

CARD Quarterly

Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, Department of Child & Family Studies Volume 7, Issue 4 • October 2004 - January 2005

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Director's Note

Dear families and colleagues,

I hope this newsletter finds you all recovering from the intense weather we have been dealing with recently. I know that you have many other priorities right now, and so we felt it was best to send you only what we felt was essential and time sensitive information. This newsletter will provide our training schedule between October 2004- January 2005. It will be a reduced offering of regular trainings. Our new training director, Karen Fritch, joined us at the end of September and we want to give her time to get familiar with what we currently offer. We will then be looking at ways of expanding our topics and offering training in various modalities for those who have a difficult time attending training in person. In addition, we have included announcements and other information we thought you could use right now.

Our next newsletter will begin the cycle of our every 6-month schedule and you will receive this in February 2005. It will have our new look and name and many articles submitted by constituents and staff as well as a 6-month training schedule.

Allow me to also welcome Glenda Ubinas and Shelton Gilyard to our team as our newest support specialist. Please join me in making her feel at home. We are hiring another new support specialist in the near future and will introduce you in the next newsletter.

So let me finish by saying, stay safe and know that CARD is here to answer your questions and provide assistance. Please let us know how we can help.

—Karen Berkman, Ph.D.

Every county within our catchment area has been affected by this hurricane season. CARD would like to hear your story of how your family has coped with the storms and its affect on your children and in particular the children with autism. What worked and what didn't? Some families wrote social stories to try to explain to children with autism why routines were disrupted. Page 2 lists ways to contact CARD. You can send an email, a fax, or a letter. If your drew pictures or wrote stories we would love to receive a copy. We are hoping to put together hurricane tips for families for next year.

CARD-USF Catchment Area

Currently, CARD-USF serves 18 counties in west, central, and southwest Florida.

CARD-USF is administered through USF's Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, Division of Applied Research and Educational Support within the Department of Child and Family Studies.





Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

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Our Mission

The mission of the Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (CARD) at the University of South Florida is to provide support and assistance that optimizes the potential of people with autism and related disabilities. Our effort to achieve this mission is exemplified in the four "components for caring" that are the focus of our work:

- Direct Assistance – Providing individualized support for people with autism and related disabilities, and their families, in natural community settings.
- Technical Assistance & Consultation – Undertaking activities on behalf of programs (e.g., classroom, supported living residence, supported employment site, etc.) that serve people with autism and related disabilities.
- Professional Training – Providing instruction on autism and related disabilities through our workshops, conferences, in-service training, and college courses.
- Public Education and Awareness – Developing and disseminating information about people with autism and related disabilities.

As one of six regional, university-based CARD sites, CARD-USF provides its services to individuals with autism and related disabilities, their families, related professionals, and the general public throughout an eighteen county catchment area in west, central, and southwest Florida.

Endorsement Policy

As a policy, CARD will not lend its name to the endorsement of any specific program, practice, or model that is offered for service to people with autism and related disabilities. However, the sharing of information and training opportunities are key functions of the CARD program.

Events, activities, programs, and facilities of the University of South Florida are available to all without regard to race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, Vietnam or disabled veteran status as provided by law and in accordance with the University's respect for personal dignity.

Our Dream is Unfolding...

Individuals with autism began moving into the first Adonis home in Estero, Florida in April 2004. The Adonis home, able to provide residential support for five individuals, currently supports three individuals with similar capacities. In addition to residential living options, the Adonis home provides a respite program throughout Southwest Florida where services are brought to families in their homes as well as opportunities for overnight respite support available at the Adonis home in Estero.



"Board of the Adonis Autism Center of Southwest Florida."

On a recent Saturday afternoon, my daughter and I visited the home in Estero where the aroma of tomatoes and herbs drifted from the large open kitchen. Some residents were swimming in their pool and enjoying the sun and water, evidenced by the looks of pure pleasure on their faces. Other residents opted to spend their leisure time inside, in the coolness of the living room interacting with each other and solving mathematical problems. Harmonious laughter filled the room making it apparent that those residing in the Adonis home were pleased with their surroundings and choice of recreational activities.



"Adonis home in Estero, FL."

Our dream is unfolding with opportunities for individuals with autism to live quality, full lives with supports. If you are interested in visiting the Adonis home or accessing more information on residential supports and respite program services available via the Adonis home please contact the program director, Patricia Hopkins at 239-839-1838 or Maureen Bashaw at 239-332-5395 or visit our website at www.adonisautismflorida.com

—By Maureen Bashaw

Web site recommendation from a parent...

I remember reading a book, "Nobody, Nowhere" right after finding out that my son had autism. I happened to get an email with Donna Williams' paintings in it and thought I'd check out her web site. I almost forgot about reading her book, it has been a long time. This is an awesome web site, thought I'd share it with you. Be sure to read about the music and listen to the samples. Artwork is awesome also. <http://www.donnawilliams.net/>

—Lori

Press Release sent to CARD July 2004

Great Beginnings Preschool Partners with Sydney's School for Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Contact the school for more information: (813) 835-4591
4003 S. Manhattan Ave., Tampa, Fl. 33611
Anita Sanchez-Maurer, director Great Beginnings
Kathy Swenson, director Sydney's School

Great Beginnings Preschool, which has been in business for fifteen years, has been asked to partner with Sydney's School for Autistic Spectrum Disorders. Sydney's School has been specifically designed for children in grades K-3, who have been diagnosed with one of the spectrum disorders, such as autism, Asperger's Disorder, and PDD NOS. These children will have their own classrooms, teachers and ABA therapists. Our young students, accompanied by a teacher, will have multiple opportunities for inclusive activities with other children throughout the day. This allows the children to practice their new skills in the regular school environment. The curriculum

for Sydney's School will be based solely on applied behavior analysis, verbal behavior and inclusion. Our ABA program director will be Jean Hays Bachrach MA,CCC/SLP, BCBA. Ms. Bachrach will conduct staff trainings and the initial evaluation (ABLIS) for each student. We will be accepting the McKay Scholarship.

We are now accepting a limited enrollment for the 2004-2005 school year, which begins on August 30, 2004. We feel that "No child should be left behind including a child with autistic spectrum disorder."

We are also very excited to have Outback Steakhouse as a corporate sponsor. We will be having our first Outback Steakhouse Fundraising Dinner on February 17, 2005. So mark your calendars now and watch for upcoming information.

CARD prints press releases from other organizations as a service to families and is not to be construed as an endorsement of any program by CARD.

Challenger Bowling League!

Bowling fun for kids of all ages and any disability.

This is an actual league that runs through December. Awards will be given at the end of the season party. Parents can network while the kids bowl. Bowling starts at 1:00 pm every Saturday at Lane Glo Bowling. Each bowler is responsible for their bowling fees and shoe rental. Lane Glo Bowling, 8631 State Road 54, New Port Richey. (727) 376-1164.



Activities Group for Young Adults in SW Central Florida

What is the "Activities Group?"

CARD is assisting parents in creating an activities group for individuals interested in having more fun, friends, and social opportunities. In this meeting, families will contribute to shaping the future of this fun group.

Who is the group geared for?

This group's primary target is for teens and young adults who would need little to no supervision in the community. It is not limited to individuals with an autism spectrum disorder. It's also open to siblings, friends, and other interested individuals.

What sort of activities might this group participate in?

They may include going to places such as: the movies, the beach, a restaurant, putt putt golf, Busch Gardens, hiking trails, etc, based on the interests of the group members.

Is there a cost to participate?

No. There is no cost associated with participation in the group. There may be varied costs associated with the activities themselves.

For information contact Amanda Keating, at CARD-USF. Phone: (813) 974-1263 or Email akeating@fmhi.usf.edu

Trainings and Workshops for Families and Professionals

Things You Need to Know About CARD Workshops

All CARD workshops listed in this newsletter are free. However, we ask that you register prior to attending the workshop. We need to know how many individuals are going to attend in order to prepare enough handouts for each participant. If three or more individuals have not registered for a workshop, the workshop may be cancelled and we would need a way to reach you to let you know. In order to keep you from wasting a trip, please register so we can get in touch with you. If you register and then cannot make it for some reason, please let us know, either by phone or by email.

A family member can register others in their family, but we ask that professionals attending only register themselves and have each person

in their organization register individually. This will prevent individuals from being registered by someone else and not knowing that they were expected to be at a workshop.

Email is the fastest way to register and we can confirm by reply email if your registration is received three days ahead of the workshop.

If you register by phone, you will get the voice mail system. Please leave a voice message with the name of the person attending, the training number and date of the workshop, a phone number and/or email address where you can be reached. If we need to cancel or change a workshop we will notify you.

If you need accommodations, please notify us two weeks prior to the workshop that you plan to attend. CARD is not able to provide childcare at this time.

How to Register for CARD Workshops

If you live in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry or Lee Counties you can register by:

Email: cphilbro@fgcu.edu
Phone: (239) 590-7771

If you live in DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Manatee, Martin, Okeechobee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, St. Lucie, or Sarasota Counties you can register by:

Email: card-usf@fmhi.usf.edu
Phone: 813-974-2532 (in Hillsborough Co.)
1-800-333-4530 (outside Hillsborough Co.)

Calendar of Trainings and Workshops for Families and Professionals

Title and Training No.	Date	Time	Location
Hendry			
How to Teach New Skills. #1782 (Early Childhood)	10/11/2004	5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	RCMA, 551 W. Cowboy Way, LaBelle
Successful Transition. #1774 (14 years and above)	10/13/2004	Noon - 2:30 pm	Barron Library, 461 N. Main Street, LaBelle
Toilet Training. #1783 (Early Childhood)	10/25/2004	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	RCMA, 551 W. Cowboy Way, LaBelle
Helping Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Learn to Communicate. #1784 (Early Childhood)	11/8/2004	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	RCMA, 551 W. Cowboy Way, LaBelle
Supported Employment. #1775 (14 years and above)	11/10/2004	Noon - 2:30 pm	Barron Library, 461 N. Main Street, LaBelle
Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behavior of Young Children. #1785 (Early Childhood)	11/15/2004	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	RCMA, 551 W. Cowboy Way, LaBelle
Support Strategies for Your Child's Transition to a New Classroom. #1786 (Early Childhood)	11/29/2004	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	RCMA, 551 W. Cowboy Way, LaBelle
Community Living. #1776 (14 years and above)	12/8/2004	Noon - 2:30 pm	Barron Library, 461 N. Main Street, LaBelle
Guardianship and Estate Planning. #1777 (14 years and above)	1/19/2005	Noon - 2:30 pm	Barron Library, 461 N. Main Street, LaBelle
Hillsborough			
Social Skills Across the Spectrum. #1835 (School Age)	10/4/2004	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Tampa Shriners Hospital USF Campus - Auditorium 12502 North Pine Drive, Tampa
Toilet Training. #1836 (Early Childhood)	10/7/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Children's Board Conf. Room B & C 1002 East Palm Avenue, Tampa
Useful Strategies for Promoting Behavior Change. #1837 (School Age)	10/26/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Children's Board Conf. Room B & C 1002 East Palm Avenue, Tampa
Communication. #1838 (School Age)	11/10/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Children's Board Conf. Room B & C 1002 East Palm Avenue, Tampa
Martin			
Communication, Social Skills, Supports for Community Experiences. #1828 (All Ages)	11/6/2004	9:30 am - 12:50 pm	Bessie Creek Elementary, 2201 SW Matteson Ave., Palm City

Calendar of Trainings and Workshops for Families and Professionals

Title and Training No.	Date	Time	Location
Lee			
Collaboration and Person-Centered Planning. #1806 (School Age)	10/7/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behaviors Part 1 of 2. #1807 (School Age)	10/14/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behaviors Part 2 of 2. #1808 (School Age)	10/21/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Technical Assistance Part 1 of 3 for Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behavior. #1809 (School age)	10/28/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Technical Assistance Part 2 of 3 for Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behavior. #1810 (School age)	11/11/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Technical Assistance Part 3 of 3 for Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behavior. #1811 (School age)	11/18/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Part 1 of 2. #1812 (School Age)	12/2/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Part 2 of 2. #1813 (School Age)	12/9/2004	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Technical Assistance Part 1 of 3 for Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. #1814 (School Age)	1/6/2005	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Technical Assistance Part 2 of 3 for Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. #1815 (School Age)	1/20/2005	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Technical Assistance Part 3 of 3 for Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. #1816 (School Age)	1/27/2005	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	FGCU Reed Hall Room 144 10501 FGCU Blvd. S., Ft. Myers
Polk			
Toilet Training. #1842 (Early Childhood)	10/20/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	FLDRS Training Room, 1907 South Floral Avenue, Bartow
Social Skills Across the Spectrum. #1843 (School Age)	11/10/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	FLDRS Training Room, 1907 South Floral Avenue, Bartow
Skills for Positive Behavior Change. #1826 (School Age)	11/16/2004	9:00 am - 11:00 am	FLDRS Training Room, 1907 South Floral Avenue, Bartow
Communication Skills. #1825 (School Age)	1/18/2005	9:00 am - 11:00 am	FLDRS Training Room, 1907 South Floral Avenue, Bartow
An Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorders. #1844	1/27/2005	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	FLDRS Training Room, 1907 South Floral Avenue, Bartow
Sarasota			
Toilet Training. #1832 (Early Childhood)	10/26/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	The School Board of Sarasota County, Room 219 1960 Landings Blvd., Sarasota
Social Skills Across the Spectrum. #1833 (School Age)	11/1/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	The School Board of Sarasota County, Room 219 1960 Landings Blvd., Sarasota
An Overview to Autism Spectrum Disorders. #1834 (All Ages)	11/10/2004	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	The School Board of Sarasota County, Room 219 1960 Landings Blvd., Sarasota

Workshop Descriptions

Trainings are geared toward targeted audiences. Look at the age range of the workshop and if you have a child within that age range or are a professional working with that age range, then that workshop is for you. However, workshops are open to anyone who would like to attend.

Workshops normally rotate between CARD-USF regions in a county near you, but the destruction from hurricanes this summer have made it necessary to relocate some workshops from their originally scheduled locations. Most workshops are repeated each quarter to make them available to new CARD registrants as the number of families we serve continues to grow. Not all workshops are offered each quarter, but we try to offer core trainings at a minimum of once a year.

Adult Training Series. (14 years old and above)

CARD-USF presents a six-part series of information sessions that are three hours long and that cover various topics, which are important to caregivers and educators of adult individuals with autism spectrum disorders. The series begin with an Introduction to the Adult Service System and provide participants with information about the Developmental Disabilities Program, Vocational Rehabilitation, Third Party Benefits, ADA, and the Advocacy Center. Additional sessions in this series include: Transition – School to Adult Life/ Successful Transition, Supported Employment, Guardianship and Estate Planning with guest attorneys, Community Living, and Self-Determination. (While the target audience of these workshops is families and providers of older teens and adults with an autism spectrum disorder, it is never too soon to start preparing for the future. Families of younger children are encouraged to attend so you can be thinking about your child's future and can be well informed. Information presented in these workshops will be useful for other developmental disabilities as well as the autism spectrum.)

An Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorders

This workshop provides an overview of the Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and the behavioral and developmental issues associated with ASD. This is a very useful workshop for families whose child has recently received an ASD diagnosis. (All ages.)

Collaboration and Person-Centered Planning

This training is for families with a family member with autism or related disability of any age. The training will assist families in planning for their family member's future. We will discuss a step-by-step process that parents can use as a tool to achieve set goals for their son or daughter. We will also be discussing the importance of teaming and tips on how to collaborate with others to assist in meeting these goals. Bring your ideas, visions and dreams and we can show you a way to put them in motion! (School Age Children.)

Communication Skills also referred to as Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Families will learn practical strategies and techniques that will facilitate the development of an individual's communication skills in everyday environments. (School Age Children.)

Helping Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders Learn to Communicate

Families will learn techniques and strategies to facilitate their child's communication and to help the child better understand other people's communication to them. (Children between the ages of 18 months to 7 years old).

How Families Can Become More Involved with Schools in the Behavior Support Process

The presentation offers strategies for families for active involvement with the schools about their child's behaviors. In addition, families will receive materials for communication with schools and for gathering information on their child's behavior at home. (School Age Children.)

How to Teach New Skills

Families are important teachers! This presentation gives families information about how to identify skills to teach in home and community settings, how to identify the optimal time to teach, and how to teach using research-based instructional strategies. (Children between the ages of 18 months to 7 years old).

Promoting the Social Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) can demonstrate a range of social difficulties. Many of these challenges are often a product of misunderstanding social rules or lacking social skills, rather than disinterest or fear of social contacts. This workshop will provide families with ideas and strategies that

can be used to promote their school-age child's social interactions by addressing skill areas and providing opportunities for practice.

Support Strategies for Your Child's Transition to a New Classroom

Change is very difficult! In this workshop, families will learn about ways to support their child as he or she begins school or moves to a new classroom. (Children between the ages of 18 months to 7 years old).

Teaching Independence in Daily Living Skills

Families will learn specific information and basic practical strategies for teaching their child how to function more independently. The focus will be on daily living skills such as eating, getting dressed, taking a bath, combing hair, brushing teeth, and washing hands. This will be an interactive, experiential workshop in which participants will have the opportunity both to learn the information and practice using it through role-play. (School Age Children.)

Technical Assistance Workshops

Workshops described as "technical assistance" bring together individuals who have attended the basic workshop to study topics in a more in depth and more personalized way.

Toilet Training

This workshop provides the basics of toilet training with an emphasis on how to help children who seem to be reluctant to participate in the toilet training process. (Children between the ages of 18 months to 7 years old).

Understanding and Intervening with Challenging Behavior of Young Children.

In this workshop, families will be taught the process of positive behavior support. This research-based method of behavior management is highly effective in reducing problem behavior and providing children with alternative skills to get their needs met. (Children between the ages of 18 months to 7 years old).

Useful Strategies for Promoting Behavior Change also referred to as Understanding and Intervening with Problem Behavior

Families will learn specific information and strategies for reducing their child's problem behavior and increasing their appropriate behavior. This will be an experiential, hands-on workshop in which families will be able to take home materials to use with their child. (School Age Children.)

Autism Support

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

KIDDS (Keys for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities)

When: 2nd Thursday of November, February, and April
Time and Location will be provided when you RSVP
To RSVP contact one of the following individuals
Kris Zak via email at krizak@earthling.net
Phyllis Guthman via email at pguthman@fmhi.usf.edu
To leave a voice message, please call 813-837-7735

LEE COUNTY

Adonis Autism Center of Southwest Florida

Time: 3rd Thursday (monthly), 7:00 p.m.
Place: Bashaw home, 1456 Lynwood Avenue, Ft. Myers
Contact: Maureen Bashaw, 239-332-5395

ASD to ADHD Support Group

Time: 2nd Thursday (Monthly) 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church
MacGregor Blvd., room F204, Ft. Myers
Contact: Carol Simontacchi Email: csimontacchi@cs.com

Autism Done a New Way (Diet/Biomedical emphasis)

Time: 3rd Sunday (monthly), 6:00 p.m.
Place: Royal Palm Corporate Center,
Royal Palm Square Blvd.
Summerlin and Colonial past Publix
Contact: Stacy Alvarez, 239-549-2633

Florida Autistic Society

Time: This group meets informally
Please call for meeting times
Place: Ft. Myers area
Contact: Kate Cullen, 239-433-4929

Southwest Florida ASA Chapter #555

Contact: Fran Swanson, 239-768-0723
Please call for meeting times
Respite provided while parents attend meeting.

PASCO (NORTH) COUNTY

(Hernando County has the closest support group)

Hernando Autism Parenting & Personal Experience Network (HAPPEN)

Time: 3rd Wednesday (monthly), 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Location: Pediatric Therapy Works
Contact: Leslie Bolen at 352-683-0209 for directions

PINELLAS COUNTY

Gulf Coast ASA Chapter #134

Time: 2nd Wednesday (monthly), 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Place: Abilities in Clearwater
2735 Whitney Rd., Clearwater
Contact: Filomena MacDonald, 727-789-0082

POLK COUNTY

Heart of Florida Autism Society

Time: Call contact for meeting time
Place: Polk County area
Contact: Angie Dawson, 863-294-6315

Parental Encouragement for Autistic Children Everywhere (PEACE)

Time: 1st Tuesday (Monthly) 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Place: Achievement Academy
716 Bella Vista Street, Lakeland
Contact: Nicole: 863-686-2494 or email
Nikki731370@aol.com
Sabra: 863-688-4836 or email Sabrasmurphy@msn.com

RACE (Reaching Autistic Children Early)

Time: 2nd Thursday (monthly), 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Place: Central Florida Speech & Hearing Center,
710 E. Bella Vista, Lakeland
Contact: Families call Karla Dickson at 863-859-1477 x328
during the day or email karlajoy@aol.com
Teachers call Danielle Moody at 863-255-9707 or email
moody74sd@aol.com

SARASOTA COUNTY

Manasota ASA Chapter #535

Time: 1st Thursday (monthly Sept-May), 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Place: Oak Park School, 7285 Proctor Road, Sarasota
Chapter email: manasotaautism@msn.com
Web: <http://www.manasotaautism.com>
Chapter Contacts: Day time - Julie 941-426-9059
Evenings or Spanish speakers contact Alicia 941-377-0959

Biological Interventions for Autistic Spectrum Disorders (BIASD)

When: 2nd Wednesday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Location: Waldemere Medical Plaza, Magnolia Rm (2nd Flr)
(Next to Sarasota Memorial Hospital)
Contact: Dianna at 941-341-9922 or
Michelle at 941-266-7326
By email at biasdsarasota@earthlink.net
Website: <http://home.earthlink.net/~biasdsarasota/>

Please contact CARD-USF with changes or additions.

Support Group listings are provided as a service and are not an endorsement by CARD-USF.

PACK (Pasco Association for Challenged Kids)

Summer Camp was a great success again this year with 36 campers. The camp was founded by CARD constituents Barry and Paula Cohen in 1997 when they were unable to find a program for their son Gregory, who has autism. This year PACK extended their summer camp to four weeks.



State Rep. Heather Fiorentino (R New Port Richey) stopped by the PACK Camp and uses sign to communicate with one of the children.



PACK kids receive visit from Tampa General Hospital Aero Med.

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