



Update

Clinical Corner



January Data

Adults

Referrals: 35
Active Clients: 190
Crisis Plans: 4
Prevention hours: 493

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 104
Step Down Bed Days: 43
Prevention Bed Days: 28

Children

Referrals: 9
Active Clients: 50
Crisis Plans: 4
Prevention hours: 131



What do you know about Prader-Willi Syndrome?

Prader-Willi syndrome is a complex genetic condition that affects many parts of the body. In infancy, this condition is characterized by weak muscle tone (hypotonia), feeding difficulties, poor growth, and delayed development. [Click here](#) to continue reading from the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

Click below for brochures:

[Prader-Willi Synopsis](#)
[Supports and Interventions](#)

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

What did you learn? **Take the Quiz!** [Click Here!](#)

Events



i'm **d**etermine**d**

The Youth and Parent Summit

This is a two-day event held each June and sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education and the Partnership for People with Disabilities.

[Click here](#) for more information.

When will it be held?

June 14-16, 2017

Where is it?

The 2017 Youth Summit will be held at James Madison University.

How do I apply?

Students are encouraged to apply as early as they can. Applications are now open. [Click here.](#)

[Click here](#) for a Calendar of Events!

February News



Black History Month is here!

This month we would like to highlight historical figure, Psychologist Mamie Phipps Clark, PhD (1917-1983), seen above with her husband, Psychologist Kenneth Clark, PhD .

Her work with children showed that African American children became aware of their racial identity at about three years old. Many of these children began to see, reflect, and internalize the views that society held about them.

She also found that many African American children who were tested and informed they had a learning disability or were disabled were diagnosed incorrectly due to biased psychological testing.*

*<http://activemindsblog.org/10-african-african-american-psychologists-you-should-know/>

Apps



Moody Me

Take pictures of what makes you happy and play them back for an instant lift. Or see what makes you sad so you can better manage your mood.

Whether you are managing a mood disorder, want to see how certain medications affect you or just want a snapshot of your disposition, Moody Me is the app for you!

[Click here](#) for more info!

[Click Here](#) for Bridging Apps - "Bridging the gap between technology and people with disabilities."

Bridging Apps features **3254** apps for people with special needs and disabilities. Easy search feature! A proud part of the Easterseals.

Books



A Difficult Dream: Ending

Medical News



Let's Talk Nutrition

with Nurse Carrie Browder

In January, New River Valley Community Services hosted the first in a series of trainings on nutrition.

Eighteen staff attended including community living supervisors and direct support professionals. The training topic was menu planning which is a requirement from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for individuals receiving services in residential settings.

[Click here](#) to read more!

Video



Institutionalization for Persons w/ ID with Complex Needs.

[Click here](#) to view in NADD online store.

Invirtua Animation for Autism:

This is a live animation system designed to help children with autism work through social anxiety and learn social interaction skills.

[Click above](#) for the video.

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

Internet



[Click here](#) for the article - **Six Simple Lesson Ideas for Your Child with Autism from a Homeschooling Mom.** -by Jenny Wise.



[Click here](#) for the website.



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



Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research

[Click here](#) for the website.

Resources



Ability Unlimited

Experienced in the world of Assistive Technology, Medicaid, and disabilities, Ability Unlimited provides Assistive Technology to people with special needs who have Virginia Medicaid either through a waiver or that qualify for EPSDT (VA Medicaid + under the age of 21). We can also provide AT through private funding means.

We help you navigate the process and give clients unlimited access to portable specialized medical equipment, supplies, devices, controls, and appliances.

[Click here](#) for their website contact form, or 800.511.9474.

Opportunities

**Presented by MCPS Special Education and
The Parent Resource Center**



Autism Workshop

Thursday, March 16th 2017

4-6 pm

Parent Resource Center, Montgomery Central

208 College Street
Christiansburg, Va. 540. 381.6100
Please enter through door #27 off of Depot St.

Come join us for an "AU"-mazing workshop filled with exciting information. Learn about ASD best practices from MCPS to cutting edge information from the VTAC & VTCAR. Hear about Supporting Autism Friendly Environments (SAFE), the NRVAAG and Autism friendly resources from the PRC and much more!

Speakers consist of Dr. Angela Scarpa, Founder & Director of the VTAC & VTCAR, Dr. Amy Azano, Founder of SAFE, Dr. Julie Ligon, Supervisor of Special Education for MCPS, Kate Daby, Coordinator of Programs for MCPS, & Cassie Fitzgerald, Coordinator of Parent Resource Center for MCPS.

Light refreshments will be provided

To reserve your spot contact cassiefitzgerald@mcps.org

Sign up today, space is limited! This event is free of charge!

NEW STUDY:

ASSET Study: Managing Emotions for Teens with ASD

WHY: We are conducting a study on the study of a new treatment for adolescents with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) who struggle with handling their emotions.

WHO: Teens ages 12-17 with an ASD diagnosis and IQ of 80 or higher who also have difficulties with their emotions.

WHAT: The program involves individual sessions, online resources for parent and teen, and at home practices for the teen. There is no cost for this program and we offer payments, receiving up to \$125.00, for completing the assessments.

CONTACT: If you would like to learn more about the study or are interested in participating, please email psyc.soc.interventions@gmail.com.

NEW STUDY:

Online Autism Study

WHY: We are looking for people to take part in a research study investigating mental health problems, self-injury, and thoughts of ending life in adults with and without Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC).

WHO: We are looking for adults, aged 18 years and older, with or without a diagnosis of ASC to take part in this study.

WHAT: Taking part in the study will involve completing an anonymous online survey that will ask questions about your mental health, any diagnoses, experiences of self-injury and thoughts of ending own life, treatment and support. The survey should take no more than 1 hour to complete.

CONTACT: If you have any questions please contact the researchers Sarah Cassidy (sarah.cassidy@coventry.ac.uk) or Louise Bradley (louise.bradley@coventry.ac.uk).

For further information and to take part please visit the link below:

<https://coventrypsychology.qualtrics.com/SE/...>

Bros UnitedD (B.U.D) SAFE Event

WHAT: B.U.D is a mentorship program for kids and teens on the autism spectrum. Brothers from Theta Delta Chi fraternity partner up with little "sibs" to form lasting friendships!

WHEN: The program will meet on a monthly basis. This month's event is **Bowling with The Bros**. Saturday, February 18th from 1-3 PM

WHERE:

New River Valley Super Bowl
375 Arbor Drive
Christiansburg, VA 24073

This month's event will provide bowling shoes, snacks, and a SAFE room with arts and crafts.

If interested or you have any questions please contact **Kyle Nelson** nkyle5@vt.edu or **Chris West** wchris5@vt.edu.

See [flyer here](#) for more information and full list of events.

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

2017 Annual Autism Outreach and Research Conference

SAVE THE DATE!

*Attendees can either attend one or both conferences

This year we are combining the VT Autism Clinic (VTAC) Outreach Conference with the VT Center for Autism Research (VTCAR) Conference to provide two days of autism related information. Faculty, students, affiliates, and community are invited to attend!

All proceeds directly benefit VTAC and VTCAR.

**Location: Biocomplexity Institute of Virginia Tech
(1015 Life Science Circle, Blacksburg, VA 24061) Conference Room 145**

The 4th Annual VTAC Outreach Conference

March 30th 9:00 AM– 3:00 PM

- **Keynote Speakers: Dylan and Derek Volk** "A rare and truthful look inside a dad's life raising a son on the autism spectrum"
- Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.
- \$20 donation requested.
- Exhibitor Opportunity: \$20 for half of a table, \$40 for a whole table. Limited space available. If interested, contact vtcar2013@gmail.com.

The 5th Annual VTCAR Conference

March 31st 8:30 AM– 11:30 AM

- **Keynote Speaker: Lisa Ruble, Ph.D.**
*College of Education, University of Kentucky
Center for Autism Evaluation, Service and Research*
- Breakfast will be provided.
- \$10 donation is requested.

- RSVP for either conference by March 15th to Zoe Waddell (vtcar2013@gmail.com) and indicate which conference(s) you will be attending



Click image above for full size PDF.

DBHDS



News and Press Releases

[Click Here](#) for the latest!

[Click here](#) for 2nd Quarter REACH reports.

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

HEALTH EQUITY IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

The DBHDS Office of Health Equity Advancement (OHEA) leads efforts to provide improved services to diverse and under-served individuals and works toward eliminating the disparities within the state's mental health, intellectual disability and substance-use disorder system.

[Click here](#) for the website.

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[About REACH](#)

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

[Contact REACH Region III](#)

Our mailing address is:

824 W. Main St., Radford, VA 24141

Crisis and Information Line - 1.855.887.8278

Local Calls - 540.267.3435

Fax - 540.267.3403

Email - info@swvaREACH.org

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