

Dr. Patricia Wright has dedicated her career to ensuring individuals with autism have access to effective services and supports that lead to more joyful, meaningful lives. Passionate about education and advocacy, she's worked tirelessly to make the world a more inclusive place for autistic individuals and the communities that support them. Through her current role at Proof Positive, her bold vision is being realized.

In the media spotlight, you can catch Patricia in numerous news outlets and publications, including [Education Week](#), [Autism Spectrum News](#), October 2011 issue of Parents Magazine, The [Teaching Channel podcast](#), [PBS](#), [WNYU radio](#), and [National Academies Press](#), and is a regular blog contributor for [Psychology Today](#).

Now she's leading the charge to advance the science of positive psychology and skills of happiness as the Executive Director of Proof Positive, a national nonprofit collaborating with schools, autism organizations and positive psychology leaders to integrate and expand wellbeing programming for autistic individuals and their communities.

Applauded as a global leader in autism advocacy, programming and interventions, Patricia brings a track record of success working in management at top autism organizations. She was pivotal in the design and transformation of a statewide system of support for children with autism for the state of Hawaii, and she also served in leadership roles for NEXT for AUTISM and as the National Director of Autism Services for Easterseals.

Additionally, Patricia has held advisory roles for a number of professional associations and advocacy groups, including the Organization for Autism Research's Scientific Council, the Executive Committee for the Friends of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Board of Directors for the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts and the Autism Society Panel of Professional Advisors.

Patricia has advised and provided expert testimony at Congressional Hearings. She is also a frequent contributor in the media, raising awareness of early identification and developmental milestones and deepening the public's understanding of disability equity, inclusion and access.

She holds a Ph.D. and Master of Public Health from the University of Hawaii. Her research focuses on the delivery of evidence-based interventions in community-based settings and healthcare access for people with disabilities.