

Virginia Tech Mobile Autism Clinic Newsletter

REPORTS FROM THE ROAD & CLINIC

We hope this finds you and your loved ones in good physical and mental health as our communities continue to adjust to and navigate the pandemic. Due to precautions taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19, our mobile clinic paused travel in March, which gave the team time to efficiently pivot efforts, shifting all assessment services that were taking place on the MAC to a secure telehealth platform. The clinicians were able to complete their research on time, with all objectives met. The VT Autism Clinic, in collaboration with two other campus research clinics, continue to move forward with telehealth services this fall and hope to resume in-person services as soon as it is safe to do so. As we continue with our aim of reducing disparities and improving access to evidence-based services for people with autism in rural communities, we trust you will continue to support our work.

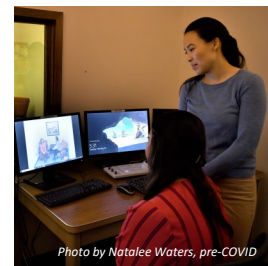


Photo by Natalee Waters, pre-COVID

- For families interested in comprehensive diagnostic assessments for children eighteen months through 16 years, contact the [Child Study Center](mailto:childstudycenter@gmail.com) at childstudycenter@gmail.com or 540-231-8276.
- For individuals or families interested in a comprehensive diagnostic assessment for adolescents and adults age 17 or older, contact the [Psychological Services Center](mailto:brlipes@vt.edu) at brlipes@vt.edu or 540-231-6914.
- For more information, call 540.231.2053 or email autism@vt.edu. Visit the [VTAC/CAR webpage](#). Follow us on Facebook and Twitter at [Virginia Tech Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research](#) page.

RECENT AWARD RECOGNITION

VTAC/CAR wins Exemplary Designation from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The Virginia Tech Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research's efforts entitled *Pioneering Partnerships: Mobilizing Autism Services in Rural Communities* has been identified as an [Exemplary designee by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship Awards Northeast](#). These awards recognize four-year public universities that have made exemplary strides to become more closely and productively engaged with communities through their teaching/learning, discovery, and service activities. During the virtual National Engagement Scholarship Conference, all Regional Winners and Exemplary Projects will be recognized. Angela Scarpa will accept the award on behalf of VTAC/CAR.

- ◇ Clinical Science student Jennifer Bertollo received [Honorable Mention for the Delaware Project Student Award](#).
- ◇ Angela Scarpa and Jennifer Scott received the [VT Alumni Award for Outreach Excellence](#), on behalf of the VT Autism Clinic & Center for Autism Research.



Photo by Natalee Waters, pre-COVID

Since its inception in June of 2018, the MAC travelled over 7,600 miles and served 40 families with therapy, assessments and/or psychoeducation sessions.

LEARN MORE

To hear an overview of autism spectrum disorder, associated risk factors and common misconceptions about individuals living with autism, listen to our newest podcast interview with [New River Valley Community Services' "Dissect and Connect"](#). Thank you to Mike Wade for taking time to interview Jennifer Bertollo, VT Clinical Science doctoral student,

clinician and researcher and Jen Scott, rural outreach and grants coordinator.



TAKE ACTION

Your financial support is critical to the continuation and success of our services. You can support us in the following ways:

⇒ ONLINE AT GIVINGTO.VT.EDU

Please choose Area: College of Science; Fund: Other; Designation: Autism Clinic Fund (873599)

⇒ PHONE AT 800.533.1144

⇒ MAIL to Office of Gift Accounting

902 Prices Fork Road (0336), University Gateway Center Blacksburg, VA 24060

Make check payable to the *Virginia Tech Foundation Inc.* and designate *Autism Clinic Fund* (873599)

