

# An Interdisciplinary Approach to Promoting Accessible and Inclusive Healthcare for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



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## Background

- Individuals with IDD experience difficulty accessing preventative healthcare due to both personal and environmental barriers often as simple as provider bias (Williamson et al., 2017)
- When appropriate accommodations are not provided, individuals with IDD are left without a means to access interventions, despite often having an increased risk for chronic conditions (e.g., Morin et al., 2012).
- Individuals with IDD have a positive response when receiving interventions that are paired with appropriate evidence-based supports (e.g., Ma & Ginis, 2018)

## Approach

### Best Practice

- Raises awareness of ableist practices and negative impact on well-being
- Promotes inclusive, accessible, and neurodiversity-affirming approaches to care

### Evidence-based

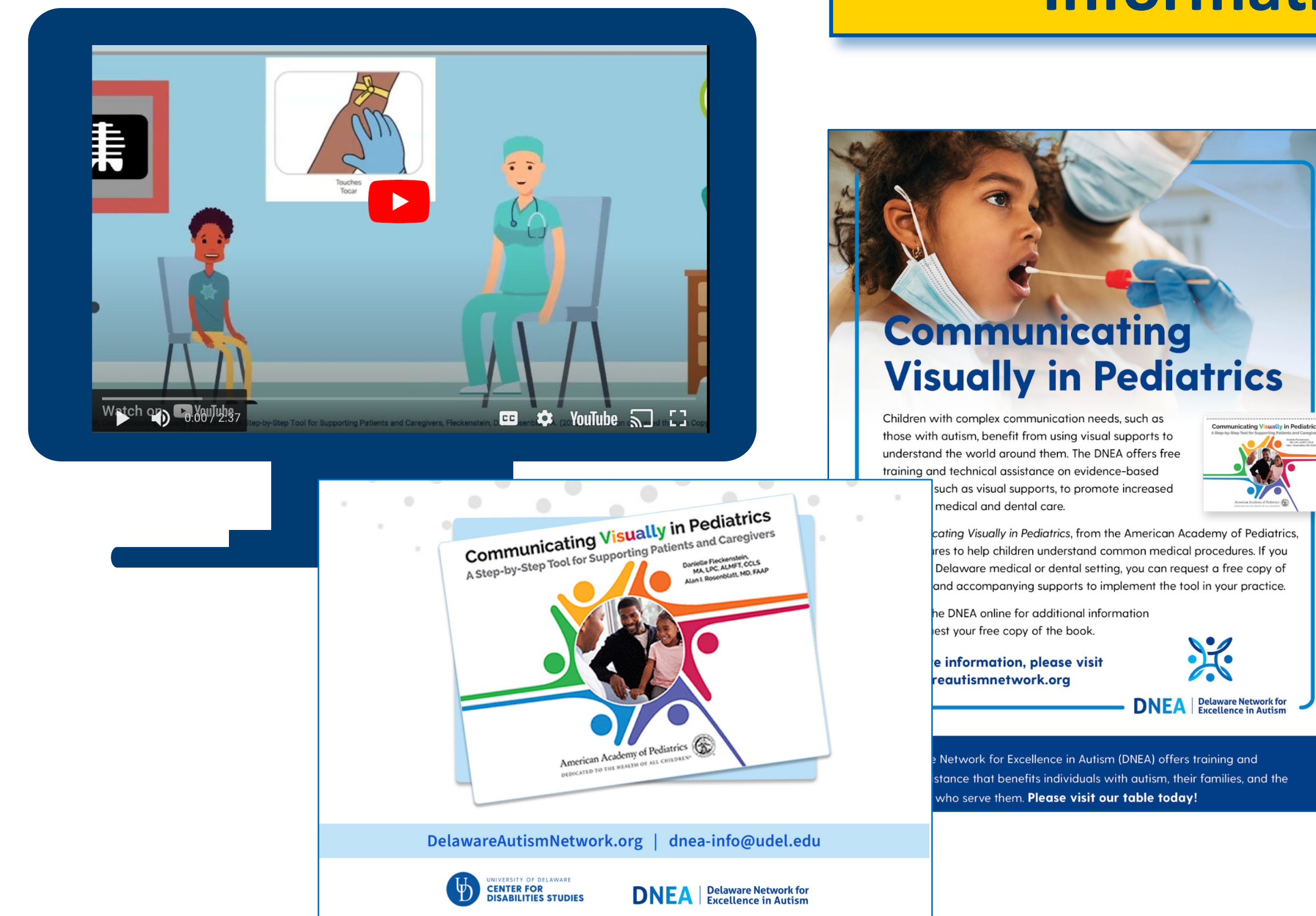
- Highlights how known evidence-based practices can be adapted for use in medical, dental, and mental health settings
- Promotes the use of research-supported tools and resources

### Collaborative

- Includes strategic partnerships with community hospitals and medical centers
- Leverages interdisciplinary expertise of LEND network partners

## Core Components

### Information Dissemination Campaign



### Resources for Providers

- Multi-media campaign
- Designed to raise awareness about evidence-based strategies for ensuring access to healthcare
- Promotes inclusive practices and neurodiversity-affirming care

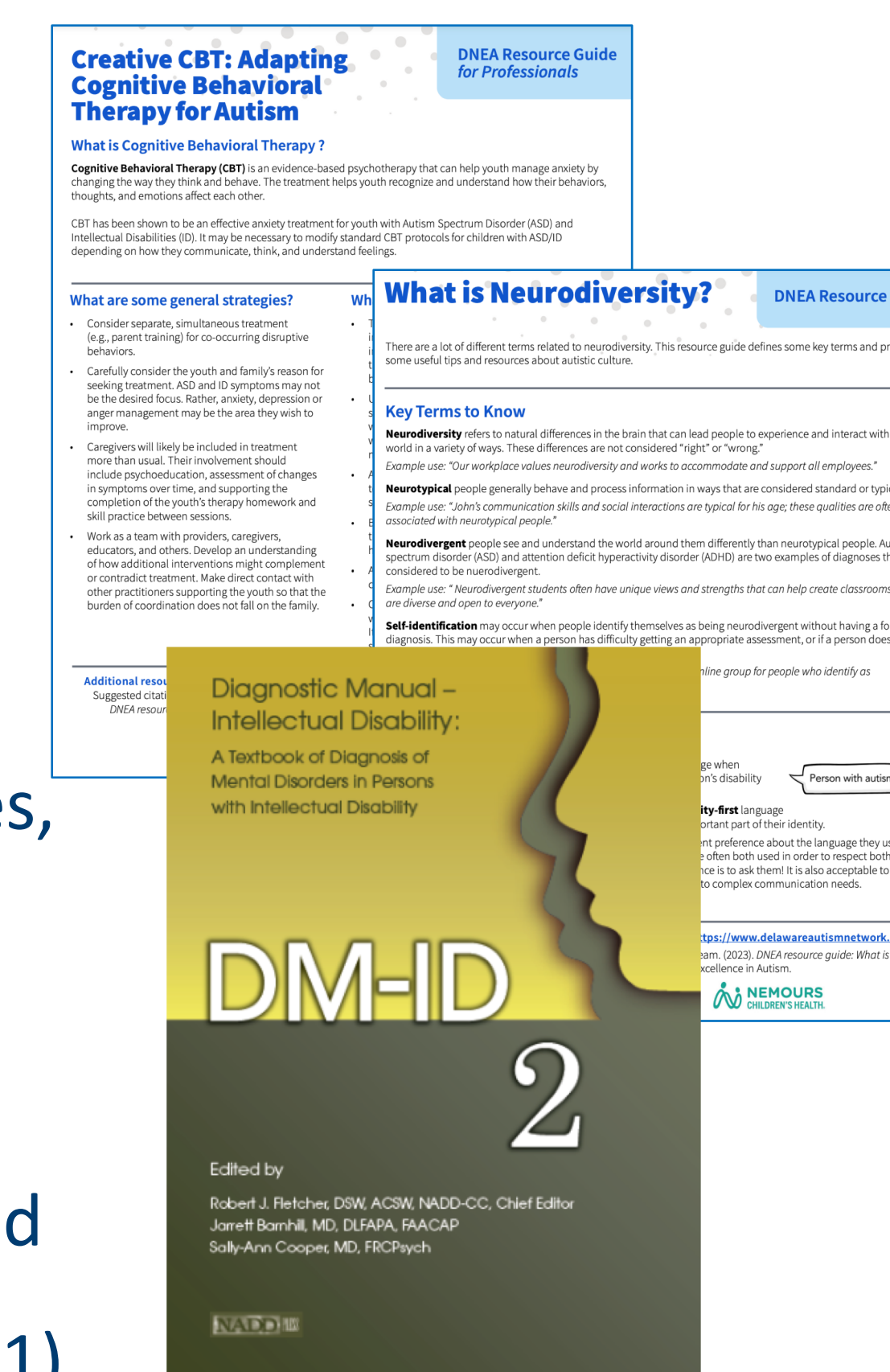
### Resources for Families

- Designed to raise awareness about evidence-based approaches that can be used to remove barriers during medical visits
- Includes advocacy resources available in English and Spanish
- Disseminated through website, listserv, libraries, and parent organizations

### Statewide Training and Technical Assistance Package

#### Training topics include:

- Ableism in treatment approaches
- Neurodiversity-affirming evaluation and treatment
- Masking and the impact on mental health
- Use of evidence-based practices such as visual supports, task analyses, and communication boards in medical settings
- Disability etiquette
- Technical assistance for tools such as the *DM-ID-II* (Fletcher, 2018) and *Communicating Visually in Pediatrics* (Fleckenstein & Rosenblatt, 2021)



## Delaware Impact

666 Resources disseminated to the community

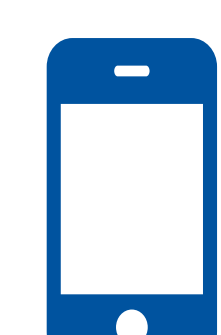
743 Delawareans trained in one of our healthcare-related trainings

37 Libraries carry resources to support families seeking accessible healthcare

## Acknowledgment

The Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism (DNEA) was established by Senate Bill 93 to provide training and technical assistance that benefits individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who serve them. The DNEA is funded annually by the Delaware Health Fund Advisory Committee via pass-through funding from the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services within Delaware Health and Social Services.

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