



Building Healthy Families

A Conference on the Approaches to Autism



MARCH 10, 2012

University Plaza,
333 S John Q. Hammons Parkway
Springfield, Missouri

Dr. Shore, Chef Cimins & B.J. Richardson are keynote speakers. Respite is available, but limited and registration is due by Feb. 15, 2012.

DR. STEPHEN SHORE

*Diagnosed with "Atypical development with strong autistic tendencies" Dr. Shore was viewed as "too sick" to be treated on an outpatient basis and recommended for institutionalization. Nonverbal until four, and with much help from his parents, teachers and others, Stephen completed his doctoral dissertation at Boston University focused on matching best practices to the needs of people on the autism spectrum. In addition to working with children and talking about life on the autism spectrum, Stephen presents and consults internationally on adult issues pertinent to education, relationships, employment, advocacy and disclosure as discussed in his books, *Beyond the Wall: Personal Experiences with Autism and Asperger Syndrome*, *Ask and Tell: Self-advocacy and Disclosure for People on the Autism Spectrum*, and the critically acclaimed *Understanding Autism for Dummies*.*

CHEF PAUL CIMINS

Paul Cimins is an autism dad who has made it his mission to educate himself and others on how nutrition and diet can assist in decreasing some of the symptoms children with autism experience. Dubbed the "Autism Spectrum Chef," he is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America with over 20 years of culinary experience. He owns a catering business and operates an executive cafeteria which serves over a thousand customers daily.

Paul Cimins is also founder and host of syndicated Autism Radio, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising public awareness about autism. Funds that are raised through Autism Radio outreach are distributed to families in need.

BJ RICHARDSON

BJ Richardson earned his law degree from St. Louis University and a Master of Laws in Taxation from University of Missouri-KC. His expertise is widely sought in areas such as estate planning, trusts, probate administration, guardianships and special needs planning, among other areas of legal emphasis. He has been voted by the readers of the Springfield News-Leader as the Best of the Ozarks - Attorney for the past three years and was awarded Springfield Business Journal's 40 under 40 in 2009. He is managing partner of The Courtney Law Firm. BJ's clients appreciate the compassion he holds for them and for his intellect, which assures them sound, valuable counsel.

The concurrent session topics will cover:

HEALTHY THINKING Dr. Dawn Huber

Strategies on replacing unhealthy thinking with positive and thus enhancing communication within the family.

HEALTHY MARRIAGES Susie Henderson

Ways to reduce stress in autism families, with a panel from The Relationship Center, Burrell Center and Missouri State University.

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR FAMILIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS

B.J. Richardson The Courtney Law Firm

NAVIGATING AUTISM INSURANCE

Registration: <http://thearcoftheozarks.org>

COST: \$30 per person,
after Feb. 15, \$40 per person