



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Allison Peterson, O: 216.464.7600 x111, C: 440.376.5171, [agpeterson@milestones.org](mailto:agpeterson@milestones.org)

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Milestones 14th Annual Autism Spectrum Disorder Conference June 16-17, 2016** *Conference Offers Two Days of Evidence-Based Workshops to Local Autism Community*

CLEVELAND - Milestones Autism Resources is pleased to announce the 14th Annual Autism Spectrum Disorder Conference will take place on Thursday, June 16 and Friday, June 17, from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Landerhaven (6111 Landerhaven Drive, Mayfield Heights). Registration is available at [milestones.org](http://milestones.org) with discounts through April 30. Scholarships are also available.

Milestones encourages family members, educators, therapists, clinicians, medical professionals, and individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to attend the Conference to learn evidence-based strategies for all ages, stages, and ability levels. Complimentary lunch and parking are provided for all attendees.

“I attend the Milestones Conference to be part of a larger community in support of the 12 kids who I teach,” said Gina Edgehouse, teacher and past attendee. “This gives me a place to go so I can lead my students in a better direction.”

Highlights for 2016 include:

- Straight from the Source Workshop Series – Based on popular demand, the Individuals with ASD panel is expanding to feature additional panel sessions with siblings, moms, and dads.
- 10 exciting tracks: Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB); Behavioral Health; Communication & Technology; Individuals with ASD; Medical; Occupational Therapy; Parent, Family & Caregiver; School Team; Teen & Adult Services; Step Up to Quality
- 70+ evidence-based workshops
- 40+ exhibitors
- Continuing education for 9 disciplines
- Parent Guidance
- Networking

“The Conference is a chance to connect, like an academic reunion, where I learn fresh ideas to collaborate with others in Northeast Ohio and beyond,” said Tracy Masterson, PhD, Conference Co-Chair.

This year's national keynotes include James Ball, EdD, BCBA-D, and Jennifer McIlwee Myers, Aspie at Large. Ball, Autism Society executive chair, has provided educational, employment, and residential services to children and adults who are affected with autism for more than 25 years. Myers provides personal insight and understanding to individuals like her with sensory processing disorders and ASD.

Medical professionals, including physicians, nurses, and physician assistants, can earn Continuing Medical Education (CME) in Medical Track sessions on Thursday, June 16. These educational workshops will increase the knowledge and skills that medical professionals use to provide services to patients with autism. The Medical Track was planned in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and Milestones. Additional CME-approved sessions will take place on Friday, June 17.

Sponsors include the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Cleveland Clinic Children's, University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, MetroHealth, Monarch Center for Autism, Robert W. Baird and Company, Westminster Technologies, Cleveland State University College of Education and Human Services, and others.

For more information about the 14th Annual Milestones Autism Spectrum Disorder Conference, please visit [milestones.org](http://milestones.org).

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#### **About Milestones Autism Resources**

Founded in 2003, Milestones Autism Resources improves the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum throughout Northeast Ohio by educating, coaching, and connecting the autism community with evidence-based information. Milestones is the first call for help at each transition of an individual's life. Milestones envisions a community in which individuals on the autism spectrum reach their full potential as contributing members of society, recognized for their strengths and supported in their challenges. Each year, Milestones serves more than 2,400 parents, professionals, and individuals of all ages and abilities through an annual conference, trainings, and coaching services. The website, [milestones.org](http://milestones.org), connects 58,000 unique visitors to more than 1,000 autism resources.