



# BCC-ASA News

Baltimore-Chesapeake Chapter  
of the Autism Society of America

February 2006

Our mission is to share all types of information regarding Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and related disorders. We do not necessarily endorse the information printed in this newsletter.

### Estate Planning Talk Set For Next Support Group

At the February 2 support group meeting, Mark Pallack, a financial representative from MetLife, will present "Estate Planning for Special Kids," and discuss what steps parents need to take to secure the future well-being of their child with special needs.

### Nominations Committee

Board members Heather Thoms-Chesley, Mary Ellen Curtis, and Carol Brown form the Nominating Committee charged with naming the slate for chapter elections to be held in May. If you are interested in becoming a board member, call Heather at 410-882-2146.

### Tell Us How Has Autism Affected Your Life

The BCC-ASA is partnering with BCPS to organize an Essay Contest for April, Autism Awareness Month. Keep your eyes peeled for the contest rules, which will be coming to you in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, start thinking about the question: "How has autism affected your life?" We want to hear from you! BCC-ASA members, family members, and friends, as well as students attending and professionals working in schools in Baltimore County and Baltimore City are invited to submit entries. The deadline for essays is April 21. Contest rules and entry info to follow in next month's newsletter.

### Calendar

- Feb. 2 BCC-ASA Support Group, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, 7:00 p.m. Program: "Financial and Estate Planning" by Mark Pallack of MetLife
- Feb. 2 & 3 *Teaching Functional Language to Children with Autism*, Gateway School, Baltimore, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Feb. 3 *Asperger's Disorder and Autism*, Towson, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Feb. 14 Adult Autism Resource Group, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 21 *Medical Assistance in Maryland*, Teleconference, 10:00-11:00 a.m.
- Feb. 27 Chapter Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 2 BCC-ASA Support Group, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 5 Bull & Oyster Roast, American Legion Towson Post #22, 1:00-5:00 p.m.
- Mar. 11 "Coming of Age" Adult Transitioning Conference, Howard County
- Mar. 13 Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 14 Adult Autism Resource Group, 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 22 *Managed Care Plan* Teleconference, 10:00- 11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 25 MSDE Family Focus Conference, Columbia, MD
- Mar. 28 Balto. County Board of Education meeting
- Mar. 28 Sarah Stup book debut at Villa Julie College, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- Mar. 29 *Autism 101*, BCPS parent training session, Cockeysville Middle, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- April 6 BCC-ASA Support Group, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, 7:00 p.m. Program: "Floor Time" by Max Greenspan

### BCC-ASA and Baltimore County Public Schools To Present Autism Training Sessions

One result of the continuing discussion between the Baltimore Chesapeake Chapter of the Autism Society and Baltimore County Public Schools is a series of training sessions for parents and school staff members to be held at various locations around Baltimore County over the next several months. The first program, entitled "Autism 101: Comprehensive Fundamentals of Autism," will be held on Wednesday, March 29 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Cockeysville Middle School.

Future sessions are scheduled for Wednesday, April 19 at Loch Raven High School and Wednesday, May 10 at Perry Hall Middle School. Check upcoming issues of the newsletter for topics to be covered.

If you need financial help with cab fare in order to attend these sessions, the chapter has some limited funds available. Call the chapter phone line at 410-655-7933 as soon as possible to let us know your needs.

### BCC-ASA Members in Baltimore County Needed for Presentations to Special Education Advisory Committee and Board of Education

On the evening of March 13, members of the Baltimore-Chesapeake chapter of ASA and representatives from the BCPS Autism program will make a co-presentation to the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee promoting lower student-teacher ratio, assistive technology, a full-day extended school year, and other services for students with autism.

BCC-ASA members will also make a brief presentation at the end of the March 28 Baltimore County Board of Education regular meeting to present information on the increasing number of students with autism and their specialized needs.

Call Ellen Feifarek at 410-583-7633 if you are interested in attending or participating in these presentations. The more people we can get to these meetings, the bigger the impression we will make. If you want to participate, please also consider attending the planning session at Ellen's home on March 9. Call Ellen for more information.

## Thank You for Your Donations to BCC-ASA!

The chapter thanks Selma and Milton Schlenoff for their recent donation to BCC-ASA in honor of the birthday of Mrs. Sandy Leibowitz.

Thanks also to Richard, Karen, Robert and Stacey Dankner for their donation to the chapter in memory of Paul Goldberg.

## Chapter Board Meeting

At the BCC-ASA board meeting held on January 17, topics of discussion included tentative plans for Autism Awareness Month in April and suggestions for possible changes in the format of the support group. The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27 at the home of Ellen and Chris Feifarek. Please call either of the chapter's co-presidents (Andrea Schanbacher at 443-629-9137 or Eva Williams at 410-529-8722) if you plan to attend. All are welcome.

## Author with Autism to Speak at Villa Julie College

Sarah Stup, a young author with autism from Frederick, MD, will speak at Villa Julie College on March 28 at 7:00 p.m. Her new book, "Do-si-do with Autism" will be debuted on that night during an event scheduled from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the VJC Gallery in the St. Paul Companies Pavilion. Other local advocates will also speak.

## World of Possibilities Expo Adds "Autism Day"

Caring Communities has announced that the World of Possibilities Disabilities Expo is scheduled for the weekend of May 19-21, 2006 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium Maryland.

New to the Expo this year is an extra day to enjoy the exhibits, featuring Sunday as "Imagine The Possibilities" Autism Day. Pathfinders for Autism, the sponsoring organization, will work with Caring Communities to plan this incredible day which will highlight an autism pavilion of support resources, targeted autism-related augmentative communication/assistive technology exhibitors, autism-related workshops and more, all within the existing World of Possibilities Disabilities Expo.

For more information, contact Caring Communities at 1-866-227-4644 or go to [www.caringcommunities.org](http://www.caringcommunities.org).

## Adult Transitioning Conference in Howard County March 11

On Saturday, March 11, the Howard County Autism Society, in conjunction with BCC-ASA and other Maryland Autism Society chapters, will be holding a conference entitled "Coming of Age: Designing Supports with Transitioning Youth and Adults with Autism." This conference will highlight best practices in services and supports for adults with autism. The conference program is designed to "show the possibilities" and to give information and tools to participants about developing services with adults with autism and related disabilities.

Speakers will include Stephen Hinkle, a young man with autism who has spoken around the country about education, transition, self-advocacy, and self-determination. Tec Chapman, a Kennedy Foundation Fellow, has extensive experience in person-centered planning, positive behavior supports, assistive technology, autism, transition, employment, self-determination, Social Security, and public policy development. Jeff Strully is the Executive Director of Jay Nolan Community Services, an organization that has demonstrated that people with autism and other challenging behaviors can live in their own homes (or apartments, condo, trailers, etc.) with an array of supports.

For more information contact Howard County ASA at 410-760-5595 or go to [www.howardautism.org](http://www.howardautism.org).

## Next AARG! Meeting Set For Tuesday, February 14

Starting this past December, the Adult Autism Resource Group changed its regular meeting time to the second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting of this sub-group of BCC-ASA will be Tuesday, February 14 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. AARG meets at the home of Ellen Feifarek, 508 Hampton Lane to work on issues that concern adults and transition age youth with autism. Call Linda Pearl at 410-769-9500 during daytime hours if you plan to attend.

## Get Your Newsletter by E-Mail

Sign up now for *Bccasanews*, our new email listserv that will deliver each BCC-ASA Newsletter to your email Inbox before it is printed and sent by US mail. To subscribe to *Bccasanews*, send an email to [Bccasanews-request@bcc-asa.org](mailto:Bccasanews-request@bcc-asa.org) and on the subject line type: subscribe.

## Sibshops in Baltimore and Towson

Sibshops, a program for brothers and sisters of kids with special needs, will have a 6-session program at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital from February 4 through April 22 (alternating Saturdays). Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., cost is \$40. There will also be a 3-week session at Abilities Network/EFRC in Towson on Saturdays from February 11 through February 25. Hours are 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., cost is \$20. Programs are also available in Howard, Harford and Montgomery counties. For more information or to register call 410-578-5169.

## Greenspan To Discuss "Floor Time" at April Support Group

As part of the chapter's Autism Awareness Month activities in April, Max Greenspan will talk to the April 6 support group at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital on "Floor Time," a therapy often used with children with autism. Mark your calendars for this special meeting!

## Autism Research Network on the Web

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) invites anyone interested to visit the Autism Research Network (ARN) at [www.autismresearchnetwork.org](http://www.autismresearchnetwork.org).

The NIH supports two major research networks dedicated to understanding and treating autism: The Collaborative Programs of Excellence in Autism (CPEA) Network and the Studies to Advance Autism Research and Treatment (STAART) Network. This website provides a single source of information about these networks and the research they conduct.

## Bull & Oyster Roast for Benefit of Pathfinders

The Baltimore County Bar Association Young Lawyers Committee is holding their 2006 Annual Charity Bull & Oyster Roast on Sunday, March 5 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the American Legion, Towson Post #22 to benefit Pathfinders for Autism & the Baltimore County Bar Foundation. Tickets purchased in advance are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 6-12, free for children 5 and under. Add \$10 for tickets purchased at the door. For more information, call Karran Chaney at 410-769-8220 or e-mail her at [kchaney@pathfindersforautism.org](mailto:kchaney@pathfindersforautism.org).

## **FYI: New Books in the BCC-ASA Library**

- *Unfolding the Tent: Advocating for Your One-of-a-Kind Child* by Ann Addison
- *Exploring Feelings (Anxiety)* by Tony Attwood
- *Right Address...Wrong Planet: Children with Asperger's Syndrome becoming adults* by Gene Barnhill
- *Parent to Parent: Information and Inspiration for Parents Dealing With Autism and Asperger's Syndrome* by Ann Boushey
- *Jackson Whole Wyoming* by Joan Clark
- *Super Skills: A social skills group program for children with Asperger Syndrome, High-Functioning Autism and related challenges* by Judith Coucouvanis
- *Autism, Advocates, and Law Enforcement Professionals* by Dennis Debbaudt
- *S.O.S. Social Skills in Our Schools: A Social Skills Program for Children with Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Including High-Functioning Autism & Asperger Syndrome, and Their Typical Peers* by Michelle Dunn
- *Amazingly...Alphie: Understanding and Accepting Different Ways of Being* by Roz Espin
- *The Autism Sourcebook: Everything You Need to Know About Diagnosis, Treatment, Coping, and Healing* by Karen Siff Exkorn
- *Developing Talents: Careers for individuals with Asperger Syndrome and High-Functioning Autism* by Temple Grandin and Kate Duffy
- *Revealing the Hidden Social Code: Social Stories for people with autistic spectrum disorders* by Marie Howley and Eileen Arnold
- *The Little Class with the Big Personality: Experiences of Teaching a Class of Young Children with Autism* by Fran Hunnisett
- *Communicating Partners: 30 Years of Building Responsive Relationships with Late-Talking Children including Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Down Syndrome* by James D. MacDonald
- *Views from Our Shoes: Growing Up With a Brother or Sister With Special Needs* by Donald J. Meyer
- *Playing, Laughing and Learning with Children on the Autism Spectrum: A Practical Resource of Play Ideas for Parents and Carers* by Julia Moor
- *Oliver Onion – The Onion Who Learns to Accept and Be Himself* by Diane Murrell
- *Ten Things Every Child with Autism Wishes You Knew* by Ellen Notbohm
- *The Real Rain Man* by Fran Peek
- *All About My Brother* by Sarah Peralta
- *Hitchhiking Through Asperger Syndrome* by Lise Pyles
- *Raising a Child with Autism: A Guide to Applied Behavior Analysis for Parents* by Shira Richman
- *The Stonking Steps: A journey through Ing-Ong-Ung* by Will Rogers
- *Autism Spectrum Disorders: Interventions and treatments for children and youth* by Richard L. Simpson
- *Super Silly Sayings that are Over Your Head: A children's illustrated book of idioms* by Catherine Snodgrass
- *Giggle Time — Establishing the Social Connection: A Program to Develop the Communication Skills of Children with Autism* by Susan Aud Sonders
- *How Well Does Your IEP Measure Up: Quality Indicators for Effective Service Delivery* by Diane Twachtman-Cullen and Jennifer Twachtman-Reilly
- *Handbook of Autism & Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Vol. 1: Diagnosis, Development, Neurobiology, and Behavior. Vol. 2: Assessment, Interventions, and Policy.* by Fred Volkmar
- *Straight Talk About Psychiatric Medications for Kids, Revised Edition* by Timothy E. Wilens
- *How to Live with Autism: Practical Strategies for Parents* by Christine Williams and Barry Wright
- *PassPorter's Walt Disney World for your Special Needs* by Deb Wills and Debra Mm. Koma

### **Book Reviews by Joan DiPietro: Two New Additions to the BCC-ASA Library**

***How to Live With Autism and Asperger Syndrome: Practical Strategies for Parents and Professionals* by Chris Williams & Barry White (Copyright: 2004)**

This reader-friendly book was written by two professionals in Child Psychiatry from the United Kingdom. Divided into three parts, "Does My Child Have ASD", "How Do Children With ASD View the World", and "How Can We Help," the authors smartly divided the content so the reader new to ASD can start at the beginning and those already familiar with ASD can get right to helpful strategies for specific problems. This book is written in easy to understand language, includes many examples to further define a problem or intervention and includes a summary at the end of each short chapter with bullet points reinforcing key knowledge. I found the "References & Resources" section and the "Template for Making Sense of a Child's Behavior and Making Plans to Help" helpful tools.

***Hitchhiking Through Asperger Syndrome* by Lise Pyles (Copyright: 2002)**

This paperback book could only have been written by a parent who has dealt 24/7 with the challenges of raising a child with Asperger Syndrome! The book covers a broad range of issues: diagnosis, dealing with your own & others' reactions, schooling, medication, diet. The author provides information about various treatment options to help parents make informed choices for their children. This book shares a personal account from one who has been down this road and wants to help others who are headed down the path.

## Ever Wonder Why You Seem So Different?

by Kate Goldfield

*Originally published November 25, 2005 in the Baltimore Sun  
Reprinted with permission of the author*

When I was a freshman in college, someone asked a friend of mine if I was autistic. Having almost no knowledge about what autism was other than a dim memory of a Rain Man-like character rocking in the corner and nonverbal, I was appalled. How could anyone possibly think I was like that?

Two years later, I rediscovered the subject of autism after seeing a Lifetime movie about it. I was intrigued by some of the concepts in it and began reading everything I could find about autism, purely out of intellectual interest.

I awakened to the notion that a lot of what I was reading sounded like me. I learned that autism is actually a spectrum disorder, which means that there are people who are affected by it on different levels. I discovered something called Asperger's Syndrome, which is high-functioning autism and markedly different in its presentation than what we could call classic autism.

People with Asperger's Syndrome, or AS, I learned, have trouble reading social cues and understanding nonverbal language. They have trouble knowing what to say in conversations, when to start speaking and when to stop speaking. They fail to notice subtle conversational cues like change in tone of voice or body posture. In fact, they have trouble with social language in general.

They are often highly intelligent, especially with special interests that they pursue, but have trouble conversing. Because of this, they have trouble making friends and many will go through all of high school and college without having ever really made a good friend.

Sensory issues are very prevalent in people with AS. They can hear the sound of a person tapping their pencil from across the room. The smell of cigarette smoke or cleaning agents will drive them crazy. Lights are either too bright or too dim and they often have a difficult time finding clothes that they can bear wearing because of the way they feel on their skin. Often, they will have "sensory overloads" and need some time out from an activity to process all that is happening to them. For this reason, eye contact can hurt. Social interactions for someone with AS can be like trying to put together a 500-piece puzzle before the time is up. We even speak differently; our conversational manner tends to be quite genuine. We say what we're thinking.

It is this genuineness, though, that endears us to many people. We don't play guessing games with people; we say what we mean. As employees and friends, we are loyal. We have the ability to focus completely on tasks of interest for hours at a time and also to remember huge amounts of facts related to our interests quite easily. When I was diagnosed with AS last summer, it came as an enormous relief. I finally knew why I had always hovered on the outside of social life, always wanting to join in but somehow never being able to figure out quite how. I could find other people who understood me and were like me.

Unfortunately, so many people are not as fortunate as I was to gain this understanding about myself. There is comparatively little information available about AS. It was put into the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Disorders (the official handbook of what is and what is not a psychological disorder) in 1994. There are so many people out there who wonder why they are different, who are desperate to find the missing piece but have never even heard of AS.

I explain all of this just to give the average person an idea of what it is like to live on the autistic spectrum. I feel that it is only by learning about each other's struggles and truly trying to understand them that we can build a world that is safe for everyone - a world where we can grow and improve because we are taking advantage of everyone's strengths, not just the strengths of a selective few. That's the kind of world I want to live in. It's the kind of world we all want to live in.

*Kate Goldfield is a senior at Goucher College in Towson.  
Her e-mail is [KGoldfie@goucher.edu](mailto:KGoldfie@goucher.edu).*

## Conference Scholarships

Just a reminder that BCC-ASA, through the kindness of the Fowler family, has a scholarship fund. This is available to all members of BCC-ASA to sponsor attendance at a conference or training session. These funds must be accessed through the Treasurer.

## Two New UMBC Studies Seek Participants

### ***Early Intervention for Repetitive or Self-Injurious Behavior in Young Children***

Very little is known about what causes early repetitive and self-injurious behaviors such as hand mouthing/biting, body banging or head banging. The purpose of a current study at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) study is to assess the effectiveness of a behavior management treatment for these behaviors. The treatment package has been shown to be effective for reducing repetitive and self-injurious behaviors in older children and adults with developmental disabilities, but it has not been implemented with very young children (12-47 months old) with repetitive and potentially self-injurious behavior. The treatment will consist of a Research Assistant coming to your home to model how to interrupt repetitive behaviors and teach your child to engage in appropriate communication and developmentally appropriate toy play to replace repetitive behaviors. If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact Dr. Richman at (410) 455-2417.

### ***Research on Young Children with Special Needs***

Joy Kolb, a doctoral student in the Applied Developmental Psychology program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), is conducting a research study on children with special needs. She is recruiting parents of children between the ages of 3 and 6 with autism and other special needs. Parents who are interested in participating will be mailed three questionnaires. Two are designed to determine the general information and characteristics of parents of children with special needs. The third questionnaire assesses the frequency of behavioral problems exhibited by the children with special needs. Parents are also asked to indicate if they would like to be part of a future study on behavior-management practices. If interested, please contact Joy Kolb at 301-910-6657 or e-mail her at [joykolb@umbc.edu](mailto:joykolb@umbc.edu).

*Visit the Chapter on-line at  
[www.bcc-asa.org](http://www.bcc-asa.org)*

**Maternal Antibody Study Underway at Kennedy Krieger & Johns Hopkins University**

Principal investigators Drs. Harvey S. Singer and Andrew W. Zimmerman have announced a new study that will attempt to see if there are maternal antibodies persisting after the birth of a child with autism that might have been important and relevant before birth and relevant to brain development. They are seeking mothers who have a child with the diagnosis of autism to participate in the study which will require the donation of a blood sample. This contribution will help to advance research in the field of autism. To request more information, or to arrange for blood drawing for the study, please contact Kathleen Scott at Kennedy Krieger Institute, 443-923-9135, e-mail: [scottk@kennedykrieger.org](mailto:scottk@kennedykrieger.org).

**Your Chapter Wants To Know What You Think!**

Don't Forget to fill out a Member Satisfaction Survey at the next support group meeting you attend or on-line! It's your chapter, and we want to know what you need.

**CONFERENCE NEWS**

**Thurs. & Fri., February 2 & 3, 2006, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

***Teaching Functional Language to Children with Autism***

Sponsored by Howard County ASA and the Gateway School. Workshop will cover the basic skills necessary to begin implementing a verbal behavior program. To be led by staff from the Mariposa School. Location: Gateway School, Metro Drive, Baltimore. Cost: \$225. For more information: 410-760-5595 or [www.howardautism.org](http://www.howardautism.org).

**Friday, February 3, 2006, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

***Asperger's Disorder and Autism: An Update on Understanding and Interventions***

Seminar with Dr. Ami Klin, Yale University School of Medicine, for mental health professionals, teachers, children's service providers, pediatricians, advocates, parents, or family members of children, adolescents, or adults with Asperger's Disorder or Autism. Location: Sheraton North Baltimore, Dulaney Valley Road, Towson. Cost: \$139. For more information: [www.neei.org](http://www.neei.org) or e-mail [learn@neei.org](mailto:learn@neei.org).

**Tues., Feb. 21, 2006, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

***Medical Assistance in Maryland***

Free teleconference workshop sponsored by Parents' Place of Maryland. Format allows workshop participation without leaving your home. For information or to register, contact Becky Kuhn Sykes at 800-394-5694 or e-mail [beckylee61@aol.com](mailto:beckylee61@aol.com).

**Wednesday, March 22, 2006, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

***Getting Needed Services from Your Managed Care Plan***

Free teleconference sponsored by Parents' Place of Maryland. For information or to register, contact Becky Kuhn Sykes at 800-394-5694 or e-mail [beckylee61@aol.com](mailto:beckylee61@aol.com).

**Saturday, March 25**

***The Family Focus Conference, The Dance of Partnership***

Sponsored by the Md. State Dept. of Education Div. of Special Education/ Early Intervention Services. Free conference for families of children with disabilities from birth through age 5 and the professionals who support them. Location: Columbia Hilton, Columbia, MD. For more info: 1-800-535-0182 or e-mail [bmontane@msde.state.md.us](mailto:bmontane@msde.state.md.us).

**MEMBERSHIP FORM  
BALTIMORE-CHESAPEAKE CHAPTER ASA**

**MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$10.00**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child's School or Program (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Would you prefer to receive the chapter newsletter:  
 By U.S. mail?  By e-mail?  Both?   
 Additional donation to BCC-ASA: \_\_\_\_\_

- CIRCLE ONE:  
 Individual with Autism  
 Family  
 Professional  
 Student

**Please note:**  
 BCC-ASA does not share information on our members with any other organization.

*Make checks payable to BCC-ASA and mail to:*  
**BCC-ASA, P.O. Box 10822, Baltimore, MD 21234**

**MEMBERSHIP FORM  
AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

- CIRCLE ONE:  
 Family: \$40.00  
 Individual: \$30.00  
 Student: \$15.00  
 Professional: \$100.00

FROM: Baltimore/Chesapeake Chapter  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Autism Society of America, P. O. Box 96223, Washington, DC 20090-6223  
 Remit payment with this form

## Officers and Board Members

Co-Presidents:	Andrea Schanbacher	443-629-9137
	Eva Williams	410-529-8722
Vice President:	Tony Lorenzo	410-679-4067
Past President:	Ellen Feifarek	410-583-7633
Secretary:	Jane Rosshiem	410-356-0880
Treasurer:	Heather Thoms-Chesley	410-882-2146
Board Members:	Carol Brown	
	Kim Curtis	410-869-7357
	Mary Ellen Curtis	410-337-5017
	Gene DiGennaro	
	Elisa Hartman	410-828-5471
	Hilary Hellerbach	
Newsletter:	Mary Ellen Curtis	410-337-5017
Website:	Will Cassano	410-833-7096

**Chapter Phone:** 410-655-7933

**Website:** [www.bcc-asa.org](http://www.bcc-asa.org)

**E-mail:** [questions@bcc-asa.org](mailto:questions@bcc-asa.org)

## Support Group Meeting

The next support group meeting will be **Thursday, February 2** at 7:00 p.m. at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital. The support group meets on the **first Thursday** of every month.

### Directions to Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital:

#### From North of Baltimore:

Take the Beltway (I-695) to the Jones Falls Expressway (I-83) south. From I-83, take the Northern Parkway exit, 10B West. Make a right turn off the exit ramp and make an immediate right turn onto West Rogers Ave. (the first street off the exit ramp). Go north on West Rogers Ave.; the hospital is on the right.

#### From Baltimore and South:

Take the Jones Falls Expressway (I-83) north to the second Northern Parkway exit, 10B West. Turn right onto West Rogers Ave. (the first street off the exit ramp). Go north on West Rogers Ave.; the hospital is on the right.

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Baltimore-Chesapeake Chapter  
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