Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a social communication, behavioral, and developmental disorder that has drawn increasing attention over the last several decades. Diagnosing and treating ASD in early childhood has become common, but the needs of autistic individuals remain poorly understood as they get older and transition into adulthood. Higher education is often the first step many people in the United States take in transitioning into adulthood, but are higher education institutions ready to meet the needs of autistic students? From this presentation, attendees will learn about ASD, its epidemiology, how ASD is presented in research and practice, how autism presents in higher education institutions, and how institutions are responding to the needs of the autistic population.

Joshua Anbar, DrPH, MPH

Dr. Joshua Anbar is a postdoctoral research associate at the Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC), located in Phoenix, AZ. Dr. Anbar is a recent graduate from the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, where his dissertation research focused on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in higher education. As part of his graduate training, Dr. Anbar worked on the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (ADDSP) at the University of Arizona where he examined autism surveillance data gathered in Arizona and from the CDC's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network to evaluate clinician patterns of practice in diagnosing ASD. Currently, Dr. Anbar is coordinating a study to evaluate whether a telehealth diagnostic tool can reduce the wait time to receiving a diagnosis of ASD along with continuing his research on ASD in higher education and the broader transition to adulthood.

Thursday, April 29, 2021
3:00 - 4:00 PM
ZOOM