SAVE THE DATE!
2016 START NATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The START National Training Institute “It Takes a Village: The Value of Community Networks” will feature nationally recognized keynote speakers and presenters, networking opportunities, interactive sessions, and panel discussions that will provide information for practice change to improve the lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and behavioral health needs.

Participants
The START National Training Institute will be attended by an estimated 300 participants who are dedicated to improving the lives of persons with IDD and behavioral health needs, including:

- Healthcare professionals
- Social workers and direct support staff
- Self-advocates and families
- Administrators and community members

Content Themes
Participants will be able to create their own conference experience by choosing sessions from five content strands:

- Working Within the System of Support
- Positive Psychology
- Health and Wellness for Persons with IDD and Behavioral Health Needs
- Children, IDD and Behavioral Health
- Improving Mental Health Assessments & Practices

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dan Tomasulo
PhD, TEP, MFA, MAPP

Dan holds a PhD in psychology, an MFA in writing, and is the first licensed psychologist and psycho-dramatist to graduate from University of Pennsylvania’s Master of Applied Positive Psychology program in 2012. In addition to teaching at NJCU, he is an assistant instructor for Martin Seligman, The Father of Positive Psychology, at UPenn for the MAPP program.

He writes for Psychology Today on group therapy and PsychCentral.com on practical applications of positive psychology. Recently honored by Sharecare as a top 10 online influencer on the topic of depression, he is also the creator of Interactive-Behavioral Therapy, the most widely used form of therapy for people with ID.

As an Associate Professor of Psychology at NJCU he created the first Positive Psychology course to become a permanent full-term offering. He is co-author of Healing Trauma: The Power of Group Treatment for People with Intellectual Disabilities, the American Psychological Association’s first book on the subject. He is also the first psychologist to win the statewide healthcare provider award from the ARC of New Jersey.

Confessions of a Former Child: A Therapist’s Memoir is his latest book by Graywolf, and his plays Sticks, Stones and the R word, and Negatively Oriented Therapy won awards for the International play competition for RETHINK Theater Challenge. He is currently working on his next book: The Participants, a memoir about his involvement in deinstitutionalizing the residents of Willowbrook.