

Living Successful Lives with Autism and Developing Personal Relationships:
Transitions for Life – The Future of Autism

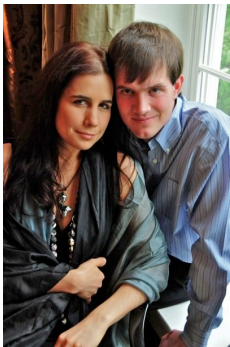
December 9th 2010 - - Holiday Inn University – Blacksburg
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (registration – 7:30-8:30 a.m.)

Presenters:

Sean Barron, co-author with Dr. Temple Grandin of *Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships* and co-author of *There's a Boy in Here: Emerging from the Bonds of Autism*. Distinguished speaker on 'his release from the terrifying imprisonment of his own mind' as a child with autism, Sean currently is a successful journalist in Ohio.



Barbara Protopapa, autism self-advocate and specialist. Diagnosed with autism at age 3, Barbara works at the Rich Center for Autism at Youngstown University, Youngstown, Ohio.



David Hamrick, distinguished national speaker on autism. Diagnosed with autism at age 3, David received a Masters Degree in Meteorology from North Carolina State University and is currently working for the U.S. Weather Service in Washington, D.C

Lindsey Nebeker, distinguished national speaker on autism. Lindsey is a self-advocate who was diagnosed with autism at age 3. She earned a B.A. in music from the College of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Lindsey embraces independence in her life and the opportunity to advocate for children with severe disabilities, especially those with autism.

Mark Hartmann, young entrepreneur and self-advocate for persons with disabilities. Diagnosed with autism at the age of three, Mark graduated from Blacksburg High School with a standard academic diploma. He has several part-time jobs and continues to pursue higher education through on-line classes with Phoenix University.



Transitions for Life - The Future of Autism is a unique opportunity to hear from leaders in the field of autism sharing from their personal experiences about living successfully with autism. Content will include lessons learned along their life journeys: helpful supports provided by teachers, parents, service providers and others; barriers experienced; transition to college and employment; and developing and maintaining personal relationships.

Target audience: Educators, adult service providers, family members, youth with disabilities.