

# Dr. Katie Frank

11:45AM - 1:00PM

## Use of Visuals to Support Independence

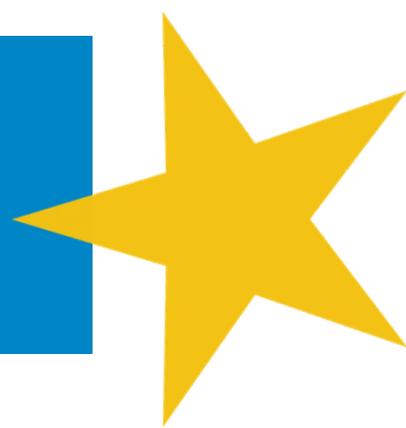


Individuals with Intellectual Disability can have stronger visual processing skills than auditory processing skills. For this reason, the use of visual supports can be implemented to facilitate learning, help with communication, manage expectations, provide reminders, and help to develop and maintain skills and independence. Visual supports can also help lessen power struggles between individuals and their caregivers. In this workshop, participants will learn why visual supports can help and how to implement them throughout the day. Additionally, specific resources will be shared that have been developed by the Adult Down Syndrome Center in Park Ridge, Illinois.

Katie Frank, PhD, OTR/L, has worked as an occupational therapist at the Adult Down Syndrome Center since 2016 and in the field of occupational therapy since 2001. Dr. Frank earned her degree in occupational therapy from Saint Louis University and her PhD in Disability Studies from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Most of her work has been with individuals with Down syndrome of all ages. Dr. Frank's experience includes treatment and evaluation as well as facilitating groups for people with Down syndrome, conducting trainings for staff, families, and caregivers, and offering a variety of other educational opportunities across the United States. Her research has been published in peer-reviewed journals. She is a past-President of Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group-USA.

# Dr. Katie Frank

3:45 - 5:00PM



## Cultivating Effective Social Skills for Successful Community Participation



Social skills are not inherent. They are an abstract concept that most individuals with Intellectual Disability need to be taught and learn. In this interactive workshop, Katie will introduce common social skill challenges and offer strategies to teach skills to facilitate socially appropriate behavior and form meaningful relationships. Resources developed from social skills groups offered at the Adult Down Syndrome Center in Park Ridge, Illinois will be shared.

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