Julie Lounds Taylor, PhD, is an associate professor of Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and an investigator at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center. She received her PhD in Developmental Psychology from the University of Notre Dame, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in lifespan family research at the Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research focuses on understanding the factors that promote positive outcomes for adults with autism spectrum disorder and their families, particularly during the transition to adulthood. Dr. Taylor’s work has been funded by the National Institutes of Mental Health, Autism Speaks, and the FAR fund. She was the 2014 recipient of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Early Career Award, is an associate editor for *Autism: The International Journal of Research and Practice* and is a member of the United States Department of Health and Human Services’ Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee.

**Presentation Title: Women on the Autism Spectrum: Unique and Common Vulnerabilities**

Adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) face numerous and wide-spread challenges. Women with ASD might be even more vulnerable than men with ASD, yet little is known about their areas of unique challenges. This presentation will discuss new research examining the ways in which life course outcomes for women with ASD differ from men with ASD and from women in the general population. I will integrate findings across studies and research samples to discuss areas of vulnerability that are common to individuals with ASD (regardless of sex/gender), and areas of challenge that may be unique to women.