**Ohio Related Services Virtual Meet-Up #7**

**April 20, 2022**

**3:30- 4:30 PM EST**

**Panel Discussion: Educational Identification of Autism**

The Office for Exceptional Children at the Ohio Department of Education is hosting the seventh in a series of virtual Meet-Ups for special education related services professionals during the 2021-2022 school year. All are welcome to attend. To celebrate Autism Acceptance Month this April we have an extraordinary panel who will share their expertise and knowledge with you about the educational identification of autism.

Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting 1 in 44 children as being diagnosed with autism.[[1]](#footnote-1) What are the differences between a clinical diagnosis of autism and an educational identification of autism under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)? School evaluation teams sometimes hesitate to identify a child as having a disability in the IDEA category of autism incorrectly believing that a clinical diagnosis is required. Join us for a lively discussion with a panel of experts. Bring your questions!

**We welcome our panelists for the April 2022 Ohio Related Services Virtual Meet-Up:**

Amy Bixler Coffin, M.S., Program Director of the Autism Center at OCALI

Lynn DeMange, OTR/L, CAS Occupational Therapist, Certified Autism Specialist

Teresa Kobelt, MSW, LSW, Director, Office of Policy OCALI

Lisa Saylor, M.S.Ed, School Psychologist, EAT/ACTCoordinator, MCESC-Regional Center

Amy Wade, M.S. CCC-SLP, Autism, AAC & AT Educational Assessment Team

Contact Bernadette Laughlin at Bernadette.Laughlin@education.ohio.gov for more information.

Join at this Link: [Ohio Related Services Virtual Meet Up April 20, 2022](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_NjNiMjJhZDMtMWM0Zi00NTc2LWI0MzEtNmFmNzE4NmI5ZDY5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a4f849b8-e0cb-4b36-9735-61d602a31126%22%7d)

1. CDC. (2021, December 2). *Data and statistics on autism spectrum disorder*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)