OAR Announces 2018 Applied Research Grant Recipients

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ARLINGTON, VA – The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2018 Applied Research Competition. This program awards up to $30,000 to researchers and professionals conducting applied autism research. This year, OAR’s Board of Directors authorized funding for eight new grants totaling $228,036. With these additions, OAR has awarded more than $3.7 million in grants since 2002.

OAR received 152 pre-proposals during the first round, the most in the history of the program. Of those, OAR invited 57 researchers to submit full proposals. From the 55 full proposal submissions, 25 advanced to the final review. Members of the OAR Scientific Council, a group of autism professionals from a variety of fields and backgrounds, reviewed and scored each proposal. In the end, they identified eight studies as the most outstanding.

Congratulations to the 2018 applied grant recipients:

**The Role of Schools in Adult Outcomes for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder**
Connie Anderson, Ph.D. and Caroline Wood, Ph.D.
Towson University

**Safe Dating for Youth with ASD**
Megan Bair-Merritt, MD, MSCE and Emily Rothman, ScD
Boston Medical Center Corporation

**An Ethnographic Study of Emergency Department Encounters for Patients with ASD**
Sarabeth Broder-Fingert, MD, MPH
Boston Medical Center

**Measuring Sexual and Reproductive Health Service Use and Outcomes for Transition-aged Youth with ASD**
Laura Graham Holmes, Ph.D.
A. J. Drexel Autism Institute, Drexel University

**Care-coordination Factors Affecting Postsecondary Outcomes for Minimally Verbal Young Adults with Autism**
Elizabeth McGhee Hassrick, Ph.D.
Paul Shattuck, Ph.D., Renee Turchi, Ph.D., and Jessica Walton, B.A.
Drexel University and St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
Generalization of Technology-based Mathematics and Social Skills Instruction for Students with Autism
Jenny Root, Ph.D.
Florida State University

Modification of One-Session Phobia Treatment for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Feasibility Study
Thomas H. Ollendick, Ph.D.
Child Study Center, Virginia Tech

Determining Intervention Targets to Promote Positive Trajectories of Health for Children with ASD
Kerri Staples, Ph.D.
Center on Physical Activity & Health in Pediatric Disabilities, University of Michigan

OAR is accepting applications for the 2019 Applied Research Competition starting December 6, 2018 through March 25, 2019 at 11:59 PM ET. The Board of Directors authorized an increase in the maximum award amount from $30,000 to $40,000. More information on the application process, including the Request for Proposals (RFP) and Budget Guidelines, can be accessed here.

For questions or comments, please contact Kimberly Ha, Research and Programs Director at (703) 243-9762 or e-mail kha@researchautism.org.

About OAR: The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is a national non-profit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions. Learn more at their website: www.researchautism.org.

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