

Update

Clinical Corner



September Data

Adults

Referrals: 32
Active Clients: 205
Crisis Plans: 8
Prevention hours: 490

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 69
Step-down Bed Days: 79
Prevention Bed Days: 24

Children

Referrals: 14
Active Clients: 74
Crisis Plans: 4



Halloween Tips and Social Narrative

While Halloween may offer many exciting opportunities for children overall, social interactions, unusual or even scary outfits, and the sharing of treats may present some stressful or challenging situations to individuals with an autism spectrum disorder or related developmental disabilities.

[Click here](#) for some tips, and a sample social

Prevention hours: 210

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

Apps



FreeSpeech

Click above to watch the
TED Talk

While working with kids who have trouble speaking, Ajit Narayanan sketched out a way to think about language in pictures, to relate words and concepts in "maps."

The idea now powers an app that helps nonverbal people communicate, and the big idea behind it, a language concept called FreeSpeech, has exciting potential.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the FreeSpeech application.

Reading

narrative, that may help avoid anxiety and help everyone enjoy this festive event.

Medical News



Don't Wait, Vaccinate!

with Nurse Carrie Browder

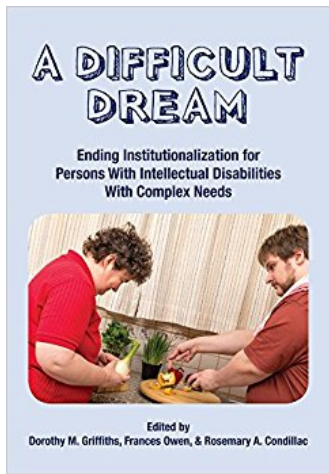
It's the time of year when people brace for flu season and begin thinking about the flu vaccine.

Did you know that there are other vaccines related to maintaining optimum health?

Immunizations are important for all adults, but especially those with chronic conditions like asthma, heart disease, or diabetes.

Research shows that these conditions are more prevalent in individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), and because some individuals with IDD live in residential housing with their peers, their risk of exposure to infectious disease is increased.

[Click here](#) to read more!



**A Difficult Dream:
Ending
Institutionalization for
Persons w/ ID with
Complex Needs**

*Editors: R. Condillac,
D. Griffiths, F. Owen*

The commitment involved in a successful deinstitutionalization process is to plan not just for the closure of institutions but to plan for an improved quality of life for each member from that institution.

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

Diversity & Inclusion



What Inclusion Really Means

Kate Green for The Mighty

I can count on one hand the amount of people with disabilities I knew as a kid — a few from our church and a

In the News



SSI Payments To Increase In 2018

Michelle Diament - DisabilityScoop

People with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income or Social Security are set to see their largest rise in benefits in years.

The Social Security Administration said Friday that payments will increase 2 percent in 2018.

[Click here](#) to read article.

Nowhere to go: Young people with severe autism languish weeks or longer in hospitals

By: Christina Jewett/Kaiser Health News/The Washington Post

Teenagers and young adults with severe autism are spending weeks or even months in emergency rooms and acute-care hospitals because of a lack of community treatment programs able to deal with their outbursts, according to interviews with parents, advocates and physicians from Maine to California as well as federal and state data.

[Click here](#) to read article.

couple from the neighborhood.

I did not know anyone with a **disability** from my Catholic school, my soccer team or acting class.

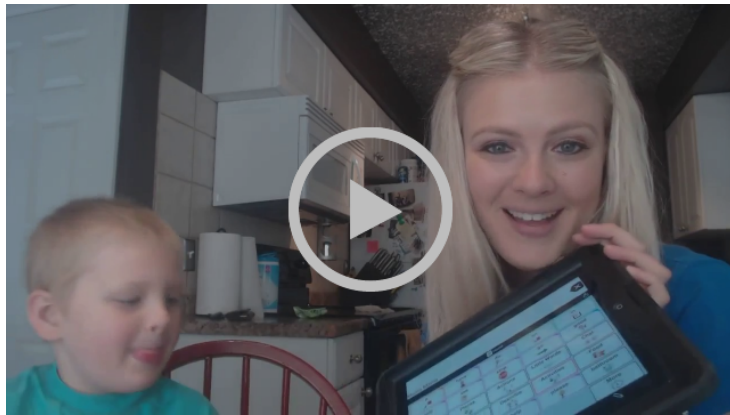
I don't think anyone with a disability played tag with us or rode bikes with us to the pool.

Even though I later worked at a summer camp with kid with disabilities, I still had very few relationships with people with disabilities.

I originally studied special education in college until I discovered my other passion — writing.

After a short career in television and a long career in child welfare, I returned to the work I loved, where I felt I most belonged — advocating for and with people with disabilities.

[Click here](#) to continue reading on The Mighty.



Click above to view video.

Fallon's 'Everything is Mama' contest winner never gave up on her non-verbal son.

Ronnie Koenig: TODAY Parenting Team

Kate Swenson's almost 7-year-old son Cooper is autistic and non-verbal, so at first she felt dismayed when she saw the posting for TODAY and Jimmy Fallon's "Everything is Mama" contest. To celebrate the release of the Tonight Show host's new children's book, "Everything is Mama," TODAY Parents asked parents to share cute videos of their children saying "mama."

"As a parent to a non-verbal child, I thought, great another thing we can't do," Swenson, 34 and a mom of two, told TODAY Parents.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Opportunities and Events



Click above to view: Chill Out. It's Polar Plunge Season! -Special Olympics Virginia

The Polar Plunge Festival

The Polar Plunge® Festival is Special Olympics Virginia's premiere, annual fundraising drive for those brrrr-ave enough to take the challenge!

Participants – or “plungers” – raise funds to get wild and plunge into icy water at five different locations across Virginia in December, February and now June!

It's the coolest event in VA – literally – and it's all for an amazing cause! All proceeds go to help Special Olympics Virginia provide year-round training and services for thousands of athletes.

Visit www.polarplunge.com for more details.

The logo for 'Open House' features the words 'Open' and 'House' in a large, bold, orange sans-serif font. To the right of the text are three balloons: a red one, a yellow one, and a blue one, all tied together with black strings.

**Open
House**

MCPS Parent Resource Center & SEAC Open House!

Come explore the Parent Resource Center & meet the Special Education Advisory Committee!

WHEN: Thursday, November 9th from 4-6 p.m.

WHERE: MCPS Parent Resource Center

Montgomery Central (formally Old CMS)

208 College Street, Christiansburg

Please enter through door #27 off of Depot Street

[540.381.6100](tel:540.381.6100)

[Click here](#) for directions.

FUN, FOOD, PRIZES!

Refreshments will be donated by the following restaurants:

Ruby Tuesday's, Firehouse Subs, and Next Door Bake Shop

Children's Museum of Blacksburg will host an interactive playroom for children!

Come meet two special Therapy Dogs, Emmie Sue and Maggie from 4:30-5:30 pm

Christiansburg Fire & Rescue- Come meet your local hero's and tour a truck!

For questions please contact Cassie Fitzgerald at [540.381.6100](tel:540.381.6100) or email cassiefitzgerald@mcps.org

[Click here](#) for the flyer.

Virginia Tech Science Festival - SAFE EVENT

WHAT: Science is bigger than you think! Join Virginia Tech and over 30 exhibitors in exploring the world of science! This event features kid friendly activities and shows. The Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research (VTCAR) is a featured exhibitor that will be featuring hands-on activities.

This is a SAFE Event and will feature quiet rooms in all buildings of the festival as well as exhibits!

WHO: School Age children and their families

WHEN: Saturday, November 4th 10 AM - 4 PM

4 PM -5:30 PM Nutshell Games

7 PM AN evening with Christopher Emdin: STEM Education and Empowerment for the Rest of Y'all

WHERE: Virginia Tech Campus

For more information about activities and exhibitors click [here](#).

To see flyer click [here](#).

If special accommodations needed please contact **Kacy McAllister** at 540-231-1319 or pnewbill@vt.edu

A Better Understanding: Alzheimer's, Autism and

Special Needs Awareness Training

WHAT: This training is intended to inform the public of how to understand the behavior of those with various special needs. The Blue Ridge Autism and Achievement center recommends this course for any public or other professionals who engage in interactions with this population or the public.

WHEN: October 18th, 2017 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

PRICE: No fee

WHERE: Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy

View this [flyer](#) for more information.

To register for this course please call (540) 375-3095 or email Cindy at csarver@cardinalacademy.org

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2) Clinical Training, October 2017

Date: October 19, 2017 to October 20, 2017

Time: 8:00am to 4:00pm

Location: Cherokee Health Systems, Knoxville TN

[Click here](#) for more information.



Do you have an appropriate event that you would like to see in the newsletter? [Click here](#) to submit it!

DBHDS



News and Press Releases

[Click Here](#) for the latest!

Office of Integrated Health - October Newsletter: Health Trends

[Click here](#) to view.

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.

[Click here](#) to review - **General Memo RE: HB 1775 ID to DD Change 2017**

Resources



COMMONWEALTH COORDINATED CARE PLUS PROVIDER TOWN HALL



Click above for managed care information for individuals with Medicaid.
(Downloads PowerPoint Presentation)



The Arc of Virginia

Our Mission. The Arc of Virginia promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

Our Vision. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are valued as classmates, coworkers, neighbors, citizens and friends.

[Click here](#) for their website.



NADD

NADD is a not-for-profit membership association established for professionals, care providers and families to promote understanding of and services for individuals who have developmental disabilities and mental health needs. [Click here](#) for their website.



The Virginia Autism Council

This website is Virginia's clearinghouse on best practices and research-based education and training opportunities to advance personnel



The Virginia Tech Autism Clinic

VTAC in the Psychology Department of Virginia Tech, opened in the Fall of 2005 to provide clinical services to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families in the surrounding New River Valley.

[Click here](#) for their Blast Announcement with **Events, Research, and Monthly Group Meetings!**

[Click here](#) for their website.



Special needs require special attorneys.

The Special Needs Alliance

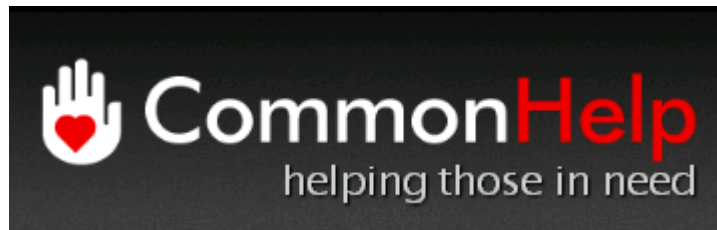
The Special Needs Alliance is a national, non-profit organization committed to helping individuals with disabilities, their families and the professionals who serve them. [Click here](#) for their website.



Commonwealth Autism

[Click here](#) to view State Resources compiled by **Commonwealth Autism.**

development and knowledge regarding autism in Virginia. [Click here](#) for more information.



Virginia CommonHelp

Apply for help with food, child care, heating and cooling bills, health care and cash assistance. [Click here](#) for their 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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The MailChimp logo is centered within a dark gray rounded rectangle. The text "MailChimp" is written in a white, cursive script font.