

# Erica C. Jacoby, M.S., OTR/L

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

---

Pediatric occupational therapist with specialized experience through research and clinical practice in areas of autism spectrum disorders, developmental delays, and sensory processing. Extensively trained on identifying, evaluating, and intervening with autism spectrum disorders and related developmental delays. Ten years of experience volunteering and working within the autism community and listening to their stories. Passionate about family-centered care, child-led play, and strengths-based approaches.

## EDUCATION

---

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO August 2018  
**Master of Science in Occupational Therapy**

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH May 2015  
**Bachelor of Science in Social Work with Honors in Research Distinction**

## RESEARCH

---

**Master's Thesis: "Examining Sensory Gating & Processing Speed in Adults with Autism Using EEG"** 2018  
Colorado State University Brainwaves Research Lab

- Collected data through EEG and standardized assessments
- Analyzed and interpreted results using SPSS
- Earned committee approval on manuscript and presentation with strong regard for organization and timeliness

**Undergraduate Thesis: "Community Perspectives on Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder"** 2015  
The Ohio State University College of Social Work

- Designed and implemented original research study, including submitting to the IRB, collecting and analyzing data, performing background research, creating a paper and poster, and presenting the results
- Published resulting paper as first author in the journal of Occupational Therapy in Mental Health

**Research Assistantship** 2015  
The Ohio State University Nisonger Center

- Performed team research systematically reviewing current early intervention practices in autism
- Attended weekly team meetings to review and critically analyze various peer reviewed studies related to autism
- Observed special education preschool classroom while reviewing and revising their records for future research studies

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

**JFK Partners, University of Colorado, Denver, CO** June 2018 – Current  
**Occupational Therapy LEND Fellow**

### *ENRICH Early Intervention Team*

- Provide occupational therapy services for children ages birth to three years in the natural environment
- Collaborate with a transdisciplinary team consisting of PTs, SLPs, ECSEs, infant mental health specialists, and psychologists every week for 1.5 hour meetings

### *Autism and Developmental Disabilities Clinic*

- Evaluate clients ages 2-17 with neurodevelopmental disabilities as part of an interdisciplinary clinic (SLPs and Psychologists) with a specific focus on autism spectrum disorders
- Complete occupational therapy assessments including the BOT-2, Vineland 3, Sensory Profile-3, VMI, Peabody, and Mullen Scales of Early Learning
- Observe a variety of speech language testing, cognitive testing, and extensive observation and interpretation of the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS)

- Counsel families regarding the results of the evaluation, the resulting diagnoses, and future recommendations.
- Compose extensive reports detailing the evaluations, results, and recommendations, written in such a way as to be family friendly while also anticipating being shared with healthcare professionals and educational providers

*Colorado's University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education (UCEDD) and Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program*

- Participate in seminars with a diverse group of fellows with backgrounds including audiology, speech language pathology, physical therapy, psychology, developmental pediatrics, parent advocates, sibling advocates, self-advocates, public health, nursing, spiritual care, and social work
- Discuss a variety of diagnoses falling under neurodevelopmental disabilities including assessment and treatment, community resources, as well as leadership, policy, and advocacy
- Revise the Adaptive Skills: Self-Care passage of the Transdisciplinary Play-Based Assessment for Brookes Publishing

*The Joshua School*

- Implement occupational therapy services as a consulting provider on a therapy team (OT & OTA) in a school for children ages 6-21 with autism with severe behavioral needs that cannot be supported in public schools
- Monitor student's progress towards reaching goals and objectives through observation, interview, and direct evaluation
- Consult with teachers and behavioral interventionists to provide strategies and modifications for students to increase tolerating activities, building skills, and participating in groups and individual programs

**Private Employment, Fort Collins, CO**

June 2017 – May 2018

**Applied Behavior Analysis Provider**

- Provided ABA services to 12-year-old with autism in both the home and school settings
- Utilized behavior intervention plan in combination with rapid modifications of curriculum to support academic success and class participation
- Collaborated with team during monthly team meetings to update programs and collectively problem-solve

**Olander Elementary School, Fort Collins, CO**

August 2015 – May 2016

**Special Education Paraprofessional**

- Adapted and modified classrooms and curriculum to be accessible to students with a variety of disabilities
- Facilitated positive peer interactions to increase respectful and age-appropriate collaboration between special needs and mainstream students
- Assisted special needs students in addressing self-care needs while promoting independence

**Ohio State University Nisonger Center, Columbus, OH**

August 2014 – May 2015

**Social Work Intern**

- Co-facilitated social skill development groups for teens on the autism spectrum
- Assisted in managing and advancing the Aspirations program for teens and adults with autism
- Provided 1:1 counseling and mindfulness services to teens and adults on the autism spectrum
- Acted as the research consultant for a small task force in developing the Autism College Experience (ACE) program at OSU

**Step by Step Academy, Worthington, OH**

March 2014 – May 2015

**Home Services Practitioner**

- Supported six-year-old with autism in the home setting through 1:1 services based in ABA principles including discrete trial training and behavior extinction programs
- Utilized positive sensory exposure and activity grading to increase participation and success in adaptive skills including bathing, dressing, chores, and communication

**Embracing Autism, Columbus, OH**

December 2012 – July 2014

**Direct Support Professional**

- Assisted clients of various ages and abilities, all with autism, by supporting increased independence in home and community settings
- Provided ABA therapy through discrete trial training to one client with more severe needs
- Actively participated on a team that met biweekly to review data and revise programs

---

## FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

**JFK Partners, University of Colorado, Denver, CO**

June 2018 – August 2018

Level 1C

- Provided early intervention services to families with children ages birth to three in the natural environment
- Partnered with a physical therapist at a special needs preschool to provide group therapy sessions to both typically developing and developmentally delayed students
- Assisted in interviewing, evaluating, and interpreting assessments in the Autism and Developmental Disabilities clinic

**Camp Hippo Pediatric Therapy, Blackfoot, ID**

March 2018

Level 1C

- Collaborated with a team of OTRs, COTAs, and SLPs to deliver services to children ages 1-18
- Designed and implemented interventions, then recorded sessions in SOAP format

**Elderhaus Adult Day Program, Fort Collins, CO**

February 2017 – August 2017

Level 1B & 2A

- Performed evaluations and interventions with adults in a community-based setting
- Managed own schedule and deadlines for performing evaluations, interventions, and consultations
- Created materials and coordinated resources to present to clients, co-workers, and caregivers

**Colorado in Motion, Fort Collins, CO**

September 2016 – November 2016

Level 1A

- Observed evaluations and interventions focused on workplace performance in industrial settings
- Coordinated with fieldwork supervisor on providing educational materials and presentations
- Reviewed current literature on ergonomic interventions and presented results

---

## AWARDS

### **Stella A. Durning Scholarship**

- Acknowledged for serving as a volunteer in activities requiring occupational therapy and demonstrating a strong commitment to pursuing a career in occupational therapy

### **Outstanding Honors Thesis**

- Displayed poster and gave oral presentation to professors at the College of Social Work and was unanimously chosen as the top thesis of my cohort

### **Third Place Award in Social and Behavioral Sciences Research**

- Presented and displayed poster to the general public as well as to judges at the Ohio State University Denman Undergraduate Research Forum, an event for the entirety of the undergraduate thesis cohort at OSU

### **Delaney Scholarship Fund in Developmental Disabilities**

- Recognized for pursuing both volunteer and professional positions working with children with developmental disabilities