

REACH Region III - Monthly Report for March 2021

[Click here](#) to view

Update

Clinical Corner



March Data

Adults

Referrals: 45
 Active Clients: 131
 Crisis Plan Hours: 178.86
 Crisis Prevention hours: 557.96

Calls to Crisis Line

Information: 43
 Crisis Prevention: 173
 Crisis Face to Face
 Response: 39 Face to
 Face + 7 Telehealth



April is Autism Acceptance Month

autism-society.org

This April, we continue our efforts to spread awareness, promote acceptance, and ignite change.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Total Calls: 262

Average Crisis/Face to Face Response Time:
44.7 minutes

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 0
Step-down Bed Days: 78
Prevention Bed Days: 0

Children

Referrals: 34
Active Clients: 91
Crisis Plan Hours: 85.13
Crisis Prevention Hours: 311.81

Calls to Crisis Line

Information: 23
Crisis Prevention: 15
Crisis Face to Face Response: 24
Face to Face + 8 Telehealth
Total Calls: 70

Average Crisis/Face to Face Response Time:
42.125 minutes

We have a new referral form!

Please replace the old form with this new form.
-updated 05.2020

[Click here](#) to download it, and please share with anyone in your system that makes REACH referrals. Thank you!

REACH Region III

How to Educate the Community About Autism

UVA STAR

[Voices of Autism](#) contributors shared their ideas on the best ways to educate people and the community, as a whole, about autism. Here is what they shared!

Experience Autism

A family shared that one of the most helpful experiences they were provided as "neuro-typical" parents of a child with autism were sensory scenarios that recreated a distracted, overstimulated, noisy, bright, or surprised environment.

Experiencing a small part of what their child went through everyday helped them learn ways to be inclusive, culturally sensitive, and utilize person-centered strategies.

[Carly's Café - Experience Autism Through Carly's Eyes](#)

[What it's like to walk down a street when you have autism or an ASD](#)

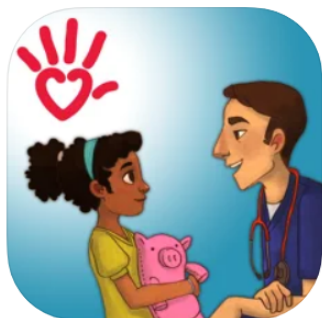
[Sensory Overload Simulation](#)

[Sensory Overload \(Interacting with Autism Project\)](#)

Email: info@swvareach.org
Fax: 540.267.3403

[Click here](#) to continue reading.

Apps



Simply Sayin' Medical Jargon

MediaKube, LLC

Simply Sayin' features four menu's to choose from. Alphabetized Glossary, Preps, Drawings and Pictures.

The Glossary of terms menu links to simple explanations, illustrations, and photographs.

Preps menu links to easy to understand explanations of the procedure, why the procedure is necessary, what will happened during the procedure, what your job is during the procedure, and things that can help when having a procedure.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

[Click here](#) to sign up for the STAR newsletter to receive monthly updates on autism research findings, autism resources and support services available to you, opportunities to participate in ongoing research, and educational events for families and providers!

Videos



Advancing Autism Acceptance

Jakob Anseman/Tedx Talks/YouTube.com

Click on video above or [click here](#) to view.

Books & Podcasts





From Awareness to Acceptance: 10 Children's Books that Accurately Portray What It Is To Be Autistic

pbssocal.org

Here are 10 children's books that can help both kids and grown-ups see the beauty of neurodiversity, start to make the societal shift from mere awareness of autism to complete acceptance and inclusion, and better understand and celebrate autistic peers.

[Click here](#) to view.

Diversity & Inclusion



Mom's lesson for kids on anti-Asian violence goes viral on TikTok:

By Nicole Pelletiere/ABC News

A Washington mother's viral lesson on the #StopAsianHate movement has more than 1 million views and counting.

Jane Park is a Seattle resident and mom to Bennett, 7 and

Sensory Water Bottles

WhatsUpMoms/YouTube.com

Click on video above or [click here](#) to view.

Medical News



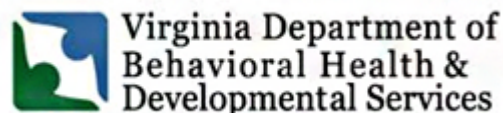
#VaccineReady | April 2021

Celebrate National Minority Health Month!

fda.gov

Each April we celebrate National Minority Health Month and this year's theme is "Vaccine Ready." There are many questions about how we effectively diagnose, treat, and prevent COVID-19, which continues to disproportionately impact racial and ethnic minority communities, Tribal communities, and other diverse groups.

[Click here](#) to learn more.



DBHDS/Office of Integrated Health

Ruby, 5. Park is a second generation Korean American. Her husband, Benjamin Kang, is also Korean American.

Park recorded a video on TikTok showing how she talked to her kids about the March 16 shooting in the Atlanta area, where eight people were killed.

[Click here](#) to continue reading.

The April 2021 - Health Trends Newsletter

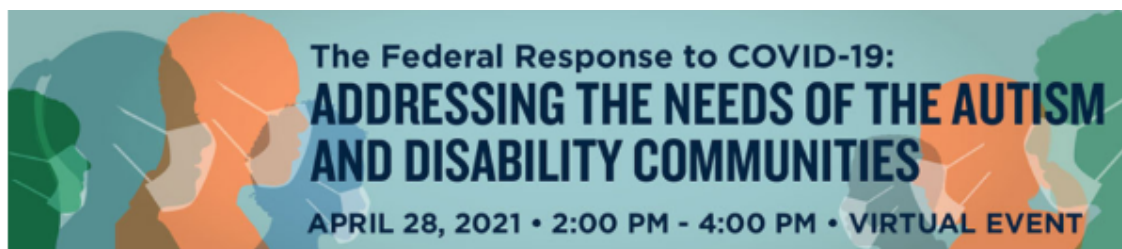
The newsletter includes the following topics:

- National Minority Health Month
- App of the Month "The Safe Place"
- ABA Snippets
- Oral Health Pearls of Wisdom
- Upcoming OIH Caregiver Training Sessions

[Click here](#) to view.

[Click here](#) to view safety alerts and newsletter archive.

Opportunities and Events



The Federal Response to COVID-19: Addressing the Needs of the Autism and Disability Communities

This event will feature presentations from the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, U.S. Department of Education, and U.S. Department of Labor on issues related on health, education, and employment for people with disabilities during the pandemic, followed by discussion with leaders from the autism advocacy community.

Event Information

Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST

Cost: The event is free and open to the public.

Access: This is a virtual event and will be accessible via <https://videocast.nih.gov/watch=41900>

If you experience technical problems, please e-mail IACCPublicInquiries@mail.nih.gov

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

Turning 18 in Virginia: What Individuals with Disabilities Need to Consider

Hosted by MCPS Parent Resource Center & Special Education Department and presented by PEATC

When: Thursday, May 6, 2021, 7 pm

Description: Turning 18 is a big deal for all individuals. An 18-year-old is legally considered an adult in Va. Therefore, when your child turns 18, he/she is the person that makes legal, financial, medical, and educational decisions in his/her life. For some individuals with disabilities, this will not be an issue. Others may need support. This workshop will share basic information about things that need to be considered as your loved one turns 18.

To register click link below:

[Turning18](#)

After registration, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Adapted Aquatics lessons for children at the Botetourt, Salem and Roanoke YMCAs

Starting the first week of April, the Botetourt, Kirk (Roanoke) and Salem YMCAs will be offering swing lessons to children with special abilities who might need some extra one-on-one time in the water.

Lessons are 30 minutes long. The child to instructor ratio is 3:1.

Cost is \$40/month for members and \$56/month for non-members. Call or visit any location to **register starting 3/1/21.**

Botetourt YMCA: 540.966.9622

Kirk YMCA: 540.342.9622

Salem YMCA: 540.387.9622

VT Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research Biennial Autism Conference: Autism in the COVID-19 Era

VT Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research Biennial Autism Conference: Autism in the COVID-19 Era. UVA's keynote speaker Dr. Mazurek will be in attendance.

Event Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 from 2-5pm EST

Location: Virtual via Zoom

For more information regarding registration information please contact vtautismcenter@vt.edu.



Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Micah Mazurek, University of Virginia

Tentative Schedule

- 2-2:15 Welcome and VTAC/CAR overview
- 2:15-3:00 Keynote speaker – Dr. Micah Mazurek
- 3-3:15 Break
- 3:15-3:35 Katrina Ostmeier, "OASIS-Parent Training: A Novel Approach to Service Deserts"
- 3:35-3:55 Ligia Antezana, "Neural Mechanisms of Circumscribed Interests and Intense Fascinations among Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder"
- 3:55-4:10 Break
- 4:10-4:30 Christina McDonnell, "Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Children and Teens with Autism"
- 4:30-4:50 Carolyn Shivers, "ASD Sibling Relationships in College"
- 4:50-5:00 Closing remarks and SAFE Community Champion Award

FREE - Registration info to come!

SAVE THE DATE

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021

Time: 2-5pm EST

Location: Virtual via Zoom

For more information please contact
vtautismcenter@vt.edu


VT Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research Biennial Autism Conference: Autism in the COVID-19 Era



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Dr. Mazurek is an Associate Professor in the Department of Human Services and is the Director of University of Virginia's Supporting Transformative Autism Research (STAR) program. She has broad clinical experience in psychological assessment and intervention, with specific expertise in assessment and treatment of autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders. She has also been active in efforts to enhance quality of care through training, capacity-building, and development and dissemination of best-practice autism guidelines and toolkits.



Bring Your Own Brain





Bring Your Own Brain!

Celebrating Neurodiversity in STEM Careers

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
6pm to 8pm

Panel Discussion via Zoom Webinar

Make sure to attend this annual diversity event for Division of IT held via zoom webinar

Event Date: Wednesday, April 28, 6-8 pm

A Zoom link to register for the webinar will be available soon. For more information, please contact Angela Correa at acorrea@vt.edu or 540-231-4202.

For more information see: <https://it.vt.edu/neurodiversity.html>

Virtual Monthly Autistic Adult Support Group

Are you an adult on the autism spectrum and live in Virginia?
Our free, monthly support group for autistic adults will be held virtually on Zoom on the first **Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30pm, starting February 2.**

This online support meeting will discuss what YOU want to talk about. Examples of past topics: setting personal goals, dealing with angry or sad emotions, identifying personal learning styles.

Meetings will be moderated by a VT clinical psychology graduate clinician; however, any discussion will be mainly facilitated by the autistic adults in the group.

To sign up for a meeting visit

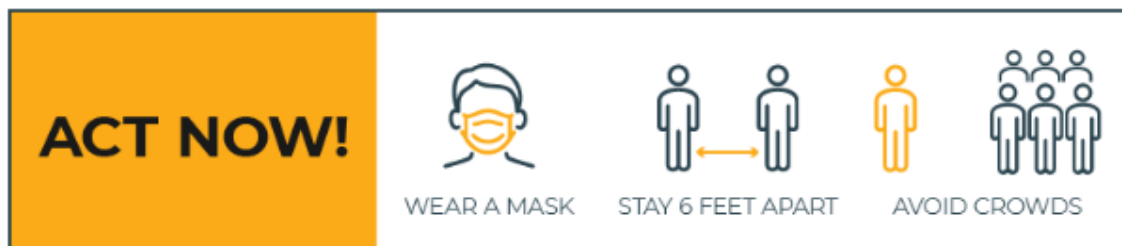
[https://virginiatech-hipaa.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAKfu2ggz0pE9RIOModcaxCwXQVqfV3KKXp](https://virginiatech-hipaa.zoom.us/join/https://virginiatech-hipaa.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAKfu2ggz0pE9RIOModcaxCwXQVqfV3KKXp)

Please sign up to join no later than 12pm the day of

Address questions to Megan at mfok@vt.edu

Vaccine Information Center - Virginia Department of Health

[Click here](#) for information on VDH COVID-19 Vaccination Response.



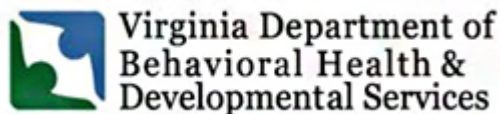
Employment Opportunities

Come check out our job openings for REACH Region III.

[Click here](#) for the flyer.

For more information on available positions and to apply [click here](#).

DBHDS



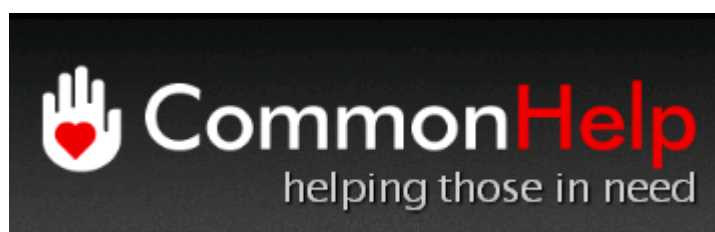
[Click Here](#) for the website.

[Click Here](#) for Provider Development.

New Fair Housing Protections in Virginia: Source of Funds Discrimination

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Resources



Virginia CommonHelp

In these difficult times, many Virginians are looking for assistance with essential services.

Virginia CommonHelp makes it easy for you to apply for multiple Department of Social Services programs using one online application.

CommonHelp partners with several government agencies to offer Virginians a fast and easy way to apply for a wide range of services:

- Help with paying for childcare
- Home energy assistance
- Help with buying food
- Low or no-cost healthcare
- Temporary cash assistance for families with children

To determine your eligibility for one or more programs, you can complete CommonHelp's [online eligibility portal](#). The portal will tell you which programs you qualify for and how to apply for them online. Visit the [CommonHelp website](#) to learn more about the programs and government agencies that they partner with.

The Employment Toolkit for Job Seekers with Autism

readyjob.org

[Click here](#) to view.



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 Events and News!

[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.



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 and [here](#) for **The Voice -Special Needs Alliance Newsletter**.



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.

Commonwealth Autism

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



New River Valley Disability Resource Center

A Non-Profit Center for Independent Living; Serving the NRV

[Click here](#) for their website for Events and Resources.

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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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