



Charlottesville Region Autism Action Group

**Connect, Engage, Learn, Change
November/December 2021 Newsletter**

Always read through to the end to find important calendar events and information from our partners!

Partner Updates A – Z

THE ARC OF Virginia is holding a **Virtual Rally to Prepare for Virginia's January General Assembly (GA)**. [Register here](#) to attend on **Tuesday, November 16th at 6:30**. The Arc of Virginia is part of the largest and most effective advocacy team working on behalf of people with DD in the U.S. If you haven't signed up for their **Action Alerts for Virginia**, please do it now, by [clicking here](#). To keep tabs on what is happening across the U.S., [click here](#) to sign up for newsletters, free resources, events, advocacy and more.

CA HUMAN SERVICES is holding its annual Autism Conference in March 2022. Check out the ad for Early Bird pricing in this newsletter. In a recent Facebook post, CA wrote about their Transition Services for teens and adults, "Independence is Empowerment." [Read more here](#). CA is holding a webinar "Preparing for Transition as a Family." [Read more here](#).

CHARLOTTESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION and **VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF AUTISM (VIA)** are once again holding the ***Sibling Support Program*** on **Friday, December 3rd from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.** This peer support event is for siblings (ages 7 and up) of children with disabilities. [Register here](#).

CHARLOTTESVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION's November newsletter is [here](#).

MOMS IN MOTION/AT HOME YOUR WAY! is a Consumer-Directed Service Facilitation provider for these Virginia Medicaid waivers: CCC Plus, CL, and FIS. Their clients select, hire, fire, and train their particular caregiver(s). Be sure to subscribe to their newsletters for the most up to date information on what is happening in Consumer Directed Service Facilitation. [Sign up here](#).

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SEVERE AUTISM's mission is to pursue "recognition, policy and solutions for the surging population of individuals, families and caregivers affected by severe forms of autism and related disorders." This group is bringing needed awareness to the needs of families with loved ones with severe autism. Sign up for their [email list](#) to stay connected with this organization.

ADULT REACH is part of a statewide crisis system of care that is designed to meet the crisis support needs of individuals who have a developmental disability and are experiencing crisis events which put them at risk for homelessness, incarceration, hospitalization, and/or danger to self or others. REACH services are available statewide, with one regional program being located in each of the Commonwealth's five DD regions. Our Region is Region 1 – Western. **24 Hour Crisis & Referral Line: 855-917-8278.**

ADULT REACH invites community partners to participate in the **Zoom** webinars this fall:

Supporting People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities that Present with High Risk Needs

Nov 19, 2021 11:00 AM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81000471492?pwd=VEYrUFpuckMrSEpnb2RxU1laRi9Pdz09>

Meeting ID: 810 0047 1492

Passcode: SF128q

Introduction to Psychotropic Medication with Dr. Steven Phillips

Dec 2, 2021 01:30 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83607484089?pwd=L0I0TGZMODU1MEhwSEx4ZlhiVjhQT09>

Meeting ID: 836 0748 4089

Passcode: fnu7zG

UVA's SUPPORTING TRANSFORMATIVE AUTISM RESEARCH (STAR)

initiative's mission is to improve the lives of individuals with autism and their families through research, education, and outreach. STAR brings together researchers, community partners, individuals with autism, and their families to leverage strengths and address challenges. Their ultimate goal is to empower individuals with autism, their families, and their communities to achieve positive outcomes and quality of life. [Click to read](#) STAR's October newsletter. [Click to read](#) November's newsletter. STAR is recruiting participants for this research study: [Treating Depression in Teen \(ages 12-17\) with ASD](#).

US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES is seeking input for its next strategic plan. Every year the government distributes funds for research on autism. The **Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC)** makes recommendations about where those funds go and what research should fund. They are asking for public comments **by November 30th!** Complete the comments form [here](#). Questions 5, 6, 7 address the needs of adults.

Click [here](#) to read the public comments from a recent meeting of the IACC. Here's a sample of one very relevant comment from a California mother of an adult son with severe autism. "The IACC needs to hold a session on inpatient and outpatient care options for the severely autistic who can no longer live safely at home. ... We also need more research on interventions that prevent aggression, self-injury, and property destruction. It is these behaviors that keep our severely affected children from being able to access care and services."

VIRGINIA BOARD FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (VBDP) The

kickoff session for their 2021-2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

Series is "**Employability and Sustainability for People with**

Disabilities." Attorney and disability rights advocate Ollie Cantos is the

keynote speaker. **When:** Nov. 19, 2021 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. EST **Where:** Zoom and Facebook Live. [Click to register](#).

November 15, 2021