

# EDUCATION AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

## PRESENTATION FORM

of UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital

### Presenter Bio

Please include your full name, credentials, degrees and information about your position and place of employment. **Please send a copy of your CV along with this completed form.**

For over 30 years, **Melissa M. Nelson**, Ed.D., has worked in the space where K-12 education, mental health services, and legal system sectors intersect. She served in various roles in K-12 including elementary and special education teacher, and elementary and secondary administrator. Prior to her work in education, Melissa was a mental health clinician, counselor, and advocate in various settings, including WPIC's Emergency Room, The Center for Victims of Violent Crime, and Allegheny County Emergency Services Mobile Crisis Unit. She currently serves as a K-12 Schools SME for the Southwestern PA Threat Assessment Hub, a grant-based program supported by UPMC, PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and US Department of Homeland Security. Additionally, she serves as a K-12 SME for rsm Consulting/Sigma7 Risk Management Company.

**Dr. Tarin Santamaria** is a Pediatric Psychologists, as well as a School Psychologist. She obtained her BA in Psychology at WVU. She obtained her MS in Child Psychology and Doctor of Psychology in School Psychology from Duquesne University. Along with owning a private practice in Pittsburgh, PA, Dr. Santamaria is the Psychologist at the Down Syndrome Center of Western Pennsylvania at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. In her Down Syndrome Center clinic, she focuses on evaluating and treating challenging behaviors and emotional, social, and adaptive needs. She works with transition age youth and young adults regarding hygiene, sexual development, boundaries, and relationship building. Given Dr. Santamaria's experience as a School Psychologist, she assists families with navigation of the special education system and provides consultation regarding needs in the educational environment.

**Erin Kelly** is a parent expert

### Name and Narrative Description of your Presentation

Please determine if it is introductory, intermediate, or advanced.

**Title: Navigating the Educational System: Professional and Family Perspectives**

**Description:** This workshop will introduce a panel of clinicians and parents of children with disabilities who will share personal and professional insights focused on opportunities to collaborate across the many systems that affect the life of a child with disabilities. The panel conversation, facilitated by a former school administrator, will highlight multiple perspectives across systems and families, provide no-cost resources, and include audience participation.

Introductory

### Three (3) learning objectives

By the completion of this session, participants should be able to:

#### Objectives:

At the completion of this session, participants should be able to:

1. Gain perspective on how to advocate for their child across educational, medical, and clinical systems.
2. Describe opportunities to collaborate with educators, healthcare providers, and clinicians to support a team-based approach of care for their child.
3. identify evidence-based resources which outline systems- level legal, educational, and clinical best practices for children with disabilities.

**Three (3) current (within the past 10 years) peer-reviewed publications that support the evidencebase for the content of your presentation**

Publications must be listed in American Psychological Association (APA) Style (see [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org) for more information).

APA format for journal article citation:

Author last name, Author First Initial. Author Second Initial. (Publication Year). Title of article. *Title of Journal*. volume(issue) (if issue numbered), pages.

Hyman SL, Levy SE, Myers SM, AAP COUNCIL ON CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, SECTION ON DEVELOPMENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS. Identification, Evaluation, and Management of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Pediatrics*. 2020;145(1):e2019344.

Lipkin, Paul H., et al. "Promoting optimal development: identifying infants and young children with developmental disorders through developmental surveillance and screening." *Pediatrics* 145.1 (2020).

Lord, Catherine, et al. "The Lancet Commission on the future of care and clinical research in autism." *The Lancet* 399.10321 (2022): 271-334.

Hirota T, King BH. Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Review. *JAMA*. 2023 Jan 10;329(2):157-168. doi: 10.1001/jama.2022.23661. PMID: 36625807.

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