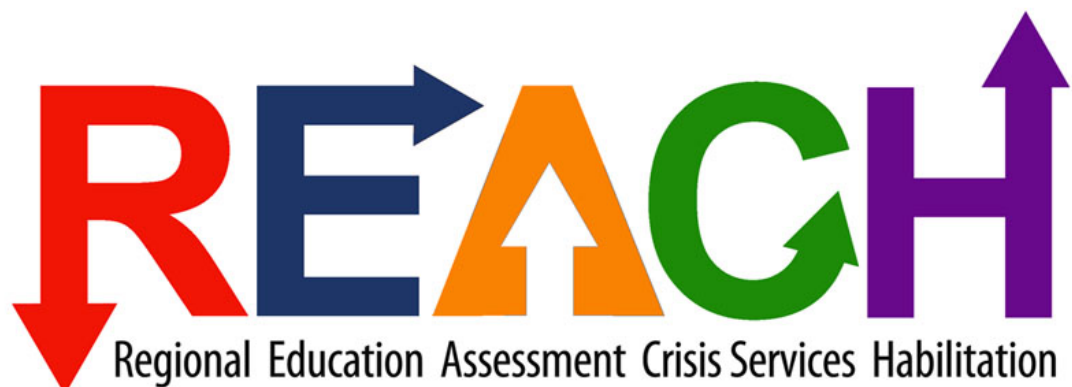


REACH Region III – The Newsletter
Vol.9, No.04, April 2023

[View this email in your browser](#)



REACH Region III - Monthly Report: March

[Click here](#) to view



April is Autism Acceptance Month

The theme, "Celebrate Differences," will be running for its 5th year. Raise awareness to promote autism acceptance, to celebrate each individual's unique differences, and to foster inclusivity and connectedness.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Update

Clinical Corner



March Data

Adults

Referrals: 27
Active Clients: 81
Crisis Plan Hours: 77.9
Crisis Prevention hours: 362.4

Calls to Crisis Line

Information: 43
Crisis Prevention: 139
Crisis Face to Face Response: 25 Face to Face + 4 Telehealth
Total Calls: 211

Average Crisis/Face to Face Response Time:
67.9 minutes

Crisis Therapeutic Home

Emergency Bed Days: 51
Step-down Bed Days: 31
Prevention Bed Days: 0

Children

Referrals: 17
Active Clients: 57
Crisis Plan Hours: 17.3



Identity-First Language

autisticadvocacy.org

Words and language are powerful tools by which an individual can express ideas, whether abstract, actionable, or concrete.

Changing a phrase — even if it holds the same literal meaning — alters the subtle connotations and nuances of the speech, and communicates a different meaning and context than the original phrasing.

[Click here](#) to read.

Crisis Supports for the Autism Community

suicidology.org

Purpose of this Toolkit:

Crisis Prevention Hours:
208.5

Calls to Crisis Line

Information: 40
Crisis Prevention: 10
Crisis Face to Face
Response: 20 Face to
Face + 2 Telehealth
Total Calls: 72

*Average Crisis/Face to
Face Response Time:*
41.8 minutes

Our Referral Form

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

REACH Region III
Email: info@swvareach.org
Fax: 540.267.3403

This resource was developed to aide crisis center workers in identifying and supporting autistic callers/ texters who are in crisis. A person with autism may or may not disclose their diagnosis to a crisis center worker or even be aware they are on the autism spectrum, yet still need individualized, specific support.

This resource includes ways to identify potential callers/texters who show autistic traits and characteristics, as well as ways to support an autistic person in crisis.

The resource also explains the unique differences in communication, thought processes, sensory issues, and misunderstandings a crisis worker may encounter while helping an autistic person in crisis.

[Click here](#) to view.

Apps



**First Then Visual
Schedule HD**

FTVS HD lets you easily and quickly create and use ALL these visual supports in just one app:

Health



DBHDS/Office of Integrated Health

The April Newsletter Includes:

- Choking Risk Among Individuals with IDD
- App of the Month
- ABA Snippets
- Free Training

[Click here](#) to view.

- First Then boards
- Visual schedules
- Task analyses
- Social stories
- Choice boards
- Video models

[Click here](#) for the archives.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Books & Podcasts



ASF Weekly Science Podcasts

Autism Science Foundation

The latest autism research news stories with ASF Chief Science Officer Alycia Halladay.

[Click here](#) to listen.

Video



The 5-4-3-2-1 Method: A Grounding Exercise to Manage Anxiety

The Partnership in Education/YouTube.com

The 5-4-3-2-1 method is a grounding exercise that can be done almost anywhere and it doesn't require any equipment or materials- just your brain!

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

Employment Opportunities



REACH Region III Is Hiring!

The **REACH** program is the statewide crisis system of care that is designed to meet the crisis support needs of individuals who have a developmental disability and are experiencing crisis events which put them at risk for homelessness, incarceration, hospitalization, and/or danger to self or others.

REACH services are available statewide, with one regional program being located in each of the Commonwealth's five DD regions.

REACH Mission Statement

Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities shall be supported with services that allow the individual to live the most inclusive life possible in his/her community which includes access to appropriate and effective crisis stabilization, intervention, and prevention services including mental health treatment services when indicated.

What does it mean to our staff to work for REACH?

"I enjoy working in the REACH program as it allows me to be creative and to utilize skills and abilities that most programs do not. REACH services also allows me the opportunity to witness the impact of my work on clients and their families/providers." - Junior Stoots, REACH Coordinator

"Working for REACH means to me being the first line of support when working with a challenging population. It means being flexible and dependable for my co-workers and the consumers we serve." – Nicole Dailey, CSP II-Utilization and Training

REACH Region III - Southwestern Virginia.

Areas Served:

Blue Ridge BH: Botetourt, Buchanan Town, Daleville, Eagle Rock, Fincastle, Oriskany, Roanoke City, Troutville, Arcadia, Catawba, Craig, New Castle, Newport, Paint Bank, Bent Mountain, Roanoke, Vinton, Salem, Vinton

Cumberland Mt CSB: Big Rock, Buchanan, Grundy, Pilgrims Knot, Vansant, Castlewood, Cleveland, Dante, Honaker, Lebanon, Rosedale, Russell, Tazewell

Highland CS: Washington County, Abingdon, Clarksville, Damascus, Emory, Glade Spring, Meadowview and City of Bristol, Virginia

New River Valley CS: Radford, Willis, Copper Hill, Floyd, Giles, Narrows, Pearisburg, Rich Creek, Staffordsville, Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Claudville, Montgomery, Riner, Shawsville, Pilot, Allisonia, Draper, Dublin, Hiwassee, New Bern, Pulaski, Pembroke, Meadows of Dan

Danville-Pittsylvania CSB: Danville, Blairs, Callands, Chatham, Gretna, Pittsylvania, Ringgold, Sandy Level

Dickenson County BHS: Birchleaf, Breaks, Clinchco, Clintwood, Dickenson, Haysi

Mt. Rogers CSB: Bastian, Bland, Rocky Gap, Carroll, Atkins, Ceres, Chilhowie, Elk Creek, Fires, Galax, Grayson, Groseclose, Hillsville, Independence, Mouth of Wilson, Smyth, Sugar Grove, Troutdale, Whitetop, Saltville, Marion, Barren Springs, Crockett, Fort Chiswell, Foster Falls, Ivanhoe, Max Meadows,

Wythe, Wytheville, Rural Retreat

Piedmont CS: Martinsville, Boones Mill, Burnt Chimney, Callaway, Ferrum, Franklin , Glade Hill, Penhook, Rocky Mount, Smith Mountain Lake, Union Hall, Wirtz, Axton, Bassett, Collinsville, Fieldale, Henry, Ridgeway, Spencer, Stanleytown, Patrick

Planning District One BHS: Dryden, Ewing, Jonesville, Lee, Middlesboro, Pennington Gap, Rose Hill, Stickleystown, Norton, Clinchport, Duffield, Dungannon, Gate City, Hiltons, Nickelsville, Scott, Weber City, Appalachia, Big Stone Gap, Coeburn, Pound, St. Paul, Wise,

Southside CSB: Warfield, Alberta, Brunswick , Gasburg, Lawrenceville, Rawlings, Alaton, Boydton, Buffalo Junction, Chase City, Clarksville, Clover, Halifax, Mecklenburg, Nathalie, Scottsburg, Skipwith, South Boston, South Hill, Sutherlin, Virgilina, Bracey

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

(Type 'REACH' in the search bar)

Opportunities and Events



ONLINE EVENTS

[University of Colorado Department of Psychiatry: Unstuck and On Target Training for Caregivers of Children with Autism - fee based](#)

May 1, 8, 15, & 22
5:30pm - 7:00pm MST

[PEATC: Planning for the Future: Financial and Decision Options](#) - free

Tuesday, April 18
6:30 - 7:30pm EST

IN-PERSON EVENTS

[OCALICON's Premier Autism and Disabilities Conference: Call for Proposals](#)

Call closes March 31 (Conference November 14-17)

[Chuck E. Cheese: Sensory Sensitive Sundays](#)

The Roanoke location is open 2 hours early on the first Sunday of every month, specifically for children with autism and other special needs.

4059 Electric Road
Roanoke, VA

DBHDS



Virginia Department of
Behavioral Health &
Developmental Services

[Click Here](#) for the website.

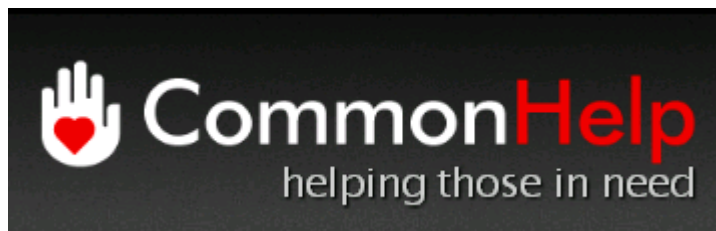
[Click Here](#) for Provider Development.

Resources

The ARC of the United States

Our Virtual Program Library for People With Disabilities Is Now Live!

[Click here](#) to view!



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



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!

friends.

[Click here](#) for their website.

[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**.



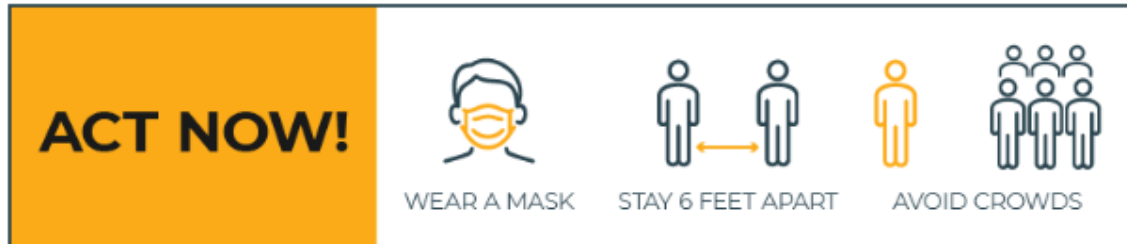
New River Valley Disability Resource Center

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

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

Vaccine Information Center - Virginia Department of Health

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



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[About REACH](#)

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

[Contact REACH Region III](#)

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Business - 540.267.3435

Fax - 540.267.3403

Email - info@swvaREACH.org

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