

Peace

Shan

FAU

CENTER FOR AUTISM AND
RELATED DISABILITIES

Florida Atlantic University



Paix

Shir

Frieden

Shalom

JANUARY	
JAN 7	iRISE2 Mentoring Orientation
JAN 11	Boca Raton Adult Social Group
JAN 13	iRISE2 Mentoring Orientation
JAN 13	Autism Speaker Series: John Elder Robison
JAN 14	Treasure Coast Adult Social Group
JAN 21	Do's and Dont's of Relationships
JAN 22	Introduction to Evidenced Based Practices: Know what works!
FEBRUARY	
FEB 4	iRISE2 Mentoring Orientation
FEB 4	Guardianship and Special Needs Trust
FEB 9	Autism Speaker Series: Liane Holliday-Willey
FEB 11	Treasure Coast Adult Social Group
FEB 15	Boca Raton Adult Social Group
FEB 16	Strategies to Support Siblings
FEB 16	Siblings as Mentors
FEB 22	Vocational Rehabilitation Services: Strategies and Tips
FEB 26	Autism Speaker Series: Dr. Martha Pelaez
FEB 26	Literacy Based Interventions: How to write them and when to use them
MARCH	
MAR 1	iRISE2 Mentoring Orientation
MAR 3	Wings of Hope Gala 2016
MAR 8	iRISE2 Mentoring Orientation
MAR 10	Treasure Coast Adult Social Group
MAR 10	Autism Speaker Series: David Finch
MAR 11	Lights... iPhone... Action!!!
MAR 11	Enjoying My Child: Strategies for Improving the Parent Relationship
MAR 11	Future Planning, Benefits and Beyond for Caregivers
MAR 21	Boca Raton Adult Social Group
MAR 24	Treasure Coast Resource Information Session
MAR 25	Beyond Sticker Charts: Token Economies and Behavioral Contracts
MAR 31	Pre-Employment Strategies for Parents & Professionals
APRIL	
APR 5	Building Bridges: Autism Spectrum Disorder and Your Grandchild
APR 7	Autism Speaker Series: Dr. Harold Reitman
APR 14	Treasure Coast Adult Social Group
APR 14	Hanging out with Friends
APR 18	Boca Raton Adult Social Group
APR 22	Planning for Transition with PATH
APR 22	Visual Supports: Tools for Increasing Comprehension and Independence

Visit: <http://coe.fau.edu/centersandprograms/card/trainingcalendar.php>
FAU CARD does not endorse specific programs or points of view presented in this newsletter.

Executive Director’s Message

Dear CARD Families,

We have been fortunate here at FAU CARD to be the beneficiaries of some generous charitable donations and grants recently. We have just been funded to begin some intensive training for parents of young and newly diagnosed children. Soon we will be sending out a survey to families of younger children to ask about some of the special challenges they faced and to get your ideas about some of the training they need. We will be especially interested in what specific things families wish they would have known at the very earliest stages of their journeywith autism. We expect to be conducting these special intensive training opportunities in Spring 2016.

We also have been fortunate to have received a grant that will allow us to host a series of focus groups for middle and high school students and their families examining the issue of bullying. As I’m sure most of you realize, bullying can be extraordinarily destructive for children with autism. Schools are working hard to counteract bullying but it still occurs and the impacts can be especially harsh for some children with autism. With our focus groups, we hope to gain new insights that we will incorporate into our training and community support efforts. Look for information on these groups to appear during the months of February and March 2016.

I want to encourage all of you to take special notice of the fantastic speaker series we have coming up this winter and spring. This year, like last year, we have a very strong lineup of persons with autism who have achieved success in the world in various ways. Their stories are amazing as we hear of the challenges they had to overcome and of the ways they have used their special gifts and talents to find their way in the world. I know I found David Finch’s talk and John Elder Roberson’s presentation absolutely extraordinary last year. I found it very interesting that in both cases they had lots of trouble when they were younger but they are now both highly successful authors as well as being successful in many other realms. For children and people with autism, the prospects for growth and for talents to blossom in the most unexpected ways remains one of the special elements of autism.

I’d like to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season an the very best for a great 2016.

Jack Scott
Executive Director

Director's Update

Dear CARD Families,

We hope you had a smooth transition into the school year. It is hard to believe that once again we are approaching the holidays. It has been a very busy and productive year at FAU CARD!

FAU CARD has had several very successful training events this fall. Julie Weatherly presented on September 18th and 19th to an audience of professionals, parents and family members on strategies to increase collaboration between families and schools. Dr. Ennio Cipani provided professional development to BCBA's on Saturday, October 17th focusing on advanced behavioral strategies in assessing function of behavior and the development of a sleep protocol for consultation with parents. FAU CARD also organized a very well attended First Annual Transition Conference on Friday, October 30th. Participants were provided with an update on the new Vocational Rehabilitation changes by Lauren Veit, an informative presentation by Stephanie Martin, President of College Living Experience on Building Resiliency and an enlightening presentation by an Employment Panel, providing an open discussion on the challenges and successes of transitioning from school to employment for individuals with autism. Additionally, FAU CARD provided a training for professionals entitled "Strategies for Working with Pre-Verbal and Minimally Verbal Children with ASD" on December 11th.

I am also excited to share information about several upcoming training events: FAU CARD is sponsoring our Second Annual Community Autism Speaker Series on January 13th with John Elder Robeson; February 9th with Liane Holiday Wiley; March 10th with David Finch and April 7th with Dr. Hackie Reitman. Friday, February 26th Dr. Martha Peleaz will speak about her research with "Infants At Risk of Developmental Delays and Early Behavior Analytic Intervention". Please see the FAU CARD training and event calendar on the FAU CARD website (www.autism.fau.edu) for additional offerings.

We hope to see you at the 23rd Annual State CARD Conference, January 29th-31st in Orlando. Please visit the conference website at <http://cardconference.net> for details.

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming FAU CARD Wings of Hope Event on Thursday, March 3rd at the Addison in Boca Raton. This is an important fundraising event for FAU CARD. We hope we can count on your support. Additionally, please note the Family Connections Conference will be held on Saturday, May 7th on the FAU Jupiter campus. The focus of this year's Family Connections Conference will be safety in the home, school, community and in relationships. Parents will learn about ways that they can assist in ensuring their child and young adult is safe across many environments. Please see the FAU website for additional information on these and other upcoming important events.

Thank you for all your support of FAU CARD. We appreciate all you do to help us!

I hope to see you soon.

Maryellen Quinn-Lunny, Ed.S.
Director



THE
**Meet
Staff**

Tips for Visiting Santa

Visiting Santa can be a little scary for any child. Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder are no different. Below are a few tips to consider when preparing your child for that visit this holiday season.

1. **Go early!** Making the trip to the mall or store early in the season or early in the day can help avoid some of the large crowds that tend to gather as the holiday comes near.
2. **Bring a preferred item or activity!** Waiting in line can be hard. Try to bring a preferred toy or game that your child could engage in while waiting. It may just help the time go by faster.
3. **Shop around!** Not all Santas are created equal. Research all of the options in your area to find the one that best suits your families' needs. Some locations have sensory friendly times (usually before the location opens) meant for children who may have a difficult time otherwise.
4. **Prime your child!** Prepare your child for the trip by providing him or her with a story, pictures or even a video of what it will be like to meet Santa and have their picture taken.
5. **Create a schedule for the day!** In the schedule show when the trip to Santa will happen along with their regular daily activities. This way, the change in their routine will not come as a surprise. You may even want to consider creating a first/ then visual support for your child that indicates a preferred activity coming right after the visit to Santa.
6. **Practice!** Visit the location with your child before the big day, maybe even before the Santa display is set up. This will help to familiarize your child with the environment. You may even want to let your child observe children visiting Santa from afar.
7. **Stay calm!** Your calm demeanor and reaction to unexpected events (longer than expected lines, rowdy children in line, etc.) will help to ease any anxiety your child may be feeling in the situation.

Consider having your child take this charming paper house with them when they go to take pictures with Santa. To use: Cut out the house & fold all the tabs and sides. Use a glue stick to attach the tabs to the side of the house. Your child can use the house to hold the toys they bring to keep them busy while waiting in line or to store the treats they may be given by Santa & his elves!



As our kids with disabilities age out of school, we are faced with yet another overwhelming situation. What do we do now? The daily schedule they were so enmeshed in has abruptly stopped. Like any person who reaches age of maturity, there are decisions to be made. Does the person go on to college, or take a job? These same decisions have to be made for our kids with disabilities in addition to a few more.

There are some programs and resources available for our kids with disabilities. Those that can be accessed by each individual will depend on the level of support they may need to be successful.

There are three very distinctive tracks for individuals after high school. Will the individual attend college, take a job, or attend an adult day training program? Again, this decision will be first addressed with the level of support each person needs.

I advise a list of questions be developed with the school prior to exiting high school, work with a trusted professional in the field (such as a support coordinator, parent of an adult child, or other trusted professional). To develop questions such as, what level of support does my son/daughter require? Did my child receive a standard diploma from high school? Will my child always need assistance in order to work, or volunteer in the community? Does my child's behavior impede his/her ability to be successful in competitive employment? What programs are available for my child to access if competitive employment is beyond his/her reach at this time?

Yes, this can be overwhelming, to say the least!! I have made these decisions very recently. I decided against the adult day program and opted for companion services to take my son into the community to participate in leisure skill development activities and vocational based volunteer opportunities. My son has a funding resource that pays for this service. However, other problems arose once he was out in the community. He exhibited an increase in elopement behavior that resulted in his community access being abruptly stopped. He has recently been awarded some additional funds so that we can access behavior services to help teach him skills to decrease the likelihood of him wandering away from a safe area and into a potentially dangerous situation.



Unfortunately, a comprehensive list of services and agencies that provide them are not made available prior to graduation, so with the help of some other professionals on the Treasure Coast, FAU-CARD will be hosting the first Treasure Coast Resource Information Session this spring! The resources available, agencies that provide them, access and eligibility criteria, as well as funding streams for each will be reviewed. There will be a resource list provided to everyone who pre-registers for this ONSITE ONLY session! Please review the Calendar of Events, available on page 2 of this newsletter, for more details about this training.



Mindfulness is a term familiar to many of us. There is a very specific clinical meaning of the term mindfulness and different programs which aim to cultivate mindfulness as a quality. There is even a scientific field called, contemplative neuroscience actively engaged in research on mindfulness meditation and its effects on the brain. Dr. Richard Davidson at the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Daniel Siegel at UCLA and Jon Kabat-Zin at University of Massachusetts School of Medicine are some of the pioneers in the field of mindfulness research.

There is a substantive growing body of research looking at how to apply mindfulness based meditation, mindfulness based cognitive behavioral therapy (MCBT), and mindfulness based stress reduction (MBSR) to individuals with autism, as well as family, caregivers and teachers who care for and work with individuals on the autism spectrum (ASD). The definition of mindfulness is strikingly simple and complex all at once. Mindfulness is "paying attention on purpose, in the present moment, and nonjudgmentally, to the unfolding of experience moment to moment" (Jon Kabat Zinn-creator of MBSR). Although mindfulness has ancient roots in Buddhism and contemplative practices it is non-sectarian and highly relevant to contemporary society and to clinical application in autism. Essentially, you don't have to embrace eastern religions to use mindfulness based practices. In fact it is the neuroscience of mindfulness which first attracted me professionally to the field and its most is compelling for its use in ASD.

Meditative practices can be taught and trained to help individuals reduce stress, cope with sensory challenges, overcome anxiety, reduce reactivity, and improve self-awareness. Studies have shown measurable changes in stress hormones, blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, cerebral blood flow, enhanced immune system function, and increased cortical thickness of the brain. All of these physiological effects are undoubtedly valuable for anyone, but particularly individuals with ASD and their families who experience very high levels of stress. Stress reduction is one of the pivotal ways mindfulness meditation can be beneficial in ASD.

There is a growing interest in research as to how we can use meditation practices, such as breathing, controlling reactivity, self-awareness, and mindful movement practices, to manage reactivity in individuals with autism and their caregivers. The emerging research is showing how we can teach individuals with autism of all levels of function how to use mindfulness based techniques to self-regulate, self-calm, and reduce outbursts. One example of this was demonstrated in a small study published in 2011 with non-verbal teenagers with autism showing a dramatic reduction in aggression using a modification of mindfulness based approach. The procedure taught to the adolescents required them to rapidly shift the focus of their attention from the aggression-triggering event to a neutral place on their body, the soles of their feet. Incidents of aggression across the adolescents went from a maximum of 20 incidents per week to a significant reduction of as low as zero incidents per week for some. Aggression occurred at a rate of about 1 per year during a 3-year follow-up. The results suggested individuals with autism can learn, and effectively use, a mindfulness-based procedure to self-manage their physical aggression over several years (Singh et al., 2011). There are many other published studies this is just one example.



There are numerous published studies showing the effectiveness of mindfulness based cognitive behavior therapy in verbal individuals in managing anxiety and depression. The mindfulness based stress reduction (MBSR) course, as created by Zinn, is currently offered through a pilot in the Miami Dade public schools (www.mindfulkidsmiami.org). It aims to teach teachers and students the practices of MBSR to improve the lives of all children in the community by giving them access to mindfulness skills.

Mindfulness offers many wonderful opportunities to individuals with ASD and their families to reduce stress and anxiety, develop attention and focus, promote emotional regulation, teach empathy and compassion, and create a sense of well-being. For those of you who would like to learn more I recommend the following websites:

www.marc.ucal.edu
www.childmind.org

SAFETY
Veronica Castro

On June 3, 2016 FAU CARD will partner with the Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office and Palm Beach State Attorney’s Office to provide a First Responder Training for all Palm Beach and nearby counties first responders. This past summer, two children with autism died from drowning and a 12 y/o child with autism was missing for several hours before being found by police. These accidents and wandering concerns require skilled first responders to quickly and effectively communicate with individuals with ASD and their family to ensure a safe return home.

Through a donation from the Palm Beach Fire Rescue, FAU CARD was able to purchase safety decals which are given to families to notify first responders of any individual with autism in the home in the event of an emergency. This is a great start, however more needs to be done to provide education to all involved. FAU CARD provides safety training to individuals with autism, their family members and community partners. The goal of the training is to facilitate a greater understanding of autism and focus on helping first responders to recognize the signs while providing strategies to use in the field.

First responders will receive a comprehensive training regarding how to effectively communicate with individuals with autism. Dennis Debbaudt is the lead speaker. He is a proud father of Brad, a young man who has autism. A professional investigator and law enforcement trainer, Dennis has authored or co-authored over 35 articles and books since 1993 including Autism, Advocates and Law Enforcement Professionals: Recognizing and Reducing Risk Situations for People with Autism Spectrum Disorders (2001), the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin report, Contact with Individuals with Autism: Effective Resolutions (2001), the Journal of Healthcare Protection Management report, Patients with Autism and Other High Risks (2009), the North Carolina State Bar Journal report, Autism in the Criminal Justice System (2009), the International Association of Chiefs of Police Training Key #678, Autism: Managing Police Contacts (2013) among many other law enforcement and autism publications. The Palm Beach State Attorney’s Office will have speaker from the Victim Services unit addressing effective strategies for collaborating with first responders and increasing the knowledge base of attorneys when working with individuals with autism spectrum disorder. There will be a panel consisting of first responders, individual with ASD and parent. The interactive panel discussion following the presentation will be guided by questions from the first responders and insights from the panelist. It is FAU CARD’s goal to ensure that all first responders, individuals with ASD and their family have the tools they need to effectively communicate with each other as needed, especially in an emergency situation.

PROTÉGÉ PROSPECTIVE AND THANK YOU
Darius Murray



In the month of January, we celebrate National Mentoring Month and recognize January 21st, as Thank Your Mentor Day, and encourage everyone to take time and recognize someone who has acted as a mentor or sign up to become a mentor and help be the catalyst that will motivate change in the life an individual with autism.

Life before having a mentor, I knew I was growing as a person, being a young adult. However, being with a mentor has added an interesting experience to my life. It’s really nice for me to have a companionship with someone who is older than me and more experienced. It can give me ideas on how to succeed. My mentor has a really outgoing personality and she is really comfortable in social situations. Since I am usually socially awkward, I can learn from her behaviors. Also, if I am having some problems in my personal life or I just need to rant about something to someone who is not extremely involved in my life already, I can talk to my mentor. She can and does provide me with unbiased perspective and advice on the situations I relay to her. In the future with my mentor, I hope to experience things I haven’t in life. If the relationship was to end suddenly, I would feel abandoned because it’s like losing a friend who has no judgment. I appreciate the fact that my mentor wanted to do this and it’s not just a typical job. Overall, having a mentor has been a mentally stimulating experience as it’s opened my eyes to a different lifestyle and helped improved my social skills and behaviors.

Thank you for your time,

Calli Abisongnio
iRISE2 Protégé

Within the last year, FAU CARDs has developed the new iRISE2 Mentoring Program. The goal of the program is to help youth with autism reach their full potential for personal development and independence, while enriching their social-cognitive capacity through interest-based mentoring. Youth protégés between the ages of 11-22 years old are matched with a mentor who is provided evidence-based training and support to help them build and maintain an effective trusting mentoring relationship with their protégé. Mentors are encouraged to explore the functional applications of the protégés’ special interests and the possible career opportunities that can contribute and lead to a life of high self-esteem and independence.

For more information about becoming a mentor with the iRISE2 Mentoring program at FAU CARD, please contact: Darius Murray 561-213-6936 or email dmurra23@fau.edu

NEW Mentoring Program!

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY iRISE² MENTORING PROGRAM

Orientations:

Come and learn about our NEW exciting iRISE² Mentoring Program and how you can become a mentor for amazing individuals impacted by autism. This orientation will provide participants with a complete overview of our iRISE² Mentoring Program while discussing the role of mentor, mentor requirements, the iRISE² matching process, protégé enrollment and mentor training opportunities.

Mentor Requirements:

Must be at least 21 years of age or older
Open to maintaining a 1-year mentoring relationship
Dedicate a minimum of 4-6 hours a month
Valid driver's license
Successfully complete volunteer backgrounds screening

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY iRISE² MENTORING PROGRAM

iRISE², Interest and Relationships Impacting Social Engagement and Employment, mentoring is now offered at FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities for youth with autism and related disabilities.

Protégé Qualifications:

- *Eligible applicants must live in Palm Beach County*
- *Between the ages of 11-22 years old*
- *Youth must be able to maintain own personal safety and meet developmentally appropriate expectations*
- *Communicate and reciprocate meaningful conversation and socially engage with mentor*
- *Express interest in developing and maintaining mentoring relationship*
- *Express interest in exploring vocational training or higher educational degree*

Register today and become a mentor or protégé.



For more information contact:

Darius Murray
Dmurra23@fau.edu
(561) 213-6936

Inspiring someone with special interests is easier than you think.

Jupiter iRISE² Mentor Orientation

Wednesday, January 13 5:30 -6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 8 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Jupiter Campus, Life Long Learning Center - PC 154

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://jupiteririse2-mentor-orientation.eventbrite.com>

Boca Raton iRISE² Mentor Orientation

Thursday, January 7 5:30 -6:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 4 5:30 -6:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 1 5:30 -6:30 p.m.

Boca Raton Campus, College of Education - 411

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://boca-irise2-mentorvolunteer-orientation.eventbrite.com>



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize.



Thank you United Way of Palm Beach County for your continuous support to FAU CARD

FAU CARD Developmental Disability Small Business Network

Florida Atlantic University's Center for Autism and Related Disabilities is excited to announce the formation of the FAU CARD Developmental Disability Small Business Network (DDSBN)!

The mission of the FAU CARD DDSBN is to create an opportunity for collaboration and education for owners and administrators of small businesses who primarily employ people with developmental disabilities. The FAU CARD DDSBN will facilitate cooperative and networking opportunities, as well as provide trainings for business owners. Small business leaders who support the employment of people with developmental disabilities are a dedicated group and the mission of this network is to provide them with increased support so they continue to be source of employment and opportunities for the community!

If you are interested in participating and are an owner or administrator of a small business who focuses on employing people with developmental disabilities please contact:
Jennifer Pollack Percival at
561-212-4203 or
jpollack@fau.edu.



DDSBN

Adult Social Groups



Adults with an autism spectrum disorder ages 18 and older are welcome. Groups will meet at various community locations to discuss issues, problem solve, and form friendships. Locations will be determined prior to outing date. Any costs associated with participation in the outing are the responsibility of the adult participant, as well as transportation to and from the outing.

(Dates/ times may be subject to change depending on activity scheduled.)

Jupiter

*Dates and Times to be annouced. For questions, contact Alison Bourdeau
(561) 990-9518 or by email abourdeau@fau.edu*

Boca Raton 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan 11
Monday, Feb 15
Monday, Mar 21
Monday, April 18

*For questions, contact Veronica Castro
(561) 213-8381 or by email
castrov2014@fau.edu*

Treasure Coast 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan 14
Thursday, Feb 11
Thursday, March 10
Thursday, April 14

*For questions, contact Cathy Allore
(772) 873-3367 or by email
callore@fau.edu*



Ladies Adult Social Group

- ★ **Women with Autism 18 years old and up**
- ★ **Social outings based on interests**
- ★ **Focusing on making connections with others and exploring interest-based activities in the area**
- ★ **Meeting in Jupiter**
- ★ **Meets monthly in Jupiter from 7-9 p.m.**
(Dates/ times may be subject to change depending on activity scheduled.)

For questions, contact Alison Bourdeau (561) 990-9518 or by email abourdeau@fau.edu

Autism Speaker Series

The FAU CARD Autism Lecture Series is made possible by a grant from The Harry T. Mangurian, Jr. Foundation and we gratefully acknowledge their contribution to educating the public about autism.

**FAU Boca Campus
Stadium Acura Club**

**January 13, 2016
6 -8 p.m.**

**John Elder
Robison**



John Elder Robison grew up with Asperger's, at a time when the diagnosis didn't exist, and with no inkling of how to pass for normal. (He was finally diagnosed at age forty.) In his incredibly readable, bestselling memoir, *Look Me In the Eye*, Robison recounts his incredible life, with illuminating insight. The book was named one of the top books of the year by Amazon, was listed in *Publisher's Weekly* as one of the top selling books in America for three years in a row, and was a finalist for the Books for a Better Life Award.



Robison's second book, *Be Different* is an honest, darkly humorous glimpse of Asperger's as a difference, not a disability. Beyond the real-life tales on its pages, *Be Different* offers practical advice for parents and educator he captures the irreducible strangeness of the human mind and the irrepressible strength of the human spirit -- and provides us a fresh perspective on the autism now afflicting so many children. His third book, *Raising Cubby*, tells the story of him - an autistic dad - raising a geeky son who's also on the spectrum. His newest book - *Switched On* - is coming in the fall of 2015 and will tell the story of a groundbreaking Harvard Medical School study to change emotional intelligence in people with autism. In his talks, Robison details how he overcame enormous odds to lead a fulfilling life: from an anti-social child to a successful father now running a multi-million dollar car specialty shop and his own photography business. Though his life is unique -- he's designed guitars for KISS and toys for Milton Bradley -- it's equally rich with clues to both spotting autism in children and harnessing the best from those already diagnosed. (Autistic kids excel at math, in engineering, and with technology.)

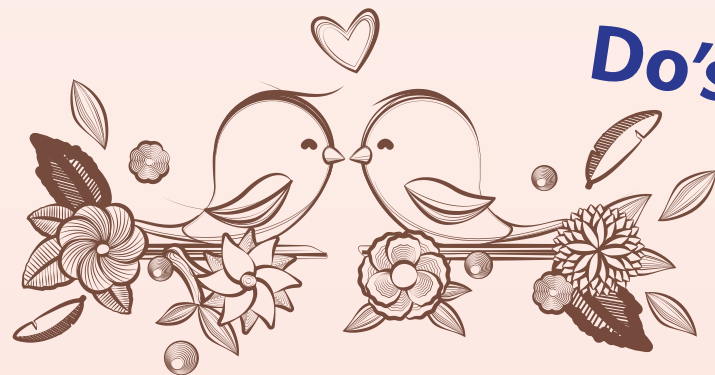
John is the Neurodiversity Scholar in Residence at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA. W&M is the first major American university to integrate neurodiversity into its curriculum. In addition, he's a co-founder of a vocational and life skills high school program for teens on the spectrum, and he has served on the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee and many other autism-related boards.

Register: <https://john-elder-robison.eventbrite.com>



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize. Visit us at: www.autism.fau.edu If an accommodation(s) for a disability is required, please call 561-297-2055 or e-mail us at CARD@fau.edu, a minimum of 5 working days in advance of the date of the event.

Thank you to our partner: The Master Teacher Program and the Department of English of the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters



Do's and Don'ts of Relationships

This training is for adults with ASD ages 18 and older. This training is designed to provide strategies to promote healthy behaviors related to relationships. We will explore boundaries, verbal & nonverbal cues and other aspects of positive relationships. If you have any questions, please contact Veronica Castro 561-213-8381 or castrov2014@fau.edu.

THURS
JAN 21
5:30 - 7 p.m.

Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 428

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://relationshipstrategies.eventbrite.com>

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

JOSHUA'S FIGHT TO SAVE HIS LEG

Jennifer Pollack



Joshua is a 21 year old happy, determined young man. Despite having Autism and Cerebral Palsy he is always fighting to be independent and doing things for himself to the best of his ability. Walking was no different. He has always been an ambulatory person until August of this year. After fighting an infection in his leg for over a year, his orthopedic doctor informed us that the infection had attacked all of his left knee and most of his femur. He recommended a leg fusion. Joshua is currently in the hospital for his third surgery due to the complication of this infection. When it is all done Joshua will have had a total knee replacement and will have his two legs the same length. He will be able to walk and bend his leg again. Help the Foster family by clicking on this link: <https://www.gofundme.com/joshuafoster>

On behalf of The Foster Family we say Thank you for your help in advance.

Do What Works! Evidence-based Practices for Supporting Individuals with ASD



Introduction to Evidence-based Practices: Know what works!

Friday, January 22 12:00-1:30 PM

This training will define and share examples of evidence-based practices for supporting individuals with ASD, as well as provide strategies for recognizing "pseudoscience" promoting less effective and often more expensive practices. The training will be offered both onsite, in Jupiter and online via Adobe Connect. A link to the online training will be sent to registered participants' emails a few days prior to the event. For more information, please contact Noelle Balsamo at nbalsamo@fau.edu.

<https://evidencebasedpractices.eventbrite.com>

Literacy Based Interventions: How to write them and when to use them

Friday, February 26 12:00-1:30 PM

This training will provide an introduction to literacy based interventions, when they can be utilized, and how to develop them. The training will be offered both on-site in Jupiter and online via Adobe Connect. A link to the online training will be sent to registered participants' emails a few days prior to the event. For more information, please contact Alison Bourdeau at abourdeau@fau.edu

<http://literacybasedinterventions.eventbrite.com>

Beyond Sticker Charts: Token Economies and Behavioral Contracts

Friday, March 25 12:00-1:30 PM

This training will provide an introduction to positive reinforcement strategies, discuss essential components of each, as well as support attendees in improving the use of token economies and behavioral contracts to increase desired behavior. The training will be offered both on-site in Jupiter and online via Adobe Connect. A link to the online training will be sent to registered participants' emails a few days prior to the event. For more information, please contact Noelle Balsamo at nbalsamo@fau.edu.

<http://tokeneconomy.eventbrite.com>

Visual Supports: Tools for Increasing Comprehension and Independence

Friday, April 22 12:00-1:30 PM

This training will provide an introduction to visual supports, when they can be utilized, how they can increase comprehension and independence, and their development. The training will be offered both on-site in Jupiter and online via Adobe Connect. A link to the online training will be sent to registered participants' emails a few days prior to the event. For more information, please contact Alison Bourdeau at abourdeau@fau.edu

<http://visualsupportsforindependence.eventbrite.com>

JUPITER ADULT SOCIAL GROUPS UPDATE

Alison Bourdeau



On October 10, 2015 the Jupiter Adult and Women's Social Groups gathered with their families to enjoy a BBQ at Singer Island Park. It was a wonderful opportunity for our young adults to socialize, and provided a unique opportunity for the family members to connect as well. The families graciously donated food and drinks, and we were able to enjoy a lovely afternoon at the beach. The afternoon was such a success that we will be holding this BBQ annually.

I want to thank all of the families for their support in donating food, to Liz Finder for reserving the location and for suggesting the idea, and most importantly to all of the young adults for coming each month. The

Jupiter Adult Social Group is a wonderful group of young adults all coming together with the goal to meet new people, you are all so welcoming to new members and I look forward to our outings each month. I also want to thank the parents for providing transportation to the outings, and for being so receptive and welcoming to the parents of new members. It really is such a special community we have built with this group!



TRAININGS

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, ALL TRAININGS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ONLINE

Guardianship and Special Needs Trusts

This session, conducted by a practicing Florida attorney, will provide information and answer questions related to guardianship options and special needs trusts.

ONSITE ONLY

THURS **FEB 4**
6:30 - 8 p.m.

IRSC - St. Lucie West Campus

To attend this training onsite, register at:

<http://guardsnt.eventbrite.com>

*Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2, 2016.



Autism Speaker Series

The FAU CARD Autism Lecture Series is made possible by a grant from The Harry T. Mangurian, Jr. Foundation and we gratefully acknowledge their contribution to educating the public about autism.

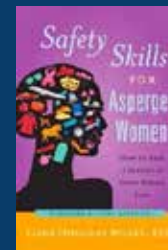
February 9, 2016
6 - 8 p.m.

FAU Jupiter
Campus,
ADM Auditorium

Liane
Holliday-
Willey



Professor Liane Holliday Willey, who holds a doctorate in psycholinguistics, was diagnosed with Asperger syndrome when she was 35 years old. Since her diagnosis Liane has focused her academic research on female's with Asperger syndrome and communication skills for people on the spectrum.



Liane is the author of the new book *Safety Skills for Asperger Women: How to Save a Perfectly Good Female Life*, and the author of the international best selling books *Pretending to be Normal: Living with Aspergers Syndrome*, *Asperger Syndrome in Adolescence: Living with the Ups, the Downs and Things in Between*, *Asperger Syndrome in the Family: Redefining Normal*.

She is also the Senior Editor of *Autism Spectrum Quarterly*, a blogger for *Psychology Today* and a consultant with B.R.A.I.N.S. – the Behavioral Resources and Institute for Neuropsychological Services. Liane has been featured in *USA Today*, *The Associated Press*, *The New York Times*, *The LA Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Autism One Radio*, *Oxygen TV*, several NPR stations and many other media outlets.



Register: <http://liane-holliday-willey.eventbrite.com>



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize. Visit us at: www.autism.fau.edu If an accommodation(s) for a disability is required, please call 561-297-2055 or e-mail us at CARD@fau.edu, a minimum of 5 working days in advance of the date of the event.

Thank you to our partner: The Master Teacher Program and the Department of English of the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Strategies to Support Siblings
9 - 11 a.m.

The sibling relationship is critical not only in childhood but throughout the lifespan. Siblings are often first and longest lasting relationships. In this training we will discuss the unique relationship between siblings, strategies for explaining an ASD diagnosis to your other children, common reactions of siblings to a disability as well as a variety of other topics related to the sibling relationship. If you have any questions, please contact Susy Launder at 561-211-2859 or slaunder@fau.edu.

Back-to-Back Trainings
Feb 16

Siblings As Mentors
1 - 3 p.m.

This workshop will provide participants with an overview on empowering siblings as mentors. Topics presented will include issues related to providing support and guidance to siblings, motivating growth independences and the self-confidence that will enable a sibling to take a supportive position as a role model and advocate for their siblings with disabilities, family and peers.



Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 411
To attend this training on campus or online, register at:
<http://siblingstraining.eventbrite.com>
Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 14, 2016.

**Vocational Rehabilitation Services:
Strategies and Tips**

FEB 22
1 - 2:30 p.m.

Strategies and tips for applying for Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 411
To attend this training on campus or online, register at:
<http://vrstrategies.eventbrite.com>
Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Thursday February 18, 2016.

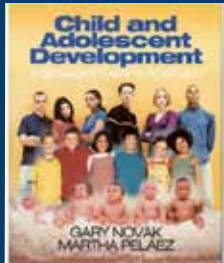
**FAU Jupiter Campus
ADM Auditorium**

**Feb 26, 2016
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Dr. Martha
Pelaez**



Infants at Risk of Developmental Delays: Early Behavior-Analytic Interventions



This presentation will:
Illustrate several experiments conducted by Dr. Pelaez and collaborators to identify indicators of an "infant at risk" of developmental delays.

Present several successful behavioral interventions using their mothers during face-to-face interactions.

Present and review results from experiments that show improved social learning and infant development.

Dr. Martha Pelaez is a Frost Professor at the College of Education, Florida International University. She received her Ph.D. in 1992 in developmental psychology, winning the International Dissertation Award from the International Society for Infant Studies. Dr. Pelaez has published more than 70 articles in refereed journals co-authored 13 chapters, one textbook on child development and several monographs. Dr. Pelaez is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, and also the founder of the Behavior Development Bulletin, where she has served as editor since 1990.

Register: <http://martha-pelaez.eventbrite.com>

6.0 BCBA CEUs for \$75 during advanced registration (\$90 onsite)



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize. Visit us at: www.autism.fau.edu If an accommodation(s) for a disability is required, please call 561-297-2055 or e-mail us at CARD@fau.edu, a minimum of 5 working days in advance of the date of the event.

WINGS OF HOPE

Gala 2016

7TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION

GIVING INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES HOPE

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY
MARCH 3RD | 2016 | 6 P.M. to 11 P.M.

LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION
MUSIC, FORMAL DINNER & COCKTAILS
AT THE ADDISON
2 E. Camino Real, Boca Raton FL 33432
business formal attire

FAU
CENTER FOR AUTISM AND
RELATED DISABILITIES
Florida Atlantic University

HONORING

Dr. Gregory & Laina Albert

RSVP By Feb 15, 2016

<https://fauf.fau.edu/wingsofhope>

Lights...iPhone...Action!!!

Are you interested in learning about all the great things you can do with your iPhone and iMovie? Then, this workshop is for you! Giovanna Campoli, Video Productions Director for Video Tech LLC., will be on hand to guide participants in using the iMovie application to create engaging presentations, video reports, visual resumes and movie trailers. All you will need to participate is an iPhone/iPad, with iMovie installed, and a creative, open imagination so you can leave with the ability to create and showcase your own digital creations.

This training is open to families, professionals, and individuals on the spectrum ages 14 and older. Space is limited so reserve your spot now! Don't forget to charge and bring your iPhone.



Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 411

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://lightsiphoneaction.eventbrite.com>

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Wed, March 9, 2016.

FRI
MAR 11
5:30 - 7 p.m.

MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER

Alex May - iRISE2 Assistant Program Coordinator



Alexandria May is a native Floridian who earned her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Minors in Education and Communication Studies from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. She returned home to Boca Raton to pursue a Master's Degree in Experimental Psychology specializing in Developmental and Social Psychology from Florida Atlantic University. While completing her Master's Degree, Alexandria was a Graduate Assistant in Florida Atlantic University's Weppner Center for LEAD & Service-Learning. She assisted with the planning and marketing of student volunteer opportunities locally as well as aiding in the recruitment and maintenance of student volunteers. Alexandria's most recent position was working with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties where she was an Enrollment and Match Support Specialist in both Community-Based and School-Based Mentoring Programs. She interviewed and assessed mentors and children and families for their suitability to the program and conducted monthly match support to ensure quality and safety within each of her matches. Alexandria is excited to continue sharing her passion and dedication for children and families with FAU CARD.

Autism Speaker Series

The FAU CARD Autism Lecture Series is made possible by a grant from The Harry T. Mangurian, Jr. Foundation and we gratefully acknowledge their contribution to educating the public about autism.

St. Lucie School
District Board
Room

March 10, 2016
6 - 8 p.m.

David
Finch



David Finch is a humorist and author of the acclaimed New York Times bestselling memoir, *The Journal of Best Practices*. Married in 2003 and diagnosed five years later with Asperger syndrome, David has committed himself to relentless self-improvement, sometimes to a comical extent. A former semiconductor engineer turned full-time writer and speaker, David has written for *The New York Times*, *Huffington Post*, and *Slate*, and he writes a relationship blog for *Psychology Today*. But his greatest accomplishment by far has been learning how to thrive as a family man.

At the podium, David brings his story to life through narrative that both inspires and entertains. With a comedian's wit, affecting storytelling, a long list of endearing quirks, and surprising wisdom, David shares his journey from the world's most trying husband to the husband who tries the most—a journey that taught him how to live a successful, fulfilling life, and even how to fold laundry without being asked. His messages range from the transformative power of love, understanding, guidance, and adaptability in any relationship, to living a fulfilling life with an autism spectrum condition, to thriving in what he describes as a “neurologically-mixed marriage.” While sharing hilarious and moving anecdotes from his life, David provides his audiences with invaluable, fresh insights into their own. Rich with wisdom and life-changing lessons for anyone motivated to succeed—be it in their career, their marriage, or any aspect of their life—David's talks lend a message of hope and inspiration from which anyone can benefit. “

Oh, You Needed Me to Pay Attention?” Classroom Perspective from a Deceptively Remarkable Student
This presentation is specifically geared for educators, administrators, and parents who find themselves occasionally baffled by their students. K-12 and higher education benefit equally, and in many cases CEUs may be offered for attending.

“Oh, You Needed Me to Pay Taxes?” Successful Transitions for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum
Navigating transition from elementary education into high school, high school in college or vocation, and college into career involves a little more for individuals with special needs. When high school is over, the IEP may go away but the needs persist. This lecture addresses considerations of transition, including such crucial life skills as making friends, dating, getting and staying organized, dealing with difficult emotions, dealing with looser schedules and greater uncertainty, interviewing, disclosure, and above all, achieving independence.

Register: <https://david-finch.eventbrite.com>



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize. Visit us at: www.autism.fau.edu If an accommodation(s) for a disability is required, please call 561-297-2055 or e-mail us at CARD@fau.edu, a minimum of 5 working days in advance of the date of the event.

Thank you to our partner: The Master Teacher Program and the Department of English of the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Enjoying My Child: Strategies for Improving the Parent-Child Relationship

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

In this workshop, parents will learn practical tools to engage their young child in play in everyday play activities and routines. Methods for promoting positivity and enjoying the parent-child relationship will be emphasized. This is Part 4 of a 4 - Part workshop series designed for parents of children with a new or recent diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Sanderson at 561-235-9342.

All parents and caregivers of individuals with ASD are welcome to attend one or more parts of this workshop series. Attendance of Parts 1-3 is not a prerequisite to attend. This series may be most helpful for parents of children between 15 months and 5 years of age who have been recently diagnosed with ASD.

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:
<https://enjoyingmychild.eventbrite.com>

Future Planning, Benefits and Beyond for Caregivers

12:30-2:00 p.m.

This training will have expert panelists from various government & community agencies to provide education, resources and answer questions related to future planning, benefits and other supportive measures for caregivers and individuals with ASD. Caregivers will learn about resources and benefits that may be used to promote independence in the individuals they care for with ASD. If you have any questions, please contact Veronica Castro at 561-213-8381 or castrov2014@fau.edu.

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:
<http://futureplanningbenefits.eventbrite.com>

March 11
Back-to-Back
Trainings

Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 411

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Wed, March 9, 2016

Treasure Coast Resource Information Session

Participants will learn about the resources available on the Treasure Coast. Information on the eligibility criteria, access information, and funding streams will be reviewed.

ONSITE ONLY

THURS **MAR 24**
6:30 - 8 p.m.

IRSC - St. Lucie West Campus

To attend this training onsite, register at:

<http://tcreources.eventbrite.com>

*Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

Pre-Employment Strategies for Parents & Professionals



Parents and professionals help your student or client prepare for a job search! Pre-employment strategies including job search techniques, resume development and a review of soft skills for interviewing will be offered in this training!

THURS MAR 31
2 - 3:30 p.m.

IRSC - St. Lucie West Campus

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<https://pre-employmentforparentsandprofessionals.eventbrite.com>

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2016.

Building Bridges: Autism Spectrum Disorder and Your Grandchild

FAU CARD is excited to offer training geared towards grandparents of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and related disabilities. This training will provide participants with a concise explanation of ASD, causes and early indicators, as well as discussion on dealing with challenging behaviors. Participants will also explore strategies to use in building relationships with their grandchildren as well as supporting their adult child. If you have any questions, please contact Susy Launder at 561-211-2859 or slaunder@fau.edu. We look forward to seeing you there!



TUES APRIL 5
1 - 3 p.m.

Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 411

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://grandparents2016.eventbrite.com>

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 1, 2016.

Autism Speaker Series

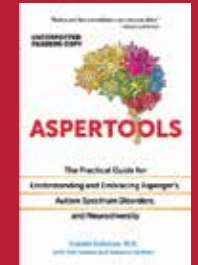


April 7, 2016
6 - 8 p.m.

Dr. Hackie Reitman

FAU Boca Campus
Stadium Acura Club

If you ask Dr. Harold Reitman, labels are a lousy way to describe a unique human being. Whether it's Asperger's, High-functioning Autism, ADHD, dyslexia, Tourette's Syndrome or even the so-called neurotypical brain itself, one size does not fit all. Everyone's brain is different.



Helping others 'get it' when it comes to dealing with those with so-called learning disabilities is why Dr. Reitman has written *Aspertools: The Practical Guide for Understanding and Embracing Asperger's, Autism Spectrum Disorders, and Neurodiversity*. It's also why he wrote and produced *The Square Root of 2*, a movie about a college student who encounters and fights her school's unjust system. The film was inspired by the real events faced by his daughter and contributing author, Rebecca, when she went to college. Her seizure disorder and, at the time, undiagnosed Asperger syndrome posed unique challenges not faced by most students.

Aspertools is the first book to offer simple tools, action plans and resources to help understand and deal with anyone whose brain is a bit different. The astonishing rate of autism births alone (1 in 68) means that society will have to adapt to neurodiversity, just as it has had to adapt to other cultural and racial differences. Our educational system, our workplaces, and society at large will no longer be "one size fits all." Each individual will have the opportunity to maximize their potential and we will be the

Register: <https://hackie-reitman.eventbrite.com>

Dr. Reitman is an Orthopedic Surgeon and a parent of a young lady with autism. He is speaking from a parent perspective and not as an autism professional.



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize. Visit us at: www.autism.fau.edu If an accommodation(s) for a disability is required, please call 561-297-2055 or e-mail us at CARD@fau.edu, a minimum of 5 working days in advance of the date of the event.

Thank you to our partner: The Master Teacher Program and the Department of English of the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Hanging out with Friends



This training is open to students 12 – 17 years old. Training will focus on appropriate social skills for teenagers. It will provide strategies for initiating and friendships and self-awareness. If you have any questions, please contact Veronica Castro at 561-213-8381 or castrov2014@fau.edu.

THURS
APRIL 14
5:30 – 7 p.m.

Boca Raton Campus, College of Education, Room 428

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://hangingoutwithfriends.eventbrite.com>

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

Planning for Transition with PATH

Plan for transition using the PATH process. PATH stands for Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope and is a visual experience where participants draw or write out steps towards reaching their goals. The training is for individuals, parents, or families and participants will leave with their own PATH plan.



APRIL 22
2 -3:30 p.m.

FAU Jupiter Campus

To attend this training on campus or online, register at:

<http://pathtransitionplanning.eventbrite.com>

Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Wednesday April 6, 2016

Community Developmental Screening Clinic

Do you have a child who is 5 years old or younger?
Do you have concerns about their development?

We will conduct free developmental screenings throughout our service area, which includes Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. This service is critical for children and families experiencing developmental concerns because early screening leads to early diagnosis and early intervention.

We are coming to your community! Developmental Screenings

Where: Vickers House South
3801 Georgia Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33405

Time: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Dates: Jan 19, 2016
Mar 15, 2016
May 17, 2016
Jul 19, 2016
Sept 20, 2016

Appointments: Call (561) 804-4975 - to schedule your child for a screening.
Parents must be present at the time of screening to provide consent and receive screening results.



*If you have specific questions about screening tools used or to schedule the clinic to come to your area
Please contact Elisa Cruz-Torres, Ed.D., BCBA at (561) 235-9078.*



The FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) provides expert consulting, training and support, at no charge, for people with autism and related disabilities, their families and the professionals serving them. CARD's goal is to optimize the potential of the individuals we serve by helping them become valued members of their communities, enabling them to learn, work, communicate and socialize. Visit us at: www.autism.fau.edu To donate to FAU CARD visit: <http://coe.fau.edu/centersandprograms/card/donate.php> If an accommodation(s) for a disability is required, please call 561-297-2055 or e-mail us at CARD@fau.edu, a minimum of 5 working days in advance of the date of the event.

This season, for each
touchdown
- running or passing -

scored by
Ryan Tannehill

from the
Miami Dolphins,
Tito's Handmade Vodka

is donating to:

FAU Center for Autism & Related Disabilities

T.H.A.N.K
you



WZZR
the Greek



Softball Charity Event

Thank You

FirstService, John C. Cassidy & Roger Dean Stadium
for hosting the charity softball game

on October 10 at the Roger Dean Stadium

and for raising \$12,000

in support of

FAU Center for Autism & Related Disabilities



TRANSITION CONFERENCE

FAU CARD's Inaugural Regional Transition Conference was a great success! With over 130 parents, professionals, and people with disabilities in attendance, the event brought the community together for a morning of information about transition. We'd like to thank College Living Experience for being our partner and the microenterprises that participated in the Micro-Enterprise Expo. We look forward to making the FAU CARD Transition Conference an annual event!



Donate to

AMERICAN HONDA BIRDIES FOR CHILDREN
FAU CARD

American Honda Birdies for Children program is a vehicle for local charities to team up with The Honda Classic and present you with a chance to win a new Honda automobile, while at the same time, the FAU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) receives 100% of the proceeds plus a 10% matching contribution courtesy of The Honda Classic.

HOW TO DONATE AND GUESS THE BIRDIES

Make a donation of \$20 or more to FAU CARD and then guess the total number of birdies that will be made by the entire field in all four rounds of the 2016 Honda Classic.

WHAT CAN BE WON

Grand Prize: Brand New 2016 Honda Vehicle

WHAT NUMBER SHOULD I GUESS?

2014: 1,363 Birdies
2015: 1,168 Birdies

SJB PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

Lauderdale Fashion Week

OCTOBER 14 - 16, 2016

Luncheon: Oct. 14

12 - 1:30 p.m.

YOLO Restaurant

Fashion Show: Oct. 15-16

11 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Beach Community Center

10% of the proceeds raised will be donated to:
FAU Center for Autism & Related Disabilities

For sponsorship information please contact: Stacey Berthil at
561.319.6194 or email lauderdalefashionweek@gmail.com



Donate & Enter to win at: <https://www.thehondaclassic.com/birdies-for-children/donate/FAUCARD/>

LOCAL SIBSHOP® GROUPS:

MIAMI SIBSHOP®

Primary Contact: Jessica Spence
REACH of Miami
9501 SW 20th Terrace
Miami, FL 33165
Phone: 808-321-3814

SLOMIN FAMILY CENTER SIBSHOP®

Primary Contact: Jeffrey Zirulnick
16705 Puzzle Place
Delray Beach, FL 33446
Phone: 561-495-4443
www.slominfamilycenter.org

PBBHW SIBSHOP®

Primary Contact: Brandi Rials
Palm Beach Behavioral Health and Wellness
345 Jupiter Lakes Blvd, Ste 302a
Jupiter, FL 33458
Phone: 561-429-2397
www.pbbhw.com

BROWARD COUNTY SIBSHOP®

Primary Contact: John Kabot
Supporting the Spectrum
3055 NW 126th Avenue
Sunrise, FL 33323
Phone: 954-829-9018

JAFCO SIBSHOP® SERIES

Primary Contact: Linda Sachs, LCSW
JAFCO
4200 N. University Drive
Sunrise, FL 33351
www.jafco.org

PALM BEACH COUNTY SIBSHOP®

Primary Contact: Daniella Robbins
PBC Parks/Rec & ARC of PBC
2728 Lake Worth Road
Lake Worth, FL 33461
Phone: 561-966-7088

TREASURE COAST PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS:

Puzzled Families of Indian River County

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

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Puzzled-Families-of-Indian-River/122076224542183>
RSVP: puzzledfamilies@gmail.com

Disability Support Network of the Treasure Coast

Disability Support Network is a parent support group meeting to provide support and information for parents of individuals with special needs, not specifically for those living with autism spectrum disorders.

When: 3rd Thursday of each month from 7:00pm-8:30pm in either Martin or St Lucie.
Where: TBA at a local restaurant. Like them on Facebook for meeting notifications.

RSVP: puzzledfamilies@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/131030553607709/>

Puzzled Families of St Lucie County

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

When: 2nd Thurs of each month from 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Where: Community United Methodist Church, 3114 Okeechobee Rd, Fort Pierce, FL

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Puzzled-Families-of-Indian-River/122076224542183>
RSVP: puzzledfamilies@gmail.com

S.O.U.L.(Supporting,Overcoming,Understanding, & Loving)

Meets in Martin County and is for those families living with autism spectrum disorders. This is not a religious meeting, but for education and q & a. The goal of the group is to provide resources to those families attending.

When: 1st Monday of the month from 6:30pm-8:00pm.
Where: Covenant Fellowship Church @ 2880 SE Aster Lane in Stuart.

For More info contact Rhonda Oksman, Founder/Facilitator
Email: rhonda.oksman@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/SoulSupportGroup>

The Slomin Family Center



The Slomin Family Center is in the midst of a busy and thriving year! The inclusion preschool class at the Center recently received their new Smart Board. The students are enjoying this dynamic hands-on learning approach. The Center also added some other new programs this year to intensify our level of instruction, such as: foundations phonics program, Teach Town individualized computer program, Teach Town Social Skills Program, Scholastic Magazines for preschoolers, and a S.T.E.M. learning center for math and science skills. Our students

are offered speech language therapy and occupational therapy services integrated into their classroom experience daily, with one-on-one pull out once a week. Our OT instructs all our students in the Handwriting Without Tears curriculum. The preschool experience at the Center also includes ABA therapy as needed and parent support groups for behavior concerns. We encourage all to come and take a tour of our fantastic facility and unique programming. We anticipate our second preschool classroom to be open for Fall of 2016.

The Center also offers these after-school therapies to our community families: speech and language, guided play, Handwriting Without Tear program, Keyboarding Without Tears Programs, and sensory integration therapy in the new sensory room. We opened our new state of the art sensory room this fall. These after-school therapies are offered from 2:15 - 4:00 p.m. The Center is eagerly awaiting the proposed January opening of our Aquatic Center, which will offer another valuable service to our families in the form of water safety and swim lessons.

The Center offers a variety of after-school and evening programs for elementary to young adult age groups. Our Program Directory, Gary Gam, has some groups started and some projected to start in the new year. At present we offer: “PEERS”, Sibshop and Friendship Group starting in January. Our new “Grad’s Program”, which is only for participants whom have completed a PEERS program, will be offered one time a month for an hour starting in December. We also have a unique “A DAY AT CAMP”, for kids that want a break and the parents that want to give it to them. This will be for students grades 2-5 the second Saturday in the month from 9:00 am to 3: 00 pm.

Please encourage anyone interested in any of our programs to contact The Center for information or a tour. Just call: Gary Gam, Program Director, for after-school and evening programs and Marilyn Houston for information on our preschool. Any inquiries for speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and ABA therapy sessions can contact our main number and we will have then therapist contact the parent directly.

AUTISM ADVISORY BOARD
Jennifer Pollack



This year Royal Caribbean International developed an Autism Advisory Board composed of professionals from across the country to provide input on how they can improve the guest experience for people with autism. Board members were invited by Royal Caribbean to participate in the inaugural sailing of the Anthem of the Seas. This was a no-cost opportunity for the board to meet Royal Caribbean leadership, share ideas, tour the ship, provide feedback on autism friendly programming, and discuss ways to for Royal Caribbean to continue being a sensitive, understanding, and supporting travel experience for individuals with autism and their families. Jennifer Pollack Percival is a member of the Royal Caribbean Autism Advisory Board and will attended this event on behalf of FAU CARD.

Els Center

The Els Center of Excellence is focused on positively impacting those on the spectrum and their families, with its overarching goal to help individuals with autism lead positive, productive and rewarding lives. The Center, based in Jupiter, Fla., serves the local, national and international autism communities and is on track to be a game-changing resource in the field. The Center has been designed to bring together the critical components of early intervention, education, sports and leisure, applied research, transition to adulthood, medical and professional services and adult services, all on one campus.

The first buildings of the state-of-the-art Center - the Lower School and Auditorium Building, opened in August 2015. This allowed us to welcome 115 students on the spectrum into the school – giving them access to a learning environment, as well as wrap-around services, designed specifically to help them thrive. The state-of-the-art Center is also the hub for a varied and extensive global outreach program focused on the gathering, development and sharing of best practices in therapy and education with those on the spectrum, their families and the professionals that work with them, across the U.S. and internationally. The Foundation is now focused on raising the necessary funds to complete the full vision of the Center's 26-acre campus, which includes an Upper School, extensive sports and recreational facilities, a medical and professional services building and an adult services component. The Els Center of Excellence is focused on positively impacting those on the spectrum and their families, with its overarching goal to help individuals with autism lead positive, productive and rewarding lives. The Center, based in Jupiter, Fla., serves the local, national and international autism communities and is on track to be a game-changing resource in the field. The Center has been designed to bring together the critical components of early intervention, education, sports and leisure, applied research, transition to adulthood, medical and professional services and adult services, all on one campus.

The first buildings of the state-of-the-art Center - the Lower School and Auditorium Building, opened in August 2015. This allowed us to welcome 115 students on the spectrum into the school – giving them access to a learning environment, as well as wrap-around services, designed specifically to help them thrive. The state-of-the-art Center is also the hub for a varied and extensive global outreach program focused on the gathering, development and sharing of best practices in therapy and education with those on the spectrum, their families and the professionals that work with them, across the U.S. and internationally. The Foundation is now focused on raising the necessary funds to complete the full vision of the Center's 26-acre campus, which includes an Upper School, extensive sports and recreational facilities, a medical and professional services building and an adult services component. For more information on programs and services offered by the Els for Autism Foundation contact Dr. Marlene Sotelo, marlene.sotelo@elsforautism.org, 561-625-8269, www.elsforautism.org

FAU CARD ONLINE TRAININGS

FAU CARD has developed this library of online training presentations that are available for you to view.

Visit our website: <http://coe.fau.edu/centersandprograms/card/tutorials.php>

- Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorders

In the Home

- Guardianship Options
- Strategies for Increasing Homework Success
- Toilet Training

In the School

- ASD & the Reading Comprehension Challenge: What Can You Do?, created by UM-NSU CARD
- Classroom Set-up
- Count on It! Strategies to Teach Math Skills to Students with ASD, created by UM-NSU CARD
- Enhancing Engagement in Science
- Strategies for Increasing Homework Success

Behavior Series

- **Part 1:** Understanding Why Problem Behaviors Occur
- **Part 2:** Building Play and Leisure Skills
- **Part 3:** Environmental Setup and Visual Strategies
- **Part 4:** Developing Requesting and Protesting Skills
- **Part 5:** Token Economies and Behavioral Contracts

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

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



**CENTER FOR AUTISM AND
RELATED DISABILITIES**

Florida Atlantic University