

Press Release

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DYSLEXIA INSTITUTES ANNOUNCES PROJECT IMPACT! – THE DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY INITIATIVE

Columbus, OH – Dyslexia Institutes of America (DIA), an organization dedicated to the diagnosis and remediation of Dyslexia in people of all ages, in cooperation with The Learning Assistance Corporation (TLAC) a non-profit organization helping remove barriers to education, has unveiled Project IMPACT! – The Dyslexia Friendly Initiative.

Dyslexia is a very common reading-related problem affecting 20% of the population. The reality of the situation is that most dyslexics are not identified until they have been either damaged or pushed to the periphery of society. Once the situation reaches such a point, many children and adults plainly “give up.”

The goal of Project IMPACT! is to bring dyslexia awareness to the forefront and positively impact individuals, schools and the community. In today’s ever-challenging environment, a barrier to reading results in social, educational and economic consequences.

Project IMPACT! is an innovative Dyslexia Screening Project to provide individuals, schools and communities with an informative and comprehensive dyslexia screening program. Joel A. Greff, president of Dyslexia Institutes of America, says “Screenings are not intended to “label” an individual; rather, they are simply used to determine if someone is behind in the skills required for effective reading and at risk for dyslexia.” Greff adds, “As with most things, early detection and early intervention are the most important first steps.”

In schools across the country, over 3 million students attend special education classes. U.S. Department of Health statistics indicate that nearly 80% of the students diagnosed with learning disabilities are in fact dyslexic. While some of these students will find a light and see their way through school, many unfortunately will not. These children will struggle with self-esteem issues, frustration and depression and these issues last a lifetime.

Over the next year, Dyslexia Institutes of America plans on screening school-aged children throughout Central Ohio through Project IMPACT! by working with Schools, Physicians and community groups like the Child Development Council of Franklin County and the Columbus Urban League.

Dyslexia Institutes of America can be reached at (614) 340-5592 or on the web at www.diaohio.org.

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PROJECT IMPACT!

The Dyslexia Screening Initiative

Our Screening & Assessment Programs

Target the Following:

- ♥ Struggling Students with Average or Above Average Intelligence
- ♥ Students who believe their Grades are not indicative of their efforts
- ♥ Schools who are struggling to understand the learning challenges within their student population
- ♥ Parents who know that their children are smart, but just aren't finding the right success in the classroom
- ♥ People that know they are smart, but have difficulty learning
- ♥ People who avoid, dislike or find reading difficult and laborious
- ♥ Dyslexic Parents concerned for their children
- ♥ Teachers, who despite all efforts, are having difficulty helping students learn
- ♥ Pediatricians and Psychologists who want to help their patients with early detection and intervention

We Screen...using a computer-based early detection screener. We can bring the program to your school, or doctors office or individuals can get screened in our office. The Rapid Screener is a tool that identifies potential risk in the areas of phonological processing, sequential auditory memory and phonological decoding. Evolved from University research in Great Britain, this tool is an early detection instrument endorsed by the British Dyslexia Association and is a fundamental first step in the Dyslexia Friendly School Program that is growing throughout Europe.

We Assess...dyslexia using a battery of nationally accepted standardized instruments such as the Gray Oral Reading Test, the Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing, and the Dyslexia Determination Test to name a few. Our program reports a diagnosis of the type and severity of dyslexia as well as associated cognitive processing issues.



For More Information on How to Get Involved with Project IMPACT!

Contact Educational Consultant

Joel Greff @ (614) 340-5592

or email IMPACT@DIAOhio.org



A SIMPLE DEFINITION:

Dyslexia is an inherited condition that makes it extremely difficult for someone to read, write, and spell — despite having at least average intelligence.

THE SIMPLE FACTS:

- At least 20% of the population of the United States is functionally illiterate
- US Department of Health estimates 15-20% of enrolled students are dyslexic
- 50% of those that are functionally illiterate are **dyslexic**
- 80% of all diagnosed Learning Disabled children are **dyslexic**
- 27% of High School Dropouts have learning disabilities
- 85% of Juvenile Offenders have reading disabilities
- To be dyslexic you must have *at least average intelligence*

- Other conditions such as *Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD)*, *Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)*, visual problems and perceptual dysfunctions often appear in children with dyslexia. These symptoms do not cause or are they caused by dyslexia, rather they co-exist with dyslexia.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DYSLEXIC IN THE CLASSROOM:

- Slow Word Recall
- Average or Above Intelligence
- Beyond third grade continuing to reverse and invert letters and transpose words
- More difficulty decoding nonsense words than content words
- Difficulty decoding single words in isolation
- Difficulty with letter/sound relationships
- Confusing small words such as at for to, said for and, does for goes.
- Transposes number sequences and arithmetic signs (+, -, x, =) although math skills are typically a strength
- May have difficulty learning to tell time
- Spelling is usually difficult, frequently spells the same word differently in a single piece of writing
- Frequently able to decode a word they cannot spell
- Listening comprehension is usually a strength and the student typically can comprehend at grade level what he hears orally
- Poor grasp of abstract concepts
- Difficulty in telling or retelling a story
- Difficulty with rhyming words



PROJECT IMPACT:

Project IMPACT! is an exciting effort between the Learning Assistance Corporation, a local non-profit organization whose mission is to tear down the barriers to learning, and Dyslexia Institutes of America.

The goal of Project IMPACT! is to bring dyslexia awareness to the forefront and positively impact individuals, schools and the community. In today's world, a barrier to reading results in social, educational and economic consequences.

Dyslexia is a very common reading-related problem. The reality of the situation is that most dyslexics are not identified until they have been either damaged or pushed to the periphery of society. Once the situation reaches such a point, many children and adults plainly "give up."

Project IMPACT! is an initiative to help by first identifying the often times hidden disability of dyslexia. In schools across the country, over 3 million students attend special education classes. U.S. Department of Health statistics indicate that nearly 80% of the students diagnosed with learning disabilities are in fact dyslexic. While some of these students will find a light and see their way through school, many unfortunately will not. These children will struggle with self-esteem issues, frustration and depression.

Based on national averages, 15-20 percent of the workforce is likely to have dyslexia while hiding this disability from the employer. Project IMPACT! is an innovative Dyslexia Screening Project to provide individuals, schools and communities with an informative and comprehensive dyslexia screening program.

**Contact an Educational Consultant at
Dyslexia Institutes of America to Begin Making a
Lifelong Impact on Someone Today!**

(614) 340-5592

IMPACT@DIAOhio.org

OUR SCREENER . . . We make it Easy!

Dyslexia Institutes of America utilizes a computer-based screening instrument that accurately provides an identification of the risk of dyslexia and/or other language oriented challenges. Following the screening completion, Dyslexia Institutes provides a one page summary report for each participant with scoring percentiles in the areas of phonological processing, sequential auditory memory and phonological decoding.

The screening uses a multimedia format to help the participant feel at ease and frequently gives positive feedback for participation. Screenings are not intended to “label” an individual; rather, they are simply used to determine if someone is behind in the skills required for effective reading and at risk for dyslexia.

In conjunction with British-based Lucid Research, Dyslexia Institutes of America is able to install the screener on a school or office computer or make stations available in our office for those that wish to come into our location for screening.

Lucid Research’s products are endorsed by the British Dyslexia Association and have been used to screen literally thousands of individuals throughout the world.

The Screener takes about 30 minutes per person to complete and provides a road map to deciding the next steps in making a difference in someone’s life!

Start Making an Impact!
Call Today for Your
Screening Appointment!
Ask for Joel @ (614) 340-5592



PROJECT IMPACT!
Call (614) 340-5592 or email
IMPACT@DIAOhio.org

The banner features a circular logo on the left for Dyslexia Institutes of America, which includes a stylized open book. The background of the banner is a colorful, abstract graphic with blue, purple, and orange tones, suggesting a globe or a network of connections.