

Special points of interest:

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- Announcements
- Contact Information for BCDD Staff

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Autism Clinic Begins at BCDD

In collaboration with Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital, UT Boling Center has opened a new Family Autism Clinic and has been serving families since September, 2011. This clinic was designed with input from community members—family members of individuals with autism and professionals working with this population—to meet the growing need for diagnostic and follow-up services.

The intent of the clinic is to provide family-centered care for young children, age five and under, with suspected Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The clinic uses evidence-based, interdisciplinary assessments to determine a differential diagnosis, provides ongoing support and education to families of children with ASD, and serves as a resource to families for psycho-education, referral information and advocacy support. Colby Butzon Reed, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist; Jenness Roth, M.Ed, Family Faculty Coordinator; and a family discipline trainee are involved with the clinic and ensure families receive an accurate diagnosis, as well as connections with support services and access to appropriate educational or early intervention services.

The first group training for clinic families is to be held on March 31st and will cover transition to school advocacy issues.

Jenness Roth, MEd



Colby Butzon Reed, PhD and Jenness Roth, M.Ed

Families with concerns about a child with possible signs of Autism should contact the clinic, by calling 901-448-6928 and ask for an appointment.

Tennessee Allies for Self Advocacy—TASA

Reprint from STEP Newsletter

On March 10 and 11, 2011, a group of 11 individuals from various organizations including, Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, University of Tennessee Boling Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities, Disability Law & Advocacy Center of TN, Tennessee Department of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, People First of Tennessee, National Youth Leadership Network, and additional self-advocates represented Tennessee at the Southeastern “Allies in Self-Advocacy” Summit. The Summit was one of five regional meetings held by the



Self Advocacy Team Photo
Front Row (L to R): Megan Hart, Leanne Boyce, Susan Colsey,
Back Row: Nicole Anderson, Jenness Roth, Wanda Willis, Gatha Login, John Chase, Gina Brady

News To Use:

Two Online Courses

now available;

- Obesity Challenge in Public Health
- Overweight Prevention and Intervention for Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Visit the Boling Center website at www.uthsc.edu/bcdd for more information.

Register TODAY
2012 TN Disability Mega Conference
now available online at www.tndisabilitymegaconference.org

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Administration on Developmental Disabilities to provide selected participants from six states an opportunity to develop strategies for strengthening and enhancing self-advocacy efforts in their states and nationally. During the Summit, each state discussed the current status of self-advocacy efforts, including challenges and accomplishments, and developed goals for strengthening the efforts. Although Tennessee self-advocacy efforts have been successful in closing institutions and moving residents into community living settings, as well as, implementing person-centered training, challenges, such as, recruiting individuals to become involved in self-advocacy efforts and a lack of collaboration among organizations, still exist. Tennessee's representatives will continue to work together to create more awareness and opportunities for individuals with disabilities to become self-advocates by developing better access to information, resources, and training through a collaborative network of organizations.

Trainee Research Receives Recognition—Heather Walker, Psychology Trainee

The Boling Center is proud to have among its exemplary faculty and staff 34 trainees in the disciplines of psychology, social work, audiology, speech-language pathology, nutrition, and nursing. Our trainees engage in honing their clinical as well as leadership skills during their traineeships and it is not uncommon for them to present at annual conferences on their own research as well as the work they are doing here at BCDD. One such presentation will be occurring by one of our psychology trainees, Ms. Heather Walker. Ms. Walker will be presenting her own research at the West Tennessee Association for Behavior Analysis Conference on April 27, 2012 entitled "Decreasing Physical Aggression in a Child with Autism in a Preschool Setting". The following is her abstract of her work.

It is common in children with autism, who have accompanying communication deficits, to engage in problem behavior to get their needs and wants met by those around them. The goal of this research project was to decrease physical

aggression in the form of high intensity pinching, hitting, kicking and biting in a four year old child diagnosed with autism. Both a functional behavior assessment and analog functional analysis were conducted to determine the function(s) of the child's problem behavior. Based on the results of the assessment, a behavior intervention plan was developed and implemented to address the primary behavior functions and to develop a replacement behavior which would help this child learn to meet his needs in a more appropriate way.

Ms. Walker is also receiving the Outstanding ABA Master's Student award from the Instruction and Curriculum Leadership department at The University of Memphis on April 22, 2012.



Bruce Keisling named Chair of Tennessee Disability Coalition Board 2011-2013

Among many hats that Dr. Bruce Keisling wears at the UT Boling Center, Associate Director, Clinical Services Coordinator, psychologist, he is also a leader in the state. He is currently serving a one year term as the Vice President of the Autism Society of the Mid South and just recently was elected as the new Board Chair for the Tennessee Disability Coalition. "The Coalition is an alliance of organizations and individuals who have joined to promote the full and equal participation of men, women and children with disabilities in all aspects of life. We work together to advocate for public policy that ensures self-determination,

independence, empowerment, and inclusion for people with disabilities in areas such as accessibility, education, healthcare, housing, and voting rights" (from the Coalition website, <http://www.tndisability.org>)

Congratulations to Dr. Keisling, we know he will represent us well.



Bruce Keisling, PhD



SibShops 2012 Schedule

Sibshops are best described as opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special needs to obtain peer support and education within a recreational context. Sibshops intersperse information and discussion activities with games that are unique and upbeat. The program gives siblings a chance to share, have fun, build friendships and find support! Sibshop reflects the Boling Center staff commit-

ment to families by focusing on the well-being of the family member most likely to have the longest lasting relationship with the person with special needs. For more information about this program and/or to sign up your child for a Sibshop event, please read and complete the Sibshop Registration Form at the Boling Center website www.uthsc.edu/bcdd. The

project is currently sponsored by the Harwood Center, Inc., Hope Presbyterian Church, and the UT Boling Center. Sibshops were developed by Don Meyer, director of the Sibling Support Project and creator of the Sibshop model.

Remaining Dates:

April 13, 2012

June 22, 2012

Celebrate 10! All Days are Happy Days 2012

Initiated in 2003 by a team of healthcare professionals led by Dr. David A. Kube, a neurodevelopmental pediatrician, the All Days Are Happy Days summer camp is a unique educational and recreational experience for children between the ages of six and eleven years diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). In ten years, the community need for a camp that emphasizes self esteem, appropriate social skills, and behavioral management has remained the constant in this emerging model project. The Camp's professional staff offers a curriculum focusing on the understanding of ADHD and techniques for managing ADHD. This year's curriculum used the Stop, Talk, and React (S.T.A.R.) program to teach children to talk to themselves, think before acting and react responsibly. The Camp unites children with ADHD from economically disadvantaged areas and children from more affluent communities together to engage in this fun experience. Examples of the outcomes projected for campers include: identifying positive coping strategies applicable to home and school, verbalizing their understanding of ADHD, using peer group activities to encourage team building, social interaction, and communication, sharing personal interests with others, and developing long-term friendships.

Since its inception, the Camp has served 429 children and their families. The Camp is now a weeklong experience that has grown in both the number of campers and staff involved with the annual event. The expressed need for The Camp as well as the expertise



provided by the camp staff has been the primary reason for this growth. With the expansion of The Camp's duration and purpose, a more formalized curriculum has been developed as well as a model for planning camp activities to complement the goals and objectives of the S.T.A.R. Program. A model has also been developed for selecting staff and counselors including the development of a counselor in training program. As

the only camp of its kind in the region, the All Days are Happy Days summer camp continues to expand and address the needs of the community.

Activities will include arts and crafts, swimming, music, STAR small group time, and taekwondo as well as other small group activities designed to build self-esteem, positive social skills and fun. For more information please contact Belinda T. Hardy at (901) 448-6669 or email: btate@uthsc.edu.

WHERE: Lichterman Nature Center

WHO: Children ages 6-11 years

WHEN: June 3 – 7, 2012

Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30pm

COST: \$175.00

Hope to see you there!



**BOLING CENTER
FOR
DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES**

<http://www.uthsc.edu/bcdd>

711 Jefferson Ave
Memphis, TN 38105

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities

The Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities (BCDD) is an interdisciplinary program that supports children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families through training, service, applied research, information dissemination, planning, and policy development.

The Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities is

- A University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD) funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- A Maternal and Child Health LEND Program funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration
- A member of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Administered by the University of Tennessee (UT) Health Science Center's College of Medicine. Together with the UT Center on Disability and Employment, the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities plays an important role in providing intercampus disability service.

2012 Training Dates

2012 Interdisciplinary Leadership Training (ILT) Seminars offer hours of continuing education for psychologists, registered dietitians, occupational therapists and speech – language pathologists. Each session is chosen for relevance to professional development and best practices for serving individuals with disabilities and their families. For session topics and dates visit the website at www.uthsc.edu/bcdd/training. ILT times vary so see below for specific dates and times.

Location: 711 Jefferson Ave, Memphis, TN UT Boling Center room 613. Remote sites are available via web conferencing. Please contact E. Bishop via email at ebishop@uthsc.edu or 901-448-3127 to request a remote site.

March 22, 2012—(11:00 am—4:30 pm) Brain Awareness Week Conference

Urban Child Institute, 600 Jefferson Ave, Memphis, TN. Contact Amy Scheck at 901-448-3101 to register.

***March 29, 2012—(12 pm - 1:30 pm) Health Disparities in Memphis and Beyond: Does inequality make us sick?** Speaker: Ken Ward, PhD, UT Boling Center for DD, 711 Jefferson Ave, Memphis, TN, Room 613

March 31, 2012—(11 am—2 pm) Early Childhood Transitions Workshop

UT Boling Center for DD, 711 Jefferson Ave, Memphis, TN, Room 613. Contact Jenness Roth at 448-3737 to register.

***April 12, 2012—(9 am - 11 am) Understanding Stuttering: From King George VI to 2012-**

Speaker: Walt Manning, PhD, Associate Dean in the School of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology, The University of Memphis, UT Boling Center for DD, 711 Jefferson Ave, Memphis, TN, Room 613

***April 19, 2012—(8:30 am - 12:30 pm) Early Risk and Protective Factors Impacting Development**

Speakers: Eszter Völgyi, PhD; Frances Tylavsky, PhD; Deb Chyka, MSN, RN; Kriston Schellinger, MA; and Rebecca Hudock, MA

* Contact Elizabeth Bishop, 901-448-3127 or ebishop@uthsc.edu to register.

May 31—June 1, 2012 Registration now open <http://www.tndisabilitymegaconference.org>

T E N N E S S E E D I S A B I L I T Y
MEGA CONFERENCE
Empowerment • Inclusion • Self-determination • Choice