

What the More Than Words® Workshop Offers

The *More Than Words* workshop offers speech-language pathologists a goal-based approach to family-centered early language intervention for children with autism. SLPs learn how to help parents apply simple but powerful strategies to establish mutually pleasurable interactions with their child, within which they can facilitate social and communication skills. Workshop participants also learn Hanen's renowned adult teaching methodology, based on practices proven to be effective with adult learners.

Workshop Content

The workshop's main topics include:

- Learning how the *More Than Words* approach integrates principles of best practice in the treatment for children with ASD, including the child's need for predictability and structure
- Understanding the core intervention strategies of the *More Than Words* approach, which focus on the specific challenges faced by children with ASD (e.g., joint attention and social communication, imitation and toy play)
- Selecting goals that will effectively target the child's communication skills according to his or her developmental stage
- Applying the principles of adult education to provide parents with the training and support they need to implement program strategies flexibly and across contexts
- Assessing video recorded parent-child interactions and providing appropriate feedback to parents to facilitate their consistent application of program strategies within these interactions
- Leading *More Than Words* – The Hanen Program® for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder or Social Communication Difficulties

Upon completion of the workshop, you will be able to:

1. Offer More Than Words® – The Hanen Program® for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder or Social Communication Difficulties

The *More Than Words* workshop certifies you to offer the evidence-based *More Than Words* Program to parents of young children who have both communication and interaction impairments. This includes children with suspected or diagnosed Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as children with social communication impairments.

In leading the *More Than Words* Program, the Hanen Certified SLP helps parents:

- Identify their child's social communication skills and stage of communication
- Use the above information to set realistic and appropriate communication goals collaboratively with the SLP
- Use everyday routines and play activities as contexts for building the child's social and communication skills
- Structure the child's environment to increase his motivation and opportunities to communicate
- Facilitate the development of social communication, including joint attention, within pleasurable, extended interactions
- Facilitate the development of imitation
- Fine-tune their language input to foster expressive and receptive language development
- Facilitate their child's play skills
- Help their child make friends

2. Use the *More Than Words* approach in your individual treatment settings

More Than Words resources and strategies can be easily integrated into in your everyday clinical practice. The tools you will gain for assessment, goal setting and

intervention can be used to guide your intervention for children with ASD. You will also be equipped to effectively integrate parents into your clinical work to ensure the greatest possible social communication outcomes for the child.

3. Gain ongoing opportunities to build your clinical skills

The *More Than Words* workshop fee includes a one-year, renewable Hanen membership designed to continually develop your clinical skills. Membership benefits include access to further professional development opportunities, online trainings, clinical member meetings, continuous research updates, networking opportunities and member-only promotions.

Workshop Format

More Than Words is a 3-day workshop consisting of approximately 6.5 hours of training per day. In a small group, you'll participate in experiential, hands-on activities and discussions that equip you to implement this intervention with children on the autism spectrum and their families. Your workshop instructor will also guide you through the process of teaching adults in the context of a *More Than Words* Program, as well as in the context of everyday clinical practice.

Workshop Resources

The *More Than Words* workshop provides you with all the resources you need to lead the *More Than Words* Program, and to work effectively with parents on an individual basis. **Valued at \$125**, these resources include:

- More Than Words® Making Hanen Happen Leaders Guide – a session-by-session guide which outlines how to offer the entire program and includes all program handouts and checklists.
- More Than Words® Program Slides DVD with embedded video clips – contains slides and video examples for use in each session of a *More Than Words* Program or individual parent training.
- More Than Words® Parent Guidebook – a user-friendly guide for parents to help them build their child's social communication skills naturally during every routines and activities.

For more information on the *More Than Words* Certification Workshop, visit our website at www.hanen.org/MTWorkshop.

Registered for ASHA CEUs!



The Hanen Centre is a Registered Charitable Organization (#11895 2357 RR0001)

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