

Update

Clinical Corner



December Data

Adults

Referrals: 22
Active Clients: 174
Crisis Plans: 4
Prevention hours: 406

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 75
Step-down Bed Days: 31
Prevention Bed Days: 60

Children

Referrals: 8
Active Clients: 43
Crisis Plans: 4



Mental Health Problems & Developmental Disabilities

Much like the general population, individuals diagnosed with a Developmental Disability are at-risk of experiencing mental health problems at some point in their lives.

In fact, the more severe their disability, the more likely they are to have an undiagnosed mental health concern.

Prevention hours: 102

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

Apps



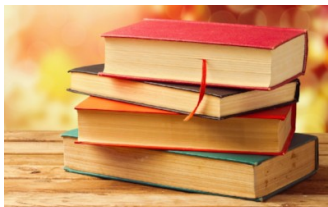
Avaz Lite

Avaz Lite is an AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) app that provides a voice for children with Autism and other complex communication needs.

Avaz is a full-featured AAC app PLUS a training layer for caregivers.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Reading



**The Human Rights
Agenda for Persons
with Intellectual**



PAS-ADD Checklist (Revised)

The PAS-ADD Checklist asks about behaviours which sometimes happen if a person has poor mental health. The Checklist aims to help staff and carers to decide whether assessment of an individual's mental health may be helpful.

The person completing the Checklist should have known the individual for at least six months, if possible.

If you do not have all the information you need, try to get it; for example, if you know the person only during the day, you may not know how well they sleep, and you may wish to ask someone whose information is reliable.

Before rating, it is important to ensure that the person does not have any uncorrected hearing or vision problems. Such problems can result in symptoms which may be confused with mental health problems.

| |
|---|
| Date |
| Your name (person completing the Checklist) |
| Name of the person the Checklist is about |
| Your relationship to the person (eg keyworker, mother, community nurse, etc) |
| Length of time you have known the person |

The PAS-ADD Checklist © Pavilion 2002 - see bottom of the form if unclear.



The PAS-ADD Checklist

The PAS-ADD Checklist is a simple 25 item measure for caregivers and families to determine whether an individual's mental health needs further assessment and treatment. Unlike other measures, no training is needed to complete this checklist!

[Click here](#) for more information.

In the News



Abused and Betrayed

Disabilities

Edited by: Dorothy Griffiths, CM,
OOnt, PhD, Shelley L. Watson, PhD,
Frances Owen, PhD, CPsych

This book explores ways in which the spirit of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities may be enacted in the lives of individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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

Diversity & Inclusion



Disability Inclusion

www.cdc.gov

What is Disability Inclusion?

Including people with disabilities in everyday activities and encouraging them to have roles similar to their peers who do not have a disability is disability inclusion.

This involves more than simply encouraging people; it requires making sure that adequate policies and practices are in effect in a community or organization.

[Click here](#) to continue reading article.

NPR Series on Abuse of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

At a moment of reckoning in the United States about sexual harassment and sexual assault, a yearlong NPR investigation finds that there's little recognition of a group of Americans that is one of the most at risk: **adults with intellectual disabilities.**

The series starts on Monday, January 8th and runs through Thursday, January 18th.

There will be print stories (with photos and art) online at www.npr.org. The radio stories can be heard there after they air, as well.

Medical News



Fatal Five Focus: Bowel Obstruction

What is bowel obstruction?

Bowel obstruction is a condition resulting from the inability of food and waste to move through the gut. Bowel obstruction can occur in any location

throughout the gut and can be a complete or partial obstruction. If left untreated, bowel obstruction can be deadly.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Opportunities and Events



disABILITY LAW CENTER OF VIRGINIA

Event Announcement: "Office Hours"

[Click here](#) for flyer.

When: Friday, January 26th, 10:00 AM

What: A talk about the disAbility Law Center, and how they can help with disability concerns.

Where: NRV Disability Resource Center
53 W. Main St., Ste. A
Christiansburg, VA 24073

VT Center for Autism Research and Autism Clinic

Please join us for the VT Center for Autism Research and Autism Clinic annual conference on March 23, 2018.

We have some exciting new features this year, including workshops on the IEP process, Medicaid Waivers, and Special Needs financial planning, in addition to information about our research and clinical services.

We are also featuring a special panel on autism in rural communities.

[Click here](#) to view the SAVE THE DATE flyer for more details.

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: Monthly

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!

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



[Click Here](#) for the website.

[Click here](#) to review - **DBHDS Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report**

[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 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.



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.



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.



Special needs require special attorneys.

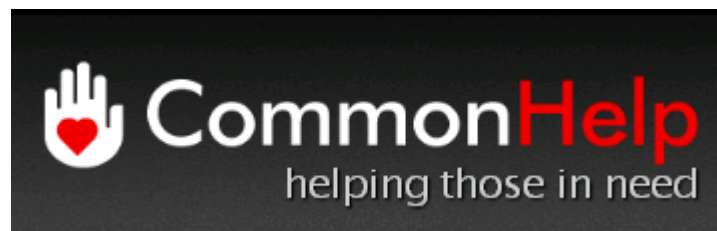
The Special Needs Alliance

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.

[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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