

# CARD NEWSLETTER

## CARD Staff

**David O. Childers Jr., M.D.**  
Chief of Developmental Pediatrics &  
Executive Director of CARD

**Mae Barker, Ph.D., BCBA-D**  
Clinical Director

**Jeannie M. Bowles, M.B.A.**  
Division Administrator

**Anne M. Wilson, M.S.T., BCaBA**  
Educational Coordinator/Transition  
Specialist

**Marlena Jenkins, B.A., BCaBA**  
Educational Coordinator

**Elise Bowers, M.A.**  
Educational Coordinator / Family  
Counselor

**Angela Mann, M.A.**  
Educational Coordinator

**Katrina Ressa, B.S., BCaBA**  
Educational Coordinator

**Carolyn Tully, M.S., BCBA**  
Educational Coordinator

**Jennifer Flagge, B.S.**  
Event Coordinator

**Anthony R. Rhodes, M.S.**  
Educational Multimedia Specialist

**Tyler Rounds**  
Office Assistant

**Maria R. Tapia, Ph.D.**  
Psychological Consultant

## Constituency Board Officers

**Joe Golon** - Chair

**Lou Cabrera** - Co-chair

**Zohreh Kianmehr-Roumi**  
- Secretary

CARD serves Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler,  
Nassau, & St. Johns County.

We offer services to family, schools, and community organizations who's lives come in contact with the autism community. CARD also provides services to individuals with vision or hearing impairments or dual sensory impairments.

All CARD services are at no cost to the individual.

## CARD Coordinator Recognized with DCDT Collaboration Award

The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) is especially proud of educational coordinator, *Anne M. Wilson*, for receiving the 2009 Collaboration Award from the Florida Federation Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT).

Anne has been a educational coordinator with CARD for over nine years and now specializes in assisting individuals with successfully transitioning from high school to postsecondary school and the public workforce.



The Collaboration Award honors exceptional individuals or organizations who have significantly contributed toward the improvement of existing programs and services for individuals with disabilities in transition.

Anne was one of many individuals nominated by families and professionals in the transition community.

CARD would like to thank Anne for her years of dedicated service, her extensive knowledge of transition resources, and her dedication to the individuals and families we serve.

DCDT is the premier organization for career development and transition for persons with disabilities.

For more information visit their website at:  
<http://www.coe.ufl.edu/flcdct/mainframe.htm>



Join the CARD mailing list to receive weekly updates on local autism events in the Jacksonville area. Email your name and email address to:  
[anthony.rhodes@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:anthony.rhodes@jax.ufl.edu)

## Upcoming Events

\*Autism Summer Institute - See pg. 3\*

May 13 - CARD Constituency Board Meeting

May 17 - Project Autism - Explore a Fire Station

June 5 - 11th Annual Family Café

June 15 - Break Par for Little Star Golf Tournament

Download flyers for these events at  
[www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut](http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut)

## Bounce Over to CARD Easter Egghunt

CARD celebrated it's third seasonal themed event this year with an egg hunt, cupcake decorating contest, and an opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny herself.

Seasonal themed events are provided by CARD so that children with autism and related disabilities have the opportunity to participate in events similar to their peers in a patient, friendly environment.



# Letter from the Director



Summer is right around the corner, and the UF-Jacksonville CARD will be offering a number of events and opportunities for individuals in the autism community. We are excited to be co-hosting five different workshops as part of a Regional Autism Summer Institute. With generous support and assistance from FDLRS/CROWN and the DOE PEPSA project, we will be offering workshops on topics such as genetics of autism, language evaluations, best educational practices, inclusion, verbal behavior, and employment planning. These workshops will all be free of charge and registration for these events is now open. Due to the lineup of expert speakers and topics, spaces will fill up fast.

In addition to the Summer Institute, we will be holding additional learning events here at our center. The Behavioral Detectives Camp will be back by popular demand, and Chief Detectives Mann, Ressa, and Rhodes will be looking for a few good candidates who can face the rigorous challenges of detective training! Elise Bowers will also be continuing to offer her social skills training for our little ones with autism spectrum disorders and their parents using the More than Words program. There are other groups and events that will be offered by CARD during the summer, and I encourage you to visit our website to find out more information: [www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut/calendar\\_events.asp](http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut/calendar_events.asp)

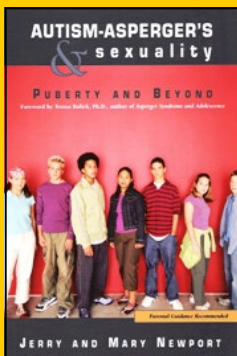
Last, most parents think of summer as a time when their kids can just be kids and relax away from the rigors of school. For parents of children with autism, such thinking is completely understandable since their children do work very hard during the school year not only learning academics, but learning other skills like how to communicate and interact with others. Children with autism deserve a break as much as any other child. However, when I write the word "break," I'm thinking of a break as a reprieve from waking up early, sitting in a desk, or lining up for lunch and NOT as a summer-long hiatus from instruction. Children with autism should always be in environments and places that nurture their learning. Summer time can be a great time for parents and other family members to use natural environment training techniques with their child. When parents use natural environment training, they capitalize on naturally occurring routines and child-selected activities as teachable moments. By embedding instruction into an ongoing activity, the child may be more motivated to participate in the instruction and may also acquire a more usable skill that generalizes across different activities and settings. To learn more about naturalistic teaching techniques as well as other useful interventions and strategies, visit this website: <http://www.autismnetwork.org>. For additional support, you can also contact an educational coordinator at CARD to assist you and your family in learning these techniques.

Have a good summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Mae Barker, BCBA-D  
Clinical Director

## New in the CARD Lending Library



**Autism-Asperger's & Sexuality: Puberty and Beyond**  
By **Jerry and Mary Newport**

A husband and wife with Asperger's Syndrome give invaluable advice to and for teens and adults going through this difficult period.

Jerry and Mary Newport possesses a knack for bringing understanding, warmth, and humor to any subject. Here, in this invaluable book the husband and wife team bring those abilities to explaining the world of romance, dating, and sexuality to people with autism and Asperger's Syndrome.

### Qualitative Research Methods in Special Education

By **James Paul, Jeannie Kleinhammer-Tramill, and Kathleen Fowler.**

Purchased by CARD for teachers and college students interested in collecting experiential data, this book documents the history, theory, and methodology of qualitative research methods. School culture, patterns of participation in school-related activities, and the impact of those activities on a student's performance are among the phenomena covered (each with it's own illustrated example).



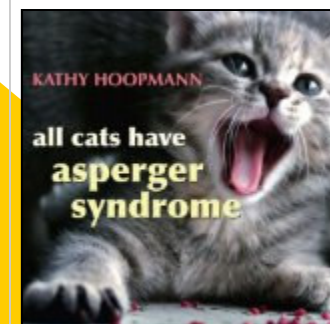
This title offers an introduction to eight qualitative research methods while providing specific implicational uses in special education classes including the autistic classroom.

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### All Cats Have Asperger Syndrome

By **Kathy Hoopmann**

Taking a playful look at Asperger Syndrome (AS), while drawing inspiration from the feline world in a way that will strike a chord with all those who are familiar with AS; this title brings to life familiar characteristics such as sensitive hearing, scampering at the first sign of being stroked and picky eating habits. Touching, humorous, and often insightful, Hoopmann evokes the difficulties and joys of raising a child who is different and leaves the reader with a sense of the dignity, individuality and the potential of people with ASD.



An ideal, gentle introduction to the world of ASD.

# CARD AUTISM SUMMER INSTITUTE: Regional Workshop Series

June 12, 2009 9:00 am to 12:00 pm "The Genetics of Autism, an Update"

Presented by Dr. Charles Williams, geneticist. Dr. Williams will present an current overview of the genetic and medical evaluation of Autism Spectrum Disorders.

June 12, 2009 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm "Language Disorder Vs. Autism: Evaluating Young Children with Communication Delays"

Presented by Lori Allen, M.S. CCC-SLP Evaluation of Language Disorders vs. Autism Spectrum Disorders will be discussed.

June 19, 2009 "Best Practices for Teaching Students with Autism in the Self-Contained Classroom: A Workshop for Teachers"

Presenters: Christine Dix and Trina Middleton

This workshop will cover topics specifically for the teacher serving students with autism spectrum disorders in the self-contained classroom setting.

June 26, 2009 "Making Inclusion Work"

Presented by Angela Mann, M.S., Erin Swenson, and Donna Foster. This training will focus on planning for inclusion for students in the self-contained autism classroom as well as how to best support students who are already partially or fully included

July 10, 2009 "Teaching Early to Advanced Language Skills to Children with Autism"

Presented by Dr. Vincent Carbone, Ed. D, BCBA-D Dr. Carbone, renowned behavior analyst, will present on "Functional Communication" and how it serves as the foundation that supports the development of skills in all areas. Applied Behavior Analysis will be discussed.

July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 "The Pieces of the Employment Puzzle: Unlocking Passions Through Transition & Career Assessment"

Presented by: Stacie Dojonovic, M.S., Transition Specialist and Dr. Kristine Webb, Ph.D., professor for UNF.

Stacie Dojonovic and Dr. Webb will provide specific information on a process for conducting community-based assessment in transition settings, including instruction in real work the CBA questionnaire for completing documents.

# Programs

CARD is pleased to be able to offer a variety of programs. Noted here are a selection of our more popular trainings and groups. For a comprehensive list of programs please visit:

[www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut/documents/CARDClinics\\_Oct2008.pdf](http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut/documents/CARDClinics_Oct2008.pdf)



## **Behavioral Detective Social Skills Camp:**

A detective themed camp designed for children diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome. During this 10-12 week camp junior detectives will work hand-in-hand with CARD staff members to address the social concerns that face this population, such as, bullying, engaging in a conversation, managing anger and making friends. Parents are also asked to participate in the parent component which will provide helpful strategies for strengthening childrens skills in the real world.

## **More than Words:**

This weekly social skills and play clinic addresses the core deficit areas of communication and social skills behavior in verbal children with ASD ages 3-5years old. Utilizing the principals and strategies laid out in the More than Words curriculum, family members gain hands on experience with activities designed to increase their child's motivation to interact with those around them.

## **Positive Parenting:**

This 3 week clinic will allow parents and caregivers to work directly with a Board Certified Behavior Analyst who can assist with increasing positive interactions between parents and their child, as well as, structuring the home environment so that it is conducive for teaching language and appropriate behaviors in individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

## **Adolescent & Adult Support Groups:**

These 1 hour and 30 minute support groups, led by Dr. Maria Tapia, a licensed Clinical Psychologist, assists adolescents and adults diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome. During this time, Dr. Tapia provides problem solving techniques and group Exercises, troubleshooting a variety of topics that are of concern to them. This group meets the 2nd Monday of every month.

## **Two Feet Forward:**

This group meets once a month on Tuesdays and is led by Anne Wilson and will provide parents and caregivers of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders an overview of transition, self determination and advocacy skills, IEP planning, post secondary options, as well as, helpful job seeking information.

## **Asperger Social Skills Group:**

This 1 hour and 30 minute social skills group is led by Dr. Maria Tapia, Licensed Clinical Psychologist and assists adolescents diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome. During this time, problem solving techniques and real world scenarios are practiced to assist this population with troubleshooting topics that are of concern to them. During this time, the parents of participants meet for a Parent Support group where they share ideas and concerns that are of interest to them. The siblings of participants also meet for a Sibling Shop and parent group, where they share topics or concerns they have about Autism Spectrum Disorder. Sibling Shop often involved the therapeutic use of games, activities or craft making.

## Game Day @ the Library

CARD held it's second Game Day at the Duval County Main Library. The event, open to all ages, held in the Teen Services area of the Duval Main Library, provided an opportunity for individuals to spend time with friends and learn new skills; like turn taking, following rules, requesting, loosing graciously, and giving compliments.

For more information on future Game Days contact:  
[Katrina.Ressa@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:Katrina.Ressa@jax.ufl.edu)



## Congratulations Marlena Fuller and Demetrius Jenkins

One of our favorite Ed. Coordinators is now Mrs. Demetrius Jenkins. CARD wishes a heartfelt congrats to the newlyweds.



## CARD Sibshops

Sibshops are celebrations in which siblings of individuals with special needs can come to share experiences and gain peer support. Participants share information, have discussions, enjoy cooking activities, and most of all have fun.

For more information contact:  
[carolyn.tully@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:carolyn.tully@jax.ufl.edu)



## Local Cyclists Ride for Autism

By Carolyn Tully

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ride with Me for Autism cycling event that was recently held at the Jacksonville-Baldwin Rail Trail was a great success. It was a beautiful day for the many cyclists who came out to participate in the rides. There were lots of activities for non-riders and children who came out to enjoy the day and support a good cause. Festivities included live music, a DJ, food, raffle prizes, touring the fire truck, and more.

*Helen Green*, Founder and President of the Jessica Green Foundation, Inc. (a non-profit organization that strives to give the much needed support to families facing challenges associated with autism), is appreciative of all those who supported and participated in this event. The proceeds from the Ride with Me for Autism event will go directly to the foundation. Support will be provided through donations, medical necessities, and scholarships for programs benefiting those on the autism spectrum. Autism affects approximately 1 out of 150 individuals and is characterized by impairments in communication and social interaction, as well as repetitive behaviors and rigid routines.



# Jacksonville Area Summer Camps

## Play Works Therapies and Developmental Program Summer Camp

18 month to 6 years old  
12276 San Jose Blvd.  
Suite 507  
Jacksonville, FL 32223  
904-288-8910  
[playworkstx@comcast.net](mailto:playworkstx@comcast.net)

## Hope Haven

4600 Beach Boulevard  
Jacksonville, FL 32207  
904-346-5100  
Summer camps for children with disabilities. Also have after-school programs.

## Camp St John Disabilities

Catholic Ministry  
St Augustine - St Johns Ct  
904-356-0810  
Children with developmental physical and multiple challenges  
Camps through the Diocese of St. Augustine:  
Camp I Am Special (6-13 yo)  
Camp Care (persons w/autism: 6 and up)  
Camp Promise (14-30yo)  
One week Session for adults over 30  
134 E. Church St  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
Phone: 904-356-0810  
Email: [jwalsh@ccbjax.org](mailto:jwalsh@ccbjax.org)  
[www.dosacamps.com/home.html](http://www.dosacamps.com/home.html)

## Florida Diabetes Camp

Mail: P.O. Box 14136  
Gainesville, FL 32604  
Camp location varies  
352-334-1321  
Children with diabetes

CARD is especially appreciative to *Jill Fane* for compiling and sharing the majority of this list. Jill has been supporting the local autism and child disability community for several years through the Central Florida Parent Center (CFPC). To learn more about the CFPC and the information, assistance, and training they provide to parents and families go to:

<http://www.cflparents.org/>

## Little Star Center

Autism Summer Camp  
11512 Lake Mead Avenue  
Suite 801  
Jacksonville, FL 32256  
904-928-0112  
[littlestarcenter@msn.com](mailto:littlestarcenter@msn.com)  
[www.littlestarjax.com/skills\\_camp.html](http://www.littlestarjax.com/skills_camp.html)

## Angelwood Summer Day Camp

Children with Disabilities  
4674-2 Hood Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32257  
[elavecchia@angelwoodjax.org](mailto:elavecchia@angelwoodjax.org)  
[www.angelwoodjax.org/summer.html](http://www.angelwoodjax.org/summer.html)

## CP of Jacksonville: K.I.D.S.

(Kids in Dynamic Settings)  
(up to age 12)  
3311 Beach Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32207  
[www.cpnef.org](http://www.cpnef.org) 733-3070

## CAMP H.Y.P.E.:

6 Week exciting summer program that has been exclusively designed for deaf and hearing-impaired youth ranging in ages from 7-17 years old  
[www.prideinaction.com/Summer.htm](http://www.prideinaction.com/Summer.htm)

## Great Strides Rehabilitation

12276 San Jose Blvd  
Jacksonville, FL 32203  
(904) 886-32203  
[www.greatstridesrehab.com/](http://www.greatstridesrehab.com/)

## Jacksonville Children's Commission Summer Camp Programs List

General Admission. See list at:  
[www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/Recreation+and+Community+Programming/Recreation+Activities/Summer+Camp.htm](http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/Recreation+and+Community+Programming/Recreation+Activities/Summer+Camp.htm)

## Mosh 2009 Summer Adventure Camp

General Admission. K-7th grade.  
New theme each week  
1025 Museum Circle  
Jacksonville, FL 32207  
(904) 396-6674  
[www.themosh.org/Kto7\\_Grade\\_Camps.html](http://www.themosh.org/Kto7_Grade_Camps.html)

## Communication Institute for Excellence Summer Camp

Full day, two-week programs  
General Admission. Ages 5 to 17.  
Jacksonville, FL  
(904) 537-3629  
[www.stewartmillercommunication.com/summercamp2007.htm](http://www.stewartmillercommunication.com/summercamp2007.htm)

## Camp Eureka

340 Third Ave. Suite B.  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250  
[rdifl@hotmail.com](mailto:rdifl@hotmail.com)

