Baylor CARE will resume services on August 24th.

Congratulations to Baylor CARE Therapist Tasia Brafford who was the recipient of the Weatherby Scholarship.

Happy birthday to the following July and August birthdays: Travis

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,

Summer has flown by and we are preparing to begin another great year. We are sad to say farewell to our 2014 – 2015 therapists who will begin a new phase in their lives this fall, but excited to welcome a new cohort of talented therapists.

This fall 17 therapists will be working with CARE, which is a new record! We will have 11 master’s students, 3 specialist students, and 3 doctoral students. This means we will be able to provide a record-breaking number of therapy hours to Central Texas families; we are beyond excited.

As we look to support our families, please consider volunteering to serve on our fund development team. Our focus this year will be client scholarships and we would love your help!

Thank you all for your continued support of Baylor CARE.

Sincerely,
Tonya Davis
Farewell to 2014 – 2015 Therapists

As the year comes to a close, we must say farewell to our very talented 2014 – 2015 ABA therapists. Each of them volunteered countless hours providing ABA therapy to Central Texas children, young adults, and their families. We are so thankful for their service and excited for their next step. Here are some of the exciting endeavors our CARE therapist will be embarking upon this fall:

- Sami Ackard will be a School Psychology Intern at Dallas Independent School District.
- Kristina Bower will be a Preschool Special Education Teacher at Moody Elementary in Moody, Texas.
- Tasia Brafford will be a Special Education Teacher at Waco Independent School District.
- Emily Byrd will be a School Psychology Intern at Dallas Independent School District.
- Natalie Chipinski will be a School Psychology Intern at Klein Independent School District.
- Lillie Dukes will be an ABA Therapist at Therapy & Beyond in Carrolton, Texas.
- Kaitlyn Lester will be an ABA Therapist and Case Manager at Autism House in The Woodlands, Texas.
- Dana Leeper will be a School Psychology Intern at Richardson Independent School District.
- Allen Mom will be a School Psychology Intern at Linn Benton Lincoln Education Service District in Albany, Oregon.
- Victoria Pittman will be an ABA Therapist at Central Texas Autism Center.
- Rachel Scalzo, Ph.D., BCBA will be the Clinical Director of South Florida for Continuum Behavioral Health.
- Meg Solomon will be a Supervisor at Behavioral Frontiers.
- Jessica Walker Stone will be a School Psychology Intern at Richland 2 School District in Columbia, SC.
- Regan Weston will be Doctoral Student at Baylor University.

Research Briefs

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

- Animal-assisted Therapy for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Systematic Review was published in Education and Training in Autism and Developmental Disabilities. The following current and past CARE therapists co-authored this paper: Rachel Scalzo, Tonya Davis, Erin Butler, Megan Stauffer, Yara Farah, Scott Perez, Kristen Mainor, Cathryn Clark, Stacy Carter Miller, Alicia Kobylecky, and Laura Coviello.

- Comparison of Treatments to Reduce Vocal Stereotypy in a Child with Autism was accepted for publication in Behavior Modification. The following current and past CARE therapists co-authored this paper: Rachel Scalzo, Tonya Davis, Kally Amos, Tamara Zoch, Sarah Turchan, and Tara Wagner.

- iPod Handwriting Application Shows Promise, but Additional Research is Warranted was published in Evidence-Based Communication Assessment and Intervention. This paper was co-authored by Rachel Scalzo and Tonya Davis.
Client Spotlight: Sage

Hi my name is Sage! I am 6 years old and I am in Kindergarten at South Bosque Elementary! I have been coming to CARE for a few months now. My favorite things to do are play at the park, ride my bike, and pretend to be my favorite superhero, Superman!

Therapist Spotlight: Regan Weston

Meet Regan Weston! While finishing her degree in music education, she taught piano and violin. It was there that she taught a child with autism and became interested in learning more about autism. “I discovered applied behavior analysis and was enthralled. Eventually, I sold my business and applied at the University of North Texas to pursue a degree in ABA.”

Regan stated one of the biggest factors that drew her to Baylor University was CARE. She mentioned that Dr. Davis’ expertise in working with children with autism was another huge factor in her decision to attend Baylor. “I love the idea of applying behavioral principles in the natural environment, such as the school or home, so Dr. Davis’ knowledge and expertise in this area was a huge benefit for me.”

Overall her experiences at CARE have been even more than what she expected. “Being able to apply the techniques that we learn in a real-world environment provides me with the opportunity to excel in the principles and practices of ABA. Each of the clients at the clinic with their unique personalities justifies the work I do each day and I absolutely love it.”

Regan will begin her Ph.D. at Baylor University in the fall. “I hope to teach in a university setting one day where I will have the opportunity to supervise and educate future BCBAs. My goals are to instill in those I work with a passion for helping others and to remain focused on improving the field of behavior analysis.”