

The Role of Transdisciplinarity in Neurodiversity Care

- Dr. Liliane Rocha, DBH, BCBA, QBA

Abstract:

As our understanding of neurodiversity evolves, so must the approaches used to support and empower neurodivergent individuals. Traditional siloed models of care often fail to address the complex and multifaceted needs of this population. This presentation explores the critical role of transdisciplinarity in neurodiversity care, emphasizing the need to integrate perspectives from behavioral analysis, medicine, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, education, and lived experience.

Participants will learn how transdisciplinary collaboration fosters holistic, person-centered, and neurodiversity-affirming care by moving away from deficit-based models and toward capacity-based and autonomy-supportive frameworks. The discussion will highlight practical strategies for breaking down barriers between disciplines, improving communication, and creating care plans that prioritize the well-being, self-determination, and quality of life of neurodivergent individuals.

This session will provide a roadmap for clinicians, educators, and community stakeholders beyond interdisciplinary cooperation toward transdisciplinarity, valuing shared knowledge, mutual learning, and the active engagement of neurodivergent individuals in shaping their own care.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Liliane Rocha, DBH, BCBA, QBA, is a licensed behavior analyst in New York City with extensive experience in ABA, quality improvement, and crisis management. She holds a master's degree from the Graduate Center (CUNY) and a doctorate from the Cummings Graduate Institute for Behavioral Health. Interested in analytical strategies to improve health systems, she aims to train professionals to serve individuals with ASD. Additionally, Dr. Rocha is a certified ACT Matrix facilitator and uses the Prosocial Matrix in her trainings.

