

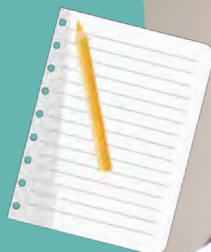
# DEVELOPMENTAL & BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS

# NEWSLETTER



A bi-weekly newsletter for families of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP) at Boston Medical Center during COVID-19 Social Distancing

## What's Happening?



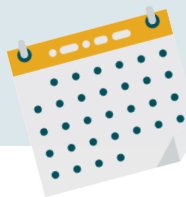
### World Autism Day!

The fourteenth annual World Autism Acceptance Day is TODAY, April 2, 2021. Share how you are celebrating on our [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages and make sure to tag us! Keep following our pages for resources, information and great content all month long.



## Upcoming Events

Join us on **Thursday April 15th from 11-2pm for our FREE VIRTUAL Autism Acceptance Day event.** Come for an hour, or stay for the whole event! Register [here](#). The event will include presentations from community partners like the Autism Insurance Resource Center, TILL Autism Support Center, Asperger's and Autism Network, Boston Chinatown Neighborhood group and others! We will also be welcoming our Parent Leaders who will share their journey navigating the autism diagnosis.



Upcoming Events continued on next page

## Upcoming Events Cont.

### Ready for a laugh?

Hosted by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Office of Autism Research Coordination (OARC), "An Afternoon of comedy" is meant to bring fun and laughs to all. Join Aspergers Are Us, the first comedy troupe composed of entirely of individuals with Autism and started by a Boston University Alum on Wednesday April 7 at 3:30 EST. You can watch the event for free [here](#)



## Joy F. Johnson

As we close out Women's History Month and welcome Autism Acceptance Month, we are excited to highlight Joy Johnson, an Autism Advocate. She collaborates with organizations, individuals, and families to improve the lives of Autistic people. Joy created and runs the Black Spectrum Fund with the mission being to render behavioral services and support to families with Black Autistic children and Black adults at no cost to them. We encourage you to visit her website [here](#) and check out the incredible advocacy, resources, and support she continues to provide to the Autistic community



THE BLACK SPECTRUM FUND

## Where do I go from here? Exploring Disclosure

You have received the news of your child's autism diagnosis, and you have started to explore the different therapies and services you might be able to access. Now that you have begun navigating your child's diagnosis, you may start to wonder if your child notices anything different about him or herself and how you will talk to your child about their diagnosis. In our two page disclosure guide, "[Day to Day: How Do I Tell My Child He/She Has Autism?](#)" we have demystified when and how to start talking with your child about their diagnosis, why it might be important for your family, and where you can find support along the way. As always, the Autism Program recognizes that YOU are the expert of your child, and we are here to support you in whatever way you choose to share.

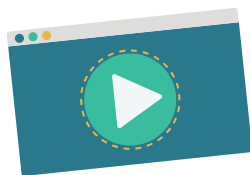
## Resources



Boston Medical Center is here to support you during this difficult time. Check out our new resource spreadsheet, which has links to online learning, social stories, music/animal/fitness programs, live online classes and more. See the second tab for free meals and financial services throughout Massachusetts. This spreadsheet is available in multiple languages and will be continuously updated as new resources become available. Know of something to add?

Email us at  
[autismprogram@bmc.org](mailto:autismprogram@bmc.org)  
 with suggestions.

For past recordings of our webinar series: Caring for Kids with Autism and Developmental Differences, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCifYfJKUuSa8XzytUcn-Anw>



## Clinic

Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics clinicians are available by phone/Zoom for telehealth visits and consultations. Please call us at 617-414-4841 if you have any questions or are in need of support. To create a free zoom account, visit [zoom.us/signup](https://zoom.us/signup).



## Our Clinicians

Marilyn Augustyn, MD  
 Naomi Steiner, MD  
 Arathi Reddy, DO  
 Ana Carolina Sanchez, MD  
 Jodi Santosuosso, NP  
 Rachel Amgott, NP  
 Christina Lazdowsky, NP  
 Mei Elensary, MD  
 Alyssa King, PhD  
 Ana Treadaway, MD  
 Mediatix Mbamalu, MD  
 Christine McGivney, DO  
 Jocelyn Kuhn PhD  
 Audrey Christiansen, MD

## ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is brought to you by the Autism Program at Boston Medical Center, a family support program of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. We are committed to supporting any family of DBP during this time, regardless of diagnosis. Please don't hesitate to reach out, and follow us on social media for more tips and information!



[BMC.org/autism](https://BMC.org/autism)  
[Autismprogram@bmc.org](mailto:Autismprogram@bmc.org)



The Autism Program at Boston Medical Center



@BMCAutismProgram