

Update

Clinical Corner



October Data

Adults

Referrals: 26
Active Clients: 192
Crisis Plans: 7
Prevention hours: 465

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 89
Step-down Bed Days: 60
Prevention Bed Days: 31

Children

Referrals: 23
Active Clients: 64
Crisis Plans: 3
Prevention hours: 207



Celebrating Thanksgiving With Your Child With ASD

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute

While the holidays are regarded with anticipation and joy for many families, families with children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) may have mixed feelings.

During the holiday season, it is best to plan for what you can anticipate, and expect the unexpected.

Children with ASD thrive on routines and

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

Apps



CoughDrop

CoughDrop is a robust augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) app that gives a voice to those who cannot speak vocally for themselves.

The program can be used with a switch or with eye tracking for those with mobility concerns.

[Click here](#) to learn more or click on the video below.



Reading

sameness, and during the holidays, children are taken out of their comfort zones. (For example, they are in unfamiliar places, with many people, and are served different foods.) Changes to their usual routines and environment may be overwhelming and cause distress.

[Click here](#) to continue reading. And [click here](#) for a few tips from Different Roads.

***This information can also be used with adults with ASD.**

In the News



National Family Caregivers Month

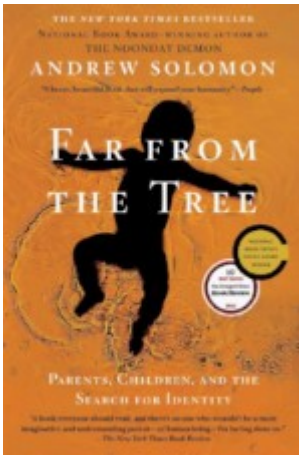
Celebrated each November, it is a time to recognize and honor family caregivers across the country.

What do family caregivers do? [Click here](#) to learn more from The American Psychological Association.

'Social Camouflage' May Lead To Underdiagnosis of Autism in Girls

NPR -Morning Edition

Many more boys are diagnosed with autism every



Far From the Tree

Andrew Solomon

Solomon's startling proposition is that diversity is what unites us all.

He writes about families coping with deafness, dwarfism, Down syndrome, autism, schizophrenia, multiple severe disabilities, with children who are prodigies, who are conceived in rape, who become criminals, who are transgender.

While each of these characteristics is potentially isolating, the experience of difference within families is universal. In Solomon's telling, these stories are everyone's stories.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Diversity & Inclusion



year than girls. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the disorder is 4.5 times more common among boys than girls. Boys appear to be more vulnerable to the disorder, but there is some evidence that the gender gap may not be as wide as it appears.

[Click here](#) to continue reading.

Adults with Autism

Interactive Autism Network

What happens when someone with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) leaves school and makes the transition to adult services, college, work, job training, or a new living situation? What does research say about the issues that affect adults with ASD and their families?

[Click here](#) for links for these and [click here](#) for 'What Will Happen When The School Bus Stops Coming?'

Medical News



Fatal Five Focus: Sepsis

Cultural Diversity and Caregiving

Studies show that ethnic minority caregivers provide more care than their White counterparts and report worse physical health than White caregivers (McCann et al, 2000).

Several studies have found that African-American caregivers experience less stress and depression and garner greater rewards from caregiving than White caregivers (Cuellar, 2002; Haley et al, 2004).

Hispanic and Asian American caregivers, however, exhibit more depression than white caregivers (Haley et al, 2004).

[Click here](http://www.apa.org) to learn more from www.apa.org

Nurse Carrie Browder

The “Fatal Five” are conditions that are linked to preventable deaths of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They include aspiration, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), bowel obstruction, seizures, and dehydration. Recently, another condition has been recognized and the fatal five have been renamed “Fatal Five +” to include sepsis.

What is sepsis?

Sepsis is the body’s response to widespread infection. It leads to organ and tissue death and is life threatening. Sepsis is caused by an isolated infection that is untreated or not responding to treatment and spreads quickly. Infections often linked to sepsis include those originating in the lungs (pneumonia), urinary tract (UTIs), wounds, and intestines.

[Click here](#) to continue reading.

Opportunities and Events



**You Are Invited to Participate in a Focus Group
Assessing Perspectives of Health Monitoring for
Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**

Study: Exploring the Feasibility of Non-Invasive Technology to Monitor and Predict Self-Injurious Behavior (SIB) in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia are conducting a study to assess perspectives of non-invasive health monitoring technology for self-injurious behavior in people with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). They are enrolling parents, guardians, and educators of 2-30 year olds with an ASD diagnosis who also engage in self-injurious behavior. Enrollment is now open.

The study involves discussing needs and challenges associated with self-injurious behavior, either in person or over the phone. There is no cost for this program and participants will receive payments for completing the session.

If you would like more information concerning this research, please send an email to Kristine Cantin at kdc14@vt.edu or call [732-275-2223](tel:732-275-2223).

[Click here](#) to view flyer.

NRVCS Autism Support Group

What: A monthly support group meeting for local families. Meetings are educational, parent-driven, and supportive. Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (including those previously diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Childhood Disintegrative Disorder, Rett's Disorder), and other developmental and/or intellectual disabilities are welcomed to join.

When: Thursday, December 14, 2017 from 6-7:30 PM

Where: NRVCS, 700 University City Blvd, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Parents: Huckleberry Room*

Kids: New River Room A, B, and C

*Please sign in children before you head upstairs.

[Click here](#) to subscribe to mailing list, so that you can be made aware of meeting dates/times/staff and menu!

WEBCAST: Autism in Girls and Women

WHAT: View the September 19th panel discussion, hosted by the Office of Autism Research Coordination and the Office of Research on Disparities and Global Mental Health. The Seminar features Dr. Kevin Pelphrey from George Washington University, Dr. Pamela Ventola from Yale University, and Ms. Zoe Gross from the Autistic Self Advocacy Network.

This panel discusses the latest research on autism in girls and women, and the individual and societal changes around this issue.

WHERE: [Online here.](#)

Kids Tech University

WHAT: Kids' Tech University is a semester-long educational research program developed by the Biocomplexity Institute and Virginia 4-H, that puts scientists and engineers in front of children to encourage the exploration of intriguing topics in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Children and their parents will come to Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA) to watch Interactive Sessions by renowned research scientists and participate in hands-on activities. Each day's events will center on common themes related to everyday life.

COST: \$100 registration fee

WHO: Children ages 9-12 (by September 31st, 2017)

WHEN: January 27, March 17, and April 7
Registration opened Oct. 23, 2017

WHERE: Virginia Tech

For more information and to register please [click here](#).

Special Night for Special Kids

WHAT: The Children's Museum of Blacksburg believes that play is for everyone! Families with special needs children are invited to a special night of their own to play their way. Special Nights for Special Kids features a sensory-friendly environment with fewer guests and more fun for kids of all abilities. Join us for an evening of imaginative play, creative tinkering, and calming accommodations.

COST: FREE

WHO: Families with special needs children

WHEN: First Wednesday of every month

WHERE: The Children's Museum of Blacksburg

For more information see [flyer here](#).

SUBMIT YOUR



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

DBHDS



Virginia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Services

[Click Here](#) for the website.

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

Resources

Tax Benefit Checklist For Families Caring for Children with Special Needs 2017

[Click Here](#)



The Arc of Virginia

Our Mission. The Arc of Virginia promotes and protects the human rights of people with



The Virginia Tech Autism Clinic

VTAC in the Psychology Department of Virginia Tech, opened in the Fall of 2005 to provide

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

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.

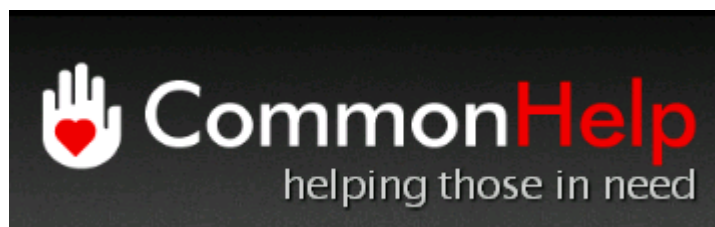
The Special Needs Alliance

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.**



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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