



**MINNESOTA
VIRTUAL
AUTISM
CONFERENCE**
April 15-16, 2026

Conference Program

Presented by

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Welcome to the 2026 Minnesota Virtual Autism Conference!

Welcome to the 31st annual Minnesota Virtual Autism Conference. Whether you're just beginning your autism journey or bring years of lived or professional experiences, you'll find practical, thoughtful sessions that meet you where you are, all grounded in community wisdom.

The Minnesota Autism Conference has always been shaped by the community it serves. Sessions are informed by lived experience, current research, and practical application — with a focus on dignity, inclusion, and neurodiversity-affirming practices.

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By attending, you are supporting AuSM's mission to build a more understanding, inclusive, and accessible Minnesota for autistic people of all ages. Understanding will help you meet their needs and ensure they have the support they need to thrive.

Thank You Sponsors!

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Presenting Sponsor

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- Social Skills & Connection

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reachforresources.org/music-therapy



Frequently Asked Questions

Are Certificates of Attendance and Continuing Education Units Available?

The 2026 Minnesota Virtual Autism Conference has 10.5 total CEU hours available. Participants can take in 6.5 hours of virtual content live, and have access to all recordings for a month following the event, including an additional 4 hours from breakout sessions they may not have attended.

The Minnesota Virtual Autism Conference has received continuing education pre-approval from the following boards:

- Minnesota Board of Social Work
- Minnesota Board of School Administration

A Certificate of Attendance will be provided to all participants in our thank-you email, listing the above continuing education pre-approval hours and allowing you to submit it to other boards for credits.

What Accommodations are Available?

Since we will be virtual in 2026, participants have greater flexibility to create a space that suits their individual needs.

- All sessions will be recorded and available to watch on demand for one month following the event.
- Captions will be available in every session through Zoom.
- Conference Information Guide with details about accessing sessions and navigating the site will be available on AuSM's conference website.
- Slides available for download in advance of the event.
- AuSM staff will be available in all sessions to answer questions and provide support.

What are the Potential Barriers to the Virtual Conference?

- Since the event is virtual, internet access is required. Bad connections may make it difficult or impossible to see and hear presenters.
- The event will be hosted on Zoom. Please download, update, and test Zoom in advance.
- All sessions will include screen-sharing, which can be difficult for some visually impaired individuals.
- While AuSM has guided our speakers, we cannot guarantee that everyone will present in a clearly lit setting with a simple background. Lip-reading may be difficult, or the background may be distracting.
- Break times between sessions are only 15 minutes.

How Should I Prepare for the Virtual Conference?

- Download and update Zoom the day before the event begins.
- Create a space that is comfortable for you! Set up your favorite seating, have snacks or beverages nearby, use fidgets, and dress comfortably. Take advantage of the virtual event.
- Take breaks. Since all sessions will be recorded, you can return to the content later.
- Keep your program nearby to help navigate the conference.

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- Twice exceptional (2e)
- Gender diverse kids
- AuDHD
- Second opinions & re-evaluations
- Complex cases

**Discover your child's
strengths, needs, and
a better path forward**



Developmental Discoveries
NEUROPSYCHOLOGY



Conference Schedule At a Glance

Wednesday, April 15

Thursday, April 16

8:30 a.m. -
9:00 a.m.

Conference Zoom Links Open

Conference Zoom Links Open

9:00 a.m. -
10:15 a.m.

KEYNOTE: Breaking Barriers: Ending Bias in Autism Diagnosis

Maria Davis-Pierre (she/her)

KEYNOTE: Supporting Students to Find Autistic Joy Through Evidence-Based Practice

Dr. Erin Farrell (she/her)

10:30 a.m. -
11:30 a.m.

Breakout Session 1

Breakout Session 1

Practical Support Strategies & Approaches for Educators of Neurodivergent Learners

Nicole Ogren (she/her)

Beyond PBIS: Rewiring Classrooms Through Regulation, Relationship, and Respect

Rebecca Engle (she/her)

Improving Autism-Related Clinical Care: Lessons Learned from University Partnerships with Somali Community Organizations

Casey Burrows (she/her)

Munira MaalimIsaq (she/her)

Fatima Molas (she/her)

Mahdi Warsama (he/him)

The Caregiver's Survival Guide to Mental Wellness

Louis Scarantino (he/him)

11:45 a.m. -
12:45 p.m.

Breakout Session 2

Breakout Session 2

Redefining Leadership: Beyond Neurotypical Models

Aaron Flicker (they/them)

The Spectrum: Bridging the Gap between All Kinds of Autistics

Sam Stein (they/them)

From Awareness to Belonging: Closing the Social Reciprocity Gap

Robin McLeod (she/her)

Coaching Parents Toward Self-Reflection: Building Stronger Connections with Neurodivergent Children

Alyssa Norenberg (she/her)

Oana Zayic (she/her)

Wells Fargo Neurodiversity Program Information



Employee Program Hires

364

364 full-time careers launched.



CAREERS & the disABLED Magazine

2024 Top 50 Employers list

Ranked #3 on CAREERS & the disABLED Magazine 2024 Top 50 Employers list (up from #5 in 2023).



Unique Job Titles

21

The program has hired for 21 unique job titles.



Disability Equality Index Survey

100%

Wells Fargo scored a perfect 100% on the survey for the seventh time.



Access to Education

Firmwide

Comprehensive education and training courses are available to all our employees.



National Organization on Disability

Leading Disability Employer

Named a Leading Disability Employer for the seventh year in a row.

It all begins with you

Wells Fargo aims to create meaningful employment opportunities for a deeply underserved community by facilitating a more considerate, accommodating, skills-based hiring model that is accessible by design. In conjunction the Neurodiversity & Disability Inclusive Employment program delivers education, professional support, and enablement programs to enrich the lives and work experience of our employees.

Learn more at: wellsfargojobs.com/en/inclusion/

Questions? Email us at: wellsfargoneurodiversityprogram@wellsfargo.com

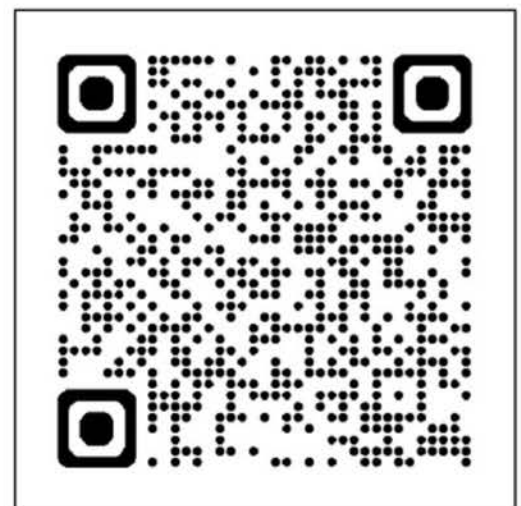
**WELLS
FARGO**

Join our Neurodiversity Program talent community

Start your future now

Scan the QR code to provide us with your information so we can learn more about your background and interests.

This will allow us to share future Wells Fargo hiring events that might be a good match for you.



Helping you Meet Their Needs



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Detailed Conference Schedule

Wednesday, April 15

8:30 a.m. Conference Zoom Links Open

9:00 a.m. Breaking Barriers: Ending Bias in Autism Diagnosis

This session explores how implicit bias influences the diagnosis and care of autistic individuals, particularly Black children who are often misdiagnosed or overlooked. Participants will examine how racial and cultural assumptions shape clinical decisions and learn strategies to advocate for equitable, culturally responsive care that affirms neurodiversity.

Maria Davis-Pierre (she/her)

Maria Davis-Pierre, LMHC, is a licensed mental health counselor, autistic adult, and founder of Autism in Black®. As a mother of three neurodivergent children, she brings lived experience and clinical expertise to her work supporting Black families navigating autism. Through workshops, training, and advocacy, Maria challenges stigma, centers cultural context, and equips communities with tools for change. Her work has been featured in Forbes, The New York Times, USA Today, BET, and PBS, and she has partnered with major organizations like Microsoft to promote equity at the intersection of race and disability.



Maria Davis-Pierre

Practical Support Strategies & Approaches for Educators of Neurodivergent Learners

This session will provide educators with practical, research-informed strategies to create inclusive classrooms where autistic students can thrive. Drawing both from classroom experience and lived experience as a parent to an autistic son, this session will share adaptable techniques such as setting clear expectations and routines, embedding student choice, and using visual supports. Participants will leave with ready-to-use tools, a renewed outlook, and a refined understanding of designing curriculum that empowers every learner.

Nicole Ogren (she/her)

Nicole Ogren is the Lead Independent Living Skills Instructor at Minnesota Independence College and Community (MICC), where she leads programming in independent living and wellness for autistic young adults. She developed curricula in areas like apartment living, personal finance, and wellness, and chairs MICC's PBIS Committee to support organization-wide behavioral strategies. Nicole holds a Bachelor of Arts and Science from New Mexico State University and has been teaching autistic learners for five years. She has presented at the Minnesota State Autism Conference in both 2024 and 2025, sharing practical, person-centered strategies with educators across the state.

Improving Autism-Related Clinical Care: Lessons Learned from University-Community Partnerships with Somali Community Organizations

Health disparities persist in the timely identification, evaluation, and intervention for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) for Somali families in Minnesota. This panel will share lessons learned from university-community partnerships aimed at improving access to culturally-sensitive autism evaluations and understanding barriers families commonly face. Speakers on the panel will give short presentations on clinical strategies, lived experience from Somali community members, and results from qualitative research studies. Participants will learn ways to provide and advocate for culturally responsive care tailored to Somali community members.

Casey Burrows (she/her)

Dr. Casey Burrows is an associate professor of Pediatrics at UMN and psychologist in the autism clinic at the Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain. Her research focuses on improving autism identification in females and underserved populations.

Munira MaalimIsaq (she/her)

Munira MaalimIsaq, FNP-BC, DNP-c, is the CEO of the Inspire Change Clinic, a clinic dedicated to enhancing healthcare...

... accessibility, removing barriers, and improving health literacy in marginalized communities. She also leads Brighter Health MN, a research-based non-profit that conducts research relevant to Somali communities.

Fatima Molas (she/her)

Fatima Molas is the co-founder of the Multicultural Autism Action Network, an organization dedicated to transforming and empowering multicultural communities by providing effective support and education for autistic individuals and their families. Fatima Molas also has a son on the spectrum.

Mahdi Warsama (he/him)

Mahdi Warsama is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Somali Parents Autism Network (SPAN). As a parent of a child with autism, Mahdi is a strong advocate for children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

11:45 a.m. Breakout Session 2

Redefining Leadership: Beyond Neurotypical Models

Traditional leadership programs often celebrate and reinforce neurotypical traits and expect all people to conform to these norms for success. This session challenges those assumptions by examining mainstream leadership models and overlaying them with Autistic perspectives. This session will explore how Autistic ways of leading through systems thinking, authenticity, deep focus, and community accountability offer powerful alternatives to conventional leadership models. Through reflection and discussion, participants will understand their own leadership strengths and consider how embracing neurodivergent leadership can reshape organizations and communities. This session will challenge and encourage...

From Awareness to Belonging: Closing the Social Reciprocity Gap

For decades, autism advocacy has focused on awareness and acceptance. Yet autistic individuals still face barriers that keep them on the margins — on playgrounds, in classrooms, workplaces, healthcare, and communities. The missing piece is belonging. Drawing from both lived experience as a parent and professional expertise as a psychologist, this presentation offers stories, research, and a roadmap for change. The challenge is not autism itself, but systems designed without social reciprocity. Society must move from awareness to belonging. Belonging grows when communities welcome differences with social reciprocity. Culture shifts when enough of us lead as early adopters, keeping social circles open and creating...

... participants to envision a future where Autistic leadership is recognized not as an exception, but as essential for innovation, equity, and systems change.

Aaron Flicker (they/them)

Aaron Flicker PhD, MSW, LICSW is a white, queer, trans, AuDHD leader who works to reimagine systems through equity, accountability, and community-driven change. With a background as a clinical social worker and evaluator, Aaron now serves as Deputy Director for Integrated Population Health at the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Their work focuses on reducing disparities, building culturally responsive care systems, and creating space for community-driven solutions. Aaron is passionate about reshaping leadership models that recognize neurodivergence as a strength for innovation and transformation. They believe diverse leadership isn't just valuable, it's essential for creating the futures we all deserve.

... spaces where autistic individuals thrive. When belonging is at the forefront, it sparks innovation and opens new possibilities for the future.

Robin McLeod (she/her)

Robin McLeod, PhD, LP is a licensed psychologist, executive coach, and behavioral health leader with more than 20 years of experience building and scaling innovative organizations. She founded and led a multi-site behavioral health system, chaired the Minnesota psychology licensure board, and is recognized nationally as a thought leader and keynote speaker on workforce transformation and inclusive leadership. As both a parent of an autistic individual and a professional, Dr. McLeod's work centers on creating spaces where autistic individuals thrive - especially in business and leadership roles. Through executive coaching and organizational consulting, she helps neurodivergent professionals unlock their potential while guiding employers in cultivating cultures where difference fuels innovation.



Thursday, April 16

8:30 a.m. Conference Zoom Links Open

9:00 a.m. Supporting Students to Find Autistic and Neurodivergent Joy Through Evidence-Based Practices

In this keynote session, participants will learn about specific practices for educators, practitioners, and parents to use that help learners to celebrate their autistic and neurodivergent joy, individuality, and special interests. The examples given not only help to celebrate autistic and neurodivergent joy but are evidence-based practices that are practical to implement and support across multiple environments. Resources will also be shared to access additional learning.



Dr. Erin Farrell

Dr. Erin Farrell (she/her)

Dr. Erin Farrell is the Autism Specialist for the Minnesota Department of Education, an educator, an adjunct professor, a Licensed Behavior Analyst, and a parent of neurodivergent children. Dr. Farrell has been in the field of autism for over 25 years in a variety of roles before coming to the State, including: paraprofessional, behavior therapist, educator, and District Behavior Specialist. Dr. Farrell has published work and research in book chapters, peer-reviewed research, and others in a variety of topics such as autism, inclusive education, diversity, and hip-hop education. Dr. Farrell has presented at multiple local, national, and international conferences in both special education and behavior analysis and enjoys collaborating with colleagues locally, nationally, and internationally.

10:30 a.m. Breakout Session 1

Beyond PBIS: Rewiring Classrooms Through Regulation, Relationship, and Respect

Traditional behavior systems like PBIS often focus on compliance instead of connection. This session introduces the “Three Zones of Space” model—a trauma-informed, neuro-affirming approach developed by educator and author Rebecca Engle. Participants will learn how to design classroom environments that support regulation, autonomy, and safety for all learners, especially autistic and neurodivergent students. Rebecca will share practical tools, classroom visuals, and real-world examples from her work as a Behavior and Dyslexia Specialist. Attendees will leave with strategies to replace token systems with science-based supports grounded in neuroscience, compassion, and the human need for belonging.

Rebecca Engle (she/her)

Rebecca Engle is an author, educator, and neurodiversity advocate from Texas. Once nonverbal until age five, she now uses her voice to inspire others through storytelling, teaching, and public speaking. As a special education teacher and behavior specialist, she challenges traditional systems like PBIS, promoting trauma-informed, neuro-affirming approaches that honor every learner’s wiring. Her business, Stitches and Stanzas, combines creativity, advocacy, and education—offering resources and...

The Caregiver's Survival Guide to Mental Wellness

Caregiver burnout is a clinical reality, not a personal failure. This session confronts the toxic "martyrdom" culture that glorifies self-sacrifice at the expense of mental health. This session will move beyond superficial self-care tips to address core struggles like the grief of changed expectations, the exhaustion of constant advocacy, and shared sensory overload. Attendees will receive a concrete framework featuring a "Caregiver Bill of Rights," practical "micro-boundaries," and specific communication scripts to de-escalate conflict. This session will address issues such as gendered expectations in caregiving, stigma in mental health help-seeking, and the unique pressures faced by BIPOC and LGBTQ+ caregivers. Participants will leave with practical tools from someone who's been there, ready to build a caregiving life that doesn't come at the cost of themselves.

Louis Scarantino (he/him)

Louis Scarantino is an award-winning autism advocate, certified motivational speaker, and author of two books on Autism: *The Unstoppable Achiever* and *Finding Love on the Spectrum: An ASD Guide to Dating*. Louis has spoken at events such as the 2023 PA Lifesharing Conference, 2024 Missouri Behavioral Health Conference, the 2025 Arizona LeadingAge Conference & Expo, and spoken at a virtual event with Avanade (the global Microsoft/Accenture joint venture)...

... handmade tools for inclusive learning. Rebecca's books and talks center on resilience, equity, and reimagining education through compassion, understanding, and authenticity. She embodies what it means to turn obstacles into advocacy.

... for World Mental Health Awareness Day October 2025. Through storytelling and personal insight, he empowers autistic individuals, families, and professionals with practical strategies for inclusion, mental health, and connection. His work has also appeared in Autism Parenting Magazine and National Autistic Society.

11:45 a.m. Breakout Session 2

The Spectrum: Bridging the Gap between All Kinds of Autistics

The autism world is full of vocabulary that seeks to break autistic people into groups: high and low functioning; high and low support needs; levels 1, 2, and 3; mild/moderate and severe/profound. From politicians dividing autistic people into those who can pay taxes and those who can't, to parents of nonspeaking children decrying verbal advocates for ignoring the other end of the spectrum, this language further divides the community rather than unifying it behind the common goal of improved accessibility and accommodation for all. This presentation addresses discussions of "the spectrum" and pushes towards a unified understanding of how autistic people all around the spectrum are ultimately more alike than not, as well as understanding the roles communication and self-advocacy play in perception.

Sam Stein (they/them)

Sam Stein is a neurodivergent setting 4 autism teacher and the owner of...

Coaching Parents Toward Self-Reflection: Building Stronger Connections with Neurodivergent Children

All human beings experience the world through their senses. When sensory processing factors are mismatched with one's surroundings, it can lead to discomfort and stress in daily life. Within a family system, each person's unique sensory profile influences and interacts with those around them. The patterns of interaction and emotional regulation that occur may be missed, contribute to conflict, or feel overwhelming. When understood, they can promote co-regulation, respect, and understanding for stronger connections among family members. This presentation shares processes implemented through coaching by an OT and the perspective of a parent who finds value in having developed awareness of her own sensory and regulation needs/responses fostering more empathy and a stronger sense of agency when...

... AUThentic Autism Advocacy and Education. They are passionate about accessibility, inclusion, literacy for all, access to community for all, and supporting the most marginalized in being able to live a full and joyous life. In their free time, they are a competitive pole dancer and professional vestibular seeker, and love to watch reality TV with their cats.

... supporting the individual needs of her neurodivergent children.

Alyssa Norenberg (she/her)

Alyssa Norenberg is an occupational therapist with over 20 years of experience and the owner of Space to Grow, LLC. She has a research background studying early brain development, extensive clinical training, and was a LEND fellow at the University of Washington-Seattle. She is also the parent of two amazing twice exceptional teens. She specializes in sensory processing and modulation, neurodevelopment, sensory motor coordination, and emotional regulation. Alyssa provides interventions using a child- and family-centered approach, identifying practical, individualized strategies to meet the needs and goals identified jointly with her clients. Alyssa is passionate about meeting children and families where they are at while fostering growth and empowerment in those she serves.

Oana Zayic (she/her)

Oana Zayic is the co-owner of We Rock the Spectrum, a sensory gym in Eden Prairie, MN. As a neurodivergent parent of two AuDHD children, ages 13 and 20, and partner to an AuDHD husband, she has gained deep insight into the power of self-reflection, self-care, and emotional regulation within family life. When her youngest son began experiencing significant school refusal, Oana partnered with Alyssa to take intentional steps toward understanding and supporting sensory processing differences—both in her child and herself— while becoming more aware of her own Functional Emotional Developmental Capacities (FEDCs) through the DIR Floortime framework.



Conference Exhibitors

Accra

Accra provides individualized homecare services and support to people and families across all 87 counties in Minnesota. By focusing on choice, independence, and high-quality care, Accra helps people with care needs live safely and comfortably, while strengthening the broader homecare system.

accrahomecare.org

The Arc Minnesota

The Arc Minnesota promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). We support individuals and their families through every life stage, promoting full community inclusion. Our advocates provide personalized navigation, referrals, and resources, education and training, while our public policy team works to drive systemic change through education and advocacy.

arcminnesota.org

Autism SIBS Universe

At Autism Sibs Universe (ASU), we created a multicultural, multigenerational neurodivergent community in Plymouth, MN, focused on connection, belonging, and joy. Our holistic, person-centered approach honors each individual's unique needs. We offer a variety of waiver-funded services, including neurodivergent arts, trauma-informed support, and horticulture therapy, while prioritizing sensory and motor accommodations. Every individual, whether living here or participating in our daily programs, is valued and empowered. At ASU, we believe true growth happens together, and the relationships we foster are what make our community flourish.

asu-living.org

Behavior Frontiers

Something special happens when expertise meets heart. At Behavior Frontiers, we provide personalized, data-backed ABA therapy that helps children with autism build lasting skills in language, communication, social interaction, self-care, school readiness, and daily living - all within a supportive, play-based environment. With state-of-the-art ABA Therapy centers across the Minneapolis area, our programs are individualized for each child and guided by expert Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) who partner closely with your child's family, physician, school, and more - to ensure meaningful progress. In addition to our center-based services, we also offer ABA therapy in home, school, and community settings for a flexible, well-rounded approach that meets every child where they are. Now enrolling children up to age 6 in centers and up to age 25 in home-based programs.

behaviorfrontiers.com/minneapolis-mn

Premier Partners



Best Care

Personal care services are not one-size-fits-all. There are varying levels of care and a variety of funding sources available to cover expenses. Whether you are looking for care for yourself or for a loved one, having a trusted ally present to advocate on your behalf every step of the way is key to receiving the best possible in-home care experience. Best Care is here to help.

bestcaremn.com

Bhakti Brain Health Clinic

Bhakti Brain Health Clinic is a center for excellence in innovative ways to enhance brain and central nervous system health. Your brain is your most vital organ; taking care of it is our passion! We offer a full range of QEEG assessment and neuromodulation/neurotherapy services to address brain dysregulation. We have both in-clinic and at-home training options available to address mild traumatic brain injury, ADHD, anxiety, depression, ASD, PTSD, dementia, early cognitive decline, and other brain-related issues. Through cutting-edge, non-invasive, medication-free approaches, we help retrain your brain and nervous system, resulting in a more regulated, more organized pattern of functioning.

bhaktibrainhealthclinic.com

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus are committed to the health of our members and people in communities throughout the state. As a nonprofit health plan, Blue Plus helps raise awareness and supports initiatives to encourage healthy eating, physical activity, and a tobacco-free lifestyle. Blue Plus members receive services, benefits, and programs that meet their diverse needs and support healthy behaviors and choices. An extensive network provides access to health care, tools, and resources that help people live safe and healthy lives. You can count on us to provide excellent coverage, value, and service.

bluecrossmn.com

Enriched Living

Enriched Living is a mission-driven organization committed to partnering with individuals, families, and communities to create meaningful, self-directed lives for people with disabilities. We work alongside those we serve, focusing on dignity, choice, and practical solutions that support independence and long-term stability. Our approach blends compassionate care with strong operations, accountability, and data-driven decision-making. By developing great staff and collaborating closely with partners, we deliver consistent, high-quality services that adapt to real-world needs. At our core, we believe people thrive when support is personalized, respectful, and grounded in trust, excellence, and continuous improvement every single day together.

youenrichedliving.com



Fraser

Fraser is Minnesota's largest and most experienced provider of autism and early childhood mental health services. We have served individuals with special needs for over 90 years.

fraser.org

Laura Baker Services Association

Laura Baker Services Association (LBSA) is a nonprofit organization in Northfield, Minnesota, dedicated to supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through person-centered services. Founded in 1897, LBSA provides residential support, community-based programs, family navigation, behavioral support, and innovative respite opportunities designed to strengthen families and promote independence. The organization emphasizes dignity, inclusion, and meaningful relationships, creating environments where people with disabilities can thrive. LBSA ensures each person receives individualized support that reflects their goals, strengths, and needs.

laurabaker.org

Lionsgate Academy

Lionsgate Academy is a public charter school open to students of all abilities in grades 7 through 12, and also offers a transition program for students ages 18-22. Lionsgate's program is inclusively designed to address the unique learning needs of students living on the autism spectrum as well as students with other learning differences.

lionsgateacademy.org

Looking Forward Life Coaching

Looking Forward Life Coaching provides person-centered coaching for neurodiverse, atypical, and autistic adults. We change stumbling blocks of life into stepping stones towards success.

lookingforwardlc.org

Mind Shift

Mind Shift is a non-profit specialized staffing agency created for autistic individuals who want meaningful, supportive employment. We believe different ways of thinking are valuable, and we work to match your unique strengths, skills, and interests with roles at alongside our incredible business partners. Our process is designed to reduce barriers- getting to know you personally, offering self-paced training and coaching, replacing traditional interviews with position tours, and providing hands-on onboarding support. We continue to check in after you start to ensure success. Eligible roles include paid time off and health benefits.

mindshift.works



Minnesota Independence College and Community

Since 1996, MICC has provided transformative education and training for autistic and neurodivergent adults to live independently, work purposefully, and thrive in the community. From our home in Richfield, MN, MICC has cultivated a broad network of public and private partnerships to ensure accessibility to our programs and opportunities for MICC participants across Minnesota and nationwide. Within our innovative framework of hands-on, skills-based learning and caring guidance, MICC participants accomplish things they never imagined, from performing daily living tasks and building self-sufficiency to developing and sustaining a career, support system, and lifelong relationships. Within the safety and freedom of our inclusive community, MICC participants begin to see themselves in a new light, gaining the confidence they need to build the lives they want to live.

micc.org

Northway Academy

Northway Academy provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy to support children with autism, developmental delays, and other challenges in day programs across 12 locations in Minnesota. Our team of licensed behavioral health clinicians is passionate about helping children build the skills they need to get the best start in life.

Services include:

- Assessment of behaviors keeping a child from thriving at home, school, and in the community
- Assessment of basic language and learning skills (ABLLS-R)
- Skill development and training in communication, daily living, play, and social skills

Locations in:

Shakopee, Mendota Heights, Stillwater, St. Cloud, Baxter, Duluth, Alexandria, Mankato, St. Michael, Elk River, Sartell

sevitahealth.com/northway-academy

Partners in Community Supports (PICS)

Partners in Community Supports (PICS) has offered self-directed care options to individuals and families for over 20 years. Our customer-service focus means that you spend less time worrying about the financial aspects of self-directed care and more time caring for your loved one. PICS is ready to support you as a Financial Management Services (FMS) provider.

pics.lssmn.org

Realistic Reorganization

Monica K. Allen lives in Eagan, Minnesota, and works online through virtual sessions, helping people organize and execute projects. Sessions can be used for discussing, planning, and/or working on projects in real-time, all with guiding questions, achievable steps, and realistic outcomes. Each session is followed by an emailed Client Action Plan for later reference. All...



... sessions are judgment-free and confidential. Offerings include:

- Home organization projects
- Sole proprietorship projects
- Paperwork projects
- Life skills, IADLs, or ADL support
- Client-centered and trauma-informed
- And more!

linktr.ee/realisticreorganization

Rise

Rise is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to ensuring no one feels limited by their life situation. Since 1971, we've supported people with disabilities and other challenges across Minnesota and Wisconsin through personalized employment, housing, and life-enrichment services. Each year, we partner with more than 2,500 people to build pathways to employment, stability, and personal growth. Through this whole-person approach, we create supportive opportunities for people to pursue lives filled with purpose.

rise.org

Today's Autistic Moment

The focus of Today's Autistic Moment this year is Autistics Thriving, Not Just Surviving. Autistics thrive by having conversations about collaboration and community building. Autistics thrive by finding joy through their special interests. Autistics thrive through their work for social justice with our intersectional communities. Join our guest speakers for exciting interviews and topics that we hope will empower Autistics to thrive and just survive.

todaysautisticmoment.com

University of St. Thomas, School of Education

The University of St. Thomas offers degree programs for every educator and is committed to making meaningful change in classrooms across the country. Join us in our mission to teach, lead, and impact the students and educators of the future. Dedicated attention, skill building, and meaningful relationships are core to the student experience in the School of Education. Students at St. Thomas learn from educators who impart a balance of practical, professional knowledge grounded in theory, with ideas that are easily applied to career goals.

education.stthomas.edu

Wells Fargo Neurodiversity Program

The Wells Fargo Neurodiversity Program expands access to highly skilled talent community through delivery of a more accommodating and accessible hiring practice. The program provides education, professional support, and ongoing resources to enrich the employee's experience. Hiring activities include two days of interactive workshops intended to create an environment where our candidates feel safe and welcome to be themselves and demonstrate their skills in a low stress environment.

wellsfargojobs.com/en/inclusion/neurodiversity



Steps for Autism

May 17, 2026
ROC at the St. Louis
Park Rec Center



ausm.org/sfa



RESOURCE FAIR



COMMUNITY



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