

Update

November News



October Data

Adults

Referrals: 31
Active Clients: 146
Crisis Plans: 13
Prevention hours: 388

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 107
Step Down Bed Days: 36
Prevention Bed Days: 40

Children

Referrals: 17
Active Clients: 56
Crisis Plans: 5
Prevention hours: 192



[Click here](#) to download current REACH Referral Form.

Events



The Blacksburg Children's Museum has a special night the first Wednesday of each month with a quieter environment and play opportunities for children with special needs. [Click here](#) for the flyer.

[Click here](#) for Calendar of Events.

Apps



Featured:



Tapikeo HD

Create Social Stories with visuals and audio.



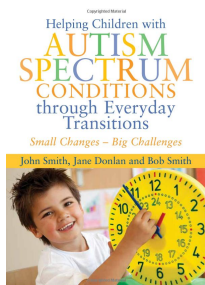
Click on an image above for full size.

The REACH Crisis Therapeutic Home had an Open House event on November 9th. This was an opportunity to take a tour of the facility at it's new location on Tara Lane, ask questions, and to meet some of our staff while enjoying light refreshments. Thank you to everyone who joined us!

[Click Here](#) for more information.

[Click for a list of helpful apps.](#)

Books



Small Changes:Big Challenges

by Jane Donlan, John Smith, and Bob Smith.

[Click here](#) for Free Sample.

Internet



[Click here](#) for the website.



Social Security and SSI for People with I/DD and Their Families.

[Click here](#) for information from The Arc.



Thanksgiving is nearly here and cooking can be a great way to work on following directions, sequencing, expressive/receptive language, vocabulary and visual prompting– all in a fun and motivating way.

[Click here](#) for Free Thanksgiving Visual Recipes.

Clinical Corner



Thanksgiving can be a chaotic and overwhelming day, especially for individuals with developmental disabilities and/or sensory issues. Here are 17 tips from The Mighty to make Thanksgiving more comfortable - [Click here.](#)

[Click here](#) for some free printable social stories for the holiday season.

Medical News

[Click here](#) for The Arc's website.



Virginia Tech Center for
Autism Research
[Click here](#) for the website.

Short Film



Click above to play video.

"I'll Be Fine" is a short documentary about a family, their home, and the trials of living with a nineteen-year-old son who has autism.



Critical Needs in "Disability and Health"

by Nurse Carrie Browder

Healthy People 2020 identified the following three issues in "Disability and Health"

1. The need for data that includes and examines disability health
2. The need to increase wellness programs that are beneficial for individuals with disabilities in the community setting
3. The need to improve public design and infrastructure to be more accessible for individuals with disabilities. [Click Here](#) to read more.

Articles



The Roanoke Times

"Roanoke Researcher Studying Possible Relationship Between Gut Health, Autism"

by Luanne Rife

A Carilion Clinic psychiatrist is enrolling children in a national clinical trial to help determine if a compound aimed at restoring gut health can alleviate symptoms of autism.

[Click here](#) for article.

Resources



ABLEnow accounts are a new way to help individuals with disabilities save money and pay for qualified disability-related expenses. [Click here](#) for the website, click above for the video.

Community Inclusion Resources

Being **In** the Community Is Not the Same as Being a **Part** of the Community.

[Click here](#) for this helpful resource.

Compiled by:
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disAbility Law Center of Virginia



The Autism Society, the nation's leading grassroots autism organization, exists to improve the lives of all affected by autism. They do this by increasing public awareness about the day-to-day issues faced by people on the spectrum, advocating for appropriate services for individuals across the lifespan, and providing the latest information regarding treatment, education, research and advocacy. [Click here](#) for the website and to learn more.

[Click here](#) for a some great local support groups!

Opportunities

Empowerment Forum: Inclusion Series

In recognition of Family Engagement Month, **the Center for Family Involvement** is thrilled to announce its new Empowerment Forum series that will run similar to a TedTalk -- brief thought and discussion provoking presentations.

This first event will take place **Saturday, November 19th from 3:00 - 5:30/6:00 p.m. at Christiansburg High School, Christiansburg, VA.**

Cost: FREE!

Join us for an afternoon of passion and possibilities using the "TED" style talks

Speakers:

Dana Yarbrough: Knowing when to wear super-capes and cloaks of humility

Angela West: The power and importance of self-advocacy

Amanda Raymond: Inclusion mindset transformation Cyndi Pitonyak: The journey to full inclusion
- one district's story

*Snacks Provided

[Click here](#) for the flyer with more information.

VTAC Announcements

Automatic Emotion Training Study FEET: Facial Emotion Expression Training

WHY: The goal of this project is to develop a fully automatic system that can accurately detect human emotional expression.

WHO: We are enrolling children with ASD, ages 9 to 12 years of age

WHAT: Involvement in this study will require computerized tasks and some questionnaires and interviews. This will take between 1.5 to 2 hours to complete. After completion of the study all participants will receive \$30.

WHERE: The study will take place at the Blacksburg or Roanoke location.

For more information please contact the **Child Study Center** at 540-231-8276 or childstudycenter@gmail.com. Please refer to the "FEET Study".

[Click here](#) for more Events and Opportunities from VTAC.



Was your brother
or sister
ever
diagnosed
with Autism?

You have the chance to
share your family's
story.

Puzzled is interviewing all siblings of individuals with Autism [ages 5+] in the United States for a documentary project.

For more information, please visit
www.thepuzzledfilm.com
or send an email to share@thepuzzledfilm.com

DBHDS



News and Press Releases

[Click Here](#) for the latest!

Pilot Mobile Rehab Engineering Team

Mission: To provide mobility equipment maintenance and repair services in the community to individuals with I/DD.

[Click here](#) for more information and MRE team assessment form

Cultural Competence in I/DD Services

Cultural competence in the area of developmental and intellectual disabilities is a new field of study and practice. There is a growing body of work but it is not very comprehensive. [Click here](#) for useful toolkits and guidelines to explore this work.

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[About REACH](#)

[Fact Sheet-Adult](#) [Fact Sheet-Children](#)

[Contact REACH Region III](#)

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