

TALK Is Changing Attitudes About Autism

Interactions with people with autism, including TALK students, shattered perceptions Dr.'s Moya Kinnealey (Ph.D., OTR/L, Temple University) and Kristie Koenig (Ph.D., OTR/L, New York University) held about people with autism, and are shaping their current work. After meeting and interacting with people who have autism, they now understand that the disorder does not mean intellectual impairment. Instead, Kinnealey and Koenig believe that sensory and motor issues associated with autism often impact a person's ability to demonstrate their intellectual abilities.

Both Kinnealey and Koenig are leaders in the field of autism research and the development of effective treatment and instructional strategies for people with autism. This seismic shift in their thinking will influence countless professionals and paraprofessionals in the field. TALK is excited to be partnering with Dr.'s Kinnealey and Koenig on research that will set the stage for the next generation of autism treatment and educational strategies. Along with TALK Occupational Therapist Rachael Freret Shoener, Kinnealey and Koenig co-authored **You Can Know Me Now If You Listen: Sensory, Motor, and Communication Issues in a Nonverbal Person With Autism**, a case study featuring a TALK student, published in *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy* in 2008.

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Not Being Able To Speak
Is Not The Same As
Having Nothing To Say...

www.talkinc.org

TALK Thanks...

- *Sponsors of our Gala
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*The employees of **Applied Clinical Intelligence** for prepping our building to be painted!

*Everyone who supported TALK's Lottery Calendar fundraiser. Over \$3,000 was raised to purchase therapeutic playground equipment!

*And stay tuned to learn how Owens Corning and their volunteers have helped our students learn.



Shopping at Amazon.com? please use the Shop for a Cause link on TALK's website.
Up to 15% of your purchase is donated to TALK!



TALK Student Transitions To Regular Classroom



Three years ago, at five years of age, Peter Kopecky came to TALK. He was completely unintelligible and far behind in pre-reading skills due to Apraxia. Three years later, through his indomitable spirit and TALK's intensive language program, Peter speaks clearly... and often! He enjoys reading and even takes books to bed with him to read before sleeping. Last fall, Peter returned to his regular school. We are delighted that Peter is doing well in a regular 2nd grade classroom, where he continues to receive reading support and is reading at an early second grade level! Although TALK misses his bright and bubbly personality, we are proud of his achievements and are confident in his ability to keep up with his peers in school.



Rep. Thomas Killion Supports TALK



TALK thanks PA State Representative Thomas Killion for his assistance in securing state community development funds for TALK School, over two years. These funds are dedicated to TALK's expansion and providing its intensive language based program. Rep. Killion understands the importance of PA's only speech and language program for children with autism and communication disorders.



TALK Receives \$10,000 Grant From SAP!

SAP, with its North American headquarters in Newtown Square PA, is the world's largest business software company. TALK Board member Dan Austin was instrumental in introducing SAP to TALK School, and in December, SAP awarded TALK a \$10,000 grant to support its work with autistic and language disordered children.

Outpatient Speech and Occupational Therapy

TALK provides speech therapy and sensory integration occupational therapy on an outpatient basis, Monday through Friday. TALK's Therapists are trained in specialized therapeutic strategies and techniques beneficial for children with autism and severe language disorders. For more information or to schedule an appointment call TALK's office at (610) 356-5566.