

## **Discover the Power of Initiations: Early Intervention for Children with ASD**

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There is a mandate for family centered practice in early intervention. This session will focus on how to shift from traditional therapy to family based intervention while following the National Research Council guidelines and utilizing evidence based practices for children with autism. This session will include video clips and practical examples of intervention strategies to support communication development.

### Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will learn important behavioral characteristics to look for when determining what type of communication system may be most beneficial for children with autism.
2. Participants will learn how to include parents during intervention sessions and move away from traditional “parent as observer” therapy sessions.
3. Participants will learn how to support both expressive and receptive communication goals for young children with autism.
4. Participants will learn the importance of teaching imitation in young children with autism to promote social development.