



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
Educators, Teachers, Therapists

Sheraton Charlotte Hotel
555 McDowell Street, Charlotte, NC

THE CAROLINAS DOWN SYNDROME CONFERENCE 2016

AGENDA

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Registration and Vendor Fair

7:30 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.

Welcome and Keynote: Opening the Doors of Tomorrow Today: Inclusion Strategies that Worked for Me

*Karen Gaffney, Founder
The Karen Gaffney Foundation*

Karen Gaffney went all through her school years from Kindergarten through a 2 year college degree program in a regular, inclusive classroom. Karen will share her experiences and talk about the key strategies that worked for her.

8:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Proactive Behavior Strategies for Positive Change

Kenna Colley, Ph.D, Radford University

Dr. Kenna Colley will be presenting a unique workshop on behavior supports in the classroom setting. Unlike your typical behavioral training, this workshop will provide an interactive opportunity for attendees to work on behavior analysis and planning for their students! Through guided case studies, participants will not only learn effective strategies to understand and impact behavior, they will be consulted in creating a plan to use those strategies for their students in their classroom. Participants are encouraged to bring data or descriptive information about a current student who is in need of FBA/BIP planning. Confidentiality will be an expectation.



11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.

Lunch (with DSAGC TiE Awards)

1:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Literacy Practices that Maximize Learning for Children with Disabilities

David Koppenhaver and Brooke Hardin, Professors of Reading Education and Special Education, Appalachian State University

Children with Down syndrome (and other disabilities) typically struggle in learning to read. Most interventions for struggling readers focus on teaching students letters, sounds, and words. In this presentation, we will explore a framework for understanding how students (including those with Down syndrome) learn to read. We will then describe three easy-to-use diagnostic assessments for identifying children's relative strengths and needs as literacy learners. Finally, we will share teaching strategies, approaches, and resources best suited to addressing the identified needs.

4:15 p.m.

Wrap Up and CEUs

MEET OUR SPEAKERS



KENNA COLLEY

Dr. Kenna M. Colley is the Director of the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (STEL) at Radford University. She holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership. She leads and facilitates the largest faculty on Radford's campus, housing nineteen programs, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels in teacher and principal education. Dr. Colley has served as the Program Area Leader for Special Education Programs and the Director of the Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) at RU. The TTAC serves 34 school divisions in southwest Virginia in educating teachers, administrators, and families around practices related to children and youth who experience disabilities. Dr. Colley is one of the few recipients to receive the President's Ten Million Dollar Grant Circle awards. Dr. Colley's state and federal grants have provided outreach to southwest Virginia for children with disabilities, their families and educators along with professional development and curricular transformation in the field of special education. She has presented at national conferences, served as a consultant to school divisions related to her specialty areas in teacher education and special education and has served 20+ years in working in public education in the field of special education. She also was featured in the HBO Academy Award winning documentary, "Educating Peter."



DAVID KOPPENHAVER

Dr. Koppenhaver is Professor of Reading Education and Special Education at Appalachian State University, where he serves as Chair of the Graduate Reading Education Program. He holds a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), where he co-founded the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies (CLDS) in 1990 and directed its activities until 1998 at UNC and at Duke University. He began his professional career as a middle grades language arts teacher in Oxford, NC in 1983. His work has focused ever since on the literacy learning difficulties of students with disabilities including autism spectrum disorders, intellectual disabilities, and multiple disabilities. Dr. Koppenhaver has received various recognitions for his work including the Distinguished Lectureship of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication, the Pehrson Endowed Chair in Education at Gustavus Adolphus College (MN), and a Fulbright Scholarship to the Schonell Special Education Centre at the University of Queensland (Australia). His current research includes a series of studies of reading comprehension in students with Down syndrome and a study of visual attention to print in children with Rett syndrome. He provides literacy resources and links for families and professionals.

WELCOME

The Down Syndrome Association of Greater Charlotte (DSAGC) welcomes you to the second Carolinas Down Syndrome Conference.

Educators will come away feeling supported and knowledgeable about best practices for educating students with Down syndrome in all school settings.

Remember that you can continue growing in knowledge at our many free information sessions throughout the year. Visit our website: <http://dsa-gc.org>

REGISTRATION

All registrations include lunch. Registration closes at midnight on September 25. Attendees may sign up to be members (\$10/year) before registering to receive the discounted rate.

Friday, September 30, 2016

- Conference Pricing
 - \$40/each for DSAGC Members
 - \$55/each for DSAGC Guests
 - \$15 for CEUs if requested

On-Site Registration

- \$80 for each attendee

Please note that educators may sign up as Members for \$10/year before registering for the conference in order to receive the discount.



The DSAGC TiE Program is a partnership between area schools and the Downs Syndrome Association of Greater Charlotte designed to maximize the educational experience for students with Down syndrome. Teachers are supported through resources, training, and best practices on educating students with Down syndrome.

**TO REGISTER GO TO:
bit.ly/DSAGCconferenceEducators**