



**1 Using the Social Response Pyramid™ to Promote Effective Interactions with Youth with Autism and Asperger Syndrome (and anyone else!) (intermediate)**

The Social Response Pyramid™ will be utilized to show how effective social interactions work, and why individuals with autism and Asperger Syndrome (or anyone else) may struggle to be effective. In addition, Ms. Falvo will demonstrate several ways the Pyramid can be used to teach and promote effective interactions in response to real-life scenarios.

**Participants will be able to:**

- identify several diagnostic differences present in individuals with autism and Asperger Syndrome
- identify several areas where they may need additional instruction and support
- describe several strategies to help promote effective social interactions in the home, school, workplace, and community.

**Date/Time:** Thursday, October 21, 2010  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Cost/CEs:** \$19 + \$10 for 2.0 approved CEs

**Registration Deadline:** Thursday, Oct. 14, 2010

**Presenter: Laurel Falvo**, Certified Family Life Educator, Executive Director, The Gray Center for Social Learning and Understanding. Ms. Falvo graduated from Calvin College. In addition to her work with the Gray Center, Laurel is associated with Early On of Kent County, serving on the local Inter-Agency Coordinating Council. She is the author of *ASD to Z: Basic Information, Support, and Hope for Individuals Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders*.

**2 Taking the Mystery Out of Adolescent Cutting & Self-Injurious Behavior (intermediate)**

Self-injuring behaviors are unhealthy coping methods used by an increasing number of teens in our society.

**Participants will be able to:**

- explain why kids cut
- learn proven methods that adults can use to intervene with and teach healthy alternatives to self-harm.
- learn about how to respond to defensiveness and denial
- learn how to care for wounds
- discover how to keep a healthy, balanced perspective when responding to a "pro-cutting" culture

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010  
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Cost/CEs:** \$29 + \$10 for 3.0 approved CEs

**Registration Deadline:** Thursday, Nov. 9, 2010

**Presenter: Sandra Metcalf, MS, MSW, BS**, is currently the Director of Juvenile Services for the 20th Judicial Circuit Court. She is responsible for the daily operational aspects of the court, including intake, probation, programs, diversion/treatment units, budget, personnel matters, the Ottawa County Detention Center and all other administrative duties. Sandi was the female-services consultant for the State of Michigan and is a certified trainer on brain-based/nature-based theory. Other trainings she has conducted at the local, state and national level include: neurobiological differences between boys and girls, female-responsive programming, grant writing, cutting and self-mutilation, organizational strategic planning, curriculum development, substance abuse, mental health, drug courts and relational aggression, e.g., "mean girls."

**3 Institute for Healing Racism (intermediate-advanced)**

Join this group to learn about the sin of racism while growing with others in a Christ-centered environment. This training will be an opportunity to build bridges with others in the fight against racism.

**During this training, participants will be able to:**

- describe how racism developed in the USA
- discuss the origins of racism
- define Institutional Racism
- describe the wounds of racism
- learn about white privilege
- explain the importance of celebrating small successes in overcoming racism
- discuss the importance of becoming an agent of healing and justice

**Date/Time:** Friday, November 12, 2010 and  
Friday, November 19, 2010  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Must attend both sessions*

**Cost/CEs:** \$175 (includes continental breakfast and lunch both days, and 14 approved CEs)

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, November 5, 2010

**Presenters: Mary Bowers** received her MBA from Grand Valley State University and holds a degree in Therapeutic Recreation from Calvin College where she is a visiting professor. She has also served on the Executive Committee for Leadership West Michigan and is a Facilitator of Institutes for Healing Racism for the Chamber of Commerce. **Syd Harvey**, earned his BA in Business Management from Cornerstone University. He has over 20 years experience in planning, organizational development and general administrative management. Syd's areas of expertise include implementing strategic plans, driving organizational cultural competency and educating staff on diversity goals and objectives. Currently, he is the Cultural Linguistic Competency Coordinator for Kent County CMH (Network 180.)

**4 Walk with Me: The Power of Mentors in the Lives of Youth (beginning)**

Many young people today walk through their adolescent years without a sense of purpose and direction.

These young people face their life journey alone due to lack of parental or family involvement and never receive the nurturing or encouragement from a knowledgeable adult. Mentors provide the dedication, time and energy needed to walk alongside the young person to help them discover who they are and nurture them into where they are destined to go.

**Participants will be able to:**

- discover the benefits of a mentoring relationship on the lives of adolescents
- discover the types of mentoring relationships
- describe the key components to effective mentoring relationships

**Date/Time:** Thursday, November 18, 2010  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Cost/CEs:** \$19 + \$10 for 2 approved CEs

**Registration Deadline:** Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010

**Presenter: Erin Williams**, received her Masters in counseling from Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids and an MA in Practical Theology from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Currently, she is a therapist for a girls' residential treatment program at Wedgwood Christian Services. She has also worked as a home-based therapist assisting adolescents and families with addiction & substance abuse, family problems, delinquency, and other issues.

