



**COSAC**

The New Jersey Center for Outreach  
& Services for the Autism Community  
1450 Parkside Ave, Suite 22  
Ewing, NJ 08638

[www.njcosac.org](http://www.njcosac.org)

# Issues in Autism



## 26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**COSAC's Issues in Autism Conference is one of the nation's largest autism-related symposiums, drawing record crowds of parents and professionals. Last year, Issues in Autism attracted nearly 1,400 attendees.**

**May 15-17, 2008**  
**The Atlantic City  
Convention Center**

The New Jersey Center for Outreach  
& Services for the Autism Community  
(COSAC)

**Call for POSTERS**

Its signature event of the year, COSAC's annual Issues in Autism Conference typically attracts nearly 1,400 parents and professionals during two days. The conference planning committee invites you to be a part of this experience by becoming a poster presenter. **The deadline for submission is Friday, February 21, 2008.** *At least one presenter must be available during the poster session on Friday, May 16, 2008 in order to present the poster. All costs associated with conference attendance, including registration and travel expenses, are the responsibility of the presenter(s).*

**COSAC is pleased to announce that COSAC (provider #848) is approved to offer professional development credit for Poster Session presenters. Each presenter who attends the entire one hour Poster Session may receive two professional development credits through the NJ Department of Education. A corresponding certificate will be provided at the end of the Poster Session.**

Posters are a great way to tell others about what worked for your learner or child. Posters can creatively tell the story of someone's progress and be helpful to others. **Parents and teachers also are encouraged to submit poster proposals that showcase an individual's perseverance and success.** Posters should demonstrate a clear relationship between a behavior change and an intervention.

## Presentation Format

All posters should be designed to be displayed on an easel, so please mount your poster ahead of time. COSAC will provide the easel. Poster presenters should bring a minimum of 300 handout copies that provide a summary of the poster, including a list of appropriate references for distribution to interested attendees.

Additionally, in case you run out of handouts, we suggest that you bring a sign-up sheet to capture addresses and/or e-mail addresses of attendees who would like a copy of the summary sent to them at a later date.

**Please  
bring 300  
handouts**

## Adult Services Award

COSAC is pleased to announce that *The Quest Autism Foundation* once again encourages the submission of posters focusing on *adult services* by offering a **\$500 award** for the best poster on adult services. Half of the monetary award (\$250) will directly go toward the organization with whom the poster presenters are affiliated; the other half (\$250) will go toward the poster presenter's registration fee for the **2009** COSAC conference.

# Issues in Autism | 2008 Submission Requirements for Posters

Please provide the following information using the same headings, numbering and order as in these instructions:

- 1. The Submission Form **completed in full.**
- 2. Abstract Page—submissions must include actual or anticipated information addressing the following elements. **Please clearly state whether the information is actual or anticipated.**
  - A. Title.
  - B. Abstract of 200 words, typed, double-spaced. The abstract should include:
    - Information about the participant/child/student, such as age, abilities and educational placement.
    - A description of procedures.
    - Baseline and intervention data that demonstrate behavior change as a direct result of the intervention that is narratively explained and graphically displayed.
    - A discussion of the contributions and limitations of the intervention, and how the person's life improved.
  - C. Graph of data.

## **Who will decide what posters are accepted?**

A committee of professionals chaired by Linda Meyer, Ed.D., MPA, will review proposals for their relevance to autism spectrum disorders, content, quality and clarity. The lead author will be notified of the review committee's decision by **April, 2008**.

## **How will accepted posters be judged?**

The poster committee will evaluate each accepted poster based on a point scale on **Friday, May 16, 2008** using the following criteria:

- Poster presents prior research supporting intervention and contains relevant references made to literature.
- Poster presents a clearly defined intervening variable (intervention) and defines a dependent variable (measure).
- The research question is original and useful.
- Measurement procedure is appropriate.
- Appropriate conclusions are drawn and conclusions do not surpass presented data.
- Poster is organized and easy to follow.
- Poster advantageously uses tables, graphs and photographs.
- Poster offers ideas for future research or intervention.
- Overall poster quality.
- Lead presenter's verbal description of the intervention.

For a copy of the form that judges will use during the judging process, please e-mail [apryl.roach@njcosac.org](mailto:apryl.roach@njcosac.org).

## **Mail five copies of the fully completed submission form, proposal and any attachments to:**

**COSAC Conference 2008/Call for Posters  
1450 Parkside Avenue, Suite 22  
Ewing, NJ 08638**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Apryl Roach, Conference Director, at 609.883.8100, extension 46, or e-mail [apryl.roach@njcosac.org](mailto:apryl.roach@njcosac.org).

**DEADLINE:  
Friday, February 21, 2008**

**If you are interested in learning more about nominating someone for a 2008 COSAC Award, please contact Barbara Wells at 609.883.8100, extension 45, or e-mail [barbara.wells@njcosac.org](mailto:barbara.wells@njcosac.org). Award Nomination Categories include: Distinguished Service Award; Teacher of the Year Award; Community Service Provider Award; Healthcare Professional of the Year Award; and Individual Achievement Award (person on the autism spectrum).**

# Issues in Autism | 2008 Conference Submission Form

The first presenter will be the contact person for all COSAC Conference correspondence. Please type or print the following information.

(Dr./Mr./Ms.) First name of lead presenter \_\_\_\_\_ Last name of lead presenter \_\_\_\_\_

Suffixes (i.e., highest level degree—including Bachelor's level, certifications) \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization or company (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Poster title: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional presenter(s) [First name, middle initial, last name, and degrees/certifications for each] \_\_\_\_\_

Additional presenter(s) [First name, middle initial, last name, and degrees/certifications for each] \_\_\_\_\_

Additional presenter(s) [First name, middle initial, last name, and degrees/certifications for each] \_\_\_\_\_

Additional presenter(s) [First name, middle initial, last name, and degrees/certifications for each] \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional posters?

Photocopy this form and submit each poster proposal on a separate submission form.

**Five copies of a fully completed submission form and all attachments must be received for each submitted proposal.**

Please review proposal submissions to verify that all names, titles, etc. are correctly spelled and a complete, accurate mailing address is included. **Names will be printed as submitted in the 2008 Conference Program.**

For your records, please make a copy of your completed form and attached documents *prior* to submission.

**Questions? Please contact  
Apyrl Roach at the COSAC office via  
phone: 609.883.8100, extension 46;  
fax: 609.883.5509; or e-mail  
apryl.roach@njcosac.org.**