

National FASD Collaborative Project 2021-2022 Webinar Series

Webinar Title	Presenter(s)	Presentation Abstract	Webinar Date	Webinar Start Time	Presentation Length
FASD in a Nutshell	Susan Elsworth, Executive Director INOFAS and NOFAS Affiliate Network Coordinator	FASD in a Nutshell is an introduction to prenatal alcohol exposure that defines FASD, explains the disorders on the spectrum and symptoms associated with FASD as well as shares systems of care that are impacted. Participants will be able to: 1) define FASD; 2) identify disorders on the spectrum; and 3) recognize symptoms.	September 20, 2021	12:00 PM ET	1 hour
Educational Care for Children Affected by Prenatal Alcohol Exposure	Molly N. Millians, D.Ed, Clinical Education Specialist, Emory University Neurodevelopmental Exposure Clinic	This webinar covers the effects from prenatal alcohol exposure on neurodevelopment as well as social and environmental factors that would impact learning and school functioning. The presentation examines the effects from prenatal exposure to alcohol as a risk factor and reviews ways to address the potential negative impact on learning. Discussion will include how to incorporate diagnostic and observational information to determine types of effective interventions to address learning challenges experienced by many children affected by prenatal alcohol exposure. Lastly, the webinar will discuss effective, evidence-based interventions developed for children affected by prenatal alcohol exposure as well as for other disabilities to support school success.	September 23, 2021	7:00 PM ET	1 hour
Job Coaching for Workers with FASD	Jackie Wille, MS, CRC, LPC, Orchids FASD Services of Wisconsin	People with an FASD usually defy our expectations and can baffle even the most experienced job coach. This webinar will prepare you to understand common functional challenges experienced by individuals living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders as these issues occur in the workplace. Using real life examples, we will go on to suggest tools and accommodations that you can use to support these individuals in obtaining and maintaining successful employment.	October 8, 2021	1:00 PM ET	1 hour
FASD: Thriving in the Classroom	Sr. Suzette Fisher, SND, M.Ed., Ed.S., Double ARC Center for FASD, A Renewed Mind	Average to above average intelligence and verbal skills often mask the disabilities for the majority of individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). They are frequently labeled as bad, lazy, defiant, uncooperative, etc. This webinar will provide information on FASD and practical brain-based strategies to support children with FASD so they can thrive in the classroom.	October 15, 2021	2:00 PM ET	2 hours
8 Magic Keys Revisited: What We've Learned and What's Next...	Deb Evensen, MA, Owner/Consultant, Fetal Alcohol Consultation & Training Services (FACTS)	This dynamic, interactive presentation shares the moving history of "8 Magic Keys", a simple, grass-roots project that took on a life of its'own and that has helped open doors of understanding FASD for people around the world. Participants will be able to share how they have used the Keys, and provide input for the direction of the Anniversary Edition 8 Magic Keys project currently in development.	October 29, 2021	11:00 AM Alaska Time	1.5 hours
Brain-Based Approach to Working with Individuals with an FASD Diagnosis	Julia Conkel-Ziebell, Ph.D., LP Clinical Psychologist, Proof Alliance	This presentation will provide a brief overview of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs), including the history of this diagnosis, symptoms, and current prevalence rates. Time will be spent discussing the link between the brain and behaviors in those impacted. Attendees will learn about functional differences in individuals with FASD, as well as appropriate interventions and accommodations to maximize successful outcomes.	November 3, 2021	10:00 AM CT	1 hour

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What Behavioral Health Professionals Need to Know about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)	Tami Eller, MS, Associate Director, Community Programs, AK Child & Family, Anchorage AK	It is estimated in the U. S. that on average 1 in 20 individuals is impacted by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). Despite this high prevalence, many individuals impacted by FASD present with primary and secondary symptoms that are a result of the brain-based difficulties due to prenatal alcohol exposure, not receiving an accurate or timely diagnosis, and/or even recognition that they are impacted. This can often lead to poor treatment outcomes and the need for higher levels of clinical interventions. This training has been developed with behavioral health clinicians in mind to provide an introduction to the impacts of prenatal alcohol exposure on the brain, to assist them in identifying when that may be a contributing factor to the clinical presentation, and how to provide support to the individual impacted, as well as, their family. Upon completion of the training, providers will have a beginning 'toolbox' of concrete strategies to use and resources to gain more skills.	November 9, 2021	11:00 AM Alaska Time	2.5 hours
FASD Diagnosis: Benefits & Challenges from a Clinician and Self-Advocate Perspective	Marilyn Pierce-Bulger, APRN (MN, FNP-BC, CNM) President, Board of Directors, Alaska Center for FASD & Consultant, University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Behavioral Health Research and Services Gina Schumaker, Self-Advocate & Member, Board of Directors, Alaska Center for FASD	This webinar will provide an overview of various diagnostic methods, share ideas for new strategies, explore challenges encountered by both team members and clients/families, and discuss the benefits of diagnosis. Information will target a general audience but health professionals may find this session of interest as well.	November 17, 2021	11:00 AM Alaska Time	1.5 hours
The Impact of the Normalization of Alcohol Use in Our Society	Amy Hendricks, B.S., Proof Alliance North Carolina, The Arc of NC, NOFAS Affiliate	Let's face it. We're all exposed to and potentially influenced by what we see on social media. Individuals who are pregnant or who can become pregnant are no exception. Social media memes, Gifs and silly videos make it harder to discern fact from fiction when it comes to alcohol consumption during pregnancy. Misinformation mixed with humor about alcoholic beverages has increased during the pandemic, fueling the existing "wine mom" culture. Alcohol has been touted as a normal way to manage stress during these unprecedented times and we have seen a shift in state and local policies that increase access to alcohol, supporting the normalization of alcohol use in our society. All of which create a recipe for unhealthy drinking behaviors that can lead to prenatal alcohol exposure and have life-long impacts known as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). Please join Amy for an interactive presentation as we explore these concerns and discuss ways to address normalization in your community and state.	December 7, 2021	2:00 p.m. ET	1.5 hours

National FASD Collaborative Project 2021-2022 Webinar Series

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Understanding the Risks, Symptoms and Treatment for Substance Use Disorders (SUD): What Families Living with FASDs Need to Know	Kathleen Tavenner Mitchell, MHS, LCADC, National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS), Vice President and Spokesperson	Families that are living with addiction disorders are at risk for having children with FASD. Individuals with an FASD are at risk for developing addiction disorders. Many children living with an FASD are adopted or raised in families other than their biological families. Often there is little information provided to the families in helping them to understand and identify a substance use disorder (SUD). This session will provide an overview about the progression and stages of an alcohol use disorder (AUD), the environmental impact of children that are raised in families with active addictions and the family dynamics of both addiction and recovery. The focus of the session is how education on both addiction and FASD empowers family systems to increase understanding and empathy towards the birth family, reduce the risk for children with an FASD develop an AUD/SUD, improve identification and intervention of addiction disorders and gain a better understanding about treatment options and possibilities. Attendees will be introduced to the 12 Steps of Alanon and the 12 Steps Revisited for Individuals with an FASD.	December 9, 2021	2:00pm ET	1.5 hours
Increasing Access to Care for People with FASD Across the Lifespan	Christie L. M. Petrenko, Ph.D., Research Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Training, Mt. Hope Family Center, Departments of Psychology and Pediatrics, University of Rochester Lynn L. Cole, DNP, RN, PPCNP-BC, Clinical Director and Associate Division Chief, Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics, Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing, School of Nursing, University of Rochester Medical Center	FASD is a highly prevalent developmental disability that impacts physical health, learning, and behavior. Unfortunately, most people with FASD experience delayed, missed, or mis-diagnosis, and significant barriers to accessing intervention. Low FASD awareness, diagnostic capacity, and access to FASD-informed interventions are primary drivers of these challenges. This session will provide an overview of our clinical and research initiatives to increase access to care. This will include practical examples of how we systematically built and increased diagnostic capacity and family support programs over time, which could be generalized to other settings. We will also highlight research findings on 3 different intervention packages across the lifespan that leverage technology to increase accessibility and overcome significant barriers to care.	December 10, 2021	2:00 PM ET	1 hour
Helping Professionals Understand Medication Management for FASD	Gaby Ritfeld, MD, PhD, Child Psych	This webinar provides an evidenced-based review of psychopharmacological treatments that may be used for comorbid psychiatric comorbidities in individuals with FASD. Both data from preclinical and clinical studies will be reviewed and the gaps in knowledge will be discussed.	January 7, 2022	12:00pm ET	1 hour

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Stamp out Stigma: How Shame and Blame Hinder FASD Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment	Kathleen Tavenner Mitchell, MHS, LCADC, National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS), Vice President and Spokesperson	<p>Although it's been over four decades since the term FAS was first coined in 1973 (Smith and Jones, 1973), there remains confusion and misinformation regarding the dangers of alcohol and pregnancy. Some healthcare providers still advise their patients that light to moderate alcohol use during pregnancy is safe. The media promotes messages and misinformation that confuses women as well. Yet, when a child is diagnosed with an FASD the finger is generally pointed directly at the birth mother. She is the person that society will blame. The stigma directed towards birth mothers has impeded both the prevention and identification of FASD.</p> <p>The name of the condition suggests intentional harm by the mother, when in reality there are many reasons why women drink during pregnancy. Either they are misinformed about the facts on alcohol use while pregnant, they may not be aware that they are pregnant, they may suffer with alcoholism and may not be able to stop on their own, or they may be afraid of prosecution or too ashamed to talk to their physician. (Mitchell, 2015)</p> <p>This learning session will include an overview of decades of examples of stigmatizing messages that have likely resulted in unintentionally impeding FASD prevention and how attention-grabbing headlines have ultimately harmed individuals living with an FASD. Participants will learn about a multi-year CDC funded research project that has shown that healthcare professionals are not preventing FASD due to stigma and how NOFAS and ACOG are collaborating together to reduce stigma amongst OB-GYN's.</p>	January 11, 2022	2:00 PM ET	1 hour
Caregiver Success! Part 1: Parents of Children with FASD Share What Works	Adrienne Bashista, Director, Families Affected by FASD (FAFASD)	<p>Even if their children are diagnosed (which is rare), parents of children with FASDs often can't rely on FASD-informed support systems, professionals, school personnel, or even their own parenting instincts when figuring out what works for their families.</p> <p>This webinar will feature a panel of parents who have "been there, done that," and will share what has worked for their families as they've learned about FASD and how to change the environment to support and accommodate the brain differences associated with prenatal alcohol exposure.</p>	February 10, 2022	7:00 PM EST	2 hours
Understanding Children from Hard Places	S. Chris Troutt, LMFT, CEO of The Papillion Center for FASD	<p>Adults often find themselves at a loss when working with children from hard places; struggling with techniques that will be positively responded to. Trust Based Relational Intervention® has empirical research defining success. Understanding the impact of early trauma is crucial. This presentation is designed to give you the tools for understanding and implementation.</p>	February 15, 2022	1:00 PM CT	2 hours

National FASD Collaborative Project 2021-2022 Webinar Series

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Preventing Secondary Characteristics of FASD: What Does the Research Say?	Adrienne Bashista, Director, Families Affected by FASD (FAFASD)	<p>Prenatal alcohol exposure leads to changes in the developing brain that have lifelong impact in the affected individual. These brain changes express themselves behaviorally. These neurobehavioral impacts, while different for each individual, are considered "primary characteristics" of FASD. If the person with an FASD doesn't receive appropriate supports and provided environmental modifications and accommodations, this can lead to frustration, anger, depression, anxiety and other predictable manifestations of unmet needs. These are called "secondary characteristics" of FASD. If we can successfully meet the needs of people with FASDs, the secondary characteristics can be mitigated or even prevented entirely.</p> <p>This webinar will examine what current research says about preventing secondary characteristics in individuals with an FASD.</p>	February 24, 2022	3:00 PM ET	2 hours
Evidence-Based FASD Prevention: Help Us to Promote Universal Alcohol Screening & Brief Intervention!	Marilyn Pierce-Bulger, APRN (MN, FNP-BC, CNM) President, Board of Directors, Alaska Center for FASD & Consultant, University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Behavioral Health Research and Services	<p>This session will explore the use of evidence-based FASD prevention strategies such as universal alcohol screening and brief intervention, challenges related to implementing these prevention methods, and ways that the public can help to promote the use of these strategies with their own health care providers.</p>	March 2, 2022	11:00 AM Alaska Time	1 hour
Resiliency and Parenting a Child with FASD	Eileen Devine, LCSW, Therapist and Parent Support Coach, Brain First Parenting	<p>This webinar focuses on what it means to remain resilient as a parent of a child with FASD and why it is important to implement resilience-building strategies into daily life. It will define what resilience is (a frequently misunderstood concept), what breaks down our resilience as parents of kids with FASD and finally small steps every parent can take to build their resilience, no matter the day-to-day challenges they currently face.</p>	March 9, 2022	7:00 PM ET	1 hour
Caregiver Success! Part 2: Parents of Adults with FASD Share What Works	Adrienne Bashista, Director, Families Affected by FASD (FAFASD)	<p>Parents of children with FASDs aren't given a roadmap when starting out - not to mention as they navigate parenting and guidance through adulthood! Many people with FASDs need supports throughout their adult lives, but have a natural desire for independence, self-determination, and adult relationships. For those of us parenting our young adults and adults with FASD this can feel like a balancing act.</p> <p>This webinar will feature a panel of parents who are weathering the adult years to help children who may (or may not!) need more support than their same-age peers. We will be sharing what has worked to help our adult children succeed as they go through life.</p>	March 15, 2022	3:00 PM ET	2 hours
Creating a Circle of Hope: Candid Conversations with Birth Mothers	Kathleen Tavenner Mitchell, MHS, LCADC, National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS), Vice President and Spokesperson	<p>This interactive session seeks to improve understanding about women who have used alcohol during pregnancy and improve communication between birth mothers, adoptive families, FASD advocates and FASD organizations. A panel of birth mothers will share their own personal stories about their alcohol/substance use during pregnancy, how they found support and recovery and what their lives are like now. Attendee's will have an opportunity to ask questions and dialogue with the panel. The panel members are all FASD activists and their hope is to increase awareness about addiction and multi-generational addiction to ultimately help adoptive families better understand their birth mothers. Having open conversations, that include all families and FASD advocates, about difficult or uncomfortable topics may help to address unconscious bias, reduce stigma, increase acceptance and forgiveness and improve FASD prevention, diagnosis, intervention and treatment.</p>	April 6, 2022	3:00 PM ET	1.5 hours

National FASD Collaborative Project 2021-2022 Webinar Series

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FASD Interventions: What Does the Research	Adrienne Bashista, Director, Families Affected by FASD (FAFASD)	This webinar will provide an overview of research-based interventions for FASD, with a focus on those that emphasize a family-centered and whole person approach.	April 12, 2022	7:00 PM ET	2 hours
Diagnosis, Support, and Empowerment: The role of genetic counselors in FASD	Bethany Grysko, MS, CGC, FASD Clinic Coordinator Spectrum Health Helen Devos Children's Hospital Tiffany Lepard Tassin, MS, CGC, Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center	This presentation will focus on the unique role and value of genetic counselors in the diagnosis of FASD. Two different clinical approaches will be discussed; a medical genetics clinic utilizing the 4-digit FASD diagnostic code, and an interdisciplinary clinic evaluating for ND-PAE (neurobehavioral disorder associated with prenatal alcohol exposure) with referral to genetics as needed.	April 20, 2022	3 p.m. ET	1 hour
Brain First Parenting and Executive Functioning in Individuals with FASD	Eileen Devine, LCSW, Therapist and Parent Support Coach, Brain First Parenting	This webinar provides an introduction to the brain-first approach to parenting a child with FASD, with a special emphasis on executive functioning skills. The webinar will provide information on what lagging executive functioning skills look like behaviorally for a child with FASD and how a parent can support their child in their executive functioning from a brain-based lens.	May 4, 2022	7:00 PM ET	1 hour
Communication and Cognition in Individuals with FASD	Elizabeth Cleveland, Ph.D., CCC-SLP; Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center	This webinar will explore the inner workings of cognition and communication and explain how each impacts the other. Participants will learn the basics of executive function, language processing, and pragmatic language and why they are impaired in individuals with FASD and what that impairment looks like. Examples of accommodations and intervention strategies for cognitive and communication impairments will be described throughout this webinar.	May 18, 2022	2:00 PM CT	1 hour
FASD 101 for Professionals	Madonna Mooney BSEd LPN Co-founder of FASD Maine, Sibling of individual with pFAS	This webinar will offer a one-hour overview of FASD (including Q & A) for caregivers, professionals, and others new to the field of FASD. Topics covered in this training include: what is FASD, including a history of FASD in the U.S., prevalence rates and why FASD is so prevalent, Risk factors for alcohol-exposed pregnancies and impacts of that exposure, Important factors for diagnosis of FASD, the impacts of intervening (and not) for those with the disorder, and how to become FASD-informed. This presentation will provide attendees with a wide range of evidence-based information from the field of FASD, as well as several free and low-cost resources to access after the presentation to further their study.	June 17, 2022	3:00 PM ET	1 hour
Essential FASD Supports	Nate Sheets, BBA, FASD Consultant, Cognitive Supports	This webinar focuses on the essential, everyday supports people with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders need in order to think, learn, interact, and regulate. We will cover frequent challenges caregivers and professionals encounter when trying to implement supports, as well as practical steps to move forward and improve. Participants will leave the webinar with strategies they can begin to use immediately.	June 22, 2022	2:00 PM PT	3 hours
Alcohol SBI Training for Getting Comfortable Asking About Alcohol Use	Leigh E. Tenkku Lepper, PhD, MPH, Professor Emerita	This webinar will be a presentation of the online training program located on CatalystLearningCenter.org titled, Alcohol SBI Training for the Healthcare Professional. The presentation will discuss the results of the study that was conducted showing a significant increased confidence level by providers on talking with their patients/clients about alcohol use. The course is continuously viewed and completed by a wide range of professionals.	July 14, 2022	3:00 PM ET	1 hour

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A Functional Approach to an FASD Diagnosis	Elizabeth Cleveland, PhD, CCC-SLP David Deere, MSW, MTh, LCSW	Arkansas is one of many states that has very limited resources for FASD diagnosis, training, and intervention. Because of this reason, the Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center (SDRC) was founded by Dr. Cleveland and Mr. Deere. This webinar will explore the innovative approach to a functional FASD diagnosis and the work that the SDRC interdisciplinary team has provided for individuals of all ages with FASD and their families. The SDRC process has provided avenues to care for many Arkansans with FASD and this webinar will share ways to adapt other interdisciplinary teams to do the same.	July 27, 2022	1:00 PM CT	3 hours
Effects of Alcohol and Drug Exposure During Pregnancy	Claire D. Coles, PhD, Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Pediatrics, Emory University School of Medicine; Director, Center for Maternal Substance Abuse and Child Development, Atlanta, GA	Dr. Coles will review the prevalence of alcohol and drug use by pregnant women in the United States and will then highlight the risks associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs for the developing infant and child including both the impact of prenatal exposure development and behavior as well as factors that are associated with maternal substance use.	August 10, 2022	3:00 PM ET	1 hour
FASD and the Family System	S. Chris Troutt, LMFT, CEO of The Papillion Center for FASD	Living with an individual who has been impacted by prenatal exposure to alcohol impacts that whole family system. In order to best help the individual impacted, we want to help the whole system better understand techniques for highest levels of success. This presentation is designed to equip caregivers or practitioners with understanding and tools.	August 16, 2022	1:00 PM CT	1 hour
Introduction and Diagnosis: Spotlight on Prevention	Marilyn Pierce-Bulger, MN, FNP-BC, CNM (APRN), Interim President, Board of Directors, Alaska Center for FASD	Session objectives: In Session One of the FASD Across the Lifespan On-Demand Training Series, Marilyn Pierce-Bulger present information about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and prenatal alcohol exposure and details the diagnostic process in Alaska.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour
Infant Learning and Early Intervention: Spotlight on Sensory Needs	Gail Trujillo, Ph.D. (ABD), Infant Mental Health Specialist, Early Learning Program, Sitka, AK	Session objectives: Participants will 1) develop an understanding of the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure on early developmental milestones; 2) develop an understanding of the sensory processing issues that affect early development; 3) become aware of relationship-focused early interventions and their impact on social emotional development and attachment.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour
Preschool and Social Development: Spotlight on Developing Social Skills	Jamie Bleakley, OTR/L, A Better Tomorrow Therapy and Wellness Center, LLC	Session objectives: By the end of this session, participants will: 1) recognize brain-based differences than impact preschooler social interaction; 2) understand meaning behind behaviors impacting social interaction in preschoolers with FASD; 3) be able to identify interventions to help the child engage within their environment.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour
School Age: Spotlight on Learning Challenges	Deb Evensen, MA, Fetal Alcohol Consultation & Training Services (FACTS)	Session objectives: By the end of this session, participants will: 1) identify the primary characteristics of FASD; 2) understand how these characteristics result in learning differences; 3) learn how to support children with FASD as they move through the school system.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour
Middle School: Spotlight on Challenging Behaviors	Tami Eller, MS, Associate Director of Community Programs, AK Child and Family	Session objectives: By the end of this session, participants will: 1) Understand typical brain developmental tasks in middle school; 2) Understand gaps in brain development with FASD; 3) Understand the impacts of brain dysmaturity for developmental tasks; 4) Role of accommodations in supporting students across a number of developmental domains.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour

National FASD Collaborative Project 2021-2022 Webinar Series

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High School/Transition to Adulthood: Spotlight on Dysmaturity	Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus, Kibuk Valley Consulting	Session objectives: By the end of this session, participants will learn to: 1) Build transition success early; 2) recognize typical transition consideration when supporting youth to adults with FASD; 3) Find alternate but comparable milestone for youth to adults with FASD; 4) Find positive groups/mentors/opportunities for fulfillment for youth to adults with FASD; 5) Focus forward with little control.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour
Adulthood: Spotlight on Interdependence	Jenn Wagaman, MA, FACES Coordinator AK Child and Family	Session objectives: By the end of this session, participants will learn to: 1) understand that adults with an FASD are individuals with their own pathway in life; 2) understand the philosophical models underlying healthy outcomes for individuals with FASD; 3) understand the eight target areas for healthy outcomes for adults with FASD; 4) Understand supported decision making and models of disability benefits.	On-Demand	On-Demand	1 hour
37 Webinars				Total for Series	51 hours