



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Understanding Autism Seminars

Last week, the Ministry of Equality organised a seminar on understanding autism, which was held at the O'Callaghan Elliott Hotel. The event was extremely well attended by parents of children and adults who are on the autistic spectrum. This seminar was presented by Linda Woodcock, co-author of the book 'Managing Family Meltdown', who is also the parent of a son with autism.

This was the first of a series of lectures in relation to autism that was started on Friday to mark Autism Awareness month. Further seminars will be offered throughout this year.

Speaking at the opening of the seminar, Minister for Equality, the Hon. Samantha Sacramento MP said: "I am extremely pleased at the fantastic engagement we have received for this seminar: the high level of attendance by parents speaks volumes. This Government is committed to provide information and support to parents of children who have autism and this is the first in a series of seminars in the Understanding Autism series that is designed specifically for that purpose.

"I am pleased to say that from the excellent feedback we have received that parents have appreciated our initiative."