

## Director's Update

Dear CARD Families,

We hope you had an opportunity for some well-deserved time with family and had a fun summer! It is difficult to believe we are approaching another school year. It has been a very busy and productive summer at FAU CARD!

There are lots of new changes with FAU CARD! Please take a minute to thank your Florida legislators as they have increased funding for the 2013-14 fiscal year to all seven CARD centers. This additional funding has allowed us to hire two new staff members: a new Clinical Support Specialist, who will be assigned to the Treasure Coast, Port St. Lucie office on the campus of Indian River State College, as well as a new position that will assist us in marketing, maintaining our website, social media, public awareness events, etc. Additionally, we are very excited about opening a new FAU CARD office serving northern Palm Beach County on the FAU, Jupiter MacArthur campus. Noelle Balsamo, Clinical Support Specialist assigned to Martin and Okeechobee counties, will be moving to the Jupiter office. This will provide staff with another location in which to meet families and professionals as well as conduct intakes, consultations, and trainings. None of this would be possible without the increased funding from our Florida legislators. As you meet with your legislator, please thank them for supporting FAU CARD and all of the CARD centers.

I would like to provide a special thanks to Joe Eppy, Constituency Board Chair, Michele Weppner, Constituency Board Member, and parent and Darlene Foster, Past Constituency Board Member and Transition Specialist for CILO, for traveling to Tallahassee with me to meet with legislators and advocating for increased funding for FAU CARD

and the seven CARD centers. Thank you also to Rebecca Everett and Veronica Pappas for their legislative efforts. Additionally, I want to thank Senator Negron, Representative Coley and Representative Fresen for being champions for CARD.

I want to also thank all of the professionals and parents who took time out of their summer to attend our 7th annual Summer Academy conference, as well as the CARD staff for their hard work in organizing this event. Additionally, I would like to thank 211 of Palm Beach and Martin, the Epilepsy Foundation of Florida and Project Life Saver for sharing information with registrants.

You may notice some changes to the FAU CARD website. FAU CARD staff have been working diligently to create additional trainings and have posted those trainings to the FAU CARD website, Resource page. Please take a moment to visit the FAU CARD website [www.autism.fau.edu](http://www.autism.fau.edu) and provide us your feedback

Please make note of the following upcoming events: the FAU CARD Homecoming 5K Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, October 27th on the Boca Raton campus. This event will again prove to be a fun and exciting one! FAU CARD will also be sponsoring a panel of professionals to discuss the impact to individuals, families and professionals of the DSM-5 changes on October 29th. Please visit the FAU CARD website [www.autism.fau.edu](http://www.autism.fau.edu) for additional information and upcoming fall events.

I hope to see you at some of our events.

Maryellen Quinn-Lunny, Ed.S.  
Director

# SAVE THE DATE!

JANUARY 17-19, 2014



21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL  
**CARD**  
CONFERENCE

The Conference Center at the Florida Mall

# ORLANDO, FL

## Executive Director's Update

This has been an exciting time for the FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities. As many of you know, our center received additional funding from the Florida legislature. While this is great, it merely gets us back to the funding we received in 2008. While the current funding increase is great, we continue to experience an increase in the number of individuals who are being identified on the autism spectrum.

I was recently at the Autism Society of America Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This was a great event. While there were many presentations, some of the important themes were adult and transition services for people on the spectrum, the use of technology to improve quality of life for people with autism, social skill development, and safety. Safety from unintentional injury has been a very important topic to me for some time. Sadly, we have had three young children with autism die from drowning in Palm Beach County in the last five years. At the conference I talked to many people and heard stories of other tragic incidents resulting in death or serious injury to children with autism and became more concerned about the largely unrecognized risk profile that these children present. If your child does not present risky behaviors and has no tendency to wander, count yourself lucky. So many of these children do have behaviors that can bring about serious injuries.

As you get ready to help your children return to school, be sure that they are safely secured while you are driving. We conducted some pilot surveys and observations last year on this topic and found that that over 20% of children with autism are not secured either in their car seat or with the regular seatbelt. Some children find it very difficult to tolerate a seatbelt or refuse to cooperate with efforts to secure them in a child car seat. But here in Florida, it is the law and the fact that a child may have autism is no excuse for not having them safely restrained. Sometimes, this is not

an easy task to accomplish. If you're having any of these issues, please contact your FAU CARD Clinical Support Specialist and ask for their assistance. Our goal is to help keep you, your child, and others safe.

We have a number of exciting programs and events on the horizon for this coming year. Our annual 5K Run/Walk will be held on October 27th. Beginning at 4:45 PM, this event is a great opportunity to come out, get some exercise, and meet with hundreds of other people concerned about autism. And for the first time, families will also have the opportunity to take advantage of Buy 1-Get 1 Free tickets for an FAU football game!

On December 12th, Dr. Ennio Cipani, one of the foremost experts in behavioral assessment, will conduct a workshop at our Jupiter campus for behavior analysts and other related professionals on the assessment of problem behavior. Dr. Cipani's work is state-of-the-art as he focuses on seeking to understand the purposes of challenging problem behavior and then finding efficient and positive solutions to help overcome these problems. Mark your calendars as you will not want to miss this one!

This Fall will also feature a presentation by Marilee Emerson who will be sharing her special approach to long-term, life planning for persons on the autism spectrum. This will be a great event, especially for those who are now thinking of what the future holds for their son or daughter. And as always, our staff stand ready to assist families, schools, and community agencies to help make life better for people on the autism spectrum.

Best wishes for a good school year!

Jack Scott



Boca Raton & Treasure Coast Groups	Date	Time
<p><b>Boca Raton Adult Group</b></p> <p>Adults with an autism spectrum disorder ages 18 and older are welcome. The group meets to discuss issues, problem solve and form friendships. This group meets at the FAU High School or in the community.</p>	9/16 10/21 11/18 12/16	7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM
<p><b>Treasure Coast Adult Group- Community Outings</b></p> <p>Adults with an autism spectrum disorder ages 18 and older are welcome. The group will meet at various community locations to discuss issues, problem solve and form friendships. Locations will be determined prior to outing date. For questions, please contact Cathy Allore, Clinical Support Specialist, at (772) 873-3367 or <a href="mailto:callore@fau.edu">callore@fau.edu</a>.</p>	9/10 10/17 11/21 12/19	7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM
<p><b>Okeechobee Autism Support Group</b></p> <p>Parents of children with autism or Asperger's and adults with autism or Asperger's are welcome to attend a monthly meeting held at the Okeechobee Library at 206 SW 16th Street. We will be meeting once a month from 5:30 to 6:45. For more information, check the event calendar at <a href="http://www.autism.fau.edu">www.autism.fau.edu</a> or contact Noelle Balsamo, Clinical Support Specialist, at (772) 873-3422 or <a href="mailto:nbalsamo@fau.edu">nbalsamo@fau.edu</a>.</p>	9/24 10/22 11/26 12/17	5 - 6:30 PM 5 - 6:30 PM 5 - 6:30 PM 5 - 6:30 PM
<p><b>St. Lucie County Support Group</b></p> <p>Parents who have special needs children will be able to network with other parents, receive support and training via CARD staff and/or other professionals. Meetings will be held at Grace Therapies at 4715 Kirby Loop Road, Ft. Pierce, FL 34981.</p> <p>*Respite will be provided by Speech Therapists from Grace Therapies but RSVP is required to utilize respite services.</p> <p>For questions, please contact Cathy Allore, Clinical Support Specialist, at (772) 873-3367 or <a href="mailto:callore@fau.edu">callore@fau.edu</a>.</p>	9/12 10/10 11/14 12/12	7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM 7 - 8:30 PM

## Trainings & Parent Networking Opportunities

**All trainings will be available online**

*Connect to all trainings by emailing [card@fau.edu](mailto:card@fau.edu) for details.*

	Date	Time
<p><b><i>Accessing the iPad to Support Learners: Part I</i></b>  <b><i>FAU Boca Raton, College of Education, Room 411</i></b></p> <p>This training will introduce users of iPad/iPhone/iPod Touch on how to navigate and customize their device. An overview of accessibility features that can be used to support and enhance the learning experience of children with ASD will also be shared</p>	9/19	2:00 - 4:00 PM
<p><b><i>Managing Challenging Behaviors</i></b>  <b><i>FAU Jupiter, Education Classroom, Room 202c</i></b></p> <p>Parents and professionals will learn behavior management techniques that can be used in the home and community to prevent and replace problem behavior.</p>	9/20	12:30 - 2:00 PM
<p><b><i>Preparing for Community Participation- *Online only</i></b></p> <p>Participants will learn the benefits and barriers encountered when including individuals with ASD in the community. Planning tools will be covered and real life examples will be provided.</p>	9/23	3:30 - 5:00 PM
<p><b><i>Supporting Individuals with Aspergers/Autism Spectrum Disorder Level I</i></b>  <b><i>FAU Boca Raton, College of Education, Room 411</i></b></p> <p>Many parents and professionals are wondering "What's happening with Aspergers?" since the recent changes in diagnosis. This training will address these changes, a current description of the diagnosis and strategies for how to provide support at home, school and in the community. Lastly, participants will be provided resources for use after the training.</p>	10/10	2:00 - 4:00 PM

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS.**

ALL GROUPS AND TRAININGS ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION DUE TO LACK OF REGISTRATION.

PLEASE CALL 561-297-2055 OR E-MAIL [CARD@FAU.EDU](mailto:CARD@FAU.EDU) TO REGISTER FOR EACH EVENT.



# Trainings & Parent Networking Opportunities

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**Date**

**Time**

## **Addressing Bullying and Related Issues**

**FAU Jupiter, Education Classroom, Room 202c**

Parents and professionals will be educated on various forms of bullying and learn how to look for signs of possible bullying. Strategies and resources in teaching your child how to handle situations involving bullying and teasing will also be shared.

10/16

5:00 - 6:30 PM

## **ASD & Early Intervention**

**FAU Boca Raton, College of Education, Room 411**

This workshop will briefly discuss the characteristics of ASD and the importance of evidence-based interventions. Participants will learn what early interventions are available to them and how to access these important services.

10/18

2:00 - 4:00 PM

## **Autism Training Series - \*NOT online**

**Parent Academy, 2940 S. US Hwy. 1, Suite C-12, Ft. Pierce**

Parents and professionals will learn about the characteristics and strengths of individuals with ASD, as well as strategies that can help them be successful.

10/24

10:00 - 11:30 AM

## **Accessing the iPad to Support Learners: Part 2**

**FAU Boca Raton, College of Education, Room 411**

As a follow up to Part 1, this training will focus on the selection of specific iPad/iPhone/iPod Touch apps to support various areas. Apps for communication, behavior, visual supports, academic areas, and more will be shared and demonstrated.

11/7

2:00 - 4:00 PM

## **Behavior Basics- \*NOT online**

**Parent Academy, 2940 S. US Hwy. 1, Suite C-12, Ft. Pierce**

Participants of this workshop will learn about the basics of behavior, why it occurs, the functions of behavior, and basic strategies to address behavior in the home. This session is designed for parents of children with autism spectrum disorders and to provide a basic understanding of behavior.

11/14

10:00 - 11:30 AM

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## Trainings & Parent Networking Opportunities

**All trainings will be available online**

*Connect to all trainings by emailing [card@fau.edu](mailto:card@fau.edu) for details.*

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Written Expression and ASD</b> <b><i>FAU Jupiter, Education Classroom, Room 202c</i></b> <p>This training will provide an overview of the challenges inherent to ASD that impact written expression, as well as provide effective strategies and resources for supporting the development of written expression skills in their elementary school aged children with ASD.</p>	11/21	5:00 - 6:30 PM
<b>Toilet Training</b> <b><i>FAU Boca Raton, College of Education, Room 411</i></b> <p>Participants will learn the beginning steps to start training their child to urinate in the toilet. Data sheets and bathroom logs will be given to parents to aid in the process as well as time to troubleshoot possible obstacles.</p>	12/6	2:00 - 4:00 PM
<b>Evidence-based Practices- *NOT online</b> <b><i>Parent Academy, 2940 S. US Hwy. 1, Suite C-12, Ft. Pierce</i></b> <p>Participants of this session will learn various approaches to intervention for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. This is just an overview of the practices that are data based, researched, and proven to work if implemented correctly. Parents are the focus of this workshop.</p>	12/12	10:30 - 11:30 AM
<b>Parties &amp; Playdates: Promoting Positive Peer Interactions</b> <b><i>FAU Jupiter, Education Classroom, Room 202c</i></b> <p>This online training will discuss strategies and resources for families interested in facilitating successful social interactions for their child. Topics include setting up successful play dates, preparing for parties and social events, as well as proactive solutions for handling potential conflicts related to these experiences.</p>	12/19	5:00 - 6:30 PM

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## MEDICAL UPDATE

### DSM-5 Finally Arrived: What Does This Mean for Families?

Judith Aronson-Ramos, M.D.

The long awaited DSM-5 became available in May 2013. There has been a lot written about this book and its impact on the autism community. A major change in the DSM-5 the combining of autism, PDD-NOS, Asperger's Syndrome and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder into one diagnosis, Autism Spectrum Disorder. There is much speculation about the impact of this diagnostic manual change, but any individual who has one of these prior diagnoses should not lose that diagnosis. However, how the changes will play out in the future is yet to be fully determined.

This issue has become a hot political item. Some researchers and clinicians and parents accuse the DSM-5 of changing the criteria too soon. Others feel it is a political maneuver to deny families services. The truth about the APA (American Psychological Association) who publishes the manual is that it involves many experts in the field. Each workgroup has committee members who are participating voluntarily and they cannot participate if they have a conflict of interest. This background is important for families who may be leery of all of the information they have heard in the media. Some of the best minds in the field of autism and best advocates for families were on the DSM-5 workgroup for autism.

Another area of concern is the new diagnostic category, Social Communication Disorder, which has some overlap with autism, with the major distinction being that individuals with SCD do not have any of the RRBI's (repetitive and restricted behaviors and interests). We know that individuals on the spectrum have different levels and kinds of

RRBIs and they are unequivocally present. So how much this diagnosis will come into play is a big unknown. Many of us worry SCD will be an orphan diagnosis, poorly applied, and may even be a substitute for some spectrum-like individuals who will then not get services because this diagnosis is so new. However, this would be a misuse of SCD as it was conceived to apply to a different population of children without all of the features we associate with autism, but with some social and communication impairments.

Bottom line for families is, if you have services none should be lost. If you have a child on the spectrum who was previously denied services, the opportunity to receive services now may increase. When it comes to the public understanding of autism as a spectrum disorder that is heterogeneous this can only help! For example, the consolidation of the diagnoses under one label may benefit families as we now have one diagnostic code. In my office I constantly have insurance companies and schools deny coverage or services for PDD-NOS or Asperger's, but not autism. I can only hope this change will improve care, help with understanding the diversity of autism, and continue to spark intense research and debate that fuels treatment and services. The loss of Asperger's is lamented by some individuals on the spectrum and some families as it was part of self-understanding and a cultural phenomenon. Let's consider it a therapeutic endeavor not to get stuck on what can no longer be and, instead, see how we can use ASD to embrace the full diversity of life on the spectrum.

To learn more about Dr. Aronson-Ramos and provided services, please visit:

[www.draronsonramos.com](http://www.draronsonramos.com)



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Car Safety for Children with Autism – Focus Group for Parents** **Wednesday, September 11th at 6:30 PM** **FAU MacArthur Campus**

Children with autism often have great difficulty being passengers in automobiles- car seats, seat belts, noises, visual distractions, and more. All of these things can combine to make transportation very difficult for the child and parent. In addition, it can be especially dangerous if the child is actively disruptive or not safely restrained.

Dr. Jack Scott, FAU CARD Executive Director, is holding a focus group for parents who may have faced or now face significant issues with their child with autism and transportation. This meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 11th, in the conference room on the second floor of the College of Education on the Jupiter campus. The College of Education is adjacent to the FAU Jupiter library. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. Pizza and other refreshments will be provided. Space is limited.



The purpose of this meeting is to understand some of the problems relating to transportation and children on the autism spectrum and to compile some of the solutions that parents have found to be successful so that we might share them with other parents. If you are interested in attending or have questions about this focus group, please send Dr. Scott an email at [jscott@fau.edu](mailto:jscott@fau.edu).

### **Social Group for Adult Women with ASD**

FAU CARD will begin to facilitate a monthly social group for adult women with ASD beginning January 2014. Please be on the lookout for an upcoming survey that will better inform us on the number of interested participants, as well as help us determine the preferred location, time, and focus for this new group. We appreciate your time and support and look forward to your feedback. If you have any questions, please contact Noelle Balsamo, Clinical Support Specialist, at 772-873-3422, or email: [nbalsamo@fau.edu](mailto:nbalsamo@fau.edu).



# Save The Date FAMILY FUN DAY!

A fun-filled day of activities for children  
with developmental disabilities and their families!

**Saturday, September 28th**

**11AM - 3PM**

**JOHN PRINCE PARK, Center Pavilion**

**Lake Worth, Florida**

**FREE  
BBQ  
Lunch!**

**Games  
and  
Activities!**

**Activity by  
KIDS NEED  
MORE ART!**

**YOGA!**

**DJ and  
Drumming  
Circle!**

**For more  
Info  
or to rsvp  
call Emily at  
561-842-3213  
x 129**

**Development  
Screenings  
by FAU CARD  
and  
HomeSafe.**

## PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMUNITY NEWS

### Aspie's Connect Afterschool Program

Aspie's Connect is a brand new afterschool program of Health and Life Educational Enterprises (H.A.L.E.E.). The program aims to link middle and high school students between the ages of 11 and 21 who have been diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome or High Functioning Autism. The program will teach the student life skills, communication skills, and job training. Our program will be facilitated by trained professionals.

The fee for this program is based on parent income. Scholarships are available for students who qualify.

When: Monday - Friday 2:30 - 5:30

Where: 5205 Greenwood Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33407

For additional information, contact Terri Rose at 561-670-7353

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### Social Skills: What Are They Really?

Eric Nach, Ph.D.

There is a lot of talk about children on the autism spectrum needing social skills training due to their difficulties in socialization. Social skills are necessary for human beings to be able to have positive experiences when interacting with peers and others. In order to help our children improve their social abilities, we need to understand what social skills really are. Social skills are complicated behaviors. For children with ASD, they do not come naturally or automatically but as they develop and mature these skills can be taught. I find there are several categories of social skills that our children struggle with at school. These categories are interpersonal & peer-related, teacher pleasing, assertiveness, and communication social skills.

Interpersonal & peer-related social skills are used to communicate and interact with peers and others. The skills that often need to be taught to our children include: making and keeping friends, joining conversations, asking for help, accepting compliments, ability to apologize and accept an apology, dealing with teasing, losing, winning, accusations, being left out, peer pressure, conflict resolution, reacting to rumors and being able to handle a disagreement. They also need to be able to express joy and grief, keeping hands, feet, and body to self, and identify emotions or read facial and bodily expressions of others.

Teacher-pleasing social skills are specific behaviors used when relating to teachers and other professionals that lead to success at school. These include: being able to follow directions, abiding by a dress code, using school appropriate language, being on time, getting the teachers attention, being able to work in a group, staying on task, tolerating differences, willingness to try new things, make their best effort in class and with homework, and being able to listen and communicate with the teacher and others.

Assertiveness social skills are communication skills that help us get our needs met. Important ones to teach children with ASD include: how to appropriately express their needs and wants, having the tools to be able to express their feelings in a socially acceptable fashion, be able to practice self-advocacy, and be able to understand the difference between passive, assertive and aggressive types of behaviors and knowing when to employ each type best.

Communication skills are language-based skills needed to increase effective interactions between peers and others. These include: learning how to listen, having the ability to take turns during interactions and conversation, having the ability to focus on the person they are interacting with, and the process of giving and receiving feedback.

These are not the only topics important to teaching social skills to your child with ASD, but they could be a good place to start the school year! For questions about this topic, please feel free to contact Eric Nach, Ph.D. at [ejnach@gmail.com](mailto:ejnach@gmail.com) or for more specific questions related to how to teach your child social skills, please contact an FAU CARD clinician at [card@fau.edu](mailto:card@fau.edu).

## TREASURE COAST COMMUNITY NEWS

### SafetyNet Life Bracelet

SafetyNet by LoJack has recently provided training to both the St Lucie County and Martin County Sheriff offices on the software necessary to conduct successful search and rescues of individuals who wander. According to Natalia Cuervo of Safety Net, "Both Martin and St Lucie counties are equipped, trained, and ready to go!" She said that the program was easy to initiate by families. "Families can call the customer service center at 877-434-6384 or enroll online at [www.safetynetbylojack.com](http://www.safetynetbylojack.com) and click, "Enroll Now".....it's fast and simple this way. If the family needs more hands on assistance our customer service center is fully prepared to walk them through the entire program."

Currently, there is no financial assistance available to assist families with the initial start up or monthly monitoring fee. Two options for payment are currently available: a monthly pay as you go program and an outright purchase plan. All costs associated with the SafetyNet program are located on the website [www.safetynetbylojack.com/Enroll\\_Now](http://www.safetynetbylojack.com/Enroll_Now).

### Special Olympics of St Lucie County has a new County Coordinator

Jeff Hancock comes to Special Olympics, St Lucie County with numerous years of experience having begun as a buddy and then moving onto a sports coach with the Martin County Special Olympics program. He moved up the volunteer ranks into the position of registration coordinator, handling all athlete information. Jeff has recently accepted the position of County Coordinator for St Lucie County and the athletes are going to see some big changes in how Special Olympics is organized, including the addition of new sports, unified softball, softball skills, surfing, and unified flag football.

For more information on how to become an athlete or volunteer, contact Jeff directly. His contact information: 772-475-3588 cell or by email at [jeffhancock@specialolympicsstlucie.org](mailto:jeffhancock@specialolympicsstlucie.org).

### Treasure Coast Aardvarks

Music For Aardvarks and Other Mammals offers music and movement classes for kids ages 6 months thru 5 years. Please call for times and pricing.

Location: Tryst Downtown Dance Studio, 305 Orange Avenue, Fort Pierce.

Try out a complimentary class!

Check out our website at [www.musicforaardvarks.com](http://www.musicforaardvarks.com) for songs and additional information. Also, find and like us on Facebook: Treasure Coast Aardvarks.

For more info or to schedule a class, call Wendy at 772-359-0941.





## TREASURE COAST COMMUNITY NEWS

### Support Groups

#### Puzzled Families of Indian River

Puzzled Families is a parent support group that meets to provide support and information for parents of individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

**When:** 2nd Monday of each month from 6:00 – 8:30 PM

**Where:** Sun Up Center, 2455 5th Street SW, Vero Beach, FL

**Dates:** September 9; October 14; November 11; December 9

**Contact:** [puzzledfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:puzzledfamilies@gmail.com) or find them on Facebook under Puzzled Families of Indian River

#### Disability Support Network

Disability Support Network is a parent support group located in Jensen Beach that meets to provide support and information to parents of individuals with a variety of disabilities. This is not an autism specific support group. The co-facilitators do however have children with autism.

Information on date, time, and location will be forthcoming.

### Community Collaborative Partner

FAU CARD-Treasure Coast would like to give a very special thank you to our Summer Collaborative Partner. Nancy Brown, of the Parent Academy of St Lucie County, opened up her building to offer us space to embark on FAU CARD's newest initiative of starting a much needed Parent Support Group in St Lucie County. Thanks to Nancy and the entire staff at the Parent Academy of St Lucie County for making us feel so welcome! FAU CARD-Treasure Coast looks forward to future collaborative opportunities.

The Parent Academy is located at 2940 S US Hwy. 1, Suite C-12, Fort Pierce, FL you can see what they offer the community by visiting their website: [www.parentacademyslc.org](http://www.parentacademyslc.org)

### The Florida Equestrian Foundation



Horse farms and stables are bountiful in Indian River County. Scarlett Stables, the home for The Florida Equestrian Foundation, uses equine assisted activities to contribute to an individual's cognitive, physical, emotional, and social wellbeing. Therapeutic activities and riding benefit individuals in the areas of therapy, education, sport, and leisure.

Cindy Devine and Marci Dalton are the founders of Florida Equestrian Foundation, a not-for profit, 501(c)3, volunteer based organization. They embrace the philosophy for self-growth, healing, and maximizing a person's potential. Cindy and Marci welcome other foundations whose mission is to improve lives, to visit Scarlett Stables. All visits are by appointment only due to the confidential and therapeutic nature of their programs. Contact Cindy Devine at 772-538-3748, or visit their website at: [www.floridaequestrianfoundation.org](http://www.floridaequestrianfoundation.org) for more information on enrichment & therapeutic opportunities, volunteering and making donations.



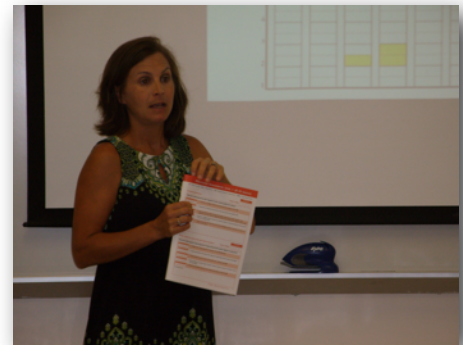
## FAU CARD NEWS

### 7th Annual Summer Academy

In collaboration with PEPSA (Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism), this year's 7th Annual Summer Academy, held in Jupiter on July 29th and 30th, was a huge success! Representing our own 5-county catchment area, parents, teachers, and other related professionals also joined us from Duval, Hillsborough, Broward, and Dade counties. A variety of topics were provided to help attendees meet the needs of the ASD population and feedback was overwhelmingly positive.



Keynote speaker, Dr. Peter Gerhardt, discussed transition into adulthood



Dr. Mae Barker reviewed assessment use for treatment planning



Ranee Gabriel represented 211, a Palm Beach County & Treasure Coast crisis resource



Epilepsy Foundation



Project Lifesaver International

## CONTACT US

***Statewide CARD Toll Free Number: 1-800-9-AUTISM  
(288476)***

***FAU CARD Toll Free Number: 1-888-632-6395***

***Website: [autism.fau.edu](http://autism.fau.edu)***

***e-mail: [card@fau.edu](mailto:card@fau.edu)***

**Boca Raton Campus**

777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton, FL 33431

Main Line: 561-297-2023

Fax: 561-297-2507

**Treasure Coast Campus**

500 NW California Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

St. Lucie and Indian River Counties:  
772-873-3367

Martin and Okeechobee Counties:  
772-873-3422

Fax: 561-297-2507

### FAU CARD STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Thank you!

We would like to express our most sincere gratitude to all of the families and professionals who continue to support FAU CARD.



FAU CARD Clinical Support Staff (from left to right): Bairbre Flood, Elisa Cruz-Torres, Noelle Balsamo, Ali Cunningham, Cathy Allore

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*If you or your organization would like to contribute to FAU CARD, donations can be made out to:*

**FAU Foundation - CARD**

*and mailed to our office at:*

**FAU CARD  
Department of ESE  
777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton, FL 33431**

*Or visit:*

**<https://fauf.fau.edu/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?&pid=1151>**

**and select Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (C.A.R.D.) as the designation.**

