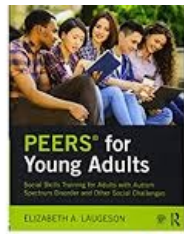




# PEERS® Social Skills for Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum in Northeast Indiana: Learn How to Make and Maintain Relationships



★★★★★ 58

**Presented by Melissa Dubie and Betty Lou Rowe, Educational Consultants, Indiana Resource Center for Autism (IRCA) at Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, Indiana University Bloomington**

**Location: Via Zoom (8 weeks)**

**Overview:** PEERS® is a world-renowned evidence based social skills curriculum for young adults with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and other social challenges. It was first developed at UCLA by PEERS® Clinical director, Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson. Melissa and Betty Lou were trained by Dr. Laugeson and became PEERS® certified trainers in the fall of 2019. The curriculum focus is on creating and maintaining friendships. The topics include trading information to start and maintain conversations, meeting friends, electronic communication, use of humor, entering and exiting conversations, get-togethers, dating etiquette (letting someone know you like them, asking someone on a date, going on dates, dating do's and don't), handling disagreements, handling direct and indirect bullying. The training will include didactic instruction, PowerPoints, small group practice in breakout rooms, instruction for get-togethers outside of class, and video role plays. In addition, there is a one hour a week meeting with your caregiver or trusted friend to coach on assisting adults on applying the skills outside of the classes.

## **Friendship and Dating Classes**

**When:** Summer: June 8-August 5, 2021 for 8 weeks

**Dates:** Tuesday and Thursdays from 2-4pm or 6-8pm (choose best time for your schedule)

**Time:** 2 times a week, 2 hours each session

**Location:** Virtually via Zoom

**Cost:** Free (Paid through AWS Foundation grant)

## **To be eligible, you must live in one of the following counties:**

- Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Grant, Huntington, Kosciusko, Noble, Steuben, Wabash, Wells and Whitley
- Be an adult with autism between the ages of 21-35
- Be able to have a two-way conversation, speak in complete sentences, ask, and answer questions on Zoom

**If you are interested in participating**, we would like to meet you and share more information about the program before you say yes. **Please contact:**  
Melissa Dubie at [mdubie@indiana.edu](mailto:mdubie@indiana.edu) or Betty Lou Rowe at [bettrowe@iu.edu](mailto:bettrowe@iu.edu) or call 812-855-6508 to ask for Melissa or Betty Lou.