

Media Release

2/26/26

## **Kane County Health Department Announces Free Webinars on Autism and Developmental Disabilities**

The Kane County Health Department (KCHD) invites community members and professionals to attend two upcoming virtual trainings as part of its Behavioral Health Training Series. These free events will focus on developmental disabilities and autism across the lifespan, with Spanish interpretation and Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available.

### **Understanding Developmental Disabilities and Autism Across the Lifespan**

Friday, March 27, 2026

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This session will provide an overview of developmental disabilities and autism from childhood through adulthood. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how needs evolve over time and learn practical strategies to better support individuals and families at every stage of life.

### **Supporting Autistic Adolescents: Identity, Independence, and Social/Emotional Health**

Friday, April 24, 2026

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

This training will focus specifically on adolescence, exploring identity development, fostering independence, and promoting social and emotional well-being among autistic youth. The session is designed to equip professionals, caregivers, and community members with tools to better support adolescents during this critical developmental period.

Both trainings will be led by Melissa Mills, MAEL, MATL, LBS1, and Jessica Antoniou, MA CCC-SLP/L, CAS, who bring extensive experience in education, speech-language pathology, and autism support services.

“These trainings reflect our continued commitment to strengthening behavioral health knowledge while ensuring parents and caregivers have the tools, information, and support they need to help their children thrive,” said Michael Isaacson, Executive Director of the Kane County Health Department.

The events are free and open to professionals, caregivers, educators, parents and community members. Spanish interpretation will be available during both sessions. Registration is required. To learn more and register, visit: <https://www.kanehealth.com/Pages/BH-Training.aspx>