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Fall 2016

CEC Newsletter (Fall 2016)

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Building A World Where All Individuals Flourish as Valued Members of the Community

Fall 2016

Welcome to the CEC!

Director's Corner



Dear Friends,

The beginning of the fall semester brings much to report and I am delighted to share with you the newly designed Fall 2016 Newsletter for the Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex. Here you will

find articles about the many amazing things that are happening here at the CEC to further our vision of *Building a World Where All Individuals Flourish as Valued Members of the Community*. We hope this newsletter will help you stay connected with the CEC.

I extend a special thank you for all of you who support the Suzanne Vitale clinical Education Complex. As we move forward, working together, we will be able to celebrate many milestones in the lives of individuals and families. We look forward to the road ahead!

Best Regards,

Mary Lloyd Moore, Ed.D., SLP-CCC
 Executive Director, Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex



Welcome Back KAP College Students!

Dr. Ransdell and his wife, Julie visited the [Kelly Autism Program](#) at the [CEC](#) on August 21st to welcome new and returning students. The Kelly Autism Circle of Support provides educational and social support to WKU students on the autism spectrum. "These students not only gain great confidence during their higher education experience with us, but they perform well in the classroom. The Kelly Autism Program is a great program for these students, for WKU, and for our society."

– Dr. Gary Ransdell

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KAP Circle of Support Well Underway

By Sarah McMaine-Render

The Kelly Autism Program's Circle of Support is in full operation for the fall 2016 semester. The KAP Circle of Support is for students who are diagnosed with ASD, and this year we have 42 students from nine U.S. states. Programming began on August 14th with our new students moving into the dorms for M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan.

On August 21st WKU President Dr. Gary Ransdell spoke to KAP students about becoming involved on campus and taking pride in their new home. It was rewarding to see returning students speak up and offer advice to our new students!

Classes began on August 22nd, and the program is alive with activity as our students arrive to their study tables and for mentoring. The KAP is also excited to introduce the service of a full-time mental health counselor. Cassandra Hanna will provide both individual and group sessions to our students.

We have several socials planned throughout the semester, including a tailgate on Parents' Weekend on September 30 and October 1st, 2016. The KAP staff is excited to have our students back, and we look forward to everyone having a great semester!

Summer Bootcamp Is A Success

By Leigh Anne Roden

The Communication Sciences and Disorders Department Communication Disorders Clinic hosted 49 full-time and part-time distance learning graduate students from across the United States for a clinical internship this summer. These graduate students complete all coursework online with the exception of a six-week internship where students were required to attend WKU to demonstrate their ability to be successful as speech-language pathology students in a clinical setting.

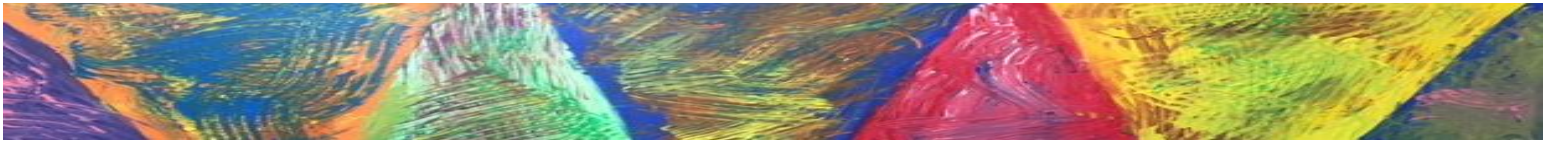
The [Communication Disorders Clinic \(CDC\)](#) held therapy sessions in several different locations in order to meet the growing needs of the distance program and the community. The CDC is mainly housed in WKU-Graves Gilbert Health Services and

the Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex. This summer, partnerships continued with Bowling Green Independent Schools, Warren County Head Start, WKU Child Care Center at Jones Jagers, The Buddy House, and The Kelly Autism Program at the Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex. A new partnership was formed with Chandler Memory Care and the CSD program extended its reach regionally to WKU-Glasgow campus.

This summer, nearly two hundred individuals of all ages in Bowling Green and surrounding areas were served by the Communication Disorders Clinic. Thirteen speech-language pathologists served as supervisors for the large number of boot camp



clinicians. Clinical Supervisor Susan Kerr commented, "The boot camp interns took the challenge eagerly with very professional attitudes. They were creative and eager to provide very rich intervention to those students." Clinical Supervisor Rebecca Broyles added, "The students were remarkably flexible, willing to learn and diligently focused. It was a joy to work with them." Though the summer session is short compared to fall and spring sessions, there were many accomplishments: Learn more about WKU Communication Sciences and Disorders program by visiting their website: <http://www.wku.edu/communicationdisorders/>



Kelly Autism Program Open House

New, returning, and former clients and their families attended the Kelly Autism Program’s annual open house held Friday, September 1st. About 27 families attended.



The KAP staff was available to introduce themselves to new clients, and to get reacquainted with current and past clients. The KAP Store will be available this semester for students to earn KAP dollars. They can use the dollars to purchase items and activities based on their participation in the program. Parents and students were given the opportunity to tour the KAP classrooms and receive information about the different programs within KAP, the KAP Prime Time curriculum, and upcoming events for the semester.

FRP Holds Coffee Hour September 9th

The [Family Resource Program](#) (FRP) held its quarterly Coffee Hour on September 9th at the CEC. The theme was “Stress Management.” About 18 parents and caregivers attended the event. The Coffee Hour provides support and training that enhances the lives of special needs families enrolled at the CEC. This is an opportunity for participants to ask questions, network, voice concerns, and offer support to each other.

Professionals who work with the population served by the CEC attend as guest speakers who empower CEC families with knowledge, awareness, and training on various topics, such as stress management, behavioral interventions, nutrition,

and community resources. CEC families vote on topics they wish to have included in the Coffee Hour discussions, to help the presenters better meet their needs.

At Friday’s session, Cassandra Hanna led a discussion about the symptoms and causes of stress for parents and caregivers of special-needs children. She offered advice and strategies for parents faced with feelings of anxiety and stress associated with caring for a special-needs family member. Hanna’s strategies included asking for help and taking time for oneself. Participants shared daily struggles and feelings of guilt and anxiety, and offered support and advice to other participants. Mrs. Hanna is the mental health counselor for individuals in the Kelly Autism Program at the CEC.

Dr. Elizabeth Sternberg demonstrated a device called the Focus Fidget. The Focus Fidget was designed by Dr. Sternberg’s nine-year-old son, Jack, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder. The Focus Fidget is made from a high-density textured foam roller, a bungee cord, and synthetic rubber balls. The device can be attached to a desk or chair, or a person can hold it on their lap. It can be rolled or pushed with the feet or used as a foot rest. The balls can be used as a fidget for the hands and/or to provide a deep pressure to hands or feet. For more information or to order the Focus Fidget, email: thefocusfidget@gmail.com. Dr. Sternberg provides Autism Spectrum evaluations and consultations for children 18 months to 13 years.



Beshka Moore from Bmoore Balanced Yoga and Meditation led the group on a guided meditation. Yoga can help reduce stress and promote relaxation. Moore, who specializes in Yoga, meditation, Reiki, and energy balancing,

provided information on the philosophy, benefits, and healthy aspects of yoga.

The FRP collaborates with Big Red School to offer childcare services during the Coffee Hour. This

service is provided without charge to CEC families for infants and children up to five years old. The next FRP Coffee Hour will be scheduled in January 2017.

RECC Renews NAEYC Accreditation

The [Renshaw Early Childhood Center](#) successfully completed the renewal process for a new, five-year NAEYC Accreditation term.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children with nearly 80,000 members, a national network of more than 300 state and local Affiliates, and a growing global alliance of like-minded organizations. NAEYC convenes thought leaders, teachers and other practitioners, researchers, and other stakeholders and sets standards of excellence for programs and teachers in early childhood education.

Congratulations to Lisa Murphy and Ericka Powell Orndorff, and all who assisted in achieving this milestone!



RECC Happenings

by Ericka Powell Orndorff

The RECC had a great summer session exploring the ocean and the animals that call it home! With the help of our Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (IECE) interns we wrapped up our session on July 1st with a “Shell-e-bration” event where families were invited to join us for ocean-inspired snacks, activities, and a live art auction.

“Into the Wild” is the theme for the upcoming fall semester. We will explore the grasslands, desert, forest, and the tundra ecosystems. We’ll investigate

what these areas look like, what they feel like, and what lives there.



“Tiny Tops” is a pilot project beginning in the fall 2016 semester. It is a parent/caregiver and child group for young toddlers as they prepare for entry into Big Red School toddler group.

The RECC will also implement another pilot project beginning in the fall 2016 that will focus on comprehensive, intensive supports for preschool children with developmental delays or disabilities. Five participants will receive extra support within the context of Big Red School groups, and families will be provided extra support to teach various skills at home.



CDC Underway for Fall Semester

The [WKU Communication Disorders Clinic](#) provides evaluation, treatment, and consultative services to over 100 clients each semester. Service are provided by senior and graduate student clinicians who are supervised by licensed and certified Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

These services are offered to any age individuals in the following areas:

- [Language Disorders](#) resulting in any difficulty with the understanding and/or use of language.
- [Articulation Disorders](#) resulting in incorrect production of speech sounds.
- [Voice Disorders](#) resulting in any deviation in pitch, intensity, quality, or other basic vocal attribute, which consistently interferes with communication.
- [Fluency Disorders](#) (stuttering) resulting in an interruption of the flow of speech subsequently affecting the communication process.
- [Hearing Disorders](#) resulting in an inability to perceive sound within the normal hearing range.
- [Swallowing Disorders](#) resulting in an inability to swallow effectively.
- [Accent/Dialect Reduction](#)
- [English as a Second Language \(ESL\)](#)

Sessions are typically an hour long and are available on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sessions are also available once per week

Referrals of individuals with communication disorders are accepted from physicians, allied health professionals, educators, parents, and adults. To make a referral, contact Caroline Hudson, Clinic Director at (270) 745-4150.

Therapy sessions for the fall CDC clinic began September 6th and will continue until November 22nd. The hours of operation of the clinic are Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

The CDC is licensed by the State of Kentucky and operates within the guidelines set by the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA).



CDC Fall 2016 Supervisors

New Faces At The CEC!

Summer 2016 saw the inclusion of four new staff members.



Mary Johnson was an office associate for two years with the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at WKU before joining the CEC staff as the Office Coordinator. Mary received her Bachelor's

degree in English and Allied Language Arts from WKU in December 2015, and she is enrolled in the Organizational Leadership Graduate Program here at WKU.

Mary is originally from Lebanon, Kentucky and has lived in Bowling Green for 14 years. She lives with her husband, Wayne and her daughter, Kate.

Peyton Collins joined the CEC staff as an Assistant College Program Manager with the KAP College Program. Peyton lives in Auburn, Kentucky and received his Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree with Health Science Emphasis from WKU.



Peyton joins us from the Student Financial Assistance Office where he worked for six years. He's looking forward to this new chapter in his career with the Kelly Autism Program.

In his free time, Peyton enjoys cycling, hiking, and spending time with his fiancé and his dog.



Ryan McKenna is from Crestwood, Kentucky and graduated from WKU with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Mathematics. Ryan is an Assistant College Program Manager with the Kelly Autism Program's Circle of Support. Ryan worked as a math tutor with the

KAP's Circle of Support for four years before becoming an assistant program manager.

Ryan enjoys playing disc golf in his spare time and looks forward to continuing his work with the college students.

Cassandra Hanna graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University with an undergraduate degree in German and International Studies, and from Southern Illinois University Carbondale with a Master's degree in Social Work. She is full-time counselor for the Kelly Autism Program.



Cassandra is from Galesburg, Illinois, and is training for a marathon with her best friend. She has also competed in two Tough Mudders, which are military-style obstacle courses designed to test physical and mental endurance.

Autism Family Fun Day is November 12th

The Autism Family Fun Day will be held at the [Center for Courageous Kids](#) in Scottsville, Kentucky on Saturday,



November 12th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by the [CEC](#), the [Kelly Autism Program](#), and the [Autism Tennessee](#) at no cost. Many activities are planned including, fishing, cooking, archery, arts and crafts, indoor swimming, bowling, woodshop, boating, and much more.

The Center for Courageous Kids is a year-round medical camp located in Scottsville, Kentucky that serves children and their families that suffer from chronic medical conditions or life-threatening illness.

RSVP for the event with the organization or call Alvin Farmer at 270-618-2900 extension 234.

Special Needs Summit to be held October 14



The Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex will host an annual Special Needs Summit Friday, October 14, 2016 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Carrol Knickely Conference Center.

Parents, caregivers, family members, professionals, staff, and students who have an interest in the special needs community are encouraged to attend. The Summit's theme this year is "The Difference is You." The goal of the conference is to connect members of the special needs community, provide valuable information and strategies on working with individuals and children with special needs, and to provide information on community resources and services.

We are excited to have Amalia Starr as the keynote speaker. As a Transition and Independent Living Coach, Starr specializes in independence training for special needs parents. She is an author, creator of *The Autism Independence Project*, and mother of a forty-year-old autistic son.

Other session speakers include:

- Robin Abbot, MS, OTR/L
- Jessica Bennett, MS, RD, CSSD, LDN
- Bailey Robinson, MS, BCBA

Click on the summit link or on the SUMMIT flyer for more information or to register for the event (www.wku.edu/summit/). Professionals in different disciplines, including Early Childhood, Social Work, First Steps, Nursing, Psychology, Speech-Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy, and EILA (Education) may earn Continuing Education Credits.

Other Grants received this year:

Children’s Charity Grant, \$4,000
 Community Foundation Grant, \$8,132
 Independent Pilots Association, \$10,000

To make a gift, click the icon below.



Buddy Walk Held September 17th

[Downs Syndrome of South Central Kentucky](#) (DSSKY) held its 18th annual Buddy Walk on Saturday, September 17th at the Bowling Green ball park in Bowling Green Kentucky.

The purpose of the Buddy Walks is to raise awareness of and raise funds for those affected by Down Syndrome. The event is open to everyone wanting to support the Down Syndrome services in their communities. For more information on the DSSKY Buddy Walks, click [here](#).

CEC Staff List

- Mary Lloyd Moore, Ed.D., CCC-SLP
Director, CEC
- Caroline Hudson, MS, CCC-SLP
Director, Communication Disorders Clinic
- Shannon Sales, MSW
Director, Family Resource Program
- Michelle Elkins, MS, CCC-SLP
Director, Kelly Autism Program
- Lisa Murphy, MAE
Director, Renshaw Early Childhood Center
- Sarah McMaine-Render, MAE
KAP College Program Manager
- Peyton Collins, BIS
KAP College Program Assistant Manager
- Kim Minton, BS
KAP College Program Assistant Manager
- Ryan McKenna, BA
KAP College Program Assistant Manager
- Grant Snowden
KAP Prime Time Program Assistant Manager
- Ericka Powell-Orndorff, MAE
ECC Program Manager
- Cassandra Hanna, CSW
Clinical Mental Health Counselor
- Laura Reynolds, MHA
CEC Manager
- Mary Johnson, BA
CEC Office Coordinator

CEC Receives WHAS Grant

The CEC received \$43,000 in grant funding this year. The WHAS Crusade for Children, Inc. established in 1954 by WHAS-TV, raises money for agencies, schools and hospitals to better the lives of special needs children.

In its first 63 years, the Crusade has raised more than \$170 million. Thanks to generous contributions of goods and services, the Crusade is able to return 100 percent of all donations to organizations that serve special needs children in all 120 Kentucky counties and more than 50 southern Indiana counties. [Fire departments](#) raise more than 50 percent of the money each year by staging road blocks and other events. Grants are made for specific programs or equipment that provide direct benefit to special needs children. Many thanks to the Crusade!

To learn more about the WHAS Crusade for Children and its efforts, click [here](#) or click the WHAS logo.



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