MN Low Incidence Projects Region 11 OT Community of Practice is honored to bring a day of professional development on

# Sensory AND Behavior: A Comprehensive Approach to

# **Addressing Challenging Behaviors**

## Saturday February 5, 2022

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fee: \$15

Register online:

metroecsu.myquickreg.com event

<u>calendar</u>

**Registration Deadline:** February 3, 2022

**Virtual**- Link will be sent to registrants

**Registration Contact** 

Gail Jankowski gail.jankowski@metroecsu.org

**Program Contact** 

Kayna Plaisted kayna.plaisted@metroecsu.org

Target Audience: Introductory- to advanced-level OTs, PTs, SLPs, teachers and other classroom staff.

**Course Description:** In this innovative course, Gwen guides you through the neurochemicals involved in sensory modulation; the correlation between related disorders such as Bipolar, anxiety, ADHD, and Autism; and introduces you to a whole-brain approach for addressing difficult behaviors (such as self-injurious behaviors, aggression, meltdowns, toilet training, picky eating, and masturbation) from a wholistic perspective. This seminar leaves you with handy forms, intervention tools, and the knowledge you need to differentiate behavioral issues from sensory ones. You learn to use a combination of best-practice, evidence-based approaches to meet the needs of your most difficult clients.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- 1. Identify the roles of neurochemicals in sensory processing and related diagnoses.
- 2. Utilize a method of behavior analysis to develop a comprehensive treatment plan.
- 3. Develop a whole-brain approach to management of difficult behaviors.
- 4. Recognize current cognitive and behavioral approaches and understand how to integrate these with a sensory frame of reference.
- 5. Collaborate with other professionals to develop a comprehensive treatment plan to address the most challenging behaviors.

**Instructor:** Gwen Wild, MOT, OTR/L, is an experienced occupational therapist specializing in the treatment of children and adolescents diagnosed with autism and sensory processing disorders. Gwen is the owner of Sensational Brain LLC and creator of BrainWorks sensory diet tools. She presents to audiences nationwide on topics related to sensory modulation and self-regulation. She lives in Galesburg, Michigan, with her husband and three teenage daughters.

#### **Event Agenda:**

#### I. Review of Sensory Modulation Theory

- Sensory Continuum
- Neurochemicals involved in sensory modulation
- Sensory vs. Bipolar Disorder, Anxiety, ADHD and more

#### II. Addressing Behaviors from a Sensory Perspective

- Behavior analysis from a sensory frame of reference
- *Pro*active vs. *r*eactive intervention
- Case-studies
- Using sensory diets to address difficult behaviors
- Research supporting the use of sensory strategies

#### **Break**

# III. Whole-Brain Approach to Behavior Management in Students with Sensory Processing Issues

- Addressing behaviors from sensory, cognitive, and behavioral standpoints
- Overview of current *cognitive* approaches to behavior management
- Overview of current behavioral approaches to behavior management
- Integrating BrainWorks with other current, research-based approaches
- Helpful forms (included in manual)

#### Lunch

#### IV. Case Studies: Using a Whole-Brain Approach to Address Difficult Behaviors

- Self-injurious behaviors
- Toilet training
- Aggression

#### **Break**

- Masturbation
- Rigidity/inflexibility
- Meltdowns

#### V. Group Problem Solving

 Work in groups with instructor support to brainstorm strategies to meet the needs of your most challenging clients





This initiative is made possible in part with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using Federal funding CFDA 84.027A, Special Education - Grants to States. This conference does not necessarily represent the policy of the federal Department of Education or the state Department of Education; endorsement by the federal or state government should not be assumed.