

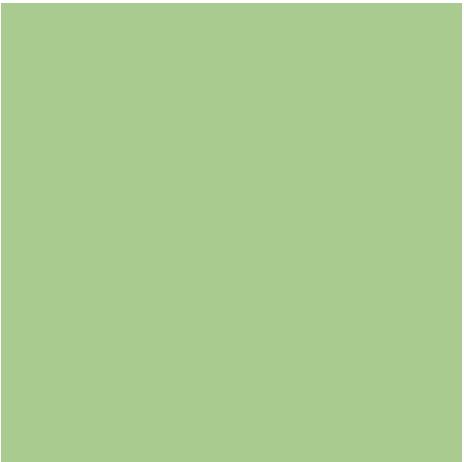


ACI in special consultative status with the  
United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2020

**Located** approximately 80 miles north of New York City in the serene Hudson River Valley Region, our highly qualified team of experts at Anderson Center for Autism provide comprehensive educational, vocational, and residential services for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder.



We offer an extraordinary learning opportunity that touches the globe.



## About Us

At Anderson Center for Autism, our mission is to optimize the quality of life for people with autism.

We have countless stories which demonstrate the success of our well-developed model for educating and caring for people with autism. Rooted in Applied Behavior Analysis, our programs and services have helped children and adults communicate, advocate for themselves, and acquire independent living skills.

We have also been able to help parents navigate the challenges of caring for family members with Autism, along with helping communities understand how to be more accommodating and how to create systems that serve to benefit this population.

A longtime leader in the field, our vision is to continue to work with governments, teachers, and fellows to bring our evidence-based methodologies and our core values to life so that every country throughout the world will have exactly what it needs to optimize the quality of life for people with autism.



No matter where we live, we're all part of one human family.

We aspire to work together with others around the world to ensure that we give people with Autism Spectrum Disorder every opportunity to learn, grow, and live happy, productive lives.



### That's why we created Anderson Center International (ACI).

For more than a decade, ACI has been training professional and student fellows in the field of autism. The stipend-based program attracts a wide range of countries for a unique, hands-on experience that takes place on our campus in Staatsburg, New York. Through ACI, fellows are given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to develop and operate premier programs for individuals with Autism when they return home - and governments are able to position themselves to build infrastructure to better support those with special needs. ACI also offers us an opportunity to learn from you!

## How ACI Works

**Step 1**  
Fellow Applies to Program

**Step 2**  
ACI Offers Admission to Qualified Applicants

**Step 4**  
Fellow is Trained at Anderson Center for Autism for 12-18 Month Period

**Step 3**  
ACI Connects Fellow to J-1 Visa Agency (\*ACI covers cost)

**Step 5**  
Fellow Returns Home

**Step 6**  
Fellow Begins Improving Quality of Life for People with Autism

ACI Available for Ongoing Consultations

*"I've got such wonderful memories of my time in the US! Nowadays I am working as a specialist at the Autism Center 'Cascina San Vincenzo' in Concorezzo, near Milan, and as a professor at the Università Cattolica in Milan."*

- Dr. Paola Molteni, PhD, Research Centre on Disability and Marginality - CeDisMa, Milano (ITALY)



*"I trained at Anderson Center for Autism for 12 months as an International Fellow. During this time I got to know Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) - the basis for many behavioral treatments for autism. Even though ABA is a common method in the United States, it is yet not very popular in my home country. So, I decided to start my coursework in ABA and Anderson helped me to get my supervision. Besides this, I got trained in some other interventions, for example how I can deal with different forms of aggression. I am fortunate to have learned some interventions in this field as I also need it in my current job in a therapy center for autism. Unfortunately there are still no trainings like this in Germany. I have really learned a lot. I met many other Fellows from different countries all over the world - Slovakia, Czech Republic, Serbia or the Philippines. It was a great opportunity to share different knowledge about the work with autism and also about different cultures."*

- Marie Weiss (GERMANY)



## Impact on Fellows

When trainees participate in ACI, they will be immersed in an educational experience focused on the following topics:

- Applied Behavior Analysis (we have had fellows pursue ABA certification while in our program)
- Positive Behavioral Outcomes
- Instructional Support in the Classroom
- Behavior Management Techniques
- Strategies to Promote Communication
- Communicating with Family Members
- Reporting and Data Management

## Structure of the Program

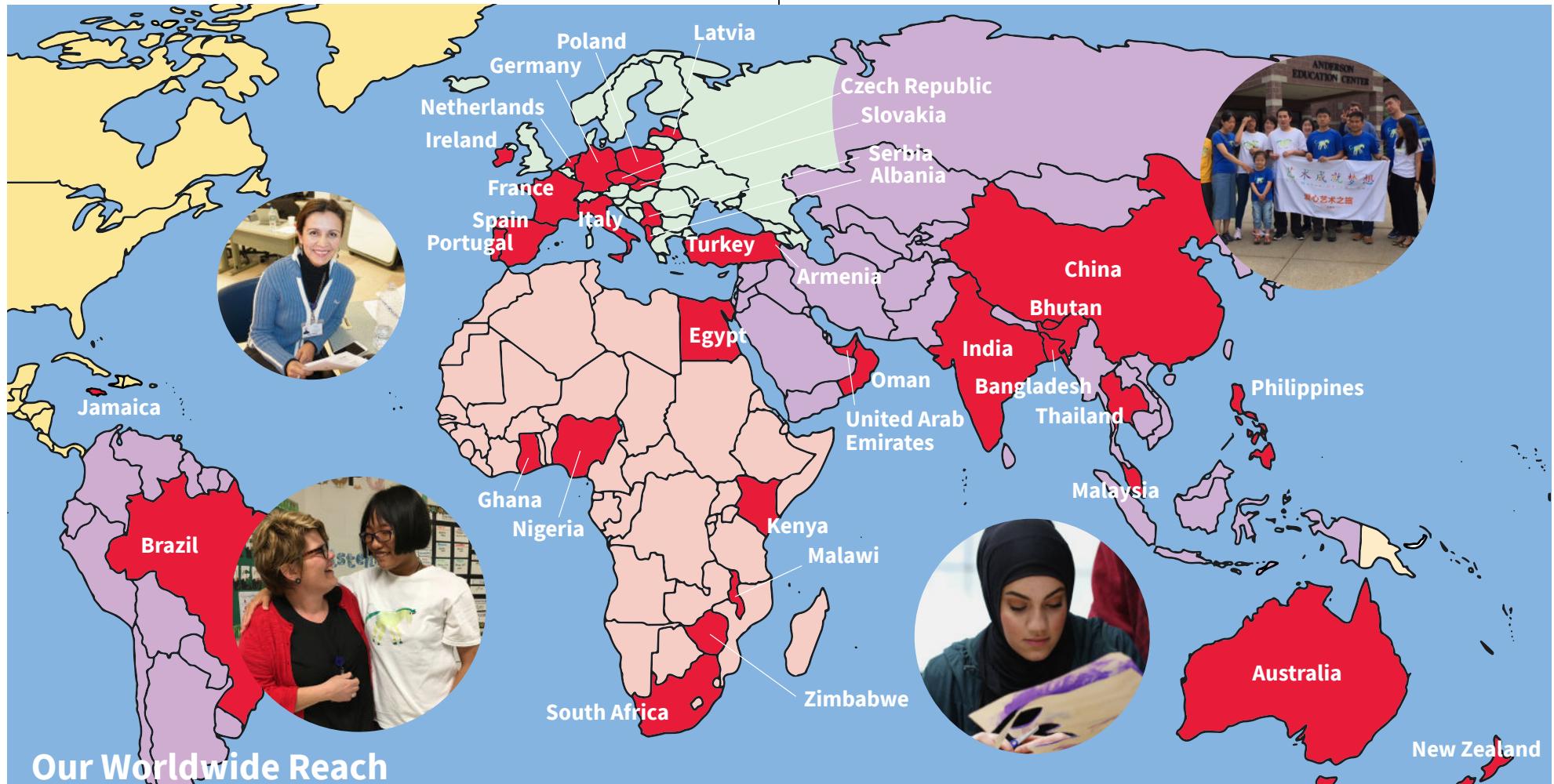
- 12-month duration, can potentially be extended to 18 months at full discretion of ACI
- Five Phases
- 4 training phases with defined learning objectives (3 months each)
- Phase 5 is for those fellows that qualify for an extension; focused on post-training implementation while continuing to advance skills and prepare for RBT certification
- Outcome measures (performance evaluation, assessments, and interviews)
- Follow-up/consultation
- ACI remains committed to knowledge sharing and supports trainees upon their return home

# Anderson Center International

As people all over the world realize the impact we can have on families and individuals touched by Autism, ACI expands its reach.

## Touching the Globe

This map showcases **in red**, some examples of where our fellows have made a world of difference after participating in ACI.



### Our Worldwide Reach

We continue to build relationships with fellows and governments around the world to ensure that all people with Autism have access to the care, education, and quality of life that they deserve.

Our goal: to unlock the extraordinary potential of people with Autism - one person at a time. Join our effort and make a difference.

After two fellows from Bhutan participated in ACI, they went home inspired to create Ability Bhutan Society (ABS) in an effort to transform the way people with Autism are cared for in their home country.

Tshering Phunshtok, parent of a child at ABS, said, "Anderson helped establish ABS in Bhutan by sharing their expertise and helping in creating and educating the community. In a few years' time, many parents are now aware of autism and seeking support from ABS for their children. Parents have started taking extra attention and care for their children. Without ABS and support from Anderson, many special children would be left out, unattended, and undiagnosed."

Dr. Sudi Kash, Chief Clinical Officer at Anderson Center for Autism, added: "Ability Bhutan Society now provides limited day programs, but more importantly, the group works with parents of children with autism to advocate and promote greater understanding. To think that Anderson Center International (ACI) gave clinicians the training needed to develop a program overseas, and to know that this non-profit, founded as a result of their time with us, is not only making an impact on the journeys of those with autism but is also fostering greater cultural awareness, is incredibly gratifying. We aspire to share what we have learned with others across the globe; this is just one example of how significant these connections are."

ABS is one organization that has developed as a result of the partnership with Anderson Center for Autism; another is in the works: Stepping Stones Preschool ECCD (in Thimphu, Bhutan). According to Thuji Grace, international fellow from Bhutan, "I am now working in this new school, handling the overall management and making it like an Anderson classroom; the first of its kind in Bhutan - where all with special needs are welcome!"



## Impact on Your Country

As the Bhutan story illustrates, the impact on a fellow's home country is remarkable.

Fellows return home with everything needed to help build a community prototype where a person with autism can thrive: an inalienable human right.



The fellow can support development of a science-based, evidence-based infrastructure for your country; one that is built with compassion and care - both for people with autism and for their families.



**In Bhutan** we visited two classroom settings. In each the children with autism had isolated themselves. Absorbed in self-stimulating behavior, they were beyond the reach of caregivers and teachers.

Containment appeared to be the main function of the classroom. The well meaning staff had no concept of the skills and interventions necessary to help these children learn. After discussions with the Bhutan Foundation, it was decided that two young Bhutanese educators would come to the Anderson Center for Autism for training. For them, this was thrilling beyond measure. For us it was an opportunity to help the global community of autism. These two young women have since returned to play a leadership role in the education and care of children with autism. As a direct result, two outstanding programs are now up and running in Bhutan. These are based on ABA training and other evidence based strategies learned at the Anderson Center. Previously frightened and overwhelmed, families are now less isolated, more hopeful, and very very grateful.

Going forward, this exchange will have a profound impact on the treatment of autism throughout the nation of Bhutan. An extraordinary accomplishment for both countries. As leaders in the future of Autism, Anderson Center has a social responsibility to offer its knowledge and experience to those in need around the world.

- Tondra Lynford, Parent

**As Anderson Center for Autism** continues to expand on its mission of improving the quality of life for people with autism, Anderson Center International (ACI) is taking steps to globalize our QoL (Quality of Life)-centered mission. We will continue our efforts to make our presence and the training opportunity known everywhere in the world. We are especially determined to reach out to those parts of the world where there is little to no infrastructure in place to support people with Autism.



We are making widespread efforts to communicate the training opportunities, as well as our goals and intentions, to the officials of those countries where the need for trained professionals in the field is dire and ACI training is most eagerly sought after. The support of the country and its officials for their potential trainees often allows an otherwise forbiddingly expensive travel cost to become affordable with an additional assurance of return that influences chances of receiving the J1 visa.

All of that pales in comparison to the critical role the government has to assume after the completion of the training. The investment in their trainees can have a meaningful impact on the lives of people with autism only if it includes thorough regulations, policies, additional trainings, and infrastructure support. We are prepared to support the efforts by sharing our many decades of experience and our breadth and depth of knowledge.



As experts in the field of education and care of individuals on the autism spectrum, Anderson is proud to be a culturally diverse organization that provides service, training, and information exchange to individuals and organizations from around the world.



# Anderson Center International

[AndersonCenterforAutism.org/ACI](http://AndersonCenterforAutism.org/ACI)



 Anderson  
Center  
for Autism

LIFELONG LEARNING<sup>SM</sup>



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