Project Name: ABA Community Based Social skills training for Young Adults with Autism and other Neurological Disorders: SOAAR Program

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Description: Everyone’s life quality is dependent upon having meaningful things to do, places to go and people to share moments with. Unfortunately, many young adults with autism and other neurological disorders do not have such opportunities. Enriched activities and relationships provide these young adults a context to build independence and engage with others in the community.

SOAAR (Successful Options for Adults with Autism Re-envisioned) is a unique and innovative day program that provides services that are goal-directed, evaluated and based on principles of applied behaviour analysis. The program runs Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and is also available on a part-time basis. Each day is organized with two outings and two teaching periods, which revolve around topics such as conversational training, friendship skills, community safety, using public transportation and food preparation.

McMaster students would be trained and supervised in implementing individual and/or group social/language and adaptive behaviour ABA programs. The placement is 6 hours per week (1 full day). Students would be expected to write a 15-page case study describing their intervention and results, supported by empirical references.

Location: SOAAR Oakville: 341 Kerr St. Oakville
SOAAR Toronto: 618 The Queensway, Etobicoke (between Royal York Rd and Park Lawn, just north of Gardiner Expressway)

Special Requirements: Students will need a car or take the Go Train to either the Oakville Station or Mimico station followed by a 10 bus ride.

Number of Students That Can Be Accommodated: 4