

Autism: Journey from Potential to Power

Featuring: Mary Donnet Johnson



A Videoconference Seminar presented by:
The American Association for Home-Based Early Interventionists (AAHBEI)
and Boys Town National Research Hospital

Date: September 25, 2008

1:00 - 4:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time)

12:00 - 3:00 PM (Central Standard Time)

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Pacific Standard Time)

1) Potential. Opportunity. Power. (P.O.P!)
Positive reactions to a serious diagnosis for families and/or first-responder professionals.



2) Look at Me!
Simple tips and tricks for informal assessment of the difficult-to-test child.

3) 1, 2, 3, Get Ready!
A fun and productive home-based program to build communication, social skills, and motor ability in the child with special needs preparing to enter a general education classroom.

4) Make Every Team an A-Team
How to build on strengths to ensure collaborative success.

Mary Donnet Johnson grew up in Vermont, earned a B.A. at Sarah Lawrence College, and spent ten years in New York City as a professional actress. She then emigrated to Tennessee to pursue a second career as a writer, director, and producer of award-winning broadcast commercials and other corporate communication materials. Now married, she and her husband Rick are the proud parents of two children (a typically developing 14 year-old daughter and a 13 year-old son with autism). Mary presently spends most of her time guiding and supporting the academic and leisure-time activities of her children while pursuing a third and very rewarding career as a writer and publisher of helpful books on autism and related special needs. She is frequently asked to speak on her own and with her co-authors at local, state, and national meetings, conferences, and workshops. Her first two books (**1, 2, 3, Get Ready!** written in collaboration with Gina Steinsberger, M.A., CCC-SLP, and **Beyond Words: the Successful Inclusion of a Child with Autism** co-authored with Sherry Henshaw Corden, and Dr. William Allen) have been widely distributed across the United States, as well as Canada, Guam, Japan, and parts of Europe. She has also created the **Power/Opportunity Program (P.O.P!)** to help parents and first responders address the needs of newly diagnosed children and offers this on a regular basis to many parent support and early-intervention groups. Mary's calendar of upcoming events, books, and products can be found at www.merrypacepress.com.

Please register with the Video Conference Coordinator by September 5, 2008

To register, please contact:

AAHBEI

Sandra Wieber

(423) 312-2270

s_wieber@bellsouth.net

Who Should Attend:

- **Families**
- **Therapists**
- **Early Interventionists**
- **Special Educators**
- **Students**
- **Infant Mental Health Specialists**
- **School Counselors**

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**Video Conference Costs: The cost per site is
\$300.00.**

Video Conference Technical Requirements:

Each site will be connected through a video conferencing bridge located @ SKC Communications. This video conference will require a room with a **PolyCom or Tandberg Model Video Conferencing System**. There are similar Video Conferencing Units that could work as well.

Contact **S_Wieber@bellsouth.net**, Video Conference Coordinator for more detailed information.

- **I.P. (Internet)** technology is used and **not ISDN (Phone Lines)**.
- **It is important to use IP as the signal travels over the Internet.**
- Each site will need to be able to accept a **384k or (256k min.)** video conference call speed.

Participating States/Location Requirements:

Each state will handle all their own reservations at designated sites in their state and assure that at each site there is a qualified/trained person to do the following:

- turn on the unit and the TV
- MUTE and UNMUTE a microphone, adjust the volume
- switch cameras if there is more than one camera in the room
- the facilitator will also ensure that each participant signs in on the roster and will return the roster and completed evaluation forms to the conference coordinator within two weeks of the videoconference presentation.

There will be a coordinated video bridging test call before the live broadcast. Specifics in regard to this test run will be communicated through the Conference Coordinator, Sandra Wieber.

Each participating state will receive:

- the conference flyer and local requirements for participation in electronic format
- handouts in electronic format for dissemination to participating local sites
- the roster, certificates, and evaluation forms in electronic format for dissemination to participants

Site Information Sheet

Please complete this form and attach it to the participation letter of agreement. All information should be sent to:
Conference Coordinator: Sandra Wieber, 290 Springwood Drive, Bean Station, TN 37708

*** A site information sheet must be completed for each location within a state.**

**Information needed from each site:
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY**

Location (City/State): _____

Site Name (Hospital, Community College, State Ed. Resource Center, other): _____

Site Video Conferencing Contact: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

I.P. Address Information: _____

Billing Information: _____

