

April 2024

Office of Integrated Health Supports Network

The Office of Integrated Health – Health Supports Network Regional Community Nursing Meetings

“A safe space for nurses to discuss challenges, experiences, and ask questions.”

Goals

- To ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are receiving needed services.
- To provide a forum in which nurses (and others) can discuss ideas, challenges, policy needs (e.g. health policies, which affect individuals with IDD, to bring policy needs forward.
- To provide a forum for caregivers to interact with state agency representatives, to express concerns, develop educational tools and resources, and further enhance train-the-trainer models.

Region 1 April 3, 2024

10am -12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/bef94528-65bd-4f17-8e2d-7d93d5466f0d@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Kevyn Burn- kburn@wallresidences.com

Region 2 – April 17, 2024

10am - 12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/bc020c2f-c9de-48a9-b54e-e28010901895@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Beatrice Claiborne - bclaiborne@mycri.org

Meetings Dates

**Regional Nursing Meetings
will continue to be held
virtually until further notice.**

Region 3 – April 19, 2024

10am - 12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/d6432a72-c7b3-4891-a99a-52a4146319cc@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Teresa Berry - rnttb1@aol.com

Region 4 – April 8, 2024

11am - 1:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/47eee147-818a-422a-a01c-727ec68d6774@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader:

Jeannette Gholson- jgholson.thc@gmail.com

Region 5 – April 22, 2024

10am - 12:00pm

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/cf6e9dc5-3049-4671-87e8-d3144056db87@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Community Nurse Leader: Marcia A. Lindsay-

Brothers - mbrothers@chesapeakeibh.net

Virtual Meeting Platform:

- As of November 1st, 2023, the Regional Nursing Meetings will be conducted in the Microsoft Office TEAMS Webinar virtual platform. Registration will continue to be required to receive the meeting URL link, password, and phone access to each meeting. Registering using the URL link prior to the meeting date is recommended to avoid technical issues the day of the meeting.

Presentation:

- This month our guest speaker will be David Wilson, the OIHSN Physical Therapist (PT), Certified Wound Specialist (CWS), Assistive Technology Professional (ATP). He will be leading conversation about how to direct care when a wound is identified. This will be an interactive presentation and discussion.

Issues and Concerns Relevant to each Region:

- Open Group Discussion. Please feel free to share general issues or concerns you may be having, to obtain suggestions, resources and feedback from others. The meeting is a safe and supportive place for those providing care to individuals with IDD. Please do not share any personal health information about any individual.

Monthly CNE Opportunity: OIH - HSN Health & Safety Alert Review and Discussion:

- This month's CNEs topic is Skin Integrity & Pressure Injury Health & Safety Alert with quiz/evaluation. To receive 1 FREE CNE, you must attend the meeting and return the quiz/evaluation by email, fax, or text. Just scan or take a picture of your completed quiz with your smart phone, and text or email it to your regional RNCC, with your name and email address clearly displayed. Your CNE certificate will be emailed directly to you.

NOTE: Anyone can attend the Regional Nurses Meeting of their choice. You do not have to attend the Regional Nursing Meeting where you work or reside. Simply register with the link provided to attend.

The Office of Integrated Health Supports Network Registered Nurse Care Consultants

Tammie Williams: Community Nursing Education Lead- tammie.williams@dbhds.virginia.gov

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Melissa Blevins: melissa.blevins@dbhds.virginia.gov

April 2024

Office of Integrated Health Supports Network

April is Autism Acceptance Month

This April, the [Autism Society of America](https://www.autismspeaks.org/) is proud to continue its fifth annual #CelebrateDifferences campaign in honor of Autism Acceptance Month.

What is Autism?

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex, lifelong developmental condition which typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships, and self-regulation.

Although all individuals experience Autism differently, it is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is often referred to as a "spectrum condition" which affects individuals to varying degrees.

While there is no single cause for Autism, most researchers believe it is caused by differences in brain structure or genetic factors.

Signs & Symptoms

- Restricted or repetitive behaviors, movements, or phrases.
- Co-occurring conditions including but not limited to, mental health illnesses, gastrointestinal issues, and seizure disorders.
- Lack of response to normal stimuli (i.e. his/her name, visual cues).
- Avoiding eye contact.
- Restricted or repetitive behaviors, movements, or phrases.
- Delayed movement, language, and/or cognitive skills.
- Atypical verbal communication, non-speaking, or non-verbal.
- Difficulty understanding or expressing feelings.

Currently, there is no known cure for Autism. However, continued research has provided a clearer understanding of the disorder and has led to better treatments and therapies to positively improve quality of life for individuals.

There are no medical tests, such as blood work or brain scans, for diagnosing Autism. An accurate medical diagnosis must be based on observation of the individual's communication, social interactions, and their activities and interests. While there is not a single behavioral or communication test that can detect Autism, several Autism-specific tools are now being used for formal diagnosis. The characteristic behaviors of ASD may or may not be apparent in infancy (18 to 24 months), but usually become obvious during early childhood (24 months to 6 years).

The Autism Society is the largest and oldest Autism organization in the United States. Their mission is to create connections and empower everyone in the Autism community with the resources needed to live fully. Annually, the Autism Society and approximately 70 local affiliates serve over half a million individuals in the Autism community through information and referrals (I&R), education, community, advocacy, and support.

References:

All of the above information is from the Autism Society 2024 website:
<https://autismsociety.org/>

OIHSN Spring Training Schedule

Skilled Nursing/ Private Duty Nursing

Thursday, April 18, 2024, between 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/cdba8ba4-6c26-4bae-80f6-b988b5e23fb5@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

Dysphagia & Modified Diets

Thursday, April 25, 2024, between 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

<https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/840e64ae-bb82-4ce1-81ea-a8b5d40be5f1@620ae5a9-4ec1-4fa0-8641-5d9f386c7309>

COVLC Sepsis

24 hours a day - 7 days a week

To Set-Up An Account Email:

dbhdscovlchelpdesk@dbhds.virginia.gov

Save the Date

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

The 5th Annual Statewide Nursing Conference

George Mason University's Verizon Auditorium

10900 University Blvd.

Manassas, Virginia 21000-2203

This year's focus is on
Urinary Tract Infections (UTI)



The Office of Integrated Health Supports Network Registered Nurse Care Consultants

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