

EDUCATION AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

of UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital

PRESENTATION FORM

Presenter Bio

Please include your full name, credentials, degrees and information about your position and place of employment. **Please send a copy of your CV along with this completed form.**

Dr. Abigail Schlesinger is a child and adolescent psychiatrist with an interest in increasing access to quality behavioral health and developmental services for children and families. She was instrumental in the development of the Children's Community Pediatrics Behavioral Health (CCPBH), a service that embeds therapist and psychiatrist in pediatric primary care. CCCBH has won local, state, and national awards for efficiently improving access to care.

Dr. Schlesinger has also been recognized for her own clinical and academic expertise as Physician of the Year at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC) in 2013. She also formerly served as the training director of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Triple Board Programs at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic). She is currently leading the integration of developmental, behavioral, and community resources for Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and has been appointed as the Medical Director for TiPS (Children's Telephonic Psychiatric Consultation Service), and Medical Director of Ambulatory Integrated Behavioral Health for WPIC.

Kate Swenson is the creator of Finding Cooper's Voice, an online and in-person community, where families of children with disabilities can come together to celebrate, laugh, cry, learn and get support. With over a million followers her goal is to normalize the stigmas surrounding having a member of the family with a disability and what she refers to as a 'secret world'. Her book, *Forever Boy, A Mother's Memoir of Autism and Finding Joy* was published in 2022 and quickly became a national bestseller. Kate, her husband, and four kids, live in Minnesota.

Name and Narrative Description of your Presentation

Please determine if it is introductory, intermediate, or advanced.

Improving patient care through patient and parent experience / Finding Joy in the Secret World of Autism

Dr. Schlesinger will provide a brief overview of the Children's TiPS program and explain how and why we are all here today.

Parent and advocate, Kate Swenson, will reflect on her family's journey through an autism diagnosis, early intervention, and transition to school services, and the emotional toll these processes can take on a family. In this presentation, she will discuss the transformation she made as not only a parent, but as a person, and the support that parents need from professionals, family members, and those within their community to help their family adjust to this new chapter of life.

Three (3) learning objectives

By the completion of this session, participants should be able to:

- Identify ways to support families who have a member with a disability.
- Embrace individuals with autism and see the value that neurodiversity brings to the world.
- Gain empathy for a misunderstood diagnosis.

Three (3) current (within the past 10 years) peer-reviewed publications that support the evidencebase for the content of your presentation

Publications must be listed in American Psychological Association (APA) Style (see www.apastyle.org for more information).

APA format for journal article citation:

Author last name, Author First Initial. Author Second Initial. (Publication Year). Title of article. *Title of Journal*. volume(issue) (if issue numbered), pages.

Hyman SL, Levy SE, Myers SM, AAP COUNCIL ON CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, SECTION ON DEVELOPMENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS. Identification, Evaluation, and Management of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Pediatrics*. 2020;145(1): e2019344.

Lipkin, Paul H., et al. "Promoting optimal development: identifying infants and young children with developmental disorders through developmental surveillance and screening." *Pediatrics* 145.1 (2020).

Lord, Catherine, et al. "The Lancet Commission on the future of care and clinical research in autism." *The Lancet* 399.10321 (2022): 271-334.

Hirota T, King BH. Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Review. *JAMA*. 2023 Jan 10;329(2):157-168. doi: 10.1001/jama.2022.23661. PMID: 36625807.

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