



Pennsylvania Autism Training Conference

(PATC) 2026: Life in Motion

Conference Agenda Overview

PATC 2026 will be hosted virtually on November 4th and 5th through the Whova online conference platform. This year's theme is "Life in Motion". We welcome you to join us for two days of dynamic presentations focused on navigating daily tasks, unique challenges, and regulation techniques for individuals with autism. In between sessions, we will be featuring personal stories from self-advocates related to session topics.

Wednesday, November 4		Thursday, November 5	
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks Amy Alford, BSASP Clinical Director; Lynn Pascoa, BSASP Director; Kristin Ahrens, ODP Deputy Secretary	9:00 – 10:30 AM	Emotional Regulation in Daily Community Living Dr. Kelly Beck, Pitt REACT, Pittsburgh Adult Autism Research Community Collaborative lead
9:15 – 10:30 AM	The Autistic Professionals Guide to the Workplace Shea Belsky, Self-Advocate	10:45 – 11:45 AM	Yoga, Belonging, and Autism: Lessons from a Community-Based Participatory Research Project Tessa Karel, Open Up Co-Founder and Executive Director; Dr. Rachel Robertson
10:45 – 11:45 AM	Financial Self-Care Diana Fishlock, PA ABLE Outreach Specialist; Will Hall, CEO, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation	12:45 – 1:45 PM	Hobbies and Healing: A Self-Advocate Panel Discussion on Regulation Rituals Facilitator - Dr. Kerry Magro; Panelists: Kevin Hillman, Morgan Colpetzer, TBA...
12:45 – 2:00 PM	From Avoidance to Access: Teaching Tolerance for Medical Care Stephanie Jones, Executive Director, Functional Connections; Kristin Ermak, Clinical Director	2:00 – 3:00 PM	Call to Action: A Panel Discussion with PATC Presenters Facilitator - Amy Alford; Panelists: Shea Belsky, Stephanie Jones, TBA...
2:30 – 3:30 PM	A Presentation on Presentation: Modern Communications and Image Curation Kaelynn Partlow, Love on the Spectrum TV Personality & Content Creator		

