

## Joanne Lara & Susan Osborne of Autism Works Now! to publish book with Jessica Kingsley Publishers London

In the US 50,000 individuals with autism graduate from public schools each year, the 90% unemployment rate for individuals with disabilities speaks for itself.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA, February 20, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- LOS ANGELES, CA (February 20, 2016) – Joanne Lara and Susan Osborne of <u>Autism Movement Therapy</u>, <a href="http://www.autismmovementtherapy.com/">http://www.autismmovementtherapy.com/</a> an LA based non-profit announced that they are signing a book contract with Jessica Kingsley Publishers London to pen an autism pre-employment methods book for secondary education to fill the overwhelming need. The methods book is due out Spring of 2017.

Executive Director of <u>Autism Works Now!</u> <a href="http://www.autismworksnow.org/">http://www.autismworksnow.org/</a> Joanne Lara tell us, "we are addressing employment too late in this country for individuals with autism. Our vision is to see middle and high school national job/work assessment tools that actually drive the public schools trade/skills based curriculum." The Director of the Autism Works Now! program Susan Osborne adds "that way our youth will exit the public school system job ready."

In the United Stated alone, 50,000 individuals with autism graduate from the public school setting each year, either at 18 or 22 years of age, the 90% unemployment rate for individuals with disabilities speaks for itself. We are not doing a good enough job of educating our youth early on with the skills that will equate to employment in their post high school years.

A pilot program, Autism Works Now! is based in Los Angeles, and inspired by the May 2015 Temple Grandin & Friends: Autism Works Now! event at the LA Live Center in downtown Los Angeles hosted by Joe Mantegna that featured James Durbin, Susan Sheller, Lonnie Park, Chadwick, Matt and Ed Asner, Dani Bowman, Dr. Stephen Shore and Temple Grandin. Autism Works Now! educates individuals 17 years of age and up with autism and related differences in pre-employment skills in their Workplace Readiness Workshop to be job ready!

Autism Works Now! also acts as a temporary job agency to find and place individuals with ASD in meaningful jobs in their communities, equating to increased social and independent living opportunities.

Information about the Workplace Readiness Workshops in the San Fernando Valley and Culver City, Ca can be found on the website at <a href="http://www.autismworksnow.org/">http://www.autismworksnow.org/</a> or contact Susan Osborne at sosborne.awn@gmail.com All print, radio & TV media please contact Joanne Lara at jolara@roadrunner.com or <a href="http://www.autismmovementtherapy.com/">http://www.autismmovementtherapy.com/</a> FB AutismWorks now <a href="https://twitter.com/autismworksnow">https://twitter.com/autismworksnow</a>

**About Autism Movement Therapy** 

Lara's nonprofit Autism Movement Therapy, Inc (Classes & AMT Certification workshops

globally)produced Temple Grandin & Friends: Autism Works Now, a musically driven event honoring Dr. Grandin to support job opportunities for individuals with autism and related differences in Los Angeles, May 20th at the Club Nokia.

Joanne is a columnist for Autism Asperger's Digest, core adjunct faculty at National University and was the autism consult for Kiefer Sutherland's FOX show TOUCH. She authored the recently published methods book Autism Movement Therapy® Method: Waking up the Brain! and produced the documentary to air on PBS Generation A: Portraits of Autism & the Arts. Autism Works Now is a pilot program empowering young adults with autism in job readiness skills. The Autism Works Now! short documentary that grew out of Temple Grandin & Friends is slated for a spring 2016 release.

Susan Osborne has worked in the autism education field for over 10 years. She is deeply committed to helping individuals on the autism spectrum find a place in life where they are valued and appreciated and can reach their fullest potential. Her 23-year son is unemployed and on the autism spectrum after graduating with a high school diploma 5 years ago.

"Programs like Joanne's Autism Movement Therapy offer opportunities for our kids to develop the necessary and fundamental skills that benefit all our kids. Art saved my life!" -Temple Grandin, PhD

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