



**Curriculum Vitae
Donnie Winokur**



Educating communities about invisible disabilities

DONNIE WINOKUR

PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

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Donnie is available for: speaking, writing, training, consulting, and project development and management. Donnie's ability to weave her family's compelling narrative into her work builds meaningful capacity for those who attend her programs or become project partners. She and her husband reside in Roswell, Georgia, with their two twenty-year-olds, Quinn, also an FASD Service Dog, who is the successor of their son's internationally beloved Service Dog, Chancer, and Autumn, their cat.

PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

Founding, Executive Director:

FASDempowered – *Educating communities about invisible disabilities*

The Chancer Chronicles LLC. – *Creating awareness of the benefits of service dogs for individuals who experience behavioral, developmental, psychiatric and cognitive challenges*

Positions include:

Developmental Disabilities Expert, Author, Industry Content Provider, Community Builder, Keynote and Inspirational, Conference Speaker, Consultant, Educational Trainer, Curriculum, and Program Developer, Project Manager

Training for: First Responders
Attorneys
Judges
Mitigation Specialists
Special Investigators
Legislators

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)
Healthcare Providers
Educators
Caregivers
Families
Adoptive and Foster Parents

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017 CHANCER – *How One Good Boy Saved Another, a Memoir*, published August 22, 2017, Grand Harbor Press/Amazon Publishing

2013 - Present

Consulting with various states, federal, national, international and university organizations, educating of invisible disabilities and the impact on the individuals who experience them and their caregivers and providers. Creating awareness of the benefits of assistance dogs for individuals who experience behavioral, developmental, psychiatric, and cognitive challenges.

2009 – 2013

Consultant with *Georgia State University's Center for Leadership in Disability*; in Project Management and Program Training Development; Scope of work included developing a Training Protocol for Parent Detailers to educate pediatricians in surveillance, screening, and referrals for children presenting with autism and other developmental disabilities. The training is currently utilized statewide through *Parent to Parent Georgia*.

2005 – 2009

Founding, Executive Director; *NOFAS Georgia*, the non-profit state affiliate of the *National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS)*; Directorship included; crafting a 5-Year Strategic Plan, Work Plan, creating partnerships with corporations for funding and development, working with an international advertising agency to design a marketing campaign on prevention of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs) including a logo for *NOFAS Georgia*; trained volunteers and lead parent support groups, networked with other state agencies to develop awareness of FASD prevalence, and began relationships to educate justice system professionals. Lobbying legislators in Wash. D.C. was a key component of this work.

2000 – 2005

Founding, Executive Director; *The National Institute of Body and Soul™*; a non-profit educational program for girls, teens and women to build stronger self-esteem and body image through spirituality; supervised staff to create and facilitate programs for schools, Jewish Community Centers, conferences, camps, women and children's shelters, *Jewish Women's Federation Programs*

and the *Georgia Psychological Association for Women*. The curriculum is now being implemented at *The Harvard Center for Eating Disorders*.

PRESENTATIONS/TRAINING; INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL, REGIONAL, STATE

Understanding Developmental Disabilities

- Panel Participant, *“Summit: Back and to the Future: 1973-2013: 40 Years of Prenatal Alcohol Exposure & FASD”*, Atlantic City, N.J. 2013
- Opening Speaker, Centers for Disease Control FAS Prevention Team’s CHOICES grantees annual meeting at CDC/CCHP/NCBDDD/FAS, *“FASDs: One Family’s Experience”*, Atlanta, Georgia, 2012
- Keynote Speaker for 1-day Seminar, 4children.ca, *“You Can’t See What You Don’t Know: Understanding the Abilities of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders”*, Powell River, B.C. Canada, 2012
- Poster: *“Parents as Detailers to Increase Primary Care Provider Referrals for Early Intervention: A Pilot Project”*, Robert C. Wild, MS, MPH, Stacey Ramirez, Donnie Winokur, Daniel Crimmins, PhD, & Ida Bledsoe, LMSW, MPH, Center for Leadership in Disability, Institute of Public Health, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, 2011
- Keynote Speaker for 2-day Seminar, Linda Purdy Consulting *“Understanding the Hidden Abilities of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders”*, Ontario, Canada, 2011
- Speaker, First International Conference on *“FASD and Sexuality”* - Northern Light United Church, Juneau, Alaska, 2011
- Keynote Speaker, 7th Annual FASD Symposium sponsored by the State of Mississippi’s Mental Health Department, *“Growing into, not out of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders”*, Jackson, Mississippi, 2010

Ethical Implications of Diagnosing Developmental Disabilities

- Presenter: *“Handle With Care – The Ethical Implications of Labels and Diagnoses for FASD-affected Individuals, their Caregivers and our Culture”*, Alberta, Canada, 2014
- Feature Presenter and Plenary Panel Participant: *“Handle With Care – The Ethical Implications of Labels and diagnoses for FASD-affected individuals, their Caregivers and our Culture”*, 6th National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with FASD; Changing the Conversation, Vancouver, Canada, 2014

Developmental Disabilities and the Justice System

- Presenter, 2018, *You Can't See What You Don't Know*, 2018 Georgia CASA Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2018
- Presenter: *"Human Trafficking – The Lost Children*, 17th National Citizen Review Panel Conference, Mackinac, Michigan, 2018
- Presenter: *"FASD, What you should know about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder"*, 16th National Citizen Review Panel Conference, Anchorage, Alaska, 2017
- Special Guest Speaker at the Georgia Office of the Child's Advocate 2016 Statewide Child Abuse Protocol Summit
- Keynote Speaker: *"Preventing the Perfect Storm, FASD and the Justice System,"* 9th Georgia Center for Child Advocacy Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2015
- Presenter: *"Developmental and Behavioral Implications of Prenatally Exposed Infants: What you need to Know"*, Symposium; Promoting Safe & Stable Families, Atlanta, Georgia, 2015
- Trainer: *"You Can't See What You Don't Know – Understanding the Differing Abilities of Individuals Living with Developmental Disabilities"*, Court Appointed Special Advocates of Middle Georgia (CASA), 2014
- Trainer: *"FASD and the Justice System"* Special Assistant Attorney Generals, (SAAGs) Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2013
- Presenter: *"FASD and the Justice System"*, Georgia Youth Law Conference, (GYLC) Atlanta, Ga. 2013
- Trainer, Workshop: *"Preventing the Perfect Storm", FASD and the Justice System*, Office of the Georgia Capital Defender; Atlanta, Ga. 2012

Developmental Disabilities and Service Dogs

- Presenter: *"Working Brains of Service Dogs"* for "The Fido Project" – Georgia Tech University, Atlanta, Ga. 2014
- Speaker, Workshop, *"External Brains on Four Paws"*, 6th National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with FASD: Changing the Conversation, Vancouver, Canada, 2013
- Speaker, Workshop, *"External Brains on Four Paws: reaching FASD-affected individuals through fur-covered intelligence and healing"*, 2013 Alberta FASD Conference, Calgary, Canada, 2013
- Speaker, The Papillion Center, *"Understanding Children from Hard Places, Including Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders"; "Using Service Dogs for Children with FASD"*, Hendersonville, Tennessee, 2012
- Keynote Speaker, 7th Annual Professional Seminar Series, *"Growing up with FASD and the*

help of a certified FASD Assistance Dog", The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Suicide Prevention Program in partnership with the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, Supreme Court of Georgia Committee on Justice for Children, and the Marcus Institute's Critical Issues Facing Special Needs and At-Risk Children and Youth: Atlanta, Georgia, 2010

- Poster Presenter, 3rd International Conference on FASD, *"Behavioral Assistance Dogs for Individuals with FASD; Creating unconditional companionship through intervention and support"* Victoria, B.C., Canada, 2009
- Poster Presenter, 13th International Conference on Intellectual Disabilities, *"Service dogs: Taking the 'dis' out of disabilities in children with intellectual or behavioral disabilities"* Cape Town, South Africa, Yvonne W. Fry-Johnson, MD, MSCR, Suzanne Powell, MPH and Donnie Winokur, 2008
- Opening Speaker, FASD Training Center Grantees Bi-annual meeting at CDC/CCHP/NCBDDD/FAS Prevention Team; *"Intervention with Behavioral Assistance Dogs for Individuals living with FASD"* Atlanta, Georgia, 2008

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

- *Introduction to Behavioral Health and Addictive Diseases*, National Alliance of Mental Illness, Georgia, Certification, 2017
- Certified Service Dog Handler, 4 Paws for Ability, Inc. – Service Dog Agency, , 2015
- *Into Action: Fetal Alcohol/Neurobehavioral Conditions - understanding of a brain-based approach*; FAFASD, 2015:CEUs
- *Policies, practices to reduce the risk of abuse, including sexual violence against people with FASDs*, Dr. Nora Baladerian, 2015: CEUs
- *The Importance of Belonging*, Dr. David Pitonyak, Georgia Advocacy Office, 2015: CEUs
- The Georgia Department of Education, State Advisory Panel for Special Education, Certification, 2010 - 2015
- *6th National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Changing the Conversation*, Interprofessional Continuing Education - The University of British Columbia, 2014: CEUs
- *FASD and Human Rights Seminar*, Minnesota Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, 2014
- *Ethical Issues of FASDs*, CDC Frontier Regional Training Center, 2014: CEUs
- *Prevention Intervention and Professional Ethics as Viewed through the lens of FASDs*, CDC Frontier Regional Training Center, 2014: CEUs
- *Understanding Sexual Development and Healthy Sexual Function in Individuals with*

Developmental Disabilities, AADD Family Support Center, 2014

- *Hidden Victims: Protecting Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, Missing and Exploited Children's Program, 2014: CEUs
- *Integrating, Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being in Child Welfare*, Pal-Tech, 2014: CEUs
- *"Alternatives to Incarceration for Criminal Offenders with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities"*, The Criminal Justice Advocacy Program (CJAP) of The Arc of NJ, 2014: CEUs
- *Supporting Individuals with an FASD across the Lifetime*, CDC Frontier Regional Training Center, 2013: CEUs
- *The 5th International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research: Results and Relevance Integrating Research, Policy, and Promising Practice Around the World*, Interprofessional Continuing Education, University of British Columbia 2013: CEUs
- *Sexuality and FASD*, CDC Frontier Regional Training Center, 2013: CEUs
- *Intellectual and Developmental Delays in the Forensic Context*, CDC Frontier Regional Training Center, 2013: CEUs
- *FASD Identification and Management*, CDC Frontier Regional Training Center, 2013: CEUs
- *Interviewing Children with Disabilities*, Missing and Exploited Children Program, 2013: CEUs
- *Life After Loss: Contemporary Grief Counseling and Therapy*, CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2013: CEUs
- *Fifth National Biennial Conference on Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: It's a Matter of Justice*, Interprofessional Continuing Education, The University of British Columbia, 2012: CEUs
- *Trauma, PTSD & Traumatic Grief: Effective Assessments and Immediate Interventions*, American Academy of Bereavement, CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2012: CEUs
- *Missing Children with Special Needs*, Missing and Exploited Children Program, (MECP) 2012: CEUs
- *Bipolar Disorder*, Jewish Family & Career Services; Disabilities Division/Tools for Living: Essential Learning, 2012: CEUs
- *FASD: Why Isn't this Person Responding to Treatment*, Jewish Family & Career Services; Disabilities Division/Tools for Living: Essential Learning, 2012: CEUs
- *Human Sexuality for Students with Special Needs*, Jewish Family & Career Services; Disabilities Division/Tools for Living: Essential Learning, 2012: CEUs
- *Person-Centered Planning*, Jewish Family & Career Services; Disabilities Division/Tools for Living: Essential Learning, 2012: CEUs
- *Grief and Loss*, Jewish Family & Career Services; Disabilities Division/Tools for Living: Essential Learning, 2012: CEUs
- *Effective Behavior Support* with David Pitonyak, Georgia Advocacy Office, 2011: Training, CEUs

- *Completion of R.R.P.D., American Sign Language, 2011*
 - *Trauma, PTSD and Traumatic Grief, American Academy of Bereavement, CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2010: CEUs*
 - *Motivational Interviewing, Georgia Advocacy Office, 2010: CEUs*
 - *Critical Issues: Reactive Attachment Disorders: Parts I and II, The University of Georgia School of Social Work, 2010: CEUs*
 - *Critical Issues Facing Special Needs and At-Risk Children and Youth: 7th Annual Professional Seminar Series, Parts I and II, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, 2010: CEUs*
 - *Stats RRTC- The 2008 Disability Status Report – Employment and Disability Institute, Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations, 2010: CEUs*
 - *Effective Behavior Support with David Pitonyak, Georgia State University Center for Leadership in Disability, 2010: CEUs*
 - *Triumph Through the Challenges of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Double Arc, Nofas Ohio – Programs, 2009: Parent and Special Educational Facilitator Trainer*
 - *Certification; SibShops workshops, Sibling Support Project, Facilitator Training: 2009*
 - *Reactive Attachment Disorder and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Duke University, School of Social Work, 2009: CEUs*
 - *Certified Service Dog Handler 4 Paws for Ability, Inc. – Service Dog Agency, 2008*
 - **The following series of Continuing Education Units were sponsored by:**
 - *The Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, The Marcus Autism Center at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA), University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, The Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic at Emory University School of Law and the Supreme Court of Georgia’s Committee on Justice for Children, 2008: CEUs*
 - *Brain Development: Baby Brains, Parent’s Rights, Child’s Rights*
 - *ADHD – An Overview of 20 years of research in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder*
 - *The New Revised DSM: Cracking the Code*
 - *Autism Spectrum Disorder: Multiple pathways to working the Puzzle*
 - *PTSD and Reactive Attachment Disorder*
 - *Depression and Bi-Polar*
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- *Attachment Disorders, American Academy of Bereavement, CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2007: CEUs*
 - *Grief & Depression, American Academy of Bereavement, CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2006: CEUs*
 - *Attachment Disorders: Parts I and Part II, American Academy of Bereavement CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2006: CEUs*

- *Parent Loss*, American Academy of Bereavement, CMI Education Institute, Inc., 2005: CEUs

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- State Advisory Panel on Special Education, Georgia, 2009-2015
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment ACT (CAPTA PANEL) Citizen Review Panel; 2012 – present
- CAPTA committee; Georgia Children’s Justice Advisory Task Force (CJATF) 2012 – present
- Georgia Office of Capital Defenders FASD and Justice Training, 2012 – present
- All About Developmental Disabilities and the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies; developed Gap Analysis on state wide services for individuals and families living with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs) 2008
- Curriculum Development and Facilitator Training for Jewish Aids Network of Atlanta, 1995-1996
- Curriculum Development and Facilitator Training for AID Atlanta, HIV/AIDS education; high school/college students, 1994-1995

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERSHIPS

- Former Member, Committee on Developmental Disabilities, Jewish Family & Career Services (JF&CS), 2009 – 2014
- Former Member Board of Directors, All About Developmental Disabilities (AADD), 2005 – 2013
- Former Member of The Atlanta Press Club, 2010 – 2013

GRANT RECIPIENT

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities, Partnership Grant, 2008

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities, Innovative Grant, 2009

HONORS AND AWARDS

Book: *“Nuzzle – Love Between a Boy and his Service Dog”*, 2011 Publisher; Better Endings – New Beginnings

- 2012 Mom’s Choice Award (Juvenile Level 1)
- 2012 First Place Reader Views Award for Early Reader (6-8)
- 2012 Parents’ Choice Award Winner
- 2012 Finalist in Readers Choice About.com Special Needs Children’s Book 2012 International Book Award Winner (Animals/Pets Novelty category)

Audio Book – “Nuzzle – Love Between a Boy and his Service Dog”, 2011, Produced by Creative Digital Productions

- Mom’s Choice 2012 Gold Award Juvenile Audio Book
- 2012 Recommended Audio Book by Parent’s Choice

Book: “My Invisible World – My brother his disability and his service dog”, Publisher; Better Endings – New Beginnings, 2009: (Co-author with Morasha Winokur)

- 2010 Mom’s Choice Gold Award for Outstanding Young Contributor Reader Views 2010 First Place Award for Children’s’-Young Reader (8-12)
- 2010 Reader Views Kids Award for Best Children’s’ Book of the Year
- Featured on CNN.Com’s “Young People Who Rock” 2009

OTHER SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Tommy Nobis Outstanding Volunteer Award, All About Development Disabilities, 2007
- Featured *Member in the Spotlight*, NOFAS, 2008
- Various awards for directing and producing educational CD-ROMS for Discovery Multimedia, and Smithsonian Institute 1992-1994
- Various awards for Random House/Broderbund’s Living Book series, 1995-1997 featured in Newsweek Magazine (1997)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Published Research, Articles, Books

- Industry Article: Yvonne W. Fry-Johnson, MD, MSCR, Suzanne Powell, MPH and Donnie Winokur (2014) “Service dogs: Taking the ‘dis’ out of disabilities in children with intellectual or behavioral “disabilities” prepared for special edition of the International Journal Child and Adolescent Health “Environmental Health: the home, the school and the community” special edition - Nova Science Publishers, Inc.: 2009 and 2014
- “A Dog’s Devotion Brings Healing”, Guideposts Magazine, September 2012, Donnie Winokur
- “ADOPTION + DISABILITY = WONDER DOG: The story of my son’s service dog, Chancer, and how his message is being barked around the world”, Adoption Today Magazine, October 2012,

Donnie Winokur

- Mom's Choice Entro Magazine Spring 2012, "*Building Bridges to Success for children Living with Invisible Disorders*" Donnie Winokur and Jodee Kulp
- Children's book author, Donnie Winokur, illustrator, Jodee Kulp, *Nuzzle –love between a boy and his service dog*; *Better Endings - New Beginnings*, released November, 2011
- "*Finding Faith in Fur and Four Paws for my son with FASD*", Living with FASD, Spring 2010, pp.13-16 FASD Support Network of Saskatchewan, Donnie Winokur
- "*FASD: Growing into not out of a lifelong disability*", Adoption Today Magazine, July 2010, pp.16-19, Donnie Winokur
- Adult book author, Donnie Winokur, **CHANCER – How One Good Boy Saved Another, A Memoir**, Grand Harbor Press/Amazon Publishing, Published August 22, 2017

Donnie's family's story was featured in The New York Times Magazine on February 5th 2012. This lead story was one of the top ten articles in The New York Times globally for the year of 2012. Their journey of adoption, disability and their son's service dog was also profiled in the May 2012 issue of Reader's Digest Canada, Readers Digest India (September 2012), Marie Claire Australia, (May 2012), XL Seminal (Spain 2012) and was the feature article in the September 2012 Guide Post magazine.

EDUCATION

Emory University, Psychology, 1979 B.A

REFERENCES

Medical:

Dr. Lyn Laborial 323 226-3902
LAC&USC Healthcare Network
Developmental Pediatrics
VIP FASD Clinic
mlaborial@dhs.lacounty.gov

Elizabeth Parra Dang, MPH 404 498-3947
Behavioral Scientist
Acting Team Lead
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention Team
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
edang@cdc.gov efp0@cdc.gov

Child Abuse and Neglect:

Deb Farrell 770 642-6722 Ext. 307
Project Coordinator, Georgia Panel Child Abuse and Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA), Citizen
Review Panel, Children’s Justice Act Task Force Coordinator
debfarrell@caresolutions.com

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Children’s Advocacy Centers of Georgia
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FASD Justice:

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Project Director
FASD Legal Issues Resource Center
University of Washington
Fetal Alcohol and Drug Unit (FADU)
faslaw@u.washington.edu

Educational:

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State of Alaska FASD Education Director
debevensen@alaska.net

Debbie Gay 404 657-9959
State Special Education Director
Georgia Department of Education
DGay@doe.k12.ga.us

Project Development and Training:

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The ARC Georgia Office
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Service Dogs:

Karen Shirk 937 374-0385
Founding, Director of 4 Paws for Ability
(Assistance Dog Training Facility since 1999)
Karen@4pawsforability.org

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Director, BrainLab
Director, Animal-Computer Interaction Lab
School of Interactive Computing
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