



December 2022



BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS resource center NEWS

Issue #2

Who we are!

The Behavioral Pediatrics Resource Center is a non-profit organization started in 2018 by Michelle Zeanah, MD. The goal of the Resource Center is to try to improve resource availability and opportunities for education. We focus on children with autism spectrum disorder, ADHD and/or anxiety in rural Georgia.

What's been happening?

The **Behavioral Pediatric Resource Center Donations drive** has started. The contributions the Resource Center receives is key to spreading the word on Autism and continuing trainings. The support from the community is appreciated.

April is Autism Awareness month and there are already plans in the works for a school-based competition and community outreach.

Did you know you can visit our website at behavioral-pediatrics.org or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BPRC.Statesboro ? Both sites have information and helpful resources for autism, ADHD, and Anxiety.



Sharon's Blog

As the project manager here at the Behavioral Pediatric Resource Center I have learned so much about Autism, ADHD, and Anxiety. As an educator, I thought I knew about it, but there is so much more to know. Like the difference between a meltdown and tantrum. We've all seen it, the child screaming and crying uncontrollably in the store. My first thought was always, *take that child to the car and get them under control.* I now know that this display of emotion isn't always about the child getting their way. For a child with Autism the store environment can be truly overwhelming to their senses causing sensory overstimulation. That triggers a reaction which is a meltdown. When I worked in school, I saw meltdowns that could go as long as 40 minutes. Trust me, a child having the tantrum is going to calm down when they get that toy off the shelf they wanted. A child with Autism having a meltdown doesn't even know the toy existed.

Project Updates

Autism Awareness Training

With over 247 foster parents and 165 case managers for children in care, the Behavioral Pediatrics Resource Center continue to provide trainings to foster parents and case managers in our area. The new year will provide new opportunities as trainings begin throughout the state.

The impact of the training is apparent. 13 children have already been diagnosed since trainings began with many more scheduled for assessment. 13 may not seem like a lot but is a huge step towards getting information out there and getting children with autism the support they need.

American Academy of Pediatrics Catch Grant

The presentation is close to completion and the Behavioral Pediatric Resource Center will begin reaching out to Juvenile Justice offices soon to schedule trainings.

Our hope is to have the training POST Certified, (Peace Officer Standards and Training) which allows officers to receive professional training credit.

HELP WANTED!

If you know a probation officer that would be interested in talking with the Behavioral Pediatric Resource Center as part of the research process, please share our email information info@behavioral-pediatrics.org.

What's Next?

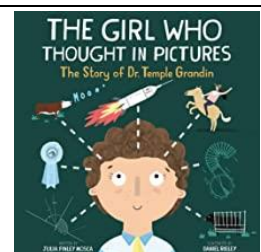
The time is now to start planning for where the Behavioral Pediatric Resource Center will go next. While the work done for the center is so important, many people still do not know the impact that Autism, ADHD, and Anxiety have on young and old alike. That is why the hope is to continue training everyone that has the potential to work with children that may be affected by one or all of these.

The Resource Center is currently looking for grants to support the work.

Books We Love!

The Girl Who Thought in Pictures: The Story of Dr. Temple Grandin

Book 1 of 3: Amazing Scientists
by Julia Finley Mosca and Daniel Rieley



This title tells the life of scientist Temple Grandin who has autism. The book has colorful illustrations, and the author has written it in rhyme. It is a fun way for children to learn about life of a scientist and how autism can be a positive.

The story is available as a read aloud on You Tube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jcruLjS0PJY>