
Autism Awareness Month Features Online Video Training Program for Those Supporting Individuals with Autism

April 4, 2016

Columbus, OH – April is National Autism Awareness month and Ohioans can benefit from a free online, video training program that helps families and providers develop a range of skills and techniques to guide their work and support of individuals on the autism spectrum

[ASD Strategies in Action](#) provides practical information and skills, demonstrated through real-life settings in the home, school, community and workplace, to help everyone who interacts with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

“This program – the first of its kind – helps educate and empower families, caregivers, service providers, educators, and employers with research-based practices for supporting individuals with ASD,” said Shawn Henry, Executive Director at the [Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence \(OCALI\)](#). “If we can better equip families and others with practical strategies that can be used on a daily basis, we can improve their quality of life. During April – Autism Awareness Month – we want to ensure anyone who loves and/or supports someone with ASD is aware of this resource.”

The program is designed to meet the needs of adult learners and busy families by providing anytime, anywhere learning opportunities. Developed in consultation with a blue-ribbon panel of internationally renowned experts, the program incorporates multiple research-based approaches.

Learning modules are available through a custom-designed, online, mobile-friendly platform. Content is organized by strategy and age range – from early childhood to young adulthood – which users are able to access and complete at their own time and pace. While practitioners will have the option to earn professional development hours and a certificate, the program is designed so that every user can gain knowledge and implement the skills learned immediately.

“The format, structure, and pacing are specifically designed to provide everyone – from experienced practitioners to those just starting to learn about ASD – with a comprehensive, flexible, and impactful learning experience,” said John Martin, Director of the [Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities \(DODD\)](#).

The program was funded under the leadership of DODD in collaboration with the [Ohio Department of Education](#) and the [Governor’s Office of Health Transformation](#). It will continue to innovate and expand through a variety of state and national partnerships and value-added services.

The training is free to all Ohioans, and available on a paid subscription basis in other states and countries, impacting millions across the globe. For more information, visit www.autismstrategies.org