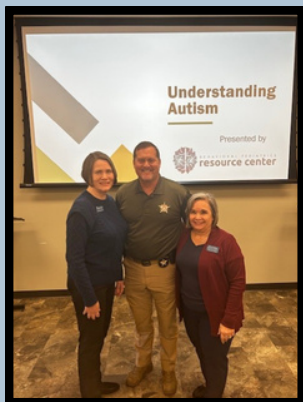
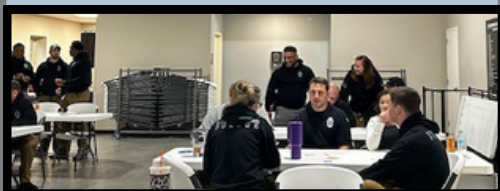


News and Information from the BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS resource center



Sheriff N. Brown attended a BCSO training with presenters Michelle Zeanah, M.D., and Sharon Draeger, Project Manager.



Members of the Statesboro police department work on a team activity during training.

Occupant With Autism Decal Program

With help from the Hospital Authority of Bulloch County, The Resource Center had one of their goals come to fruition. The Occupant with Autism Decal Program is a reality.

The first phase was training for the staff of the Bulloch County Sheriff's Office and for Statesboro Police Department which wrapped up in mid March.

The second phase was the creation, printing and distribution of the Occupant with Autism decal. With the help of SPD and BCSO we were able to create the design below.



The decals are currently available at both agencies main office during business hours Monday - Friday.

In addition to the decals we created an information sheet for families that gives some details about the person in the family with autism. This form will give officers important information they may need like no awareness of danger, inability to consistently answer yes and no questions, or not respond to their name.

Families can opt to use the decal, information sheet, or both.

Stronger Together: Family Picnic and Resource Fair

Over 190 visitors came to the Family Picnic sponsored by the Positive Childhood Alliance Bulloch. The Resource Center brought information, pinwheels and autism awareness bracelets to give away at the event held at Luetta Moore Park. Our Easter Bunny was a popular attraction and many visitors came by to take pictures.



WHAT'S happening

April is Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month

Sharing information and awareness about autism is something we do well.

This year, like years in the past, we will be at the Statesboro Main Street Farmers Market sharing information about autism, talking with market goers and giving away pinwheels and bubbles to help children learn self calming skills.

Of course, Barry the Bee, our mascot, will be on hand to share all the excitement with families.

. We will be at the market every Saturday in April from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM.

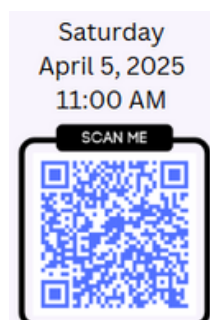
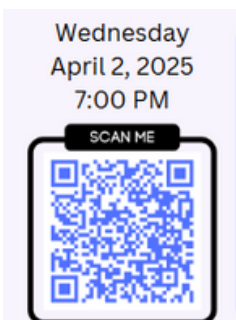
Be sure to stop by our booth and say hello.

Autism Training Available for Local Churches Staff and Volunteers

Thanks to a mini grant from the United Way of the Coastal Empire, we are able to provide local churches an opportunity for a free training on Autism Characteristics and Strategies for Working with Children with Autism.

The training will be helpful to Religious Educators, Vacation Bible School staff, Youth Ministries, Nursery Staff, Coaches and anyone that works with children.

There are two trainings available via Zoom
Virtual Meetings: Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 7:00 PM and Saturday, April 5, 2025, 11:00 AM. If you would be interested in attending, please register using the QR codes below for the date you would like to attend.



Occupant with Autism Part II

We are so happy that we will be able to present our training to Firefighters and EMS as the next phase of our Occupant with Autism Decal Program.

Thanks to the continued support of the Hospital Authority of Bulloch County, we can now provide all emergency responders with an opportunity to better understand autism.

Trainings will begin soon.

SHARON
shares

At a family gathering a short time ago, I was chatting with a few people. One person mentioned that she heard that a nephew was diagnosed with autism. Another person said that it was terrible that the family and the boy now had to live with the "stigma" of autism. In that moment, I recognized the vital importance of the work being done by the Resource Center.

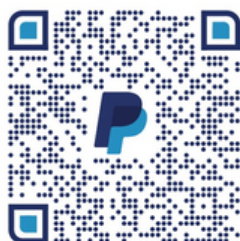
People, in general, can have very negative perceptions about autism, such as, people with autism don't talk, are hard to manage, don't like other people, have tantrums and so on. And yes, you may see some or all of these things in a person with autism. But you could also see someone who can design something that no one else thought was possible or can calibrate an engine simply by listening to it. You can see someone on the movie screen, listen to a famous music artist, watch the big game or check out some artwork at a gallery and there will most likely be someone you have seen that has autism, but you didn't know it. Because **autism doesn't have a look**. It is not a future crushing diagnosis. It is a diagnosis that says one has to understand how their brain functions differently than a typical brain.

That's why Autism Awareness Month is so important. Becoming aware means removing the stigma.

EVERYTHING WE DO
IS BY THE GENEROSITY OF
YOU!



WITH PAYPAL



WITH VENMO



VISIT our WEBSITE

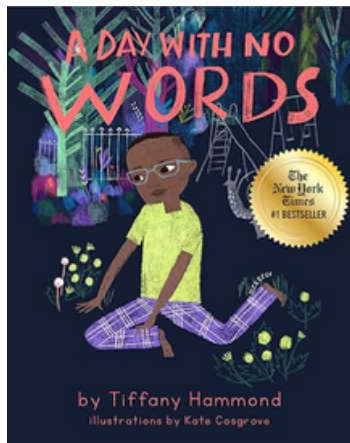


or mail a donation to

Behavioral Pediatrics Resource Center

912 E. Jones Ave.

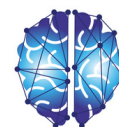
Statesboro, GA 30458



A Day with No
Words
by Tiffany Hammond

This book, written by a mother of two sons with autism, depicts a day in the life of a non-verbal boy and his mother. Through illustrations and storytelling, it provides insight into the experiences of non-verbal individuals with autism and how their families communicate. This book was on the New York Times bestselling picture book and has won other awards for storytelling and illustrations. It is a must read.

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



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