



BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS
resource center



A Look Back at What We've Done in 2023

2023 has been a record-breaking year for the Resource Center. We have had opportunities to share information, grown our non-profit and reached out to the community. Our thanks go out to our sponsors for donations or grants that helped us bring our vision and mission to fruition this year. Below are some of our successes.

Department of Families and Children Autism Awareness Training

This year we completed training in 15 regions in Georgia. Over 1200 foster parents and staff were trained in Autism Awareness. The partnership with DFCS continued throughout the year and will extend beyond.



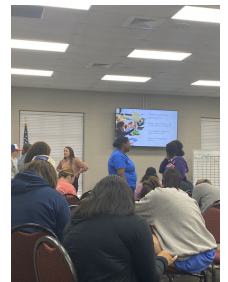
Statesboro Farmer's Market for Autism Awareness Month

Saturdays in April were spent at the Statesboro Farmer's Market providing information to the community about autism spectrum disorder and about our non-profit. Because of a generous donor we were able to give each child a pinwheel and show them breathing techniques for anxiety.



Training for Bulloch County Recreation Department

An interactive, hands on training was done for summer camp staff to help them prepare for working with children who have autism during the summer months.



Kid's Health Day at the YMCA in Statesboro

Our staff shared some ideas with parents and kids to help minimize stress as well as information about the Resource Center.



Department of Juvenile Justice Training

Web-based training modules provided DJJ staff with an opportunity to gain knowledge on autism and strategies for communicating with children on the autism spectrum. This training was made available to over 50 counties in rural Georgia.

It was funded by a grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics.



Autism Night at Tormenta FC

Fans of Tormenta Soccer were receptive to our information booth and Tormenta team signed soccer ball raffle. It was a great opportunity to meet the community, have an autism awareness competition on the field for kids, and watch some great soccer.



Pictures with Santa



The Resource Center provided a picture opportunity with Santa in an autism friendly environment. Children from newborn to teenage years showed up to get a picture with Santa. Many families showed up dressed for a quick family picture as well. Special thanks to our volunteers who made this event possible.



With Gratitude to our Supporters!

We have been blessed by our many supporters this year. From private donors to grant awards we are grateful for your help. We couldn't do this without your generosity.

Below are some of our business supporters from this year.



Members of the Morris Bank Foundation deliver a check to the Resource Center.

Gateway Church
Walmart in Statesboro
Walmart in Swainsboro
Morris Bank Foundation
100 Women Who Care
Statesboro Rotary Club
Bulloch County Commissioners
Behavioral Pediatrics of Rural Georgia

Looking Forward to More in 2024

The Resource Center is already working on events for 2024.

Department of Families and Children Services

We continue our partnership and will be providing more training to staff and foster parents. We are also looking forward to the release of our new training video.

Autism Occupant Awareness

Working with our community law enforcement we are developing a training for officers to help them understand autism and ways to respond to a person with autism. Part of this partnership involves disbursing autism awareness occupant stickers for vehicles and homes.

Bulloch County Recreation Department

Our partnership continues as we will be providing training to after school providers and summer camp staff on autism awareness and strategies for working with children with autism. Part of our efforts is to provide staff with sensory manipulatives that will help children self-calm.

Autism Awareness Month

April seems far away, but we are already preparing. We will be at the Farmer's Market again this year and we are also considering an Autism Awareness Night at Tormenta Soccer.

If you would like us to provide a speaker for your event or organization in April, email info@behavioral-pediatrics.org.



from

The Behavioral Pediatric Resource Center

IF YOU WANT TO SUPPORT THE
WORK WE DO



Click [HERE](#) to donate online

or mail a donation to

Behavioral Pediatrics Resource Center

406 Savannah Avenue

Statesboro, GA 30458

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on the internet

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www.behavioral-pediatrics.org



www.facebook.com/BPRC.Statesboro

I've shared in the past about the beauty seen in a child with autism, but an opportunity to watch children interact with Santa Clause brought a whole new level of wonderment and beauty.

Our Pictures with Santa event was very worthwhile. Children from ages of newborn to teenagers came to see Jolly Old St. Nick. Some children were ready and excited while others needed a little time to warm up to the idea of a picture with someone in a red suit and white beard. Because of the environment and the patience of our Santa, the magic really began to happen as even the most reluctant child eventually approached him. Conversations with the children went from limited to discussions about things like the weather and why Santa wasn't wearing his gloves. Fists bumps and high fives were plentiful.

So why is this so different than a neurotypical child sitting with Santa? Seeing Santa, some for the first time, is not the norm for some kids with autism. The chaos of the mall at the holidays, the lines to see Santa and noises of busy shoppers and tired children can often be more than a child with autism can handle. The beauty of the moments the children got to spend in a very peaceful and relaxed environment brought out the joy in the children and some beautiful memories for mom and dad.

**Want more information? Thinking
about serving on our board or
volunteering to help?
email**

info@behavioral-pediatrics.org

Every Brain is Beautiful
By Sarah Furlong



BOOKS WE LOVE

Every Brain is Beautiful

by Sarah Furlong

This adorable book talks about four best friends and how they are alike and also different. This is a great book to help kids understand neurodiversity and understand that it is ok to be different.