



# Louisiana Autism Spectrum And Related Disabilities (LASARD)



# Louisiana Autism Spectrum And Related Disabilities

## **Build Statewide Capacity**

- Developing a pool of highly effective educators across the state

## **Model Practices**

- Develop model exemplars that demonstrate evidence based practices

## **Facilitate Partner Teams**

- Sustain the implementation of evidence based practices through coaching and training

# Summer Planning

- LASARD met with all partner LEAs during the summer break for a two day planning session.
- Each session resulted in an Action Plan with time-specific goals for the LEA to achieve during the 2017-2018 school year.

Vision Statement	Annual Goal	Action Steps Include steps for coaching, PD, sustainability, and dissemination	Team Member Responsible	Resources/people needed

# Workshops

LASARD hosted the fall workshops for partner school team members in New Orleans on September 8 and in Natchitoches on September 14. Ninety-seven LASARD partner team members attended the workshops.



# Webinars

**LASARD has conducted four webinars so far this school year.**

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<b>Bring on the Sunshine! Shining Light on ASD and Essential Supports</b>	<b>50 participants</b>
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<b>Schedules at a Glance!</b>	<b>82 participants</b>
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<b>Stop..Go..Act.. Self Management Strategies for Teaching Students with ASD</b>	<b>105 participants</b>
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<b>Our School Is a Sandbox: Let's Collaborate and Work Together!</b>	<b>31 participants</b>
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# Upcoming Events

## High School Workshop

### **Breaking Barriers and Building Connections: Social Skills for Life**

Individuals on the autism spectrum experience social challenges. Developing social interaction skills is a critical need - an important piece of a student's individual education plan that is crucial to student success in school, at home, and in the community. Teaching and supporting social interaction skills may seem somewhat overwhelming. Where do I begin? What do I teach? How do I teach it? Where do I teach it?

This workshop, geared to **high school professionals and family members**, will provide you with how-tos for evaluating, supporting, and teacher social interaction skills in school, home, and community settings.

# Teams Intervening Early to Reach All Students



## Professional Development

- **Training:** Provides customized opportunities to enhance knowledge, skills, and dispositions in getting better results. Professional Development may occur onsite or online.

## Technical Assistance:

- Focused assistance on specific skills or topics regarding Response to Intervention (RtI), Positive Behavior Supports (PBS), Data Use and Data Action Teams, and special education compliance.

## Coaching:

- Focused assistance on specific skills or topics regarding Response to Intervention (RtI), Positive Behavior Supports (PBS), Data Use and Data Action Teams, and special education compliance.



- Special Joint Project with Families Helping Families Northshore - Student & Family-Centered IEP Meeting Training
- Continued support to area charters schools in the areas of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports (PBIS), Special Education outcomes and supports
- Conducted a mandatory training for all RSD schools concerning Discipline for Students with Disabilities and providing behavioral supports
- Potential for new project with the Michigan Department of Education focusing on Data Action Teams
- Facilitated Media Rotation for LAS\*PIC interns

# Louisiana School Psychology Internship Consortium

- The Louisiana School Psychology Internship Consortium (LAS\*PIC) is currently in its 27<sup>th</sup> year of training doctoral-level students from school psychology programs.
- It is one of only a handful of school-based internship programs accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) and is the only program of its kind in Louisiana and within a 3-state region.
- LAS\*PIC is a joint venture between the Human Development Center and Local Educational Agencies including school districts, charter school networks, and charter schools.



- LAS\*PIC is dedicated to providing vital experiences to help the intern become successful in their chosen profession. Utilizing both school-based and professional supervisors, the internship provides students with intensive supervision and comprehensive regular and special education program experiences with children across the age span.
- LAS\*PIC currently has 225 alumni across the country and has partnered with over 18 LEAs in Louisiana.
- Last year, we developed an online module with in-depth information about our unique training program that can be accessed from the LAS\*PIC homepage.



- LAS\*PIC has 10 interns for the 2017-18 year who represent 6 different university training programs from across the country.
- We have 6 partner LEAs for this year with several LEAs having 2 interns.



## 2017-18 LAS\*PIC Class



Isoken Adodo  
University of Arizona  
*Crescent City Schools*  
Dr. Kim Sherman



Elizabeth Allain  
University of Houston  
*Crescent City Schools*  
Dr. Gail Gillespie



Corey Black  
Tulane University  
*Einstein Charter Schools*  
Dr. W. Alan Coulter



Courteney Johnson  
Univ. of Mass. – Amherst  
*Tangipahoa Parish Schools*  
Dr. Cicily Prestridge



Michelle La Spata  
Texas Woman's University  
*Jefferson Parish Schools*  
Dr. Scuddy Fontenelle, III



Xzania Lee  
Tulane University  
*Jefferson Parish Schools*  
Dr. Katherine Chenier



Lauren Meyer  
University of Arizona  
*Einstein Charter Schools*  
Dr. Gail Gillespie



Patrick Morin  
University of Georgia  
*ARISE Schools*  
Dr. Scuddy Fontenelle, III



Jennifer "Jenny" Rious  
Tulane University  
*Orleans Parish Schools*  
Dr. Amy Morvant



Angelia Spurgin  
Texas Woman's University  
*Tangipahoa Parish Schools*  
Dr. Cicily Prestridge

To date for the current school year, our interns have provided nearly 600 hours of direct service to over 175 students in addition to the work they have done with teachers, administrators, and families.

In addition to serving as school psychology interns 4 days each week in their LEAs, our interns are currently engaging in a Media Rotation with the TIERS Group where they are developing their skills in creating and providing professional learning experiences to educators, practitioners, and other stakeholders using webinar, live presentations at the upcoming Louisiana School Psychological Association state conference, and online module formats. These projects are intended to build capacity for individuals working with students to provide better supports and ensure improved outcomes for students.

**Race, Education, and the Moment: Racial Equity in School Practices to Improve African American Students' Outcomes**

**September 25**

Reductions in behavioral issues, academic gains, and improved school climate are all positive outcomes of a developed racial and ethnic identity among black youth. This webinar is designed to provide tools for incorporating racial equity, diversity, and inclusion in school related practices using ethnic studies framework and principles.

**Crisis Plans for the Students Who Need Them the Most**

**October 9**

For some students, significant behaviors warrant having a plan for intervening with the behavior that goes beyond a traditional behavior plan. Participants of this webinar will develop an understanding of the components necessary for developing individualized crisis plans for students with significant behavioral difficulties. Additionally, participants will be provided with resources to aid in developing these crisis plans.

**Conversations that Lead to Solutions**

**October 16**

This webinar seeks to aid professionals in further developing their ability to effectively communicate with others, thus leading to better solutions. Participants of this webinar will learn strategies to confidently manage their communication behaviors in order to participate more successfully in the problem-solving process with others.

**The Internet is Forever: How Can We Mitigate Cyberbullying?**

**October 23**

The internet has become the most used form of communication over the past two decades. Protecting children from the vulnerable situations (e.g., cyberbullying) that can emerge from its use is vital. This webinar will provide child stakeholders (e.g., parents, mental health professionals, school administrators, and teachers) with the tools necessary to protect children from cyberbullying and enhance child socio-emotional development.

**Best Practices for Instituting School Supports for Students with Mental Health Needs**

**October 30**

There is a direct link between mental health functioning and academic performance of children and adolescents. Teachers and school staff are being called on to help students develop social and emotional skills through various methods. Participants of this webinar will gain valuable information regarding the utility of brief, positive interventions designed to generate a culture of warmth and safety, thereby strengthening the interpersonal relationships between students, teachers, and staff.



# Questions?

*Email us or visit our website!*

Alan Coulter  
(Director of K-12  
Initiatives)  
[acoulter@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:acoulter@lsuhsc.edu)

Julie Riley (LASARD)  
[jrile1@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:jrile1@lsuhsc.edu)

Holly Paczak (TIERS)  
[hpacza@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:hpacza@lsuhsc.edu)

Jennifer Maynard  
(LAS\*PIC)  
[jmayn2@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:jmayn2@lsuhsc.edu)