### None for Nine's Seventh Annual Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Michael Peterson, Andrew Peterson, and Craig Peterson

Elizabeth Cleveland, PhD, CCC-SLP

Elizabeth Pulliam, PsyD

#### Thank you to our sponsors!

ARKANSAS DISABILITY COALITION



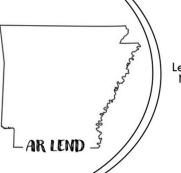
Healthy **People.** Healthy **Businesses.** Healthy **Communities.** 





Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center





Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities: Training Tomorrow's Leaders

#### **UAMS Disclosure Policy**

It is the policy of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) to ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all directly or jointly provided educational activities.

All individuals who are in a position to control the content of the educational activity (course/activity directors, planning committee members, staff, teachers, or authors of CE) must disclose all relevant financial relationships they have with any commercial interest(s) as well as the nature of the relationship. The ACCME and ACPE describe relevant financial relationships as those in any amount occurring within the past 24 months that create a conflict of interest. *Individuals who refuse to disclose will be disqualified from participation in the development, management, presentation, or evaluation of the CE activity.* 

#### Disclosures

The following planners and speakers of this CE activity have no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose:

Albrey Berber, DNP, APRNAndrew PetersonElizabeth Cleveland, PhD, SLPMichael PetersonDavid Deere, LCSWElizabeth Pulliam, Psy.D.Craig PetersonVertice Comparison

The accreditation compliance reviewer, Courtney Bryant, has no financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose.

#### Accreditation and Credit Designation Statements

#### **Accreditation Statement**

In support of improving patient care, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

#### **AMA Designation Statement**

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits<sup>TM</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### **ANCC Designation Statement**

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.0 ANCC contact hours. Nursing contact hours will be awarded for successful completion of program components based upon documented attendance and completion of evaluation materials.

#### **Continuing Education**

A survey will be available at the end of the day. On the survey, please indicate the following:

- Healthcare: 5.0 CE units
- Long-Term Care: 4.5 CE units
- Early Childhood: 4.5 CE units
- Education: 4.5 CE units
- Foster Families: 4.5 Clock hours

## **FASD** Proclamation

**Representative Ferguson** 

### **Peterson Presentation**

#### Thank you to our sponsors!

ARKANSAS DISABILITY COALITION



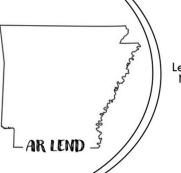
Healthy **People.** Healthy **Businesses.** Healthy **Communities.** 





Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center





Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities: Training Tomorrow's Leaders

#### Lunch Break 11:40-12:10 Check out our sponsors and other resources!





Healthy **People.** Healthy **Businesses.** Healthy **Communities.** 





#### **Arkansas Chapter**

American Academy of Pediatrics



Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities: Training Tomorrow's Leaders



Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center

#### The Conundrum of Cognition & Communication in the FASD Brain: What's Going On & What Can Be Done?

Elizabeth Cleveland, PhD, CCC-SLP Co-Director, Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center Director of Interdisciplinary Training, AR Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Assistant Professor, University of Central Arkansas

#### **Objectives**

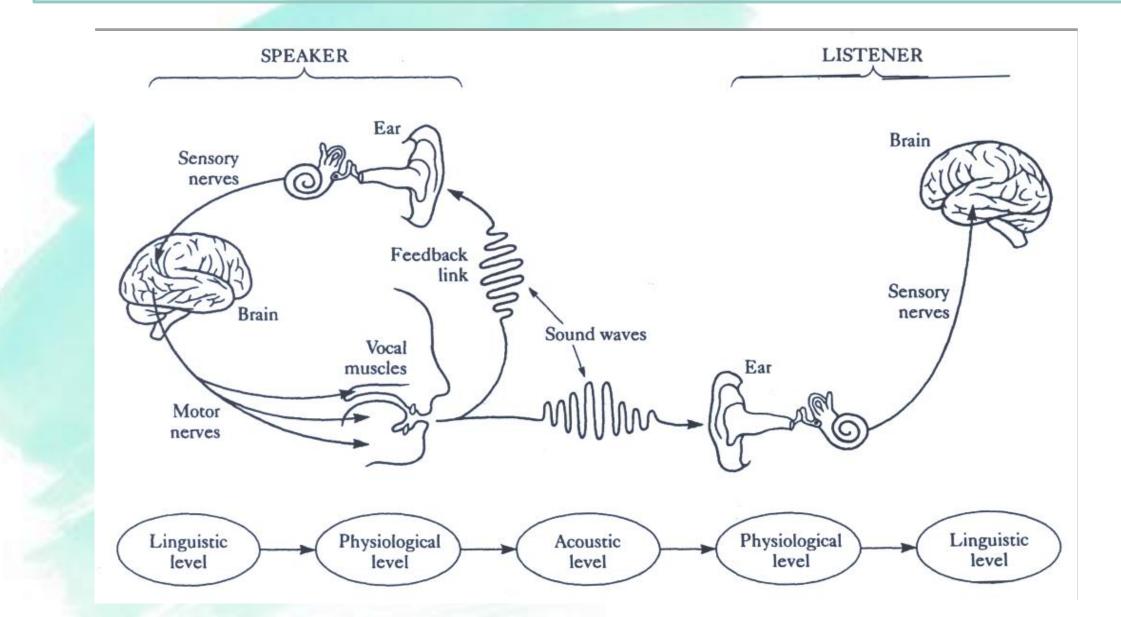
- Explain the relationship between cognition, language, and communication in a neurotypical brain
- Describe common symptoms of prenatal exposure to various parts of the brain
- List helpful accommodations for the symptoms

#### (Very Quick!) FASD Overview

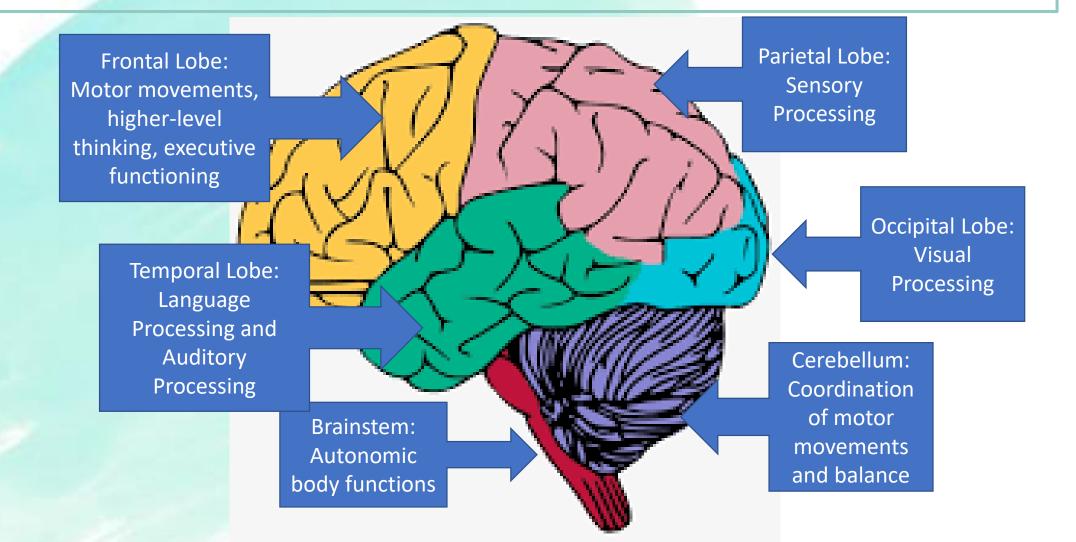
- FASD describes the spectrum of disorders that arise after exposure to alcohol
- Alcohol kills developing cells
- Type of damage and symptoms depend on time of exposure, amount of exposure, metabolism, type of exposure, etc.
- There is NO safe amount of alcohol during pregnancy or while breastfeeding

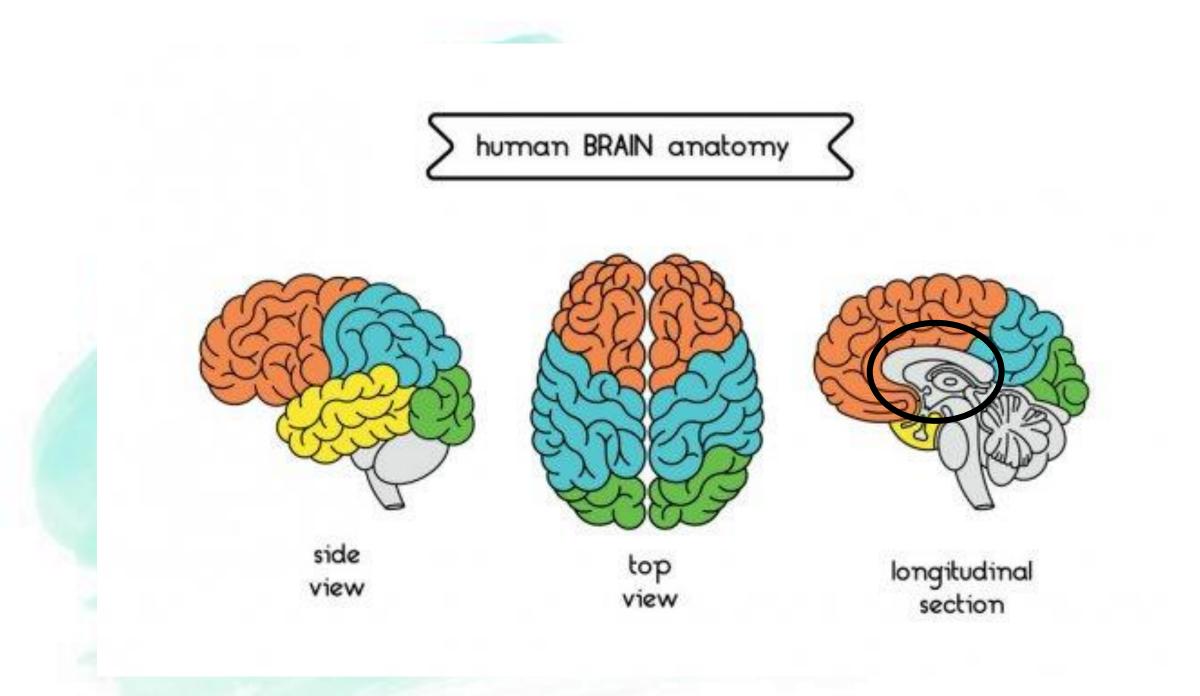
### In order to understand disorders, we must first understand "neurotypical"

#### **Communication Chain**



#### Lateral Brain





#### **Executive Functions**

(Baggetta & Alexander, 2016; White et al, 2017; Halse et al., 2019)

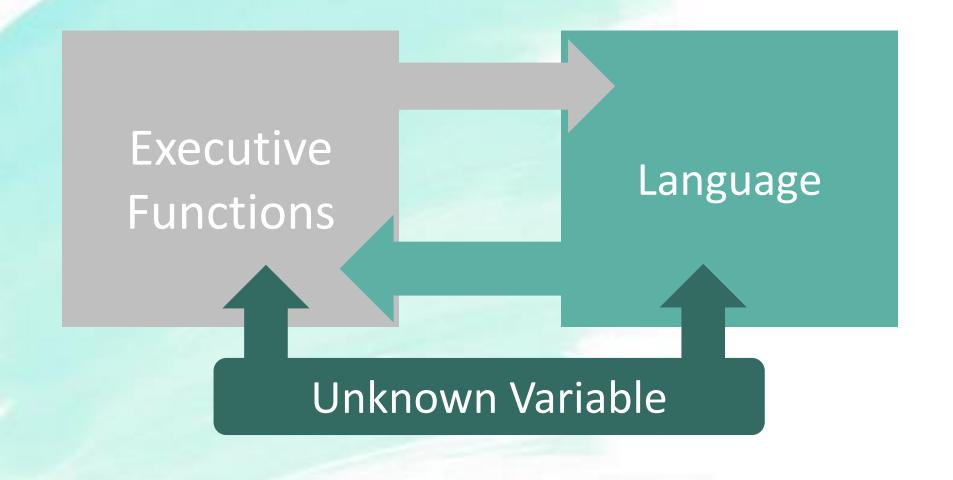
Working Memory Attention Shifting

Inhibition

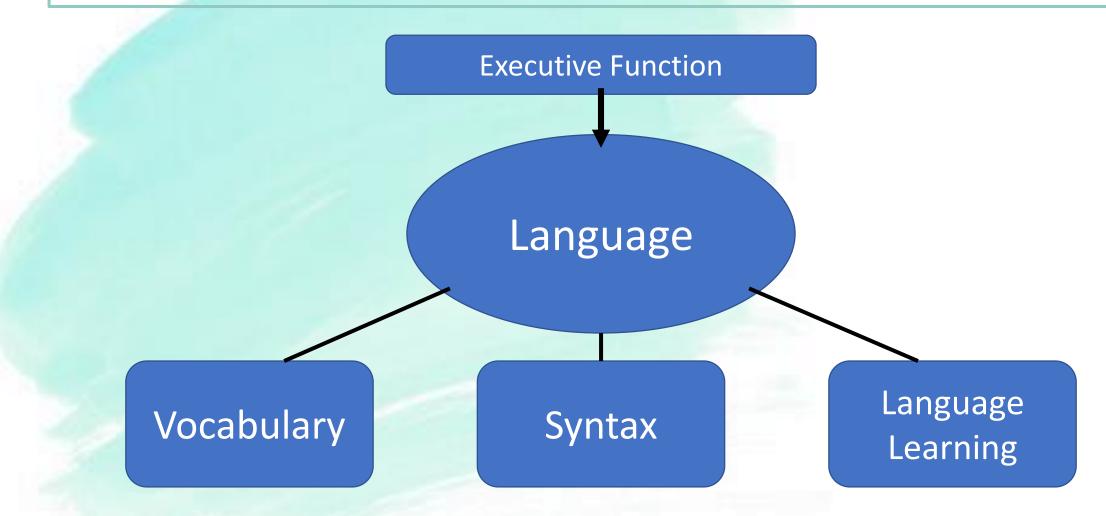
The Relationship Between Executive Function and Language (Bishop et al., 2014)

- Language abilities are naturally acquired and used without conscious effort or awareness.
- Executive function involves both deliberation and control.
- Language and Executive Function are related, but not interchangeable.
- Three possible relationships between executive function and language

#### The Relationship Between Executive Function and Language (Bishop et al., 2014)

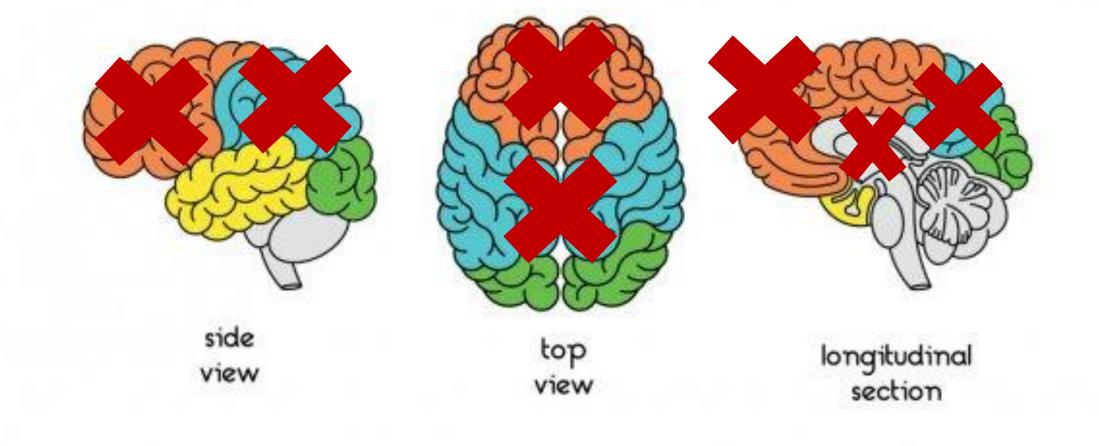


# Executive Function and Language in Children (White et al., 2017)

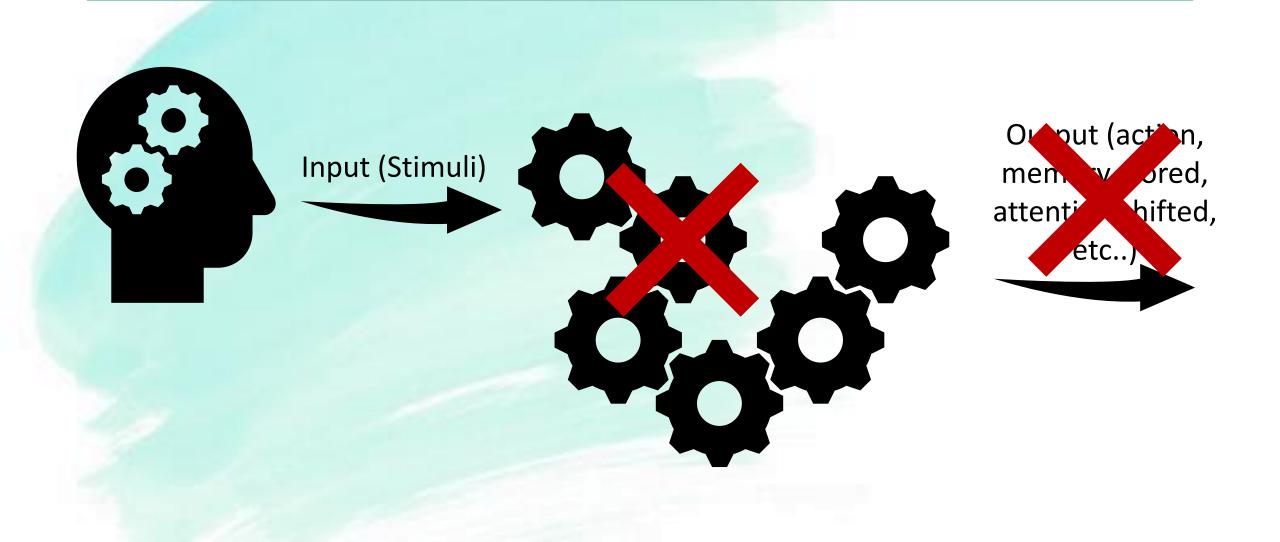


# Executive Dysfunction

#### Common Areas of Damage Due to Prenatal Alcohol Exposure



#### **Cognition in Motion**

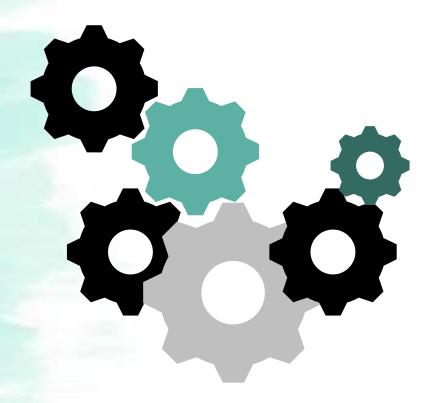


#### **Executive Dysfunction**

• The altered functioning of working memory, attention shifting, and inhibition control (Brocki & Bohlin,

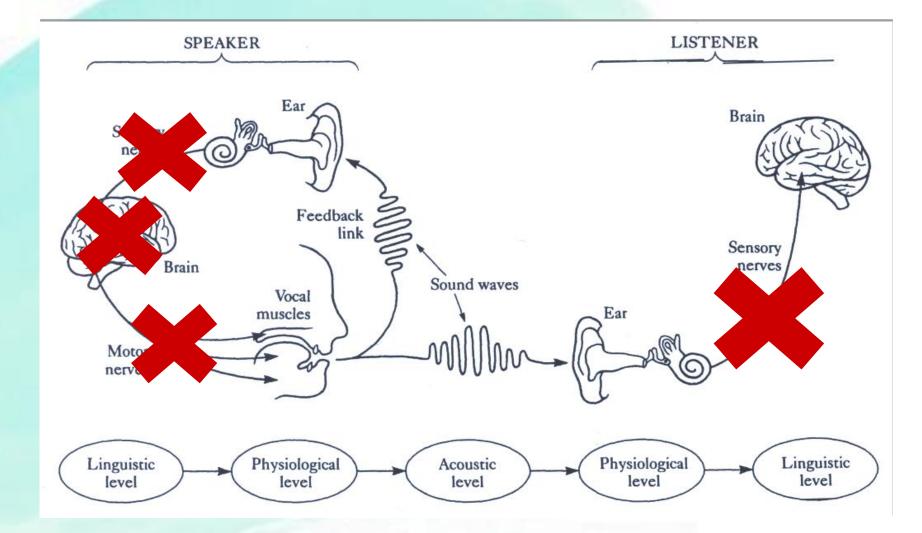
2004) -

- Causes characteristics like:
  - Inattention
  - Impulsivity (verbal and physical)
  - Working memory deficits



# Neurodiversity with FASD

#### **Communication Chain with FASD**



# Common Misconceptions About FASD (These are untrue!)

- All children with FASD have low IQ and low language skills
- Children who speak okay must not have language dysfunction
- Children who are only mildly delayed do not really have a language problem
- If children with FASD are given extra time, they will perform on a neurotypical level
- If a child has a "normal" IQ, their memory must be intact

#### Some things to consider

- IDD can be a protective factor. Most individuals with FASD have typical IQ scores
- Individuals with FASD often have higher expressive language skills than receptive language skills
- Emotion can impact all other cognitive skills

#### **Executive Dysfunction in FASD**

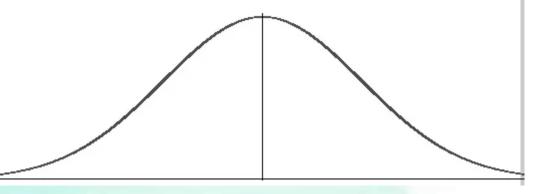
(Kodituwakku et al., 2001; Astley et al., 2009; Mattson et al., 2019; McLaughlin et al., 2019)

Cognition-Based Executive Function Emotion-Based Executive Function

- Attention Deficit
- Difficulty understanding
  Difficulty following directions
  Difficulty working/ doing school work
  Inappropriate responses in conversation
  Pragmatic (social skills) impairment

- Impulsivity
- Interruptions
- Difficulty in following turn-taking in conversation
- Pragmatic impairment
- Unintended violent characteristics
- Individuals tend to get in trouble more often than individuals that are not impulsive

• Mild (or more) Language Impairment



Difficulty understanding and expressing
Shutdowns/ silence due to not wanting to say the wrong thing

Pragmatic Impairment

 Often makes friends easily, but are unable to keep them (especially in younger children)

- Difficulty understanding abstract and nonverbal language
- Increase in anxiety and depression

# (Cleveland et al., 2020)

- FASD group had significantly lower language skills than the neurotypical group, but not low enough to qualify them for speech therapy in the public-school setting
- FASD group had significantly lower working memory scores than the neurotypical group
- Time had no significant effect on working memory scores in either group
- The FASD group *did not* process significantly slower than the neurotypical group, even though their scores were lower

#### Working Memory Storage Capacity

lean <sub>a</sub> -Mean <sub>b</sub> t df		opertailed 0 1464975				esults <sub>Q</sub>			-tai	led 0.0	32667			
-0.1218	-1.08	20									o-tailed 0.065334			
			Questions 10-12 Results <sub>Q</sub>				5 items				his finding is not significant**			
			Mean <sub>a</sub> -Mean	h <sub>b</sub> t	df	Р	one-tailed	0.004048	3					
Questions 7-9			-0.4245	-2.94	20	P	two-tailed 0.008096				itomo			
				This finding is significant**								items		
Mean <sub>a</sub> -Mean <sub>b</sub>	t	df			_					-tai	led 0.1	973115		
			P				-0.1518	-0.87	20	P				

#### **Summary of Findings**

- Difficulty with processing information may not be because of slower processing, but less capacity for storing information
- When less storage capacity, lower language skills, and lower working memory skills are combined, the result can make learning extremely difficult without intervention.

# Communication Tips for Individuals with FASD

- Make sure the individual is paying attention to you- don't expect communication if the individual is distracted
- Speak using accessible language- make things less complicated
- Respond in a non-judgmental way

# So, what now? What can we do?

## Common Accommodations for Children with FASD

(Note: these are solutions that often work. You may need additional support.)

- Following Directions
- Following School Schedules
- Impulsivity in answering questions on tests
- Interruptions in class
- Forgetting to turn in work
- Difficulty with transitioning

- Simple, one-step directions; speech therapy evaluation; visual cues
- Check list- words and/or pictures
- Reminders to review work/review with the teacher before work is graded
- "Talk Token"

Token

- Reminder notebook to be checked by the teacher before and after each class
- Picture schedules, check lists, multiple reminders of what's coming next

Tips for Encouraging Success for Individuals with FASD (and for every other individual)

- Remember the individual's strengths
- Stay away from reprimanding for symptoms the individual cannot control
- Lower the stimulation to encourage attention
- Think about how the *environment* can change, not how the individual can change

### Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center

Arkansas's Experts on FASD Diagnosis, Intervention, and Training

#### SDRC

- Interdisciplinary team of professionals
- Housed at UCA's new Integrated Health Sciences Building
- Funded by the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Grant

#### What we do:

- Diagnostics for FASD
- Referrals to genetics, SLP, OT, PT, psychology, etc.
- Intervention: Individualized executive dysfunction intervention and group intervention for young adults
- Trainings: All over the country
  - Schools
  - Professionals
  - Families and self-advocates (monthly)
  - Agencies

#### How to get an appointment

# <u>www.ArkSDRC.org</u> appointment@ArkSDRC.org

### **Questions?**

### **Pulliam Presentation**

#### **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Annual Conference**

#### Thursday September 9, 2021



For attendance & to begin the continuing education credit process please complete the survey by following one of the steps below:

Scan the QR code

OR

Go to this web address:

- <u>https://crisredcap.uams.edu/redcap/surv</u>
   <u>eys/</u>
- Then enter this code: YTDKPAH9Y

A Credit Claim Form for CE certificate will be sent to the email provided