CONTACT:
For questions about diagnostic, medical, early intervention, educational, and behavioral resources at Vanderbilt and in the community:
Vanderbilt Autism Clinic
Local: 615-322-7565
Toll Free: 1-877-ASD-VUMC (273-8862)
Email: autismclinic@vanderbilt.edu
For questions about parent or professional training and consultation:
TRIAD Outreach Office
Phone: 615-936-1705
Email: triad@vanderbilt.edu
For questions about research:
TRIAD Research Office
Phone: 615-322-5840
Email: autismresearch@vanderbilt.edu
Web: http://triad.vanderbilt.edu
TRIAD Director: Wendy Stone, Ph.D., Professor of Pediatrics and Psychology & Human Development; Director, Marino Autism Research Institute-Vanderbilt
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WHAT IS TRIAD?
TRIAD provides specialized services for children with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

TRIAD has a threefold mission to:
1. Offer a broad range of services to children and families in our community.
2. Provide exemplary training to parents, service providers, and future professionals.
3. Conduct state-of-the-art research to increase our understanding of the development and treatment of autism and related disorders.

TRIAD is a program of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development and the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt. TRIAD is a partner of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.

WHAT IS AUTISM?
Autism is a neurodevelopmental disorder that typically appears during the first 3 years of life. Autism is considered a spectrum disorder because the characteristics can be present in different combinations and at different levels of severity from person to person. Autism affects approximately 1 out of every 150 individuals.

Children with autism demonstrate characteristics in three areas:
• Difficulty forming social relationships
• Impaired understanding and use of language
• Restricted patterns of activities and interests
TRIAD Social Skills Summer Camp
TRIAD camp is designed to foster the development of social interaction skills for children, adolescents, and young adults with autism spectrum disorders. Campers with autism and their typically developing peers participate side-by-side in specially designed activities that provide a fun and enriching summer experience. Campers range in age from 7 to 21 years and must have language and reading skills.

TRIAD Workshops
A variety of workshops for pediatrics, psychologists, educators, and other community professionals are offered throughout the year. These workshops focus on specific topics related to state-of-the-art behavioral and educational interventions for children with autism spectrum disorders. Topics include: Autism 101, Creating and Using Visual Supports, Integrating Different Methodologies, Peer Training, Behavior Management, and Toilet Training.

STAT Workshops
The Screening Tool for Autism in Toddlers (STAT) is an interactive, play-based screening tool that consists of 12 activities in the areas of play, imitation, and communication. In addition to providing information about autism risk, children’s performance on the STAT can be used to develop intervention goals in core developmental areas. STAT training workshops are available to service providers working in community settings with young children.

Vanderbilt Autism Clinic (VAC)
The Vanderbilt Autism Clinic (VAC) represents a collaboration between the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center and Vanderbilt Medical Center that provides information about a broad range of clinical and research programs at Vanderbilt and in the community. Families, caregivers, clinicians, educators, and others can find answers to their questions about diagnostic, medical, early intervention, educational, and behavioral resources.

The Autism Treatment Network (ATH) is a consortium of medical centers providing clinical services and generating a research registry that will be used to identify evidence-based standards of medical care for children with autism. Clinical disciplines include specialists in pediatrics, gastroenterology, genetics/metabolics, psychiatry, neurology, and sleep.

Research
TRIAD-directed research programs and partnerships examine the causes and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. Specific research projects address the early screening, diagnosis, and treatment of autism, including: the social and communicative development of infant siblings of children with ASD; the identification of genetic and neurobehavioral markers of ASD; sleep disturbance in children with ASD; sensory and perceptual processes in ASD; neural correlates of restricted behaviors and interests; and the health and well-being of parents with children with ASD. In addition, TRIAD researchers participate in several national and international research networks: the Simons Simplex Collection, the Baby Siblings Research Consortium, and the Toddler Treatment Network.

To find more information about TRIAD research opportunities, visit http://triad.vanderbilt.edu or http://kc.vanderbilt.edu/studyfinder