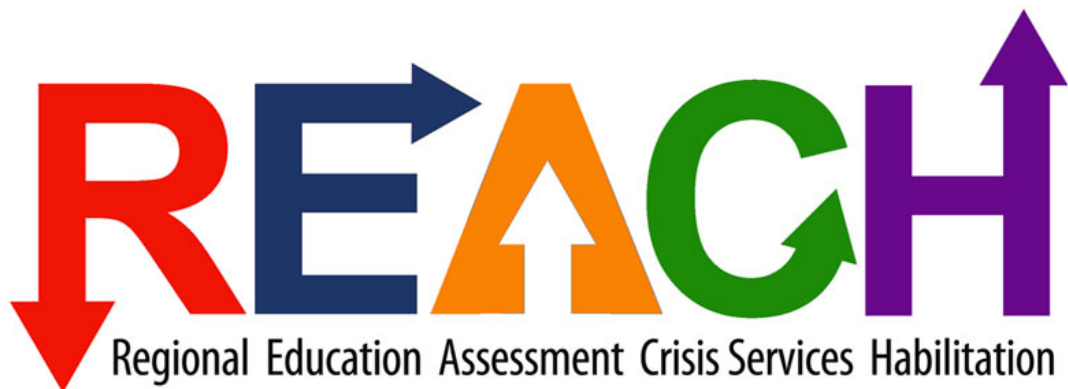


REACH Region III – The Newsletter  
Vol.9, No.02, February 2023

[View this email in your browser](#)



## Featured Psychologist: Joseph White, PhD

Joseph L. White is sometimes referred to as 'the father of Black psychology.'

- He wrote the groundbreaking article "Toward a Black Psychology," which is credited as the first-ever strengths-based (rather than deficit-based) evaluation and description of Black behavior and culture.
- He passionately advocated for the creation of Black psychology, arguing that applying white psychology to Black people often unfairly created the illusion of Black inferiority, when ultimately it was a reflection of the culturally irrelevant psychological principles being applied.
- Not only that, he also helped found the association of Black Psychologist as the Black Studies program at San Francisco State University in 1968.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

## REACH Region III - Monthly Report: January

[Click here](#) to view

### Update



### January Data

#### Adults

Referrals: 39  
Active Clients: 86  
Crisis Plan Hours: 91.3  
Crisis Prevention hours: 138.9

#### **Calls to Crisis Line**

Information: 54  
Crisis Prevention: 126  
Crisis Face to Face Response: 16 Face to Face + 3 Telehealth  
**Total Calls: 199**

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

#### **Crisis Therapeutic Home**

Emergency Bed Days: 23  
Step-down Bed Days: 37  
Prevention Bed Days: 0

### Clinical Corner



#### Understanding the Intersection Between Autism and LGBTQIA+

Hosted by: Dr. Karen Wilson  
Special Guest:  
Dr. Laurie Stephens

### Understanding the Intersection Between Autism and LGBTQIA+ with Dr. Laurie Stephens

Many topics of the Diverse Thinking Different Learning Podcast come from parents and individuals who provide services to children. Today's topic has come up more than once and our guest is able to shed some light on the intersection between autism and LGBTQIA+.

Dr. Laurie Stephens joins to share the research on this overlap and what she sees herself as the Senior Director of Autism and Clinical Programs for The Help Group. Through her work with The Help

## Children

Referrals: 23  
 Active Clients: 54  
 Crisis Plan Hours: 67.6  
 Crisis Prevention Hours:  
 135.1

## **Calls to Crisis Line**

Information: 29  
 Crisis Prevention: 8  
 Crisis Face to Face  
 Response: 13 Face to  
 Face + 5 Telehealth  
**Total Calls: 55**

*Average Crisis/Face to  
 Face Response Time:*  
 86.5 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](mailto:info@swvareach.org)  
 Fax: 540.267.3403

Group, she has also developed an affirming community called Kaleidoscope which is offered in person and online. And she explains how we can better understand and support multi-minority status individuals with their own self-acceptance, their education, and their mental health.

[Click here](#) to learn more and listen.

## Videos



## **How Mindfulness Changes The Emotional Life Of Our Brains**

*Richard J. Davidson/TEDx Talks*

"Why is it that some people are more vulnerable to life's slings and arrows and others more resilient?"

In this eye-opening talk, Richard Davidson discusses how mindfulness can improve well-being and outlines strategies to boost four components of a healthy mind: awareness, connection, insight, and purpose.

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

## Apps

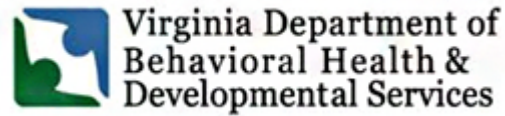


## Assistive Express

Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) Device, catered to people with difficulty in speech.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

## Health



## DBHDS/Office of Integrated Health

The February Newsletter Includes:

- Cardinal Care - Virginia Medicaid is transitioning to Cardinal Care
- App of the month
- DBHDS has a Facebook Page
- ABA Snippets
- Available Trainings



### NASW Social Work Talks Podcast

[Click here](#) to learn more and listen.

[Click here](#) to view.

[Click here](#) for the archives.

## 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, Stickleysville, 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)*

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## Opportunities and Events



### ONLINE EVENTS

[T/TAC: Assistive Technology Transition Summit 2](#)

*free*



Thursday, February 28

3:30 - 5pm EST

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Autism Society of Central Virginia: Virtual Groups - free

[Virtual Guys Group for Dads & Paternal Caregivers](#)

February 16

6:30 - 7:30pm

[Virtual Caregivers of Teens & Adults Support Group](#)

February 20

6 - 7:00pm

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PEATC: Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training - fee based

April 11 and 12

9am - noon EST both days

**Registration closes March 31.**

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## IN-PERSON EVENTS

VDOE and Partnership for People with Disabilities: I'm Determined 2023 Youth and Family Summit

Accepting up to 50 Virginia youth, ranging from 14-18 years old.

June 13 - 15

James Madison University

**Applications close February 17.**

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Virginia Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT): Annual Transition Conference

March 6-7

Roanoke, VA

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Virginia Cooperative Extension 4H: Dog Programs Educational Clinic for 9-18 year olds - fee based

Saturday, March 11

10am - 3pm

Virginia Tech

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DARS, VDOE, DBVI, WWRC, Radford TTAC and VCU-CTI: Create Transition Success in Southwest Virginia

For local inter-agency transition teams to network, collaborate and inspire creativity by sharing local experiences and resources.

Tuesday, March 21

8am - 3pm

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center

Abingdon, VA

**Registration closes March 1.**

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[Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research: Biennial Spring Conference](#)

April 21

8:30am - 4:30pm

Registration is \$10.

The Inn at Virginia Tech

Blacksburg, VA

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## DBHDS



Virginia Department of  
Behavioral Health &  
Developmental Services

[Click Here](#) for the website.

[Click Here](#) for Provider Development.

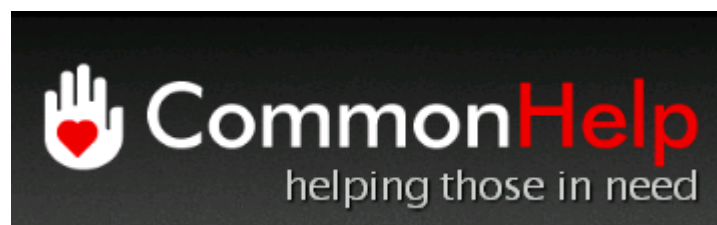
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## Resources

### 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.

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## 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

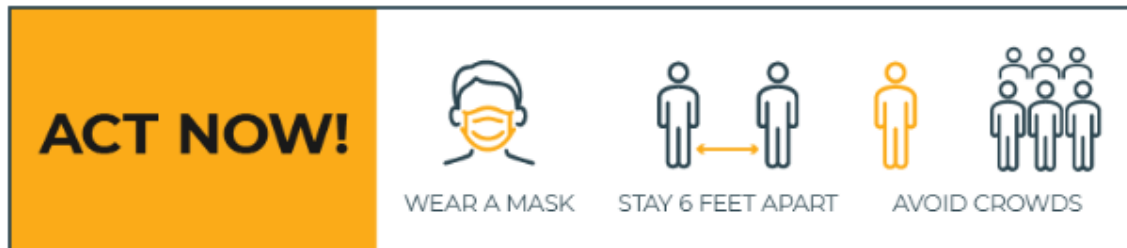
### **New River Valley Disability Resource Center**

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](#)

**Our mailing address is:**

824 W. Main St., Radford, VA 24141

**Crisis and Information Line - 1.855.887.8278**

**Business - 540.267.3435**

**Fax - 540.267.3403**

**Email - [info@swvaREACH.org](mailto:info@swvaREACH.org)**

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