

Dr. James E. Williams Jr., CRC, ACAS

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Education

- Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership**, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX 2017
Dissertation: Parental Factors Related to the Successful Employment Outcomes of Adults with ASD
Lamar University, Department of Educational Leadership, Outstanding Doctoral Student Award Recipient
Lamar University, Department of Educational Leadership, Jane Irons Dissertation Award Nominee
Advanced Certified Autism Specialist
Institute for Behavioral Training ABA Certificate
- Master of Rehabilitation Counseling**, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, TX 2012
Certified Rehabilitation Counselor
Texas Council for Exceptional Children, Outstanding Professional of the Year
- Bachelor of Science**, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX 2009
Interdisciplinary Studies, Special Education, Summa Cum Laude
Teaching Certifications: Special Education (EC-12), Generalist (EC-8), English as a Second Language (4-8)
SHSU Americans with Disabilities Act-Oversight and Compliance Committee
Sam Houston Council for Exceptional Children, Conference Director
Council for Exceptional Children, International Outstanding Undergraduate Student of the Year

Professional Summary

Accomplished and dedicated professional with a terminal degree and extensive experience in the management of disability and education related organizations, particularly those for adults and children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Adept at supervising staff across organizations and connecting individuals with disabilities to the services and support needed to live and work independently. Professional background consists of working in special education, vocational services, organizational leadership, and life coaching to deliver a well-rounded approach to supporting the needs of adults and children challenged by disabilities.

Career History

- National Pre-ETS Director/Chief Operations Officer**, Bloom Consulting, LLC 2017 – Present
- Supervise the provision of private and state-funded employment services to adults with disabilities
 - Conduct extensive redesign of human resources, marketing, branding, social media, and outreach functions
 - Direct marketing & outreach efforts to grow program and reach more families
 - Authored proposals to create new programming and funding streams for organization
 - Serve as vocational expert and consultant for various organizations and individuals
- Consultant**, CASE Program, The Burkhart Center for Autism, Texas Tech University 2016 – Present
- Provide ASD programmatic/content expert knowledge to program faculty & staff
 - Support marketing & outreach efforts to grow program and reach more families statewide
 - Train faculty & staff on how to implement program improvements and modifications
 - Conduct extensive overhaul of admissions process, marketing materials, & branding
 - Serve as ASD and Transition expert and consultant for program issues, concerns, and changes
- Adjunct Professor**, St. Edward's University, George Mason University, Northwestern College 2015 – Present
- Teach autism, education, and counseling courses to graduate and undergraduate students
 - Increase opportunities and awareness by collaborating with faculty and staff members on campus
 - Formulate lesson plans based on course content, learning objectives and current research in the field
 - Deliver innovative course instruction focused on real-life applications of theories and principles

- Connect students to special education community experiences in a variety of environments
- Synthesize core principles of autism, education, and counseling into coursework objectives

National Director/Regional Coordinator, Independent Living Experience 2013 – 2016

- Directly and remotely supported and led staff nationwide across nine program sites, including Texas
- Managed marketing, admissions, personnel, service delivery and budgeting across three cost centers
- Ensured services were goal-driven and accountable while focusing on strengths and needs during the development of client support and service plans
- Provided Autism Spectrum Disorder support services to consumers across the state by managing local and state partnerships
- Implemented a nationwide vocational assessment system for both the CLE and ILE
- Boosted transparency and ease of use by creating a simplified billing system

Accomplishments:

- Increased the Texas client population from three up to 30 in the first 12 months
- Grew the referral and outreach network by 300% within the first 12 months

Life Coach / Employment Services, Autumn's Dawn Transitional Center 2012 – 2013

- Delivered individualized independent living, career management instruction and higher education to adults ages 18-35 who were diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Utilized Social Thinking curriculum and research-based materials to teach group seminar courses
- Provided vocational rehabilitation services to adults referred by the state's VR system

Special Education Teacher / Case Manager, Humble ISD 2010

- Utilized collaborative academic and social skills instruction to teach students with learning disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Monitored student progress, achievement, and program service delivery, including modifications and accommodations through collaborative relationships with counselors, administrators and general and special education faculty members
- Achieved maximum academic and social potential through the coordination of student services, assessments, and academic goals to develop a support system for students

Vocational Evaluator, Focus Initiative and Academy 2011 – 2012

- Administered vocational assessments such as the COPSystem Career Measurement Package and AIR Self-Determination Scale
- Developed comprehensive assessment reports including numerical, graphic and interpretive findings

Curriculum Coordinator, Focus Initiative and Academy 2010 – 2011

- Created an online instructional system for students in grades 4-12 across two campuses
- Trained individuals on Post-Secondary Transition and Autism Spectrum Disorders

FOPI / Social Coach, Focus Initiative and Academy 2006 – 2011

- Aided in job placement, coaching and vocational preparation for adults with autism and other disabilities
- Delivered social thinking instruction and supervision for children and young adults with autism

Areas of Strength

Disability Services	Training & Development	Financial Management
Program Development	Outreach & Marketing	Microsoft Office Suite
Supervision of Staff	Post-Secondary Transition	Google Suite
Job Development	Special Education	Basic Web Design
Autism	Employment Services	Social Media Marketing
Rehabilitation Counseling	Vocational Assessments	Human Relations Management

Publications

Top Ten Mistakes in Transition Planning White Paper, Council of Parent Advocates and Attorneys, 2019
 Assistive Technology for Students with ASD-Student Publication, St. Edward's University, 2017
 Dissertation Proofreading and Consultation, Terri McGinnis, Capella University, 2017

Math Strategies for Students with ASD-Student Publication, St. Edward's University, 2017
Autism & Massage Content Expert-Susan Salvo, 2016
Forward/Chapter Q&A: Going to College with ASD-Drs. Lori Hepburn, Jennifer Butcher & Emily Rutherford, 2015
Chapter Q&A: College Success for Students with Learning Disabilities, Drs. Cynthia Simpson & Vicky Spencer, 2009

Professional Development

Knowledge Translation for Employment Research Center-Autism Technical Working Group-Member, 2017-Present
International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals-Member, 2017-Present
Austin Connections Networking Group-Member, 2013-Present
TWS-VRS-Statewide Developmental Disorders Team-ASD Supports Provider, 2013-Present
Leander ISD District-wide Educational Improvement Council-Member, 2017-2018
Texas Higher Education Collaborative Project Advisory Committee-Member, 2017-2018
College Autism Network-Membership/Conference Planning Committee-Member, 2017-2018
Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities Conference Proposal Committee-Member, 2017
Williamson County Mental Health Networking Group-Member, 2015-2016
Association of People Supporting Employment First-Member, 2015-2016
Texas Rehabilitation Association-Member, 2014-2017
Autism Society of Texas-Board Member, Adult Services Liaison, Nominations/Programs Committee, 2014-2017
Southwest Educational Research Association-Member/Conference Proposal Reviewer, 2014-2016
Association of University Centers on Disabilities-Self-Advocate Grant Reviewer, 2012
Council for Exceptional Children-National Standing Committee on Students, 2007-2008

Presentations

Employment Strategies and Relationship Strategies for ASD, DFW Autism Conference, 2017-2019
Vocational Assessment for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Texas Autism Conference, 2017-2019
Post-College Employment Services for Students with ASD, TTU Higher Education Think Tank, 2017-2019
Employment Strategies for Individuals for Autism, Destination Life Transition Fair, 2016-2019
Vocational Assessment for ASD, National Division for Autism & Development Disabilities Conference, 2017
Social Security Income Basics for Adults with Disabilities, Destination Life Transition Fair, 2017
Post-College Employment Services for Students with ASD, College Autism Network, 2017
Transition Basics for Students with ASD, The Williams School, 2017
Keynote Address & Transition Matters, Region 5 Education Service Center, 2017
Employment Strategies for Individuals with Autism, Autism Society of Texas, 2017
Introduction to Autism Training-St Edward's University & Marbridge Foundation, 2016-2017
Transition Matters: Post-Secondary Tools for Individuals with Autism, Texas Autism Conference, 2014-2017
AHEAD Austin Disability Symposium & Job Fair Presentation at Region 13 & 20 ESC, 2015-2016
Transition Matters: Post-Secondary Tools for Students w/ Disabilities, TX Transition Conference, 2014-2016
Relationship Strategies for Adults with ASD and Transition Strategies for Adults with ASD, Dallas Metrocare, 2016
Equity Audit Presentation, Southwest Educational Research Association, 2016
Keynote Address: Transition Matters, Region 1 Education Service Center, 2014-2015
Transition Matters: Post-Secondary Tools for Individuals with Autism, East TX Transition Conference, 2015-2017
Transition Matters: Post-Secondary Tools for Individuals with Disabilities, Partners Resource Network, 2015
Love is Universal, Texas Parent to Parent Conference, 2014-2015
Transition Matters: Strategies for VR Consumers with Autism, Texas Rehab Action Network, 2014-2015
Transition Matters: Post-Secondary Tools for Individuals with Autism, National CEC Convention, 2013
Keynote Address: Autism in the Real World, Texoma Autism Conference, 2013
Teacher Certification Review, Texas Council for Exceptional Children Conference, 2012

Consultations & Assessments

Employment Outcome Survey Designer and Administrator, Brookwood in Georgetown, 2017-Present
Contract Vocational Expert/Evaluation for Education and Private Sector, 2012-Present