



REGISTER

ICAN

International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopmental **Disorders**

A Unique Conference For Parents and Professionals

- 17th April, Thursday & 18th April, Friday 2025
- Omni Orlando Resort, Championsgate, Florida, USA

GET REGISTERED NOW



About ICAN

The International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ICAN) is a distinctive gathering where voices from all walks of the autism journey converge. This year, ICAN offers a special platform for individuals on the autism spectrum and parent-professionals to share their personal journeys and professional insights. Following the success of our previous conferences in Dubai and Tanzania, we are thrilled to bring this enriching experience to the USA.

ICAN is more than just an exchange of ideas—it's a place where lived experiences meet expert knowledge. This conference fosters meaningful connections between those who live with autism and those who dedicate their careers to advancing care and understanding. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the latest research, discuss new treatments, and engage in conversations that bridge the gap between personal experience and professional expertise. At ICAN, we are united by a shared goal: to enhance the lives of individuals on the Autism Spectrum by embracing both the science and the stories that shape their world.

Contact Details



Lynne White Conference Organising Committee Chair Person Mob.: +1 (703) 505-7727



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Dr. Temple Grandin

Author, Speaker and Autism Rights Activist, USA

Meet Dr. Temple Grandin!

We Are Excited to Announce That for the First Time, Dr. Temple Grandin, One of the World's Leading Voices in Autism Advocacy, Will Join Us **In Person** at the ICAN Conference 2025!

After Inspiring Us Virtually in Our Past ICAN Conferences, This Year's Event During World Autism Awareness Month is a Unique Opportunity to Connect with Dr. Grandin Face-to-Face.

Don't Miss This Unforgettable Moment to Meet a True Pioneer and Gain Invaluable Knowledge from Her Vast Experience!



Matt Morgan

Former WWE Superstar, Ex-American Gladiator, 3-time Mayor of Longwood, Re-elected to Longwood City Commission (Nov 2024), and Autism Dad

Topic: Addiction in the Spectrum: Awareness, Prevention, and Support



Lynne White

Founder of Teamawesomism & AwesomismMom

Topic: A Grassroot Strategy to Turn Autism into Awesomism



Tom Iland

Award-Winning Author with Autism, USA

Topic: The Glass Is Full: Stories of

Putting Mental Health First

Individuals On The Spectrum



Andrew Arboe

Autistic Self-Advocate



Topic: My Wish for Future Employment Programs



Elizabeth Bonker

Autism Advocate | Exec. Director,
Communication 4 ALL Autism
Society America's Council & Policy Advisor

Topic: Empowering Nonspeakers with Communication, Regulation & Education



Jonathan Gardner USA

Motivational Speaker,
Advocate, Cancer Survivor,
Who Happens to Have Autism

Topic: Trauma to Triumph as a Self-Advocate and Cancer Survivor who happens to have Autism



Dr. Emile GouwsSouth Africa

Postdoctoral Fellow (Unisa),
Academic representative of South
Africa's response to the United Nations

Topic: The Paradigm Shift



Maya & Lara Hammoud USA

Researcher, Autism
Activist, & Co-Founder of
the Perception Foundation

Topic: Building Our New Normal



Gage Kern

Autistic Advocate and Podcaster

Topic: The Power of Autism





Andre KlassUSA

Founder & Executive Director, Christian Tech Center Ministries

Topic: God Made Us Perfect As We Are



Elissa R. Mandel

Speech Pathologist, ASD
Clinical Specialist, CEO of Speech
Works by Elissa, Expert at The Aspie
World & Co-Founder of ClimbRx

Topic: The Cost of Masking for Neurodivergent Individuals: A Wake-Up Call for Educators, Therapists, and Parents

Individuals On The Spectrum



Karla Pretorius South Africa

Registered European
Psychotherapist, PhD researcher,
and co-founder of ClimbRx

Topic: PDA (Persistent Drive for Autonomy)



Michelle Vinokurov USA

Behavior Specialist



Topic: Unlocking Potential: Empowering Neurodiverse Individuals in the Workplace



Jolene Stockman

New Zealand

Autistic TEDx Speaker,
Author, & Global Diversity Educator

Topic: Autistic World Domination



Chris Weakly

USA



Autistic Advocate for Neurodiversity & Founder of Logical-A

Topic: Dilemma of Autistic Employment

Autism Parents



Uzma Akser

Founder & CEO of Uzma

Akser Coaching and Consulting

Topic: Growing with Autism: Building Inclusive Workspaces for Lifelong Development



Yasmeen Alqalaaf Kuwait

Autism Specialist and Autism Mom

Topic: Autism and Homeschooling



Tamarsha Alexander

Autism Mom | Advocate

CAS | Naturopath | CEO and

Founder Ausome Life Institute

Topic: From Nonverbal to Verbal: A Holistic Approach to Empowering Families of Children with Autism



Udaya K. Dintyala India

Chairman of Cognitive Botics, Technology Expert &

Topic: Transforming Early Intervention: Digital platform for augmenting the Therapy Ecosystem with AI, AR, and Gamified Content

Autism Dad



Dr. Melinda EdwardsUSA

Founder of Living Darshan



Topic: Beyond Inclusivity: Find Your Inner Aspie



Manisha Lad

Neurodiverse Parent Coach,
Founder & Executive Director Akhil Autism
Foundation & Sensory Pathway Center

Topic: Empowering Akhil Lad's journey to college-Brain Development & Letter Board Communication



Rita Mastrangelo Canada

Autism Mom & Autism
Functional Health Practioner

Topic: The Role of Gut Health in Reducing Challenging Behaviors and Improving Independence in Children with Autism



Neena Wagh

Autism Mom, Founder, Managing Trustee ALAP



Topic: Assisted Living Scenario and the Emerging Trends in Community Mobilisation

Autism Parents



Natalie Pelto Canada

Nutritional Therapist



Topic: Helping your child with autism build a brilliant brain while overcoming sensory processing and using lifestyle medicine for behavior



Dr. Sylvia M. Akinsiku Kenya

Founder Andy Speaks 4 Special Needs
Persons Africa, Eastern Africa Academy
of Childhood Disabilities exec committee &
WHO World Rehabilitation Alliance - ER member

Topic: Inclusion in the community



Aspen BaxterUSA

Disability Advocate,
Public Speaker & Accessible
Travel Blogger

Topic: "Tails" of Resilience: Navigating Late Diagnosed Autism, Disability, & Accessible Adventures with a Service Dog



Dr. Richard BolesUSA

Medical Geneticist,
Pediatrics, Clinical Genetics

Topic: Application of Genetic Testing and Dietary Supplementation Strategies to Improve Clinical Outcomes



Zahida Chagani Tanzania

Special Educator & Principal, AL Muntazir Special Education Needs

Topic: Transforming Internships and Vocational Training for Children with Special Needs



Paul D. Diaz

Winter Springs City
Commissioner | IRS Enrolled Agent IRS
Defense & Strategic Tax Resolution Expert



Dr. Thiago DutraBrazil

Pediatrician & Postgraduate in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Topic: Integrating Autism Education into Medical Training & Practice



Dr. Carissa Doherty Canada

Naturopathic Doctor

Topic: IPOTS...Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome: POTS and PANs



Dr. Sonya DohertyCanada

Naturopathic Doctor, FMAPS (Cand.)



Topic: Motor Planning and Mitochondrial Issues In Autism



Spencer DomanUSA

Child Brain Developmentalist, Doman Method Coach

Topic: The Doman Method: 70 Years of Holistic Success with Children with Autism and Developmental Delays



Dr.Terita GusbyUSA

Special Educator & Founder of Education Prescriptions a Virtual Education Company

Topic: The Incorporation of Visual and Tactile Skills Taught to Students with Autism



Stacey Hoaglund USA

President of the Autism Society of Florida

Topic: Masking to Survive - The Autistic Person's Battle to Belong



Cowboy Jack USA

YouTuber &
Autism Advocate

Topic: Using Unique Ways and Adventures To Learn Skill Sets



AJ Cullen Langell USA

LICSW, C-AAIS, Founder - Autism Barks

Topic: Pawsibilities: Enhancing Autism Support with Animal-Assisted Services



Alisha Lalljee

Psychologist



Topic: Unidentified Adult Autism



Dr. Annie A. LaswayUSA

Healthcare Researcher and Educator,
CEO of DECODER Health.

Topic: Critical Distinction Between Inheritability and Heritability



Dr. Tim Lloyd USA

Ph.D., BCBA, IBA, LMFT



Topic: Compassionate Behavior Analysis: Empowering Individuals on the Autism Spectrum and Their Families



Eleonora Palmieri

Clinical Psychologist, Itard Therapist, Director Victor Center

Topic: Neuroactivation practices for Autism



Minal Potnis
India

Face Yoga Therapist



Topic: Neuro-Wellness & Mental Clarity for Autism, while naturally optimizing your aesthetic condition with targeted Face Exercises



John PayneUSA

Chairman & CEO, PURELIFE Health Sciences Group, LLC

Topic: New Studies And A Solution For Autism And The Connection To The Gut-Brain Axis



Darshan PunjabiUSA

Technology Lead at Oracle & Empowering Children with Unique Abilities

Topic: Empowering Autism Families : Technology for Growth and Connection



Michael Radka USA

President and CEO of Mercy Road

Topic: Exploring the Intersection of Faith and Neurodiversity



Dr. Valeria Risoli UAE

Clinical Psychologist At Allied Medical Center (Dubai)

Topic: Challenges Of Children Raised By Autistic Parents



Dr. Hemangi Sane

India

Consultant Physician



Topic: Neurotransmitters In Autism



Greg SantucciUSA

Pediatric Occupational
Therapist, Founding Director of
Power Play Pediatric Therapist and
Co-Founder of ClimbRx

Topic: Creating Sensory Safe Spaces



Dr. Randi A. Sarokoff

USA

Associate Professor in ABA, at Kean University



Topic: Prioritizing Learner Preference to Enhance Quality of Life: Script Fading to Teach Dramatic Script Memorization as a Recreational Activity for an Adult with Autism



Jeniece Stewart



Founder & Executive Director, Special Needs Siblings

Topic: The Importance of Awareness and Visibility for Siblings



Dr. Tyler SextonUSA



Pediatric Hyperbaric Specialist

Topic: Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: More Than Wounds: Neurological Application



Dr. Alok SharmaIndia



Neurosurgeon

Topic: Recent Advances in the Pathophysiology and Medical Management of the Autism Spectrum



Danielle Terrell



Autism Advocate

Topic: Supporting Individuals with Transitions!



Elizabeth Vosseller

M.A., SLP, Founder and Executive Director of (I-ASC)

Topic: Presuming Competence: Nonspeaking Does Not Equal Nonthinking



ljeoma Ugwu



MSc. Human Nutrition.
Registered Nutrition Society
of Nigeria (NSN) and The
Nutrition Society, United Kingdom

Topic: Feeding Challenges Among Children with ASD or Holistic Wellness in ASD



Zheng WangUSA



Ph.D. Assistant Professor,
Applied Physiology and
Kinesiology, University of Florida

Topic: CONSEQUENCES OF AGING-Neuromotor, Cognitive, and Structural Brain Deviations In Middle-&-Old Aged Autistic Adults

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Autism Connect

Autism Connect is an association of parents and professionals formed to disseminate scientifically validated information about all the therapies and treatments for Autism. We at Autism Connect have a single goal which is to help millions of parents and caregivers of children with Autism, with the right information, so that they can make the right informed choices.

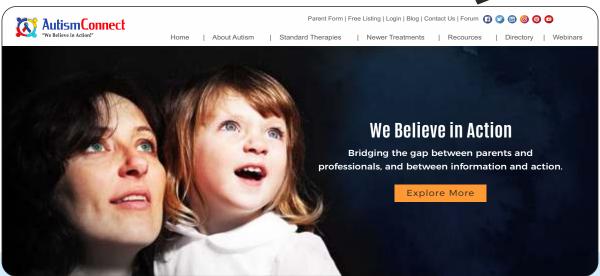
We offer easy access to professionals via our global directory, along with treatment options, resources, webinars, blogs, and newsletters. This helps parents make informed choices for their children. We continuously update and validate autism-related information, believing that individuals with autism have unique abilities ready to be uncovered with the right approach.

At Autism Connect, we don't just imagine a better world for people with Autism, we endeavor to create it "We Believe In Action".

Key Features of Autism Connect:

- Worldwide Directory: Access over 49,000 professionals, including special schools, rehabilitation centers, and therapists, across the USA, South America, Africa, India, and beyond.
- **Therapy Options:** Explore a range of therapies, from standard therapies to newer treatment methods and approaches, ensuring personalized care to meet your child's unique needs.
- Blogs & Inspirational Stories: Dive into articles authored by parents, professionals, and individuals with ASD, offering insights and inspiration.
- Webinars: Learn from parents, professionals, and individuals on the spectrum through our engaging webinars. These sessions provide real-life insights, covering topics like early interventions and innovative autism treatments.
- **Resources:** Discover a curated collection of assistive mobile apps, books, podcasts, toys & therapeutic accessories, and more—tailored to meet your needs.
- Newsletters: Stay updated with our newsletter, packed with expert advice, success stories, new blog posts, and the latest in autism research—delivered right to your inbox.





Podcast - The Dolly Show

Introducing "TDS - The Dolly Show"

A Unique Autism Podcast, Connecting Parents & Professionals

Get ready to change the conversation around autism with "TDS - The Dolly Show"! Hosted by Dolly Thakkar, this one-of-a-kind podcast dives into raw, real conversations that matter. It's packed with breakthrough moments and a whole lot of inspiration, bringing together parents of children with autism and leading professionals in every episode.

Expect powerful insights and heartfelt stories as we explore the unique journeys of autism care—where personal experiences meet professional expertise. Each episode is designed to give parents and caregivers the tools and knowledge they need to make informed decisions about therapies and treatments.

Let's "Navigate Autism Together, One Story At A Time" and create a community of learning, understanding, and collaboration. Discover the conversations you won't want to miss!



Glimpse of ICAN Dubai 2023



















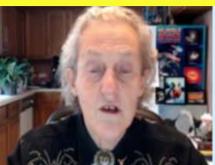






Glimpse of ICAN Tanzania 2023

















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