



NEWS LETTER

WELCOME!

Very exciting times!

We had our inaugural coffee morning. But as some of you will know, following that we've had a range of new members from all over the world taking interest in our support group. Because of this, we now have some very knowledgeable people linked in that have many years of experience we can share our real life experiences with.

We now have a new web site with many of the features of our group communicated through there.

We have initiated the reference library system, which in part has attracted attention from experts all over the world.



NEW Members:

Meeting Members:

- Sally Mander
- Jude Fariss
- Penny Street
- Beth Crispin
- Neil Reynolds

Out of Area Members:

- Elizabeth Anne Russell
- Natisha Sarkis
- Caroline Zvekis
- Shane Pinnell
- Meegan Sullivan
- Sam Sandra Pinnell

International Members:

- Teresa Kellerman
 - Jerrod Brown
 - Cees Snel
 - Rhonda Konrad
 - Amanda Mulligan
 - Nancy Brewer
 - Sherri Haesler-Deschamps
 - Trish Jillard
 - Gigi Davidson
 - Lee-huh Davies
 - Tina Butters Kom
 - Tana Hanes Young
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Questions

Q: Why are we including out of area people when we are a local group?

A: I'll answer this in two parts, we are an inclusive group that will take anyone with a real interest in people with disabilities, our experiences are valid no matter where we are. The second is by doing this we aren't changing our direction or focus of the group! It has always been about meeting the needs of people directly effected by disability. Either caring for someone or feeling the effects of it yourself. No one knows everything and if your part of a Support group, you probably already appreciate that. This is why I'm so excited about new members out side our area, many have recognised experience in different fields that relate to the needs of people we care about!

We started this group with the full support of an amazing woman **"Anne Russell"**
Founder of rffada and of cause she is still a great support behind the scenes.

However I would like to put the spot light on a few new "out of town" members:

Jerrod Brown, MA, MS, MS, MS serves as the chief executive officer of the American Institute for the Advancement of Forensic Studies (AIAFS). He is now also a monthly contributor to Concordia University, St. Paul's online blog providing in-depth articles on issues related to the forensic mental health field.

Jerrod is a consummate academic with degrees from a variety of higher education institutions, including the following:

M.S. in Special Studies degree with a concentration in Cognitive Disorders, Saint Cloud State University, 2011

M.A. in Clinical Counseling and Psychotherapy, Adler Graduate School, 2009

M.S. in Special Studies degree with a concentration in Forensics, Saint Cloud State University, 2005Ffa

M.S. in Criminal Justice, Saint Cloud University, 2000

B.E.S. in Applied Psychology and Psychology, Saint Cloud University, 1998

Postgraduate Certificate: Autism Spectrum Disorders, Hamline University, 2010

PhD will be complete in 2015

(The list goes on and he's in our Library)

Teresa Kellerman, the Director of the FAS Community Resource Center in Tucson, Arizona, President of Fasstar Enterprises, and co-founder of FASWORLD.

She is the adoptive parent of a young adult with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and has cared for several foster children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

She has conducted trainings on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders for the Arizona Department of Health, CASA, and Prevent Child Abuse, Inc. Teresa participated in a workgroup for the FAS Surveillance Project in Arizona for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is a certified FASD trainer for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, the Native American Alliance Foundation, The Arc, and SAMHSA's FASD Center for Excellence.

Her popularity as a speaker is due to a combination of her personal experience and success as a parent, her extensive knowledge of current research, and her unique incorporation of original materials such as skits, poems, and props.

(Find her through our Library also)

We have many more experienced members, but I'll leave them for next time. Have a safe and happy day and I'm looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can at the next meeting.

Visit us at

Face Book <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RFFADA.FASD.WA/>

Twitter [twitter.com/RFFADA WA FASD](https://twitter.com/RFFADA_WA_FASD)

Web Site <http://rffadafasdwa.wix.com/rffada-fasd-wa>