

The Indian Health Service (IHS) TeleBehavioral Health Center of Excellence is pleased to announce the following training:

# Autism Awareness Month: American Indian/Alaska Native Parents of Children with Autism Panel

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***Presented by Miranda Carman, LCSW; Marcy Ronyak, Ph.D., LCSW, CDP; and Benjamin “Carl” Duncan, LCSW***

## Date and Time

**April 12, 2023**

12 pm Eastern, 11 am Central, 10 am Mountain, 9 am Pacific, 8 am Alaska

Duration: 1 hour

\* Arizona (outside of Navajo Nation) is aligned with the Pacific times listed above due to Daylight Savings. Navajo Nation, you are still aligned with Mountain times above.

## Description

In celebration of Autism Awareness Month, the purpose of this webinar is to provide American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) parents the opportunity to share their stories as parents of children with Autism. This webinar will serve as a safe place for healthcare providers and community members to become more aware of the unique experiences of AI/AN families and to ask questions.

## Target Audience

All members of the healthcare team

## Registration

This presentation is open to everyone. There is no fee to participate in this webinar. Registration is required.

**Please follow these directions to register:**

1. Visit the following link: [https://ihs-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_DadaSgCNSbC5SEX3tV6ttA](https://ihs-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_DadaSgCNSbC5SEX3tV6ttA)
2. Once the page loads, fill out the registration information
3. Click “Register” at the bottom of the page to complete registration.
4. You will receive a confirmation from Zoom with a link to enter the webinar the day of the event.

## Questions & Technical Assistance

If you need assistance registering or have technical support questions, please send an email to [IHSTeleEducation@ihs.gov](mailto:IHSTeleEducation@ihs.gov) describing your issue.

## About the Presenters



Ms. Miranda Carman is a licensed clinical social worker, holds a degree in sociology from Oklahoma State University, a master’s degree in social work from the University of Oklahoma, and is an enrolled member of the Muscogee Creek Nation. Ms. Carman serves as the Tribal Program Manager within the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Program. Prior to joining the FVPSA program, Ms. Carman was the cabinet secretary for the Muscogee Creek Nation’s department of community and human services where she provided leadership to 13 tribal programs and developed the tribe’s first development disabilities advocacy program for tribal members. Ms. Carman’s previous federal experience includes serving as public health advisor and mental health lead for the division of behavioral health at Indian Health Service headquarters. Ms. Carman is

an autism mom who enjoys supporting autism parents in navigating access to services, treatment, and supports for their children.



Dr. Marcy Ronyak is a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation in Nespelem, Washington. Dr. Ronyak, is the Director for the Division of Clinical & Community Services, Indian Health Service (IHS), Headquarters. Preceding her federal career, she worked for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation as the Tribal Psychologist and an independent contractor providing clinical services to children and families. She has two amazing children, Shawnee, who is a junior in college playing D1 softball and another, Aristotle “Aris,” who is incredibly smart. Aris is on the autism spectrum and has managed to overcome many social concerns. Some fun facts about him include: being interviewed on a podcast show 6 or 7 times, participating in a Minecraft Genius Club, being a part of a pilot animated video series to help children on the spectrum to address bullying and other social issues, and speaking to Congress to advocate for the Autism CARES Act to be reinstated.



Benjamin “Carl” Duncan, is a clinical social worker at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center, Behavioral Health Department in Phoenix, AZ. Mr. Duncan is a member of the Navajo Nation. Mr. Duncan is a special needs step parent to two daughters, ages 16 and 14. Mr. Duncan is also a grandfather to two young adults who have special needs. Mr. Duncan has been part of a special needs family for over 10 years. Mr. Duncan works with a number of special needs families in his clinic at Phoenix Indian Medical Center.

## Zoom First Time Users

If you have never attended a Zoom meeting before, you can download the Zoom desktop client here:

<https://zoom.us/support/download>

## Requirements for Zoom

If you plan to join virtually, you must have a computer with broadband Internet access. For the best experience viewing the videos, use Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome. If you have trouble viewing this training on-line, check your system to make sure you have the appropriate hardware and software.

## Privacy Policies

Before you begin the training, you can review the IHS Privacy Policy (<https://www.ihs.gov/privacypolicy/>). You can also review the Survey Monkey Privacy Policy for details on how user information submitted in the evaluation is protected. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/policy/privacy-policy/>

## Recording

All sessions are recorded for those unable to join them real-time, however, credit is not available for viewing the recording. You can access previous recordings at: <https://www.ihs.gov/teleeducation/webinar-archives/>

## Calendar

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