Baylor CARE is seeking a team of volunteers to serve on the Development Team. To submit nominations, please contact Tonya Davis at Tonya_Davis@baylor.edu.

Letter from the Director:

Dear Baylor CARE Friends and Families,

We are so happy to share with you the November newsletter. It certainly has been an exciting fall season at Baylor CARE.

It is hard to believe Thanksgiving is just around the corner. We hope you and your family are preparing for a restful and joyful holiday.

In this newsletter we share with you a new partnership with the Baylor University Special Education Program, which has resulted in a record high number of volunteers. It has been a joy to have so many new faces at the clinic.

As usual, it is an honor and pleasure to celebrate the accomplishments of our clients and therapists! Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,
Tonya Davis
The Department of Educational Psychology’s Special Education Program and Baylor CARE have collaborated through the development of a pilot volunteer program this fall. As one of the requirements for the program’s developmental disabilities class, undergraduate students completed 5 hours of volunteer work at Baylor CARE throughout the semester. This experience provided students with the opportunity to work with individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities and to see evidence-based practice being applied in the therapeutic setting. Students observed CARE therapy sessions, practiced collecting data on behaviors, and were able to help therapists with some basic programming skills, such as providing clients with increased opportunities to practice social skills by greeting new people.

This program gave students the opportunity to apply what they had been learning in the classroom. The experience enhanced class discussions as it provided students a real-world perspective on key concepts covered in their Developmental Disabilities class. Additionally, CARE therapists reported benefitting from the assistance of having a second person in the room to collect data or help with implementing specific programs. The volunteers’ presence allowed for optimal use of therapy time and learning opportunities, supporting the need to grow the volunteer program in the future.

Research Briefs

The Baylor CARE Research Team has been hard at work. Here are two of our latest journal publications:

Behavioral Telehealth Consultation with Families of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders was published in Behavioral Interventions.

An Examination of Within-Session Responding Following Access to Reinforcing Stimuli was published in Research in Developmental Disabilities.
Client Spotlight: Adrian

Hi my name is Adrian and I am 8 years old. I live in Hamilton, TX and I have been coming to CARE for 2 years now. My favorite things to do are listening to music and watching my favorite cartoons: Yo Gabba Gabba, The Wiggles, and Mickey Mouse!

Therapist Spotlight: Sara Brown

Meet Sara Brown! Sara is from Cleveland, Ohio and received her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Mount Union with an Intervention Specialist minor. Throughout her time at Mount Union she worked in homes and schools as a one-on-one aide for children with autism. She also worked in an Autism Inclusion Pre-K classroom for the teacher who started the program.

During college is where she was also introduced to the ABA therapy Program. Sara accepted a nanny position in which one of the children had autism and an in-home ABA therapy program. “The therapists would give me pointers on things to do when I was watching the children and I became very interested in the field. By my senior year of college I had started working for his therapists with some other clients and that is when I decided to apply to Graduate Programs for ABA.”

Her experience thus far at CARE has been very exciting and rewarding. “I’ve seen my clients making progress and that is the absolute most rewarding part of this job.”

Upon becoming a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, Sara would eventually like to open her own ABA company, providing children with in-home, in-school, and clinic setting therapy options.