



## PARENT IMPLEMENTED MODELS FOR AUTISM: GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

A Message from Dr. Rick:

Well, I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is that a flurry of very recent scientific reviews ([Dijkstra, et al](#); [Francis, et al](#)) of parent implement models that use a developmental relationship and play-based (PIM DRP) approach have consistently concluded that PIM DRP are very effective both in empowering parents to engage with their hard to engage autistic children AND in helping the children improve in their relationship abilities. This is no surprise to followers of The PLAY Project! That's the good news, but wait—there's more good news. In California, an Easter Seals Early Start (birth to three) program has been approved to provide The PLAY Project for the youngest children with 'red flags' for autism while waiting for an accurate diagnosis!

The bad news is, across the country, children on the spectrum continue to suffer long waits for diagnosis and for intervention when they could be getting PIM DRP before they even receive a diagnosis! It's hard to understand why so very few insurance companies are covering PIM DRP services even though autism has been determined to be a biological, often genetically influenced, neurologic medical condition.

In November, on a national stage at the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) conference, I will be presenting the following 5 arguments as to why insurance companies should cover PIM DRP: *First*, there is a significant unmet need which PIM DRP can help meet because these models are efficient, much less costly, and can serve large numbers of children. *Second*, PIM DRP provides the intensity that autistic children need to reach their full potential. *Third*, the research evidence is now solid with multiple reviews indicating benefit. *Fourth*, PIM DRP especially addresses the social challenges that are at the core of autism. *Fifth*, PIM DRP adds a new and complementary approach to therapist delivered services. After all, one type of intervention cannot meet the needs of all children with this diverse condition.

Empowering parents to help their own children is a public policy idea whose time has come! Let's get this done and turn the bad news into great news for families. Let's all reach out to our insurance companies and let them know that they can get children off wait lists and serve many more children at less expense.





Cost: \$395 | \$95 for Families

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We train professionals to coach parents to help their young children with autism reach their full potential through play and we help parents learn the basics of PLAY through our workshops.

PLAY continues to train professionals and parents from across the globe — over 500 participants from the U.S, Australia, Canada, England, Guam, Ireland, the Netherlands and Spain participated in our PLAY Workshops this spring and summer.

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Watch or listen to Dr. Rick's episode on the [Embracing Autism Podcast](#) with Lia McCabe of [Autism Wish](#).

Watch by clicking the image below!



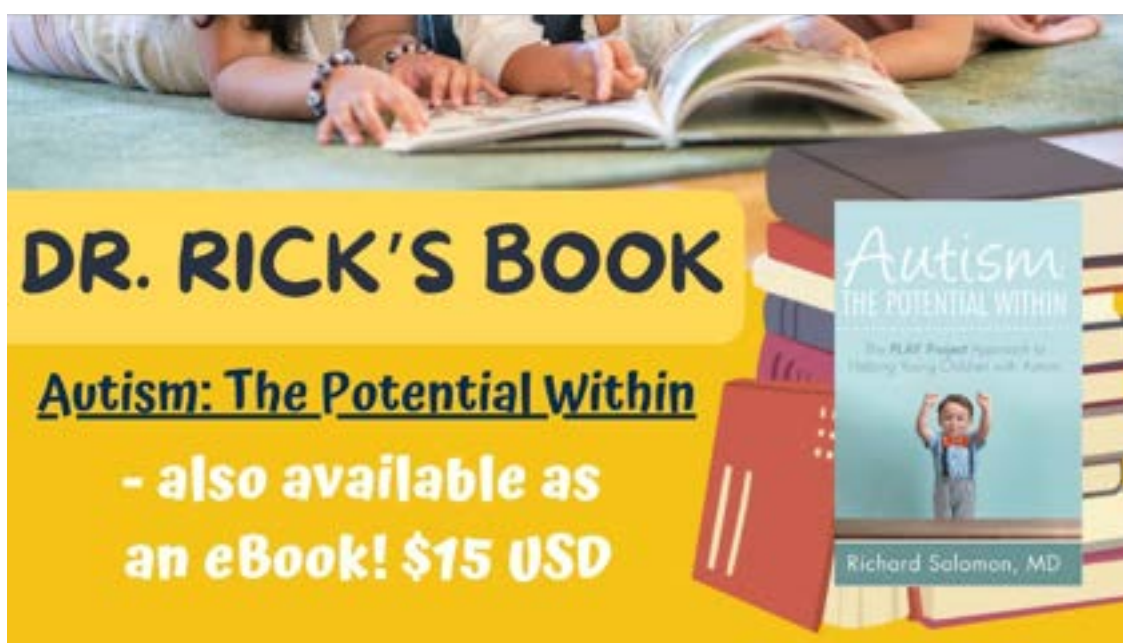
The PLAY Project is working hard to further our mission and vision to serve families, by training military early interventionists and rehab professionals to provide the PLAY model & services to military families both overseas and stateside. We partnered with a special group of military professionals to receive PLAY training during our recent August workshop. Over 20 military professionals received training to coach parents to help their young children with autism.





Keep an eye out for Dr. Rick's article in the AUTISM ADVOCATE Parenting magazine due out in September 2023!

[Check out the magazine here](#)



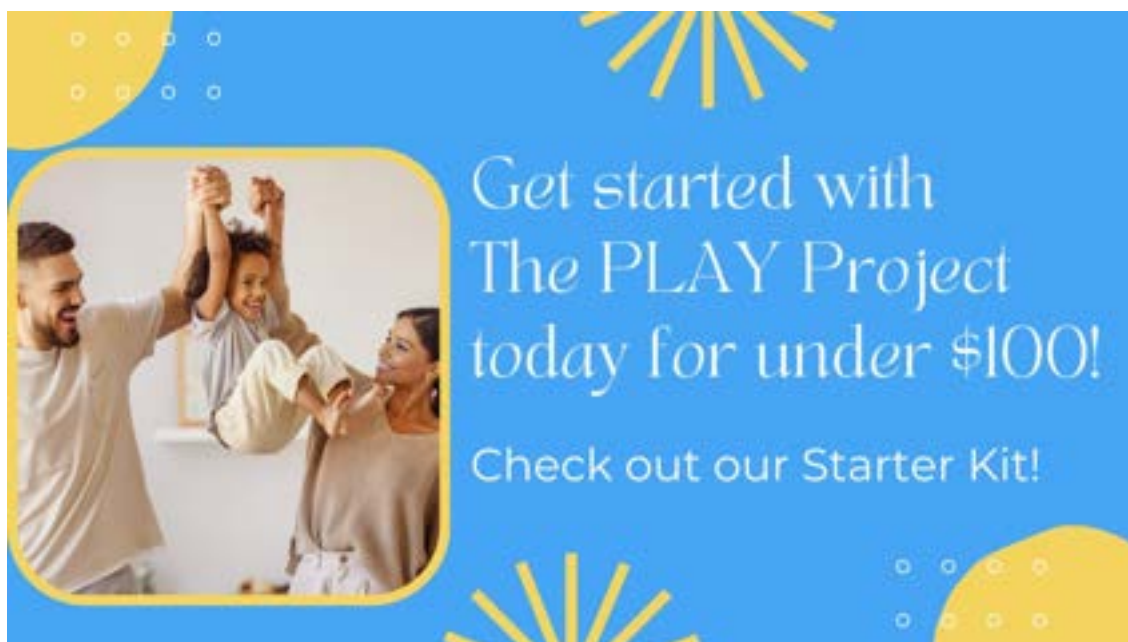
Soon to be available translated in Chinese! Stay tuned!

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- Also available as an eBook! \$10 USD

Soon to be available translated into Spanish! Stay tuned!



We highly recommend that you contact a PLAY Project Consultant providing [TelePLAY services](#) to complete your starter kit! TelePLAY is the innovative ONLINE application of The PLAY Project's autism intensive intervention program for young children with autism and their families. Get PLAY's evidence-based services provided by expert PLAY Project Consultants without leaving home!



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



**Division for  
Early  
Childhood**

of the Council for Exceptional Children

Dr. Rick to present at the [2023 Division for Early Childhood's 39th Annual Conference!](#)

Registration open - check out Dr. Rick on Thursday, November 30th - keynote speaker!



**UPCOMING CERTIFICATION  
COHORTS!**



PLAY Project and Teaching PLAY Certification Training fully prepares professionals in community organizations to deliver evidence-based, intensive early intervention to families of young children with autism. Our manualized, practical approach to parent-implemented intervention has helped [hundreds of professionals](#) to provide needed services to parents and children in their communities.

[Apply for Consultant Certification today!](#)

\*discounted rates for groups and licensed PLAY Project Organizations



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