



Autism Community Network

2016 Family Empowerment Programs

Autism Community Network is proud to provide the educational tools necessary for families to maximize the potential of their children with autism. To meet this need, we offer Family Empowerment Programs including Family Empowerment Classes and Hands-on Family Empowerment Courses. We also offer autism-friendly Family Empowerment Events.

[Learn more at www.acn-sa.org.](http://www.acn-sa.org)

Family Empowerment Classes: Our Family Empowerment Classes are specially designed for family members of children of all ages with autism including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and foster adoption parents and are offered on a variety of topics related to caring for a child with autism. We offer these classes on a regular monthly schedule as well as on-demand. These classes are provided free of charge thanks to support from United Way of San Antonio.

Hands-On Family Empowerment Courses: Our Hands-On Family Empowerment Courses are designed to supplement therapy for children up to age eight with an autism diagnosis. Sessions allow caregivers to work one-on-one with a therapist on the specific needs of the child and family.

More Than Words® Hands-On family Empowerment Course- This course provides parents and caregivers of young children with autism and social communication difficulties with practical tools to help their children communicate. This unique program was developed by expert speech-language pathologists at The Hanen Centre and is offered around the world by Hanen Certified Speech-Language Pathologists. Visit hanen.org for more information.

DIRFloortime® Hands-On Family Empowerment Course- DIRFloortime® is both a developmental paradigm and a therapeutic technique developed by Child Psychiatrist Stanley Greenspan. The DIRFloortime® Model is founded upon the understanding that development occurs within the context of the caregiver-child relationship. It focuses upon the individual ways that children experience the world around them and upon their capacities to self-regulate, to share attention, to be reciprocal and to explore and learn!

Sensory Processing Hands-On Family Empowerment Course- Sensory Integration is the process of taking in sensory information from our environment and using it in a functional manner. When our sensory systems do not process this information appropriately we may see problems in other areas. This course is designed to help family caregivers develop sensory integration in their children.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Hands-On Family Empowerment Course- Caregivers of children with autism enrolled in an ABA therapy program now have the opportunity to learn Behavior Analysis techniques they can apply at home.

Family Empowerment Events: Our Family Empowerment Events offer families an autism-friendly environment in which to socialize with peers, get to know our therapists, ask questions, and have fun! These events are free thanks to support from Autism Speaks.