

# The Source

Training, Professional Development & Research in the Rehabilitation Field



## RRTI Events

**2nd Annual Trainers' Institute**  
5/19-20—Century House  
Latham, NY

**What Would You Do If?**  
6/19—COARC  
Hudson, NY

**3rd Annual Service Coordination  
Leadership Institute**  
7/14—Century House  
Latham, NY

**MTP Job Readiness Curriculum  
Instruction for Community  
Rehabilitation Partners**  
9/2—RRTI Offices  
Albany, NY

**MTP Job Readiness Curriculum  
Instruction for MTP School Professionals**  
9/23—The Desmond  
Albany, NY

REHABILITATION  
RESEARCH AND  
TRAINING INSTITUTE  
**RRTI**  
WWW.RRTI.ORG

## Healthy Transitions Training Available

**Skills I can work on...**

- Scheduling an appointment
- Getting health insurance
- Deciding about guardianship
- Speaking up at the doctor's office
- Understanding my disability
- Managing medications
- Keeping a health summary
- Looking into service coordination
- Setting health goals
- Finding community resources

[www.HealthyTransitionsNY.org](http://www.HealthyTransitionsNY.org)



complete the course on-line. It is an interactive curriculum and toolkit whose goal is to raise awareness about developmental disabilities, to improve communication, and to build effective partnerships during transition from pediatric care to adult health care. The site is ADA accessible and provides automated Spanish language translation. It features video vignettes that demonstrate health transition skills and interactive tools that support collaboration. For more information, please contact the Project Coordinator: Jeffrey Tamburo at [tamburoj@upstate.edu](mailto:tamburoj@upstate.edu).

## Research points to Genetics Link to Autism

*Courtesy ABC News*

Scientists have long known that people with autism have brains that work differently—their brain activity doesn't follow the usual pathways for speech, thought, or social interaction. Still the question has always been: why? New research published in the medical journal *Nature* this week offers the best evidence yet that a major part of the answer is genetics. For the first time, scientists have identified specific genetic mutations that lead to specific abnormalities in how brain cells communicate and carry messages in the brains of those with autism. "The genes that were discovered appear to be involved in the development of the frontal lobe of the brain ... that is, involved in complex behavior such as social behavior and also abstract thought," said Dr. Geri Dawson, chief officer of Autism Speaks and co-author of the study. "So it helps us understand why people with autism have difficulty in the area of social interaction -- and also why they have a tendency to be so concrete and literal in their interpretation."

Autism, a Neurodevelopmental disorder that impairs social interaction, communication and behavior tends to run in families. According to the National Institutes of Health, families with one child with autism have a one in five chance of having a second child with autism. Scientists have long suspected

The Healthy Transitions project was developed in 2006 by the *New York State Institute for Health Transition Training* at the Center for Development, Behavior, and Geriatrics at SUNY Upstate Medical University with funding from the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. The Institute represents collaboration among pediatricians and family care providers throughout the state. The NYS DOH, Parent to Parent of NYS, Self-Advocates of NYS, the Central NY DDSO, Syracuse University School of Informational Studies, and the Burton Blatt Institute are also founding partners.

The mission of the Institute is to promote self-determination, to optimize health and well-being, and to improve access to health care and the quality of health care that is delivered to young people with developmental disabilities aged 14-25 years, in NYS.

Training sessions are available to introduce users to the curriculum and tools. The Institute provides "academic detailing sessions" at primary care medical offices as well as workshops for groups of service coordinators, family members, youth, educators and others. Continuing education credits (CME, CNE, etc.) will be provided to health care practitioners who participate in workshops or

2nd Annual Trainers' Institute:  
*"Sharpening the Trainer's Tools - Competencies,  
 Assessment & Thinking Skills"*

May 19 & 20, 2009



3rd Annual Service Coordination  
 Leadership Institute  
*"Team Management"*  
 July 14, 2009



**Presenters:**

**Jane Lynch**, Chief Operating Officer,  
*NYS Commission on Quality of Care*

**Emily Ellis**, Founder and President,  
*Giving Back to the Community  
 Resource Center And Consultant Group,*

**Jack Dury**, Vice President, *Leading Edge, LLC*

The RRTI Trainers' Council is proud to host the 2nd Annual Trainers' Institute at the Century House in Latham, NY. This two day event is for professionals that train those in the rehabilitation field who provide support and services to people with disabilities. Training is important for everyone. The Institute will focus on professional development and personal growth including learning, demonstrations, practices and networking.

**Register today call RRTI—518-449-2976.**

**Presenters:**

**Max Chmura**, Executive Deputy  
 Commissioner, OMRD

**Jack Dury**, Vice President, *Leading Edge, LLC*

Demanding times require development of new skills. RRTI's 3rd Annual Service Coordination Institute is designed to give you the latest information from OMRDD and to assist you, as a manager, in developing critical skills necessary for team leadership. The following questions will be answered:

1. What are the characteristics of High Quality Collaborative Problem Solving Teams and why do we need them?
2. What kinds of skills does it take to be an effective member of a "Team" - how can all your team members develop these skills?
3. How can you develop an organizational culture which nurtures and supports high quality collaboration?
4. How will you know when you have become a "Team"?
5. How can you assess your performance as a Team?
6. How can you promote individual accountability and responsibility among all team members?
7. What role does "leadership" play in developing "the Team"?

**Contact RRTI at 518-449-2976 for a Brochure.**

*Continued from Page 1*

**Genetics Link to Autism**

genetic underpinnings for autism, but, have had difficulty finding the link. Previous studies in families with identical twins have found that when one twin has autism, the odds are relatively strong that the other will too. But the latest research -- one of

*ABC News Photo Illustration*

the largest studies to date -- goes beyond twin studies, using cutting edge technology to examine and compare the DNA from more than 12,000 individuals affected by autism. Scientists pooled data together to gather a sample large enough. By comparing the DNA of those with and without autism, researchers were able to identify several genes related to autism. Scientists say that autism, a complex disorder, could be caused by as many as 50 genes.

The findings point researchers in the right direction toward developing drugs to treat the disorder. "What we're discovering in this study is that these genes appear to be affecting similar biochemical pathways in the brain, and so then, if we can develop drugs that can help to repair or restore that pathway, this eventually could be extremely helpful as a treatment," said Dawson. The studies hold promise to change the destiny of those with autism by finding a cure. While it won't come overnight, this research opens the door to understanding the genetic mysteries of autism.

"There are so many steps down the road before we can develop these medications," Dawson said. "But this is the first step -- and without this step, we would never get there."



Perry Samowitz, the Director of Education and Training for YAI/National Institute for People with Disabilities will bring his over 30 years experience training and teaching. He's a certified sexuality educator and has developed tools to determine sexual consent for people with developmental disabilities. Perry will guide attendees in understanding their roles and responses, help staff increase awareness of common behaviors, and provide an overview of sexuality policy that really works. Register today for this training opportunity, for all staff, being held at COARC. **Contact RRTI at 518-449-2976 to request a brochure.**

# Related Industry Conferences and Events

**5/08-09/09**

*YAI Conference Building on Abilities: Promoting Person—Centered Programs and Policies in Development & Learning Disabilities.*

Visit: [www.yai.org/conference](http://www.yai.org/conference)

**5/14-15/09**

*The Rochester Environmental & Sensory Processing Awareness (RESPA) Checklist: Train-the-Trainer*

ACLD, Bethpage, NY Call (585)275-6604 for information

**5/18/09**

*Demystifying Autism— What is it like to have autism?*

Ulster-Greene ARC, Holiday Inn, Kingston, NY

**5/26/09**

*29th Annual Ira Stevens Conference*

MHA of Westchester, The County Center, White Plains, NY

**6/2-3/09**

*Executive Management Institute*

NYSRA, The Century House, Latham, NY

**6/25/09**

17th Annual direct Support Professional Conference: Be the Change You Want to See

Mid-Hudson Coalition for the Development of the Direct Support Practice, Oakwood Friends School, Poughkeepsie, NY

Visit: [www.midhudsoncoalition.org](http://www.midhudsoncoalition.org)

**09/21-23/09**

**SAVE THE DATE**

*The Rehabilitation Summit*

NYSRA, The Desmond Hotel, Albany, N Y

## State University of New York at Buffalo *NYS Supported Employment Training Initiative ~ SETI* NYS Supported Employment Training Initiative 2009 Training Calendar

May		
TBD	Training Techniques	New York, NY
05/05/09	Job Coach I	Syracuse, NY
05/13/09	Natural Supports	Albany, NY
05/14/09	Job Coach II	Albany, NY
05/18/09	Ethical Issues in Job Placement and Supported Employment	Rochester, NY
05/28/09	Job Development II	Hauppauge, NY
June		
TBD	Managing Challenging Behaviors	New York, NY
06/02/09	Job Coach II	Syracuse, NY
06/09/09	Job Retention & Career Development	Albany, NY
06/25/09	Documentation & Record Keeping	Hauppauge, NY

**Program dates and locations are subject to change.**



Cornell University  
ILR School  
Employment and Disability Institute

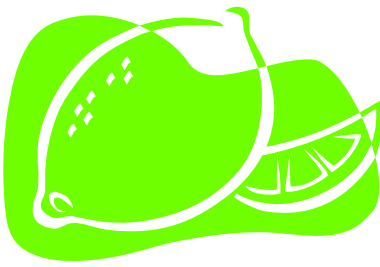
**ediONLINE**

Your source for employment and disability-related training at Cornell University

## NYSRA MEMBERS

**Receive 10% discount for spring training series for benefits and work incentives practitioners.**

**Visit [ediONLINE](http://www.edi.cornell.edu) at [www.edi.cornell.edu](http://www.edi.cornell.edu)**



## Google Lime Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

Lime and Google are forming a partnership to help the innovators of the future make the most of their talents by providing scholarships and networking retreats for computer science students with disabilities. Recipients of the Google Lime Scholarship will receive a scholarship for the 2009–2010 academic year. Selected students will also be invited to attend the all-expenses-paid retreat at the Googleplex in Mountain View, CA, in 2010. Scholarships will be awarded based on the strength of candidates' academic background and demonstrated passion - \$10,000 USD for those studying in the US and \$5,000 CAD for those studying in Canada (based on average tuition costs).

◇ ***Eligibility Requirements*** - Candidates must be:

A student entering their junior or senior year of undergraduate study or be enrolled in a graduate program in the 2009–2010 academic year at a university in the United States or Canada (in addition to US and Canada citizens, international students with disabilities studying at universities in the US or Canada are also encouraged to apply) Enrolled in a Computer Science or Computer Engineering program, or a closely related technical field as a full-time student for the 2009–2010 academic year A person with a disability (defined as someone who has, or considers themselves to have, a long-term, or recurring, issue that impacts one or more activities that others may consider a daily function); this definition also includes the perception among others that a disability exists

◇ ***How To Apply***

Candidates will apply online via the Lime online application process, and provide the following:

*Contact and education information*

Current resume ; Academic transcript; answers to essay questions; Two recommendation letters from a professor, adviser or supervisor

◇ ***DOWNLOAD APPLICATION FORM***

DOWNLOAD FLYER

**Application Deadline :** June 1, 2009



## The Bonadio Group Presents:

### *"Tools, Tips and Techniques for the Compliance Officer"*

In continuing their commitment to assist providers with compliance activities, NYSRA Business Partner, The Bonadio Group is conducting the following presentation in the Albany area.



"Tools, Tips and Techniques for the Compliance Officer" was developed in response to provider requests for further education and will focus on organizational risk assessment, reports to the governing body and development of the Annual Compliance Work Plan. Attendees will receive templates and a list of valuable resources.

To learn more and to Register go to:  
<http://webserv.bonadio.com/ComplianceSeries/ToolsTipsOverview.htm>

**NYSRA MEMBERS** can register at the "early registration discount" rate – a **20% discount!**

*Plans are in process to repeat this session in the downstate area in the near future.*

***Harles & Associates***PO Box 15318 Washington, DC 20003 (202)-546-2847 [charlie@harles.com](mailto:charlie@harles.com)***Registration for Federal 2009 Wage-Hour Webinars*****For Service Providers to Persons with Disabilities**

In an effort to bring the most up-to-date information to provider of services to individuals with disabilities, NYSRA is offering this series of 4 webinars on the following topics with various dates from which to choose.

***Subjects Covered*****Session One - day one - 90 minutes**

Policy considerations including 2009 Senate hearings and possible changes in statute

Compliance activities

Documenting Disability

How to avoid problems

Disabled for the Job

Using the Field Operations Handbook

Determining prevailing rates

Basic steps for compliance

Minimum wage adjustment

**Session Two - day one - 90 minutes**

Productivity measurement

Measuring productivity for hourly rated jobs

Hourly vs. piece rates

Conducting time studies for piece rates

**Session Three - day two - 60 minutes**

Who gets paid for what and when

Coverage Issues

Interstate commerce

Jobs covered and not

Employment status of client/workers (FLSA purposes only) Training Programs

Community based job exploration, assessment and training Volunteering

Down time

**Session Four - day two - 60 minutes**

Staff issues

Travel time and meals

Exempt status

Residential staffing

Total cost for the four sessions is \$200 per connection. You can have more than one person seeing the screen or you can have different people attend different sessions. The webinar is via a website that we will send you the link. You will need a phone for the audio portion - not a toll free number.

***\*\*The discount rate for NYSRA members is \$165 \*\****

**Times for the webinars for June 8-9, 2009, September 15-16, 2009, November 17-18, 2009**

Session One - 10:00 am - 11:30 am Eastern

Session Two - 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm Eastern

Session Three - 10:00 am to 11:00 am Eastern

Session Four - 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Eastern

**Times for the webinars for May 12-13, 2009, July 14-15, 2009, October 20-21, 2009, December 15-16, 2009.**

Session One - 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Eastern

Session Two - 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern

Session Three - 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Eastern

Session Four - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern

**Handouts to be sent via e-mail** -Section 14 (c) of Fair Labor Standards Act, Regulations Part 525, Chapter 64 Field Operations Handbook, Various forms and examples

## *Harles & Associates*

PO Box 15318 Washington, DC 20003 (202)-546-2847 [charlie@harles.com](mailto:charlie@harles.com)

### **Registration for Federal 2009 Wage-Hour Webinars For Service Providers to Persons with Disabilities**

**Date of sessions:** (check the one you want to attend)

- May 12-13, 2009 (afternoon sessions on east coast)  
 June 8-9, 2009 (morning and early afternoon times on east coast)  
 July 14-15, 2009 (afternoon sessions on east coast)  
 September 15-16, 2009 (morning and early afternoon times on east coast)  
 October 20-21, 2009 (afternoon sessions on east coast)  
 November 17-18, 2009 (morning and early afternoon times on east coast)  
 December 15-16, 2009 (afternoon sessions on east coast)

**Attendee Information:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:**

- \$165 per person or connection for NYSRA members  
 \$200 per person or connection for non-NYSRA attendees

**Credit Card payments:**

*Master Card or Visa:*

*Name on card:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Card number:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Exp. Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

a) Fax to: Harles & Associates 202-546-2854

b) Call 202-546-2847

c) Use Paypal.com - payment to [charlie@harles.com](mailto:charlie@harles.com)

**Checks to:**

Harles & Associates, PO Box 15318, Washington, DC 20003

How could an outbreak of the swine flu at your agency effect your consumers, your staff, your cash flow and your day-to-day operations?

## Quick Start Business Assurance Program

**TECH VALLEY CONTINUITY LLC**

*Turning Potential Disasters into an Annoyance™*



### You Decide

It's Monday night and during dinner the phone rings. Your heart sinks as the alarm company says your offices are on fire. Now, standing alone in the parking lot, you watch your future go up in smoke. Do you collect your insurance, fire your employees, and begin looking for a job? Or do you activate your disaster recovery plan and return to work in the morning? It's your choice.

A well designed and properly tested business continuity / disaster recovery program can allow your company to survive an otherwise devastating crisis. If you feel you don't have the time, knowledge, or funding to protect your future, this is the program for you.

### **6 Hours to Business Assurance**

#### Session I - Education and Discovery (3 Hours)

You will learn the components of a workable business continuity program. Together we will explore your business' operations and identify specific places where solutions can be applied to business operations or technical infrastructure.

*Tech Valley Continuity will research vendors, solutions and some estimated costs.  
A possible implementation program will be prepared.*

#### Session II - Decisions and Actions (3 Hours)

As a team, we will review the recommendations and determine which ones to implement now and which ones to delay or not implement at all.

If you want to protect your business against computer failures, power outages, telecommunication failures, fires, floods, or general mayhem, contact:

**RRTI**  
155 Washington Ave  
Albany, NY 12110  
(518) 449-2976  
Barbara@nyrehab.org




**GERIATRICS AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
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- Earn Your Certificate in Geriatrics and Developmental Disabilities
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- Continue Your Professional Development

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FOR THIS  
.....NURSE TRAINING PROGRAM**

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Instructors</u>
C4: Mental Health and Geriatric Individuals with DD	5/7/09	9am-4pm	Videoconference (Multiple NYS Sites)	Lisa Feretti, PhD & Phil McCallion, PhD
E10: Effects of Aging on Individuals with Down syndrome and Autism	5/12/09	9am-4pm	Videoconference (Multiple NYS Sites)	Kathleen Bishop, PhD & Ron Lucchino, PhD
C1: Aging and Developmental Disabilities	5/20/09	9am-4pm	Videoconference (Multiple NYS Sites)	Kathleen Bishop, PhD & Laura Robinson, MPH
Case Studies in Geriatrics and Developmental Disabilities	6/4/09	9am- 12pm	Videoconference (Multiple NYS Sites)	A Panel of Leading Experts

**Visit RRTI on line at: [wrrti.org](http://wrrti.org) to register for  
ww.Geriatrics& Developmental Disabilities Video Conferences**

THE REHABILITATION RESEARCH  
AND TRAINING INSTITUTE  
*PRESENTS:*



**CASE STUDIES IN GERIATRICS  
AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

A NEW HRSA-FUNDED VIDEOCONFERENCE OFFERED  
AT OMRDD VIDEOCONFERENCE SITES ACROSS  
NEW YORK STATE

**JUNE 4TH, 2009**

**9AM TO 12PM**

**FREE TO ALL REGISTRANTS**

***UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION FOR ALL HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICE PROFESSIONALS***

***ALL NEW CASE STUDIES ON ASSESSMENT AND  
TREATMENT OF GERIATRIC INDIVIDUALS WITH  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES***

***NURSES WHO ATTENDED COURSES IN THE HRSA NURSE  
TRAINING PROGRAM ON GERIATRICS AND  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARE ESPECIALLY  
ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND***

Register at **[WWW.RRTI.ORG](http://WWW.RRTI.ORG)**