / Edith Mortenson Theater ................. Breakout Sessions

Strands: Transition Across the Lifespan (TL), Best Practices in Education (BP), Supporting Families (SF), Health and Wellness (HW)

SF: Edith Mortenson Theater

Jennifer O’Toole— See-Through Eggshells and Chalk on the Trampoline: Building Extraordinary

People Through Ordinary Stuff

No child is born lazy or apathetic, careless or afraid. Instead, Jennifer has seen time and again that kids all

over the world WANT to LEARN and be happy. But somewhere along the way, life teaches them that asking

questions can get you in trouble…or that trying something different doesn’t make you “original,” it just makes

you “weird.” That just plain stinks. Real learning isn’t a spectator sport. Neither is real living. SO, c’mon
grown-ups! Let’s discover how we can shake up our parenting, our teaching, and our perspectives. Atypically
means extra work. Yes. But whoever chose a hero because he was so “normal”? 

BP: Madsen Center 257

Carla Miller— Understanding the Impact of Executive Skills Delays

Many students with ASD, ADD and Learning Disabilities demonstrate delays in Executive Skills. This

session will review the basic skills involved in executive functioning and discuss how delays in these areas
impact student learning. Ideas and strategies will be discussed to help students who demonstrate delays in
Executive Skills.

TL: Madsen Center 255

Jalynn Joy, Sara Hansen, Adam Smith, Leah Mogck— Sibling Panel: Transitions Through Life-

A Sibling Perspective

Transitions happen throughout everyone’s life. The way we prepare and handle for those transitions can be
positive or can be negative. As siblings of someone with a disability, we hope to share and help prepare
families and siblings for the different phases of transitions in their lives.

BP: Madsen Center 202

Tammy Dyson & Tiffany Denyer— Use of Service Dogs in Educational Settings

This seminar will cover all of the uses, hints and tools a service dog brings to the classroom. We will cover
the law, compliance, and therapeutic uses. We will focus on the individual with the dog, the classroom and
how it affects the school as a whole.
12:15PM - 1:00PM - Commons Dining Room……………………………………... Lunch

1:00PM - 2:30PM - Madsen Center…………………………………………………… Breakout Sessions

**Strands:** Transition Across the Lifespan (TL), Best Practices in Education (BP), Supporting Families (SF), Health and Wellness (HW)

**BP: Madsen Center 257**

**Lora Barthelman— Neurologic Music Therapy for Sensorimotor, Communication, and Cognitive Needs**

Neurologic Music Therapy (NMT) is a research-based system of standardize clinical techniques for sensorimotor training, speech/language training, and cognitive training. The focus is on functional, therapeutic goals for development and adaptation using specific music interventions. Participants will learn why music therapy is beneficial for individuals with ASD, and have a clearer understanding of specific NMT techniques that address various domain areas.

*This session will be repeated at 2:45 - 4:15PM in the same room*

**BP: Madsen Center 255**

**Garreth Zalud—Searching for Solutions to Help Teachers**

Reading Specialists are often called upon to help teachers with at risk learners. Few have backgrounds that prepared them for working with specific disabilities. This session will overview findings to the question, “How can I help a child with autism learn to read?”

*This session will be repeated at 2:45 - 4:15PM in the same room*

**TL: Madsen Center 202**

**Tammy Dyson — Elopement Prevention Across Environments**

This seminar will cover a list of resources available to prevent eloping behavior and keep the spectrum individual safe. We will cover everything from tracking devices, home security, locks, service dogs and much more.

**BP: Madsen Center 164**

**Kim Dobson— Visual Strategies**

Visual strategies such as schedules, boundary settings, behavior supports, power cards and social stories will be covered. Various ways to create, implement and eventually fade out visual supports will be shared. The effectiveness of visual strategies and how they can support and enhance the Common Core and Student Learning Outcomes will be discussed.

*This session will be repeated at 2:45 - 4:15PM in the same room*

2:30PM - 2:45PM - Madsen Center…………………………………………………… Networking Break with Snack

2:45PM - 4:15 PM - Madsen Center…………………………………………………… Breakout Sessions

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**SF: Madsen Center 202**

**Elaine Roberts & Eric Kurtz—Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-V): Update on Changes and What It Means for ASD**

The session will focus on the changes in the DSM-V and the impact for individuals on the spectrum and their families. SD Administrative Rules have been updated and will be shared. Time will be provided for questions and answers.
**PRESENTER INFORMATION**

**Adam Smith** - Adam Smith grew up in Mitchell, SD. He is a proud graduate of Augustana College. He currently lives in Sioux Falls with his wife and two children. The first stretch of his life he felt people knew him as “Adam, that guy with the handicapped brother.” Now he is proud to be known by many as “Derek’s Brother, Adam.” When he is not at work or at home with his kids he enjoys…well, the kids are 5 and 3 year’s old so what other time is there?

**Brenda Smith** - Brenda has been involved in the disability field for over thirty years. She has a degree in Elementary/Special Education and is a Person Centered Thinking Trainer. She currently provides training to direct support professionals, educators, families, and self-advocates. Brenda feels her greatest life teachings have come from her son, as well as from other individuals with disabilities and their families. She is passionate about helping families envision positive futures for their sons and daughters.

**Carla Miller** - Carla has worked in the field of special education for 31 years. She received her Master’s Degree from USD in Vermillion and is in the process of completing her doctorate from there also. As part of her master’s program she completed an eight week practicum at Division TEACCH at UNC, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She helped to establish the Autism Project at the USD Center for Disabilities. Carla also worked at CCHS in Sioux Falls setting up programs for individuals with autism and as part of an evaluation and outreach team. Following this she worked as an Administrator and Autism Team Leader for the Sioux Falls School District. She currently teaches special education course work and supervises student teachers at the college level.

**Dr. Eric Kurtz, Ph. D.** - Dr. Eric Kurtz is the Director of the South Dakota Leadership Excellence in Neurodevelopmental Disorders Program (SD LEND), Director of Clinical Operations, Director of the Autism Spectrum Disorders Program, and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at The Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota Center for Disabilities. He directs the Center's specialty clinics including Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic, two Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Clinics, and the Developmental Clinic. Dr. Kurtz provides technical assistance and consultation to multiple agencies across the region including the SD Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and Department of Education, and provides ongoing interdisciplinary clinical training. In addition, he has been appointed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as South Dakota’s Act Early Ambassador, serves as the discipline head for autism related studies and training for the SD LEND Program, and is the leader of the South Dakota Act Early Team. He is also the lead investigator and regional coordinator for the South Dakota site of the Midwest Regional Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Training Center MRFASTC, a CDC funded project aimed at increasing knowledge and performance regarding prevention, diagnosis and management of FASD. Dr. Kurtz has an extensive background in providing comprehensive psychological services within school, treatment, clinical, and forensic settings. He has presented locally, regionally, and nationally on mental health topics. Dr. Kurtz is a member of the American Psychological Association (APA).

**Elaine Roberts** - Elaine is the Executive Director at South Dakota Parent Connection, a retired special education teacher from the Sioux Falls School District, past president of SDEA/NEA, and a former State Legislator. Elaine has a Master’s Degree in Special Education and extensive post graduate hours. Elaine serves on the SD DD Division Core Stakeholders Group, as well as the Governor’s Employment Works Task Force. Elaine is the parent of three adult children, two of whom have learning disabilities.

**Garreth Zalud** - Dr. Zalud teaches course work in reading to undergraduate and graduate students at the University of South Dakota.

**Jalynn Joy Schmitz** - is a sibling to a family member with special needs. Jalynn is a 2011 graduate of Augustana College with a Bachelors of Art degree in Special Education and Elementary Education. She currently works in the Pierre School District as a Special Education Resource Room teacher, striving to make inclusion and people first language a priority.

**John A. Hamilton** - John has been Legal Affairs Director of South Dakota Advocacy Services (SDAS) for 29 years, advocating for persons with disabilities in legal and non-legal forums. John has authored/co-authored several publications and is editor of the *South Dakota Report*. John is a former president of the SDPC Board of Directors.
Julie Christian- Julie began her career in the Sioux Falls School District as a teacher in a pilot classroom through the South Dakota Autism Program which led her to a consulting position with the program. She left that position in 1999 and has continued as an independent consultant while raising and homeschooling her five children. She has a wide range of experiences working with individuals that cover the spectrum. She particularly enjoys teaching Social Thinking to children, teens and adults.

Katherine D. Munson- KD has worked for the Division of Developmental Disabilities for over 10 years and has held a variety of positions supporting people with disabilities since 1994. She has worked with providers and families throughout her career. KD is a Person Centered Thinking (PCT) trainer and has lead the PCT efforts in South Dakota since it began in 2007. As the mother of five children, she believes all children are unique and can be successful with the right supports.

Kim Dobson- Kim worked for the Sioux Falls School District in a self-contained classroom for 14 years and worked as an Elementary Autism Team Leader and Integration Specialist for 7 years. Kim spent two years as an Assistant Special Education Professor at Augustana College. Kim is back with the Sioux Falls School District and is teaching in the Structured Teach Classroom which is a part of the Bridges Program at Horace Mann Elementary.

Lance De Roos- Lance is a playwright, and speech and theatre teacher at Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. He has a 23-year old son with Autism. Lance has shared his insights on being a parent of a child with autism at In Services, Current Trends in Education Conference, and previous Lighting the Way Conferences. In his spare time, Lance enjoys travel, photography, reading, movies and seeing as many theatrical productions as he can.

Leah Mogck- Leah is going to be a sophomore next year at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls. Her interests are in writing and art. Leah is a younger sister to a sibling with special needs. Leah attended Sibshops throughout her younger years.

Lora Barthelman, MS, MT-BC- Lora received a Master’s of Science in Music Therapy with an emphasis on research and music technology and a B.S. in Music Therapy from Indiana University and is certified through the National Certification Board for Music Therapists. She has completed an advance practice specialty in Neo-Natal Intensive Care Music Therapy from Florida State University and Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, and recently completed her Neurologic Music Therapy (NM T) credential from Colorado State University. She is a member of the American Music Therapy Association and a life member of Sigma Alpha Iota, a professional music organization. Lora is the chair of the South Dakota Music Therapy Task Force with the American Music Therapy Association. She is a graduate of Partners in Policymaking for South Dakota, year 13. Lora is a past chair of the governor appointed Family Support Council for the state. She is a certified trainer for the Tools for Positive Behavior Change parenting curriculum. Lora has been practicing music therapy in South Dakota and southwest Minnesota since 1993 in a variety of settings and populations. Her emphasis is early childhood special needs and individuals with developmental disabilities. Lora currently is in private practice with Music Therapy Services of South Dakota, LLC and holds contracts with school districts, agencies and private clients.

Page Hudson- Page has been with DakotaLink since January of 2001. He has a psychology degree from South Dakota State University, 3/4 coursework complete for his Master’s in business from the University of Sioux Falls and was a technical manager for over seven years prior to his employment with DakotaLink. He is responsible for providing information and referral on assistive technology devices, conducts assessments and research into the procurement of devices, and provides installation and training for individuals, groups and agencies/organizations.

Robin Mills- Robin is an occupational therapist at LifeScape Rehab Center. She has worked with children with sensory processing disorder for 30 years and has loved every minute of it. Robin attended St. Catherine University and has attended many courses and trainings in the area of SPD.

Sara Hansen, Ed.D., CED- Sara is a Training Associate at the Center for Disabilities, University of South Dakota, Sanford School of Medicine. Sara's educational background includes degrees in Special Education from the University of South Dakota as well as a national certification in Deaf Education (CED) through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her professional experience includes 11 years of service at the South Dakota School for the Deaf. Sara has served individuals with disabilities from birth through adulthood and specializes in evaluation and plan development. Sara is a sibling to an adult brother with deafness and a cognitive disability.
**Sean Gallup**- Sean is an Ayurvedic Lifestyle Consultant. Ayurveda is India’s form of natural medicine and is the oldest forms of medicine in existence. Ayurveda uses the tools of yoga, meditation, diet and lifestyle to significantly change how we feel physically and emotionally.

**Tammy Dyson**- Tammy earned her BS Ed in 1986 at Concordia University - Nebraska and MA Ed in 2014 at Augustana College, Sioux Falls. She began her teaching career as a middle school social studies teacher. In 1995, Tammy started teaching GED classes for the Illinois Department of Corrections where she has taught at all levels of the prison system from a low-security level work camp to a supermax facility. In 2009, Tammy joined Wilderwood Service Dogs, serving in many capacities, the only official one being president of the board of directors.

**Tiffany Denyer**- Tiffany is a 1992 graduate from St. Louis University School of Nursing. She pursued a field in psychiatric nursing. Familiar with psych treatment models and unsatisfied with the efficacy of their results, Tiffany Denyer founded a non-profit, Wilderwood Service Dogs, which trains service dogs for individuals with neurological disorders, with emphasis on children with autism. Wilderwood opened its doors in August of 2005. Tiffany is also involved in ground breaking research concerning the effects of service dogs on children with autism. She has worked diligently with Maryville College over the past five years and has published their findings at the ASA conference in 2011 and various other professional publications. Tiffany was also an intricate player in establishing laws in Alabama, North Carolina, Illinois and Tennessee concerning autism service dog access in schools and continues to play a role in policy setting. She is passionate about her work and the families she works with.

**Tony Boer, MSW PIP**- Tony is a social worker in private practice. He is the owner of Sioux Empire Christian Counseling. He works with adults, children and families. A significant portion of his caseload is spent on autism and how it impacts families.
Vendor Exhibitors

Autism Behavior Consulting  
Behavior Care Specialists  
Independent Living Choices  
LifeScape  
SD Council on Developmental Disabilities  
South Dakota Advocacy Services  
South Dakota Parent Connection  
Special Olympics-United-Wolf Pack  
Talk to Me Technologies  
USD Center for Disabilities  
Village Northwest Unlimited  

Planning Committee Members

Dr. Julie Ashworth, Augustana College  
Tana Buresch, SD Parent Connection  
Brenda Bernard, Sioux Falls School District  
Dr. Aimee Deliramich, LifeScape  
Julie Johnson Dresbach, DHS Division of Developmental Disabilities  
Becky Fiala, Augustana College  
Dr. Matt Johnson, Augustana College  
Dr. Eric Kurtz, Center for Disabilities  
Dr. Karen Mahan, Augustana College  
Elaine Roberts, SD Parent Connection  
Brittany Schmidt, Autism Behavior Consulting  

We invite you to mark your calendar for June 9th & 10th, 2016 for “Lighting the Way-Autism Spectrum Disorders in our Community” at Augustana College
Sponsors

Augustana College
Autism Behavioral Consulting
LifeScape
Sanford School of Medicine Center for Disabilities
Sioux Falls School District
SD Board of Vocational Rehabilitation
SD Division of Developmental Disabilities
SD Parent Connection