

### **Awareness and Education Events for 2024**

We grew our partnerships and built new ones in 2024. We were very blessed to serve our community and bringing education and awareness to so many people.

# **Bulloch County Recreation Department**

We were delighted when Bulloch County Recreation Department reached out to us again for more training for their after school care staff. With the support of Morris Bank we were able to provide participants with sensory room to go bags (pictured on the right). We also held trainings for summer camp staff as well in May of this year.



# **Autism Awareness Month**



April was filled with opportunities to spread awareness about autism. We participated in the <u>Statesboro Farmers' Market</u> each Saturday during the month. This is where our mascot Barry the Bee was first introduced spreading the word to "Bee Kind". <u>Eagle 94.9</u> welcomed the Resource Center to their morning show and the talk was all about autism. Were also so honored to speak at the meetings for the Kiwanis, the Jaycees and the Rotary Club in Brooklet.

Wrapping up the month, our friends at **Tormenta** welcomed us for another fun night of soccer and sharing information about autism with their amazing fans. Barry the Bee participated in "dance offs" with some of the their younger fans.



## **Picnic for Protection and Resources**



Our first inaugural booth allowed us to reach a new audience at the Picnic for Prevention and Resources hosted by **Prevent Child Abuse Bulloch** and the **Bulloch County Commission on Human Services**. The event took place at Luetta Moore Park. We were so happy to bring the Easter Bunny for an opportunity for free pictures for all visitors.

# She Women's Expo

The She Women's Expo gave us an opportunity to reach out to the women of our community and share not just information but also some tools for teachers. Our toolkits help children succeed in the classroom when they are diagnosed with autism, ADHD and anxiety.

To check out our toolkits visit: <a href="https://behavioral-pediatrics.org/teacher-tool-kits/">https://behavioral-pediatrics.org/teacher-tool-kits/</a>



# **Bulloch County Employee Health and Wellness Fair**

This year we were invited to attend the Bulloch County Health and Wellness Fair. Our booth had a variety of information about autism, ADHD and anxiety with the hard working Bulloch County employees. Our edible kinetic sand was a huge hit. The sand is made of baking soda, flour, cornstarch, sugar and food coloring. Booth visitors spent time relaxing on their lunch break and playing in the sand.

#### Trunk or Treat at the YMCA

Another first for us was participating at the YMCA's Trunk or Treat. Our Beetlejuice inspired trunk gathered a lot of children, some brave enough to experience our blind sensory experience by sticking their hand in spaghetti noodles, peeled grapes and sand. We had as much fun as the children had and are ready to do it again next year.





# **60 Second Strategies Videos**

One of our nonprofit's dreams became a reality this year when we uploaded two videos to our website, <u>behavioral-pediatrics.org</u>. These videos demonstrate simple strategies for helping children improve their behaviors. Make sure to take a look!

#### **Pictures with Santa**

Year two of Pictures with Santa took place earlier this month. It was a success! The atmosphere was quiet and many children that would not have an opportunity to see Santa Clause in a louder and more crowded environment had time to get comfortable meeting Santa and take pictures. Families were able to take photos together if they wished. The Resource Center is so proud to sponsor this event and help all types of children in our community share a moment with Santa.



# With Gratitude to our Supporters!

We couldn't do what we do without the generosity of people like you. Through donations and grants we continue to provide training and awareness opportunities to not just our county, but throughout our state. Thank you to our donors and grants given in 2024.

Walmart in Statesboro
Bulloch County Recreation Dept.
United Way of Coastal Georgia
Hospital Authority of Bulloch County
Behavioral Pediatrics of Rural Georgia
and many private donors

Thank you





# Plans to Thrive in 2025

Here are some things we are already working on for the coming year.

#### Occupant has Autism Decals and Training

Working with our community law enforcement we will be starting our Occupant has Autism program which includes giving out stickers that identify when a vehicle or home has an occupant with autism. Watch our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BPRCStatesboro for when stickers will be available to the public.

Part II of the project is a training that encompasses autism characteristics and strategies that will better equip law enforcement be better prepared when answering a call in which an occupant has autism. The Bulloch County Sheriff's Office and Statesboro Police Department will begin this interactive training in January

We hope this year brings an opportunity to train Fire Department Personnel and EMTs.

#### **60 Second Strategies**

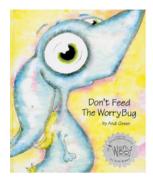
We were able to pilot 2 videos on our website this year, behavioral-pediatrics.org. In 2025 our goal is to add many more vides that will help parents, caregivers and professionals who work with children. The videos offer strategies for working with children with autism, ADHD and anxiety. Check them out!

#### **Autism Awareness Month**

We are already gearing up for April 2025! Now is an excellent time to book a speaker for your event or organization during Autism Awareness Month. If you would like us to participate in your event in April, please email info@behavioral-pediatrics.org

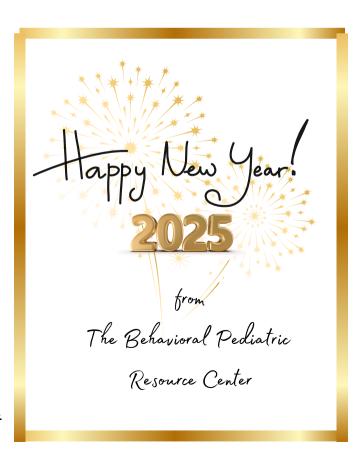


#### **BOOKS WE LOVE**



Don't Feed the Worry Bug
by Andy Green
Wince allows the Worry Bug
to come around whenever he
worries. This story is about
worrying and how to help
kids regulate their worrying,
so it doesn't take over their
day.

Enjoy this book as a read aloud on You Tube <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkvYschRiQU&t=5s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkvYschRiQU&t=5s</a>



# EVERYTHING WE DO IS BY THE GENEROSITY OF YOU!



#### WITH PAYPAL

#### WITH VENMO





VISIT our WEBSITE



or mail a donation to
Behavioral Pediatrics Resource Center
912 E. Jones Ave.
Statesboro, GA 30458

#### SHARON SHARES

I had the joy of spending some time with a child on the autism spectrum. He was so sweet. I didn't expect the time to be so rewarding for me. But I can tell you, I was amazed at this child's joy and ability to have so much happiness to share. He talked about Sonic. You know that little hedgehog character that is so popular. I was mesmerized by the details this young boy could tell me about Sonic. Sometimes he would get so excited that his words came out so fast I couldn't understand them. He knew a lot about Sonic, from his many colors, to how fast he could go, to who is his nemesis. He spent a great deal of our time together sharing details. And while I gained a little knowledge about Sonic, I gained something far greater from this huge fan. The sheer happiness he had in sharing what he knew with me far exceeded the fact that he was overwhelming me with details. He found so much unbridled joy in this little hedgehog character and all of the incredible details that he knew. Intense interests can be part of autism. I suspect that this boy will not always be obsessed with Sonic, but his intense interests will serve him well as an adult.



# Find Us on the Internet

#### **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**





behavioral-pediatrics.org







Want more information?
Thinking about serving on our board or volunteering to help?
Email us at

info@behavioral-pediatrics.org