



# Anderson Center for Autism ECHO Autism:

Autism Best Practices  
Participant Guide

ECHO Autism: Autism Best Practices



*Anderson Center for Autism Project ECHO is facilitated through Anderson Center for Autism (ACA). ACA's mission is to Optimize the Quality of Life for Individuals with Autism. ACA provides services and supports to individuals with autism across the life span. ACA services include pre-school, school-age education and residential programs, adult day and residential programs, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Consulting Services, professional development and training, Autism Supportive Programs, and Article 16 clinic services.*

## **WHAT IS ECHO?**

---

The Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO®) is an “all teach, all learn” framework that crosses disciplines aimed to create communities of practice for change. The mission of ECHO is to make knowledge accessible at the right time. Following the groundbreaking model developed by Dr. Sanjeev Arora at the University of New Mexico, every ECHO program is inclusive and nonhierarchical. Contribution of a single ECHO specialist contributes to the development of 20 or more local experts, who use their knowledge to positively impact the lives of people in their communities. ECHO breaks down geographic and cost barriers providing knowledge increase capacity of community experts.

ECHO Autism Best Practices is a virtual learning network of autism specialists that allows for real-time access to experts in autism and other developmental disorders. This ECHO aims to support school personnel in New York State, and beyond, in the education and support of school-age children with autism through case-based learning. The ECHO provides ongoing support for educators and other professionals working with autistic students by providing professional development and program suggestions.

## **ALL TEACH. ALL LEARN.**

---

The heart of the ECHO model is its hub-and-participant knowledge-sharing networks, led by expert teams. Case-based learning and mentorship, is key to the ECHO model and supports local professionals and communities to gain the expertise required to provide needed services.

Participants gain skills and confidence and learn about new approaches for applying their knowledge across diverse cultural and geographic contexts.

- Join Sessions online via Zoom
- Connect through your desktop, laptop, tablet, or phone
- Join from the comfort of your classroom, office, or home
- No cost to participants



## SESSION OVERVIEW

---

**1. Start Session**

Zoom room is open 15 minutes prior to session start  
Troubleshoot technology with facilitators

**2. Introductions and Announcements**

Facilitators, Participants, Didactic presenter

**3. Didactic Presentation**

30 minutes or less – includes time for questions

**4. Case Presentation**

Case presentation or case narrative presented

Clarifying questions from participants

Recommendations, strategies, and considerations are discussed

Summary of recommendations are sent to case presenter following the session

**5. Final Announcements**

Upcoming session information

Reminder about monthly session evaluations

Reminder about where to access materials

## EVALUATIONS

---

**An evaluation will be emailed to you following the session. Your input is incredibly valuable in shaping the content and needs of future ECHO s.**

*\*Participants have the option of pre-registering for ECHO sessions. While not required, it is recommended as you will receive information and materials prior to the session.*

## WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

---

ECHO is an interactive community: presenters, stakeholders, and community members all communicate and support each other during a session. Participants are expected to be engaged in asking questions after the didactic and to provide feedback for the case. Case narratives are the best way to solidify skills learned in the didactics and receive directly applicable guidance.

If you would like to present a case narrative, contact [EchoAutism@andersoncare.org](mailto:EchoAutism@andersoncare.org)

### 1. **Contribute to Meaningful Discussions**

“Thank you for sharing”

“I can relate to this in the following ways”

“Tell me more about the way it impacted...”

“That’s a great idea however”

“Can you elaborate on that idea”

*“What ideas are you providing to this session?”*

### 2. **Actively Engage**

Be on time and prepared to share

Be ready to learn

Avoid outside distractions

Invite others to attend

Use presenters prompt or guiding questions

*“What aspects of the session did I gain the most knowledge in?”*

### 3. **Open Your Mind to Diverse Ways**

Listen to what others have to say

Adopt the mindset of advancement

Be respectful of all perspectives

Be mindful of who is not in the room

*“Who will this information be shared with?”*

### 4. **Lead by Example**

Share your knowledge

Provide recorded sessions to others

Your guidance is beneficial

*“How can I improve my work with the information provided?”*

### 5. **Maintain Confidentiality**

Follow HIPAA and FERPA protocols

#### **Thank You For:**

Increasing quality participant engagement

Encouraging professional learning standards

*“How can I best pass this information along?”*

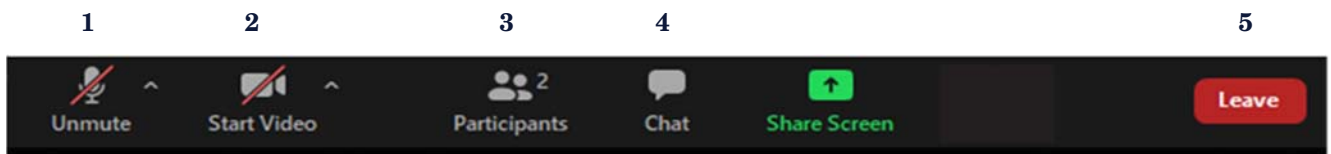
## ZOOM GUIDE

---



1. Click on the Zoom link provided on the UW ECHO website or weekly session announcement.
2. Select “Join Audio by Computer.” You can test the volume of your speaker and mic to ensure they are working by clicking on “Test Computer Audio.”
3. A toolbar will appear by hovering over your Zoom window.

Some of the features you may use include:



- 1. Mute/Unmute** - Mute or unmute your audio. Use the unmute option to enable your microphone during discussions or Q&A. Please leave your audio muted during presentations to minimize background noise.
- 2. Stop/Start Video** - Start or stop your video feed. ECHO is an interactive community and we highly encourage participants to leave their video feeds on during sessions.
- 3. Participants** - View a list of session participants.
- 4. Chat** - The in-meeting chat allows you to send chat messages to other users or the entire group during a session. This feature can be useful in asking questions to didactic or case presenters. Click on the “Chat” icon. Type your comment or questions in the chat box and then hit “Enter”.
- 5. Leave Meeting** - Leave the video meeting

### Renaming Your Profile

Please rename your profile to your first and last name and the organization you represent. This helps our team count you in attendance for professions

### How to “Raise your Hand”

The “Raise your Hand” feature is helpful if you have a question for the facilitator or presenter. Click the “participants” icon, Click the “Raise Hand” option at the bottom. Once the facilitator calls on you use the “Unmute” button to enable to microphone and provide your comment.

### Accessibility

Zoom provides access for users with physical disabilities, blindness, and low vision through a range of keyboard shortcuts. Additionally, instructions on how to access closed captioning will be given at the beginning of each session.



*A virtual network of autism experts  
improving education supports to students with autism*

**Anderson Center for Autism**  
[www.andersoncenterforautism.org](http://www.andersoncenterforautism.org)