

Developing and Implementing Interdisciplinary Practice in Early Childhood Settings

DD & Neurodiversity Conference
Friday, April 5th, 2024
9-10:00am
Lindsay Diamond, PhD

**NEVADA
COLLABORATIVE**
INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING TO IMPROVE
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
YOUNG CHILDREN WITH AUTISM


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Disclosures

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Lindsay Diamond Ph.D.

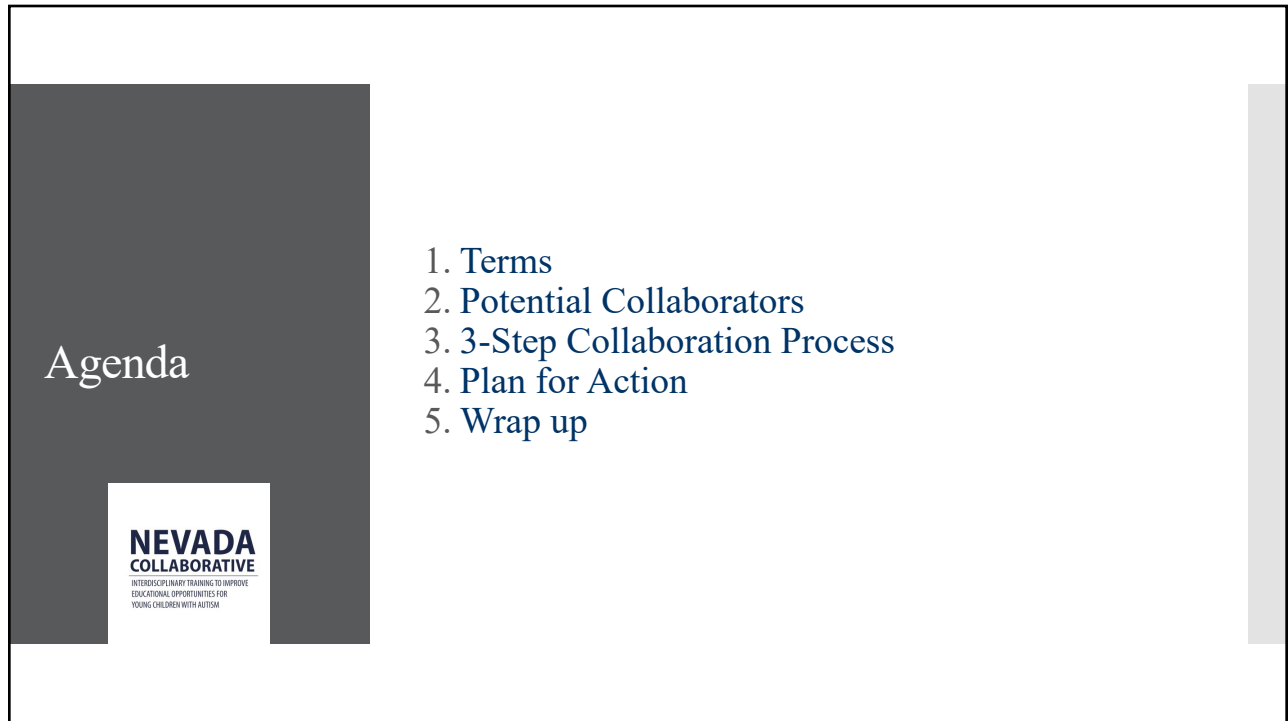
- Associate Professor in Educator Preparation Department at University of Nevada, Reno
- Project Director of Nevada Collaborative Interdisciplinary Training to Improve Educational Opportunities for Young Children with Autism



Office of Special Education Programs
U.S. Department of Education

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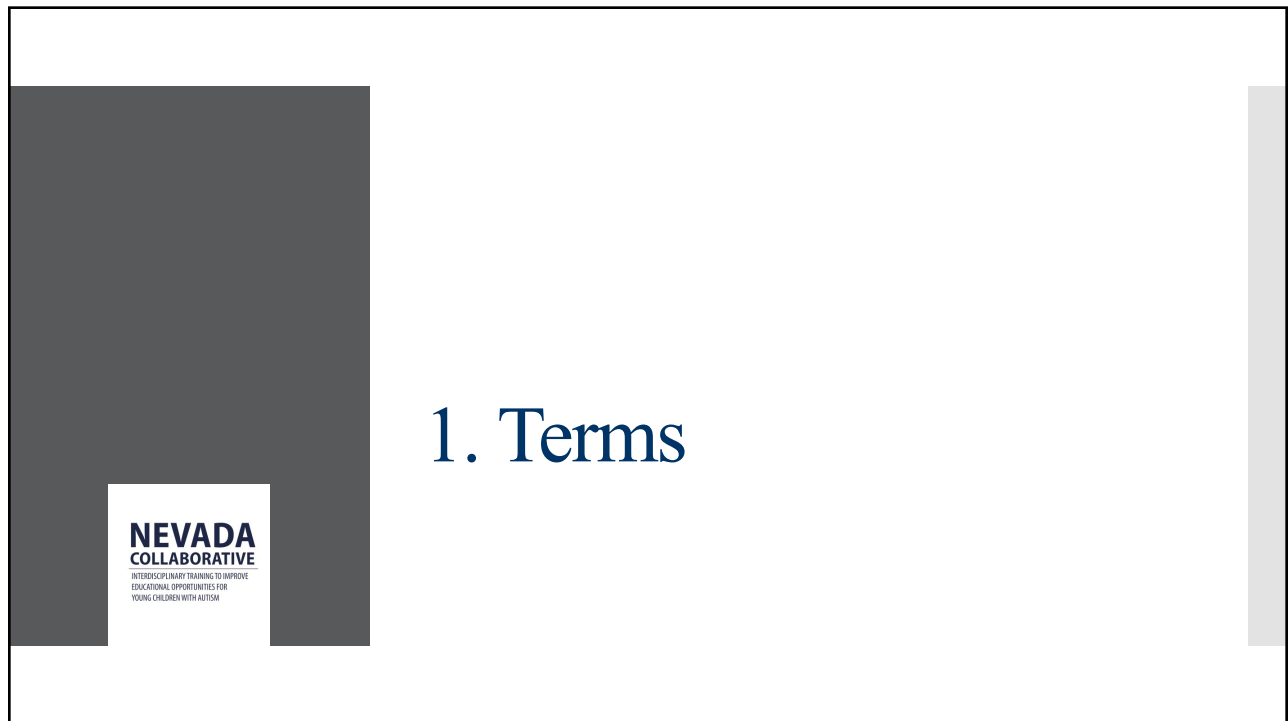


Agenda

1. Terms
2. Potential Collaborators
3. 3-Step Collaboration Process
4. Plan for Action
5. Wrap up

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1. Terms

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Our Work

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ASHA



Division for
Early
Childhood

of the Council for Exceptional Children



World Health Organization

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WHO

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World Health Organization


World Health Organization

- The World Health Organization leads and champions global efforts to achieve better health for all. By connecting countries, people and partners, we strive to give everyone, everywhere an equal chance at a safe and healthy life.
- <https://www.who.int/>

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ASHA

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American Speech-Language Hearing Association

- ASHA is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 228,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. Audiologists specialize in preventing and assessing hearing and balance disorders as well as providing audiologic treatment, including hearing aids. Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) identify, assess, and treat speech, language, and swallowing disorders. Learn about the differences between professional associations and unions.
- <https://www.asha.org/>

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DEC

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The Division for Early Childhood (DEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to supporting families and young children who have or are at risk for developmental delays and disabilities.

<https://www.dec-sped.org/>

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Interdisciplinary Education

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- **Interdisciplinary education** occurs when students from two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve child health outcomes.

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Collaborative Practice

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- Collaborative practice happens when **multiple education practitioners and related service personnel** from **different professional backgrounds work together** with children and families to design and implement the highest quality of education.

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Collaborative Continuum

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Multi- → Inter- → Transdisciplinary

Multidisciplinary Interdisciplinary Transdisciplinary

Differentiation between Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Concepts

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2. Potential Collaborators

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Who?

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- General education teacher
- Special education teacher
- Speech-language pathologist
- Psychologist
- Social worker
- Occupational therapist
- Physical therapist
- School nurse



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3. 3-Step Collaboration Process

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Core Competencies of Interdisciplinary Practice

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1. **Values/Ethics:** Work with individuals of other professions to maintain a climate of mutual respect and shared values.
2. **Roles/Responsibilities:** Use the knowledge of one's own role and those of other professions to appropriately assess and address the health care needs of patients and to promote and advance the health of populations.
3. **Interprofessional Communication:** Communicate with patients, families, communities, and professionals in health and other fields in a responsive and responsible manner that supports a team approach to the promotion and maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of disease.
4. **Team and Teamwork:** Apply relationship-building values and the principles of team dynamics to perform effectively in different team roles to plan, deliver, and evaluate patient/population centered care and population health programs and policies that are safe, timely, efficient, effective, and equitable.

(Interprofessional Education Collaborative, 2016)

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3 Step Process

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1. **Establish Rapport**
2. **Test the Waters**
3. **Expand the Collaboration**

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Step 1: Build Rapport

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Introductions

- Introduce yourself to your colleagues
- Make small talk, establish rapport

About Work

- Find out how long they have been working at the school and a little bit about their educational/professional background
- What do they like about their job?
- What are some challenges in the job?
- Have they worked with someone in your profession before?

Communication Style

- Preferred modes of communication
- Continue to have conversations

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How do you establish rapport?

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New colleague to workplace



Existing colleague you haven't worked with




Potential colleague you would like to work with


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Determine How to test the waters


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What student could you test a collaboration with?




Who could you collaborate with?



What type of collaboration? (multi, inter, transdisciplinary)



What are some targets you could collaborate on?




When and where could you collaborate with student?


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Step 3: Expand the Collaboration


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Expand collaboration to provide multiple opportunities with one child.

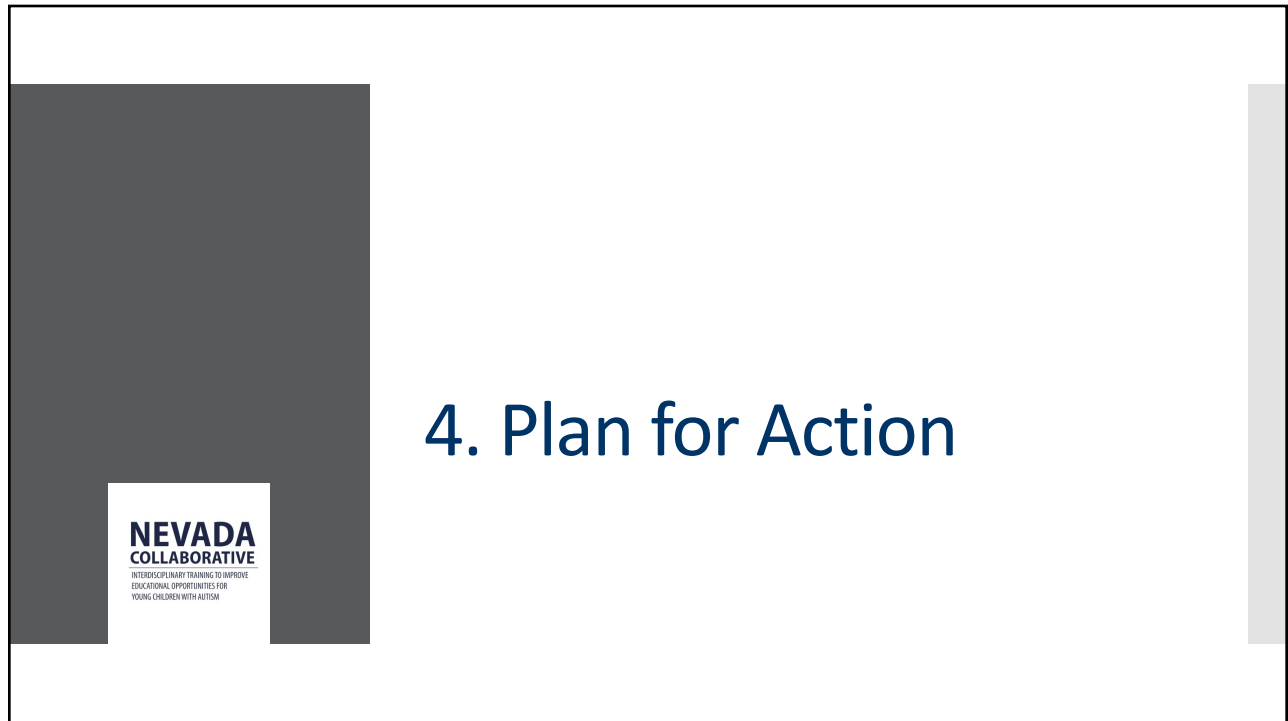


Expand collaboration to support multiple children.



Expand collaboration to include an additional colleague.

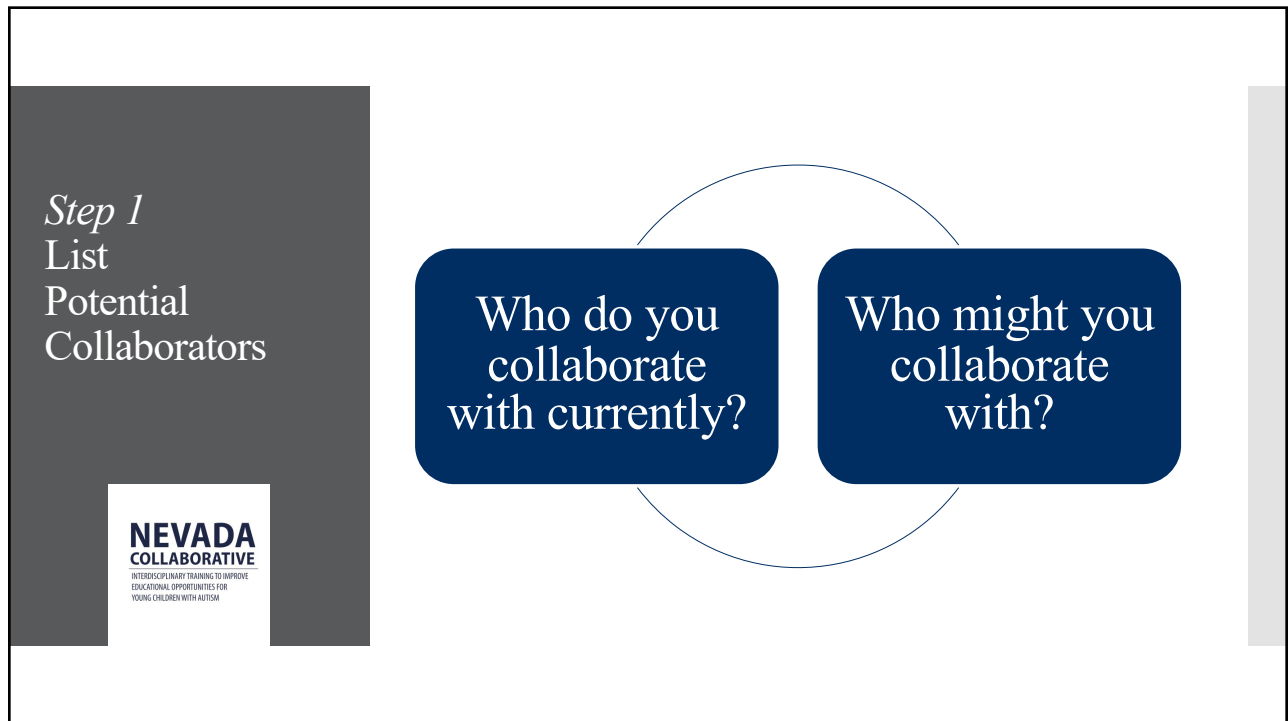
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4. Plan for Action

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Step 1
List
Potential
Collaborators


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Who do you collaborate with currently?

Who might you collaborate with?

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Step 1
List
When & How
to Establish
Rapport



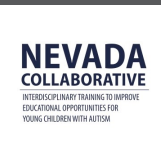
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When can you establish rapport with collaborator?


What could you talk about with collaborator?

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Step 2
Determine
How to test the
waters




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What child could you test a collaboration with?




Who could you collaborate with?



What type of collaboration? (multi, inter, transdisciplinary)




What are some targets you could collaborate on?






When and where could you collaborate with student?

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Step 3
Plan
How to
Expand the
Collaboration



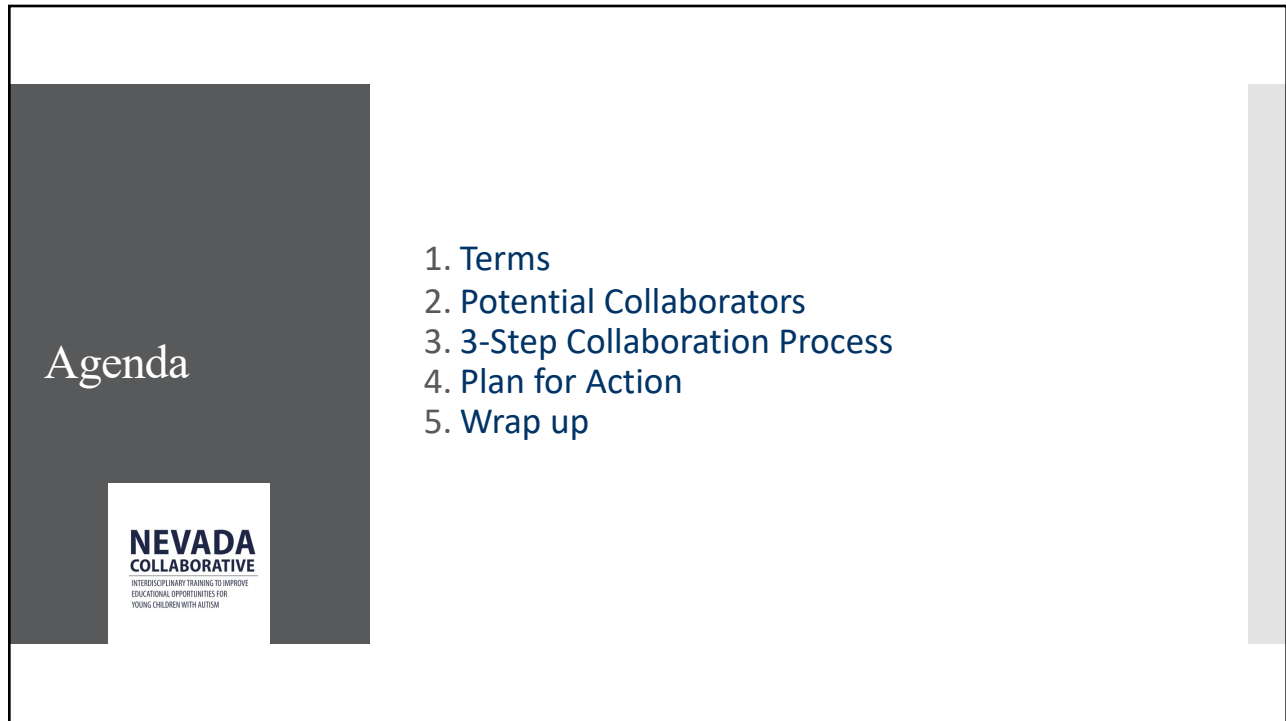
-  Expand collaboration to provide multiple opportunities with one child.
-  Expand collaboration to support multiple children.
-  Expand collaboration to include an additional colleague.

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5. Wrap Up

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Agenda

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“Effective interdisciplinary collaboration will ultimately improve the outcomes of young children.”

- Lindsay Diamond, PhD & Abbie Olszewski, PhD, CCC-SLP

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Thank You!

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References

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- World Health Organization (2010). Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education & Collaborative Practice (WHO/HRH/HPN/10.3) Available at <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/framework-for-action-on-interprofessional-education-collaborative-practice>

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