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 of Career Development and Transition (DCDT).

Anne has been a educational coordinator for 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/flcdt/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

www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut
(904) 633-0760

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

Bounce Over to CARD Easter Egg Hunt

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.
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:

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www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut/calendar_events.asp
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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 impicalcations uses in special education classes including the autistic classroom.

**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.

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.

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 transition community-based assessment in transition through observation of students in real work settings, including instruction for completing the CBA questionnaire and associated documents.

All Workshops are scheduled from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm unless otherwise noted.  
All workshops will be located at the Bank of America Building: 9000 Southside Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32256
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

**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 Disorder an overview of transition, self determination and advocacy skills, IEP planning, post secondary options, as well as, helpful job seeking information.

**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 children’s 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 3-5 years 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.

**Asperger Social Skills Group:**
This 1 hour and 30 minute social skills group is led by Dr. Maria Tapia, a licensed Clinical Psychologist and 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.

**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.

**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 its 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, losing graciously, and giving compliments.

For more information on future Game Days contact: 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.

Local Cyclists Ride for Autism
The 2nd 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.

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

www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut  (904) 633-0760
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
www.littlestarjax.com/skills_camp.html

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

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

Camp Eureka

340 Third Ave. Suite B.
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
rdfl@hotmail.com

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

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
www.dosacamps.com/home.html

Angelwood Summer Day Camp

Children with Disabilities
4674-2 Hood Road
Jacksonville, FL 32257
elavecchia@angelwoodjax.org
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 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

Florida Diabetes Camp

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

Great Strides Rehabilitation

12276 San Jose Blvd
Jacksonville, FL 32203
(904) 886-32203
www.greatstriderhab.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