The National Autism Center (NAC) at May Institute has been selected to participate in the U.S. State Department’s Speaker Program. Not only is this appointment a tremendous honor, but it has enabled us begin to realize one important organizational goal—to become a global leader in the dissemination of applied behavior analysis (ABA).

The Speaker Program is managed by the State Department’s Bureau of International Information Programs. The Bureau organizes events for American experts to engage with foreign audiences worldwide.

With this support, we have provided training and consultation in ABA and autism spectrum disorder in both Oman and Dubai.
May Institute among top women-led businesses in Massachusetts

May Institute was named number 26 in The Commonwealth Institute’s (TCI) 2016 list of Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts.

TCI is a non-profit organization devoted to advancing businesswomen in leadership positions in Massachusetts. Its annual Top 100 list celebrates successful for-profit and non-profit businesses that have made a significant impact on the Commonwealth’s economy — and the women who lead them.

“This selection comes at a dynamic time in our organization’s 60-year history, when we are making tremendous strides in the services we provide and the communities we impact,” said May Institute President and CEO Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D., ABPP.

Dr. Ralph B. Sperry, Ph.D., ABPP, Chief Operating Officer for both May and NAC, and Robert F. Putnam, Ph.D., LABA, BCBA-D, a member of May’s executive leadership team and Senior Vice President of Research and Consultation for NAC, traveled to Oman as guests of the Omani Ministry of Social Development late last year to deliver a workshop on autism treatment in Muscat, the capital of Oman.

More recently, four staff members facilitated a three-day workshop in Oman that was organized by the Omani Ministry of Health. Dr. Sperry, Cynthia A. Anderson, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Ryan Martin, Ph.D., and Behavioral Consultant Wafa A. Aljohani, M.S., LABA, BCBA, trained psychiatrists and psychologists from the Sultanate on the assessment and treatment of autism and using the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) tool. While in Muscat, they also met with more than 150 parents and clinicians to train them in ABA.

“Omani officials expressed deep gratitude for these workshops as they strive to meet the demand for services for what they called ‘a tsunami’ of potential confirmed autism diagnoses.”

--- DR. RALPH B. SPERRY

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--- DR. RALPH B. SPERRY

“The government of Oman has invited us to join them in an ongoing collaboration to assist in the development of a strategic plan for the country to address their autism epidemic,” said Dr. Sperry. “The U.S. Department of State is considering funding a multi-year consultation in Oman to explore the development of a Center of Excellence and a school for autism.”

We are also pursuing international requests for consultation in countries such as Canada, Abu Dhabi, Aruba, and India, and have received a number of inquiries for services.

Dr. Ryan Martin (pictured top) during his presentation on the ADOS tool.

Pictured left: Dr. Cynthia Anderson is acknowledged for the workshops she facilitated.
PLANNING FOR FUTURE GROWTH

May Institute has enjoyed a vibrant history. Since its founding more than 60 years ago, the organization has evolved into a national network that serves thousands of individuals and their families annually.

Part of what sets us apart from other organizations is our uncompromising commitment to professionalism and excellence. Our work is grounded in evidence-based practice, and we continually review and measure our results. To this end, we are in the process of developing a five-year strategic plan. In collaboration with our Executive Leadership team, Carol Molina, M.B.A., Senior Vice President of Business Development, is leading the planning process. [See article below.]

For us, strategic planning is a critical process in driving our organization’s future growth. It is an interactive process that spans many months. It includes gathering information and insights from internal and external sources, examining our historical performance, benchmarking, and an understanding of current and emerging industry trends. From that synthesis of information, we will determine our strategic objectives and goals, making sure they are aligned with our mission and vision. We will then formulate strategies and key initiatives on how to achieve success. After the strategic plan is approved by the Board of Trustees, detailed operational plans will be implemented across the organization, starting in the fall.

Reflecting on the Past, Focusing on the Future

For May Institute, its employees, and the individuals we serve, 2016 was a very good year—a year of growth, innovation, and outreach.

“In fiscal year 2016, we served nearly 6,000 individuals and families in this country while growing our workforce and expanding our service lines,” said May Institute President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Lauren C. Solotar. “We also provided training and consultation about autism spectrum disorder and applied behavior analysis in a number of countries throughout the world.”

In addition, FY16 was a year of growth and impact for our Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Council, with more than 1,500 employees participating in D&I training initiatives.

It was also a year in which May was ranked number 26 on The Commonwealth Institute’s list of Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts [see article on page 2], and Dr. Solotar was honored as a “Woman of Influence” by Boston Business Journal.

“While I’m pleased with our past successes, I’m even more excited about the future,” said Dr. Solotar. “Our new five-year strategic plan includes exciting goals and initiatives such as expanding our global outreach.”

May Institute and its National Autism Center have been selected to participate in the U.S. State Department’s Speaker Program, and several of our clinicians have already traveled to the Middle East to provide training and consultation. [See article on page 1.]

For more FY16 highlights, see pages 6–7.

Executive-level strategist joins May Institute

Carol Molina has joined May Institute as Senior Vice President of Business Development. Molina comes to us with more than 25 years of brand marketing, business development, and strategic planning experience.

“As a vital member of our executive leadership team, Carol will identify, develop, and implement market-driven strategies to help us meet the national and international demand for services for individuals with autism and other special needs,” said Dr. Ralph B. Sperry, May’s Chief Operating Officer.

Prior to joining May Institute, Molina was Vice President of Global Marketing and Strategy for Partylite Worldwide, Inc. She has also held executive-level marketing, business development, and brand management positions at The First Years, Inc., Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., and PepsiCo, Inc. Molina received her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Boston College, and her master’s degree in Business Administration from Babson College.

We welcome Carol to our organization!
Giving@MAY

Pathway to the May

Pathway to the May is our new commemorative brick program promoting the “MAY You Be Healthy” health and wellness initiative. It will raise funds for physical activities, and sporting and outdoor equipment for three May Center Schools for Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

PURCHASE A BRICK TODAY!
mayinstitute.org/Pathway

Your brick will be installed in a special walkway at a program of your choice, where visitors, friends, staff, and families will see it each day.

Available in two sizes, the commemorative bricks are engraved with your personal message. You can honor your son or daughter, brother or sister. You might purchase a brick to celebrate special achievements, highlight a birthday or graduation, or recognize a loved one (“in memory of”). Other possibilities include dedicating a brick to a special teacher or staff member, or sharing a favorite quote.

Our **Pathway Brick** is a 4” x 8” brick that can have up to three lines of wording and 20 characters per line. The price is $150.

The **Stepping Stone Brick** is an 8” x 8” brick that can have up to six lines of wording and 20 characters per line. The cost is $350 per brick.

For questions, please contact giving@mayinstitute.org or 781-437-1247.

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The Kessler Foundation recently awarded May Institute and our National Autism Center a $250,000 grant to fund "Meaningful Jobs," a workforce development initiative that will identify, train, and support people with autism spectrum disorder for employment in the security industry. May Institute will collaborate with Boston-based WORK Inc. on this initiative, which will provide employers with the tools and training needed to supervise those individuals.

The May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph has launched a fundraising appeal to support the construction of a splash pad water park on the campus. This site will provide an area for play, and also be a resource for the sensory needs of our students, allowing them to explore and to learn concepts of science and math. Work will begin on the site in the spring. To learn more and to donate, visit www.mayinstitute.org/splashpad.

May Institute was awarded grants from Florida’s Autism Services Council, the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the HEAL Foundation, and the Million Dollar Roundtable for its MAY You Be Healthy initiative, which promotes physical activity and healthy lifestyles for our students in May Center Schools and individuals in our Adult Services programs. We plan to purchase gym and physical fitness equipment as well schedule physically-active field trips throughout the year.

May Institute’s goal is to provide a highly motivating and supportive environment in which individuals with autism can improve developmental skills including physical fitness, gross motor, cognitive, and social/emotional skills.

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#TeamMay to run the 2017 Falmouth Road Race

May Institute is proud to be selected as a benefiting charity of the 2017 New Balance Falmouth Road Race. We are grateful to be part of the Race’s “Numbers for Nonprofits” program for the sixth year in a row. Last year, our team of dedicated runners raised more than $15,000 for the programs and services of the May.

This year, #TeamMay is 20 runners strong. The team hopes to raise $20,000 by race day on August 20th.

To make your donation and learn about the team, visit www.mayinstitute.org/falmouth.

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Our 2016 runners gathered for a photo and encouragement before going the distance.
May Institute welcomes prominent autism researcher

**Cynthia M. Anderson**, Ph.D., BCBA-D, has joined May Institute as Senior Vice President of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Dr. Anderson holds a joint appointment as Director of the National Autism Center (NAC) at May Institute.

Dr. Anderson’s responsibilities include consultation and support to clinical staff in all areas of ABA. This includes addressing deficits in social communication and interaction, restricted or repetitive behavior, and problem behavior. She provides direct consultation and also oversees systems to enhance implementation of ABA at May Institute. In addition, Dr. Anderson oversees applied research at May and the dissemination of evidence-based practices through NAC.

“Dr. Anderson has an international reputation for excellence in the fields of ABA and positive behavioral interventions and supports, two areas of critical importance for May Institute,” said Deidre Donaldson, Ph.D., ABPP, May Institute’s Chief Clinical Officer. She is the Principal Investigator of the Massachusetts site of a federal grant funded project, Students with Autism Accessing General Education (SAAGE). [See article below.]

Dr. Anderson’s work has been published in many peer-reviewed journals including *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, *The Behavior Analyst*, and *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports*.

She serves as the Applied Representative on the Executive Council of the Association for Behavioral Analysis International, and is the Representative-at-Large for Division 25 of the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Anderson received received her Master’s and doctoral degrees in Clinical-Child Psychology from West Virginia University. She is a licensed psychologist and doctoral-level Board Certified Behavior Analyst. ■ ■ ■

**MULTI-SITE RESEARCH PROJECT SUPPORTS STUDENTS WITH AUTISM**

May Institute is currently involved in a federally funded research project focused on school-based interventions for students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

**Dr. Cynthia Anderson**, Director of NAC, is the Principal Investigator on a 3-year, $1.5M grant funded by the Department of Education's Institute for Education Sciences.

Through this project, Dr. Anderson and her colleagues at University of Rochester Medical Center and University of South Florida are...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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**Study Open to Massachusetts Families of Children with Autism**

May Institute and the Center for Autism Research Excellence (CARE) at Boston University (BU) have partnered on a study to help fill a critical gap in research and treatment. We invite area families of children, ages 5–20, with autism to be part of this important work.

“AppLES,” (Apps for Language Enhancement Study) is being conducted by prominent researcher Dr. Helen Tager-Flusberg and her research team at BU, and supported by neuropsychologist **Beth A. Jerskey**, Ph.D., Vice President of Professional Training and Research at May Institute, who is collaborating on recruitment efforts and the writing and dissemination of study results. It explores how mobile apps for tablets may enhance language and communication in minimally verbal children and adolescents with autism, and possibly lead to better ways of measuring language use in all individuals with autism.

“Our collaboration with CARE at BU allows us to combine our resources to advance an area of the field that is vitally important to our community,” said Dr. Jerskey.

The study is expected to run for approximately 15 weeks, from enrollment to completion. At its conclusion, families will keep the Kindle Fire tablet they used during the study, and receive a one-year subscription to ABC Mouse, toys, and a gift card in appreciation of their participation.

To learn more about the requirements for the study or to sign up, please contact the CARES team at buapples@bu.edu, or call 617-358-4941. ■ ■ ■
2016 BY THE NUMBERS

AT A GLANCE]

ANNUAL REVENUE
$115.1M+

IMPACT]

5,859 INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES SERVED

68,595 STUDENTS benefiting from POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS [PBIS]

325 PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATORS TRAINED

146 SCHOOLS receiving PBIS SERVICES

AWARENESS & EDUCATION]

PUBLISHED
1,120 MEDIA ARTICLES, EXPERT COLUMNS, & PRESS RELEASES

1,513 EMPLOYEES participated in Diversity & Inclusion TRAINING INITIATIVES

REACHED
759,000+ LISTENERS on WBUR 90.9FM, Boston’s NPR station

Graphic as published in May Institute’s 2016 Annual Report
2,036 EMPLOYEES

HOW YOU HELPED

$753,435 RAISED through gifts from individuals, corporations, foundations, and community partners

- 1,589 INDIVIDUAL GIFTS made
- 179 CORPORATE & FOUNDATION donors
- $195,614 in IN-KIND DONATIONS
- 617 GIFTS designated to SCHOOLS and CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS
- 45 GIFTS designated to ADULT SERVICES
- 151 GIFTS designated to NAC*

210 NEW IPADS/TABLETS for use by individuals served and clinical staff in our programs

More than 1.8M VIEWS of our content across social media channels

159,463 DOWNLOADS/PAGEVIEWS from our NAC* website about AUTISM TREATMENT RESOURCES

TOP FIVE COUNTRIES outside the U.S. most frequently accessing our websites:

1. CANADA
2. AUSTRALIA
3. UNITED KINGDOM
4. RUSSIA
5. INDIA

*National Autism Center at May Institute
CALIFORNIA PROGRAMS EXPAND WITH MAY CENTER FOR ABA SERVICES

Families in the Central Coast, Central Valley, and Bay Area who have children with autism are now able to access critical behavioral services from May Institute that will make a positive impact in the lives of their loved ones.

The new May Center for ABA Services provides intensive applied behavioral services in home and community settings to children and adolescents diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and other special needs. Clinicians trained in applied behavior analysis work closely with families to identify goals for treatment that improve communication as well as social, leisure, and self-help skills. We also work to reduce challenging behaviors that may impact a child’s ability to be successful at home and in the community.

Center staff also provide school consultation services to local school districts. Our behavior analysts work with school staff and family members to coordinate and enhance educational and behavioral services for children and adolescents with a wide range of diagnoses.

The center expands our footprint in California, where we already educate students at The Bay School in Santa Cruz, one of May Institute’s four schools for children with autism and other developmental disabilities. (The other three schools are located in Massachusetts.)

A variety of payment options are available for families, including many commercial insurance plans and private pay options.

To learn more, visit www.mayinstitute.org/abacalifornia.

Our school for brain injury has a new name

Exciting news! As you can see from the logo below, the May Center School for students with brain injury has a new name!

This change is part of an effort to more clearly describe the school’s mission and the broad range of students we support.

Established in 1992, the May Center School for Brain Injury and Neurobehavioral Disorders is one of only a handful of pediatric programs in the United States focusing on both education and rehabilitation of children and adolescents with brain injury or neurological disease. Through the years, we have expanded the scope of our clinical and educational expertise to include individuals with a broad range of neurobehavioral disorders.

Today, we successfully educate children, adolescents, and young adults, ages 5–22, with complex needs and co-occurring diagnoses. These young people often require a combination of physical, medical, cognitive and social/behavioral therapies.

We serve students with diagnoses including autism spectrum disorder and genetic, seizure, mood, intellectual, neurodevelopmental, and chromosomal disorders.

To learn more about this school, visit www.brocktonschool.mayinstitute.org.
Center for Early Childhood Services Opens in Randolph

May Institute’s new May Center for Early Childhood Services, a day program for children ages 2.6 to 5 with autism spectrum disorder, has been so popular that plans to expand are underway.

The four-hour sessions feature one-on-one instruction incorporating the principles of applied behavior analysis. Each child’s instructional program is individualized and based on his or her assessment and treatment objectives. Therapists use naturalistic and discrete trial instruction, and focus on teaching social and play skills such as taking turns.

“Studies show that treatment during the first years of child’s life can significantly impact his or her long-term prognosis, particularly in the areas of language and social behavior,” said Assistant Clinical Director Ann Essig, M.S., LABA, BCBA. “Our program is unique because students have the opportunity to interact with typically developing peers who are integrated into the classroom during developmentally appropriate activities.”

The May Center has been approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and is licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. Services are funded through families’ insurance plans and the Massachusetts Health and Human Services’ Early Intervention Program for children under the age of 3.

Learn more at www.mayinstitute.org/earlychildhood or call 781-437-1331.

MAY CENTER SCHOOLS ON THE MOVE!
Woburn moves to Wilmington; West Springfield to relocate in Summer 2017

Due to increased demand for our services, the May Center Schools for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Woburn and West Springfield, Mass., are expanding and moving to new locations!

Students have already moved to our brand new facility at 50-E Concord Street in Wilmington, only 4.5 miles from our former Woburn location. The new location at 48 Capital Drive in West Springfield is scheduled for completion this summer. Both facilities will allow us to greatly expand while maintaining the exceptional educational services families have come to expect.

Both properties feature gross motor skills rooms, adaptive gymnasiums, library/media centers, and art/music rooms.

Enhanced Vocational and Employment Programs, include a fully functional kitchen and expanded capacity for vocational training at the Wilmington location. A life skills apartment suite and a school store will be on-site at the West Springfield location.

The Wilmington and West Springfield locations boast 22,000 and 17,000 square feet of space respectively, almost doubling the square footage of both schools.

The Wilmington location offers a new 3,000-square-foot outdoor play area.

OUR STAFF WILL BE ABLE TO DO EVEN MORE TO EDUCATE STUDENTS AGES 3 – 22 WITH EXPANDED OFFERINGS, INCLUDING:

- Both properties feature gross motor skills rooms, adaptive gymnasiums, library/media centers, and art/music rooms.
- Enhanced Vocational and Employment Programs, include a fully functional kitchen and expanded capacity for vocational training at the Wilmington location. A life skills apartment suite and a school store will be on-site at the West Springfield location.
- The Wilmington and West Springfield locations boast 22,000 and 17,000 square feet of space respectively, almost doubling the square footage of both schools.
- The Wilmington location offers a new 3,000-square-foot outdoor play area.
May Institute and our National Autism Center are committed to raising awareness about autism and disseminating scientific information that people can use to make well-informed choices with and for their loved ones on the autism spectrum.

One way we do this is by sharing articles written by our clinical experts with as many people as possible. We submit them to numerous publications, post them in the Topic Centers on our websites, and share them via social media. Written in accessible and practical language, these articles provide important information on a range of topics including diagnosis, early intervention, effective treatment, and everyday living strategies for individuals and families living with autism spectrum disorder.

We highlighted one of these articles every day during Autism Awareness Month in April in a series called “A Closer Look at Autism: 30 Days, 30 Topics.” Featured authors included: Jenna Garvey, M.Ed., BCBA; Sarah Helm, M.A., LABA, BCBA; Erica Kearney, M.A., BCBA; Serra Langone, M.S., M.Ed., BCBA; Nancy Lunden, LCSW; Jaimie March, B.A.; Paul Someone, M.A., CCC-SLP; Meg Walsh, M.A., BCBA; and Sarah Weedle, Ph.D., LABA, BCBA.

To view the entire series, visit www.mayinstitute.org/30topics30days.
Leadership in the Commonwealth

Dr. Putnam named President-elect of MassABA

Congratulations to Robert F. Putnam, Ph.D., LAAB, BCBA-D, Executive Vice President of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports and Consultation for May Institute. Dr. Putnam is serving as President-Elect of the Massachusetts Association of Applied Behavior Analysis (MassABA). MassABA represents more than 700 ABA professionals.

At May Institute, Dr. Putnam currently leads a systems-wide change initiative entitled Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Its goal is to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of behavior and clinical supports across the organization and in schools across the country.

Dr. Putnam also serves as Senior Vice President of Research and Consultation at the National Autism Center at May Institute (NAC), and was an Expert Panelist on the National Standards Project of the NAC. In addition, he serves as a national implementation partner with the Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Program’s National Technical Assistance Center for PBIS (www.pbis.org).

“Bob is an innovative leader who has distinguished himself in the fields of positive behavior supports and applied behavior analysis,” said Dr. Lauren C. Solotar, President and Chief Executive Officer of May Institute. “His role as President-Elect for the MassABA is a great honor for him and for May Institute.”

Dr. Putnam consults nationally and internationally in China, Canada, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, and Oman.

notable news

- Chief Information Officer Kevin More, M.B.A., was featured in CIO’s article, “10 Years of the iPhone: How Apple Changed Pretty Much Everything in the Enterprise.” More weighed in on the use of Apple’s products in business.

- In the Marblehead Reporter article, “Marblehead School’s Behavior Program Fosters Positive Change,” Christine Downs, M.Ed., Director of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, addressed creating a culture in which students do better emotionally and academically.

- Ethan Kichura, B.S., LSCI, Educational Technology Specialist for the May Center Schools is quoted in the online magazine, Bright. In the article, “Breakthrough Communication Apps Give Hope to Autistic Students: Brain Interface Technology May Let Nonverbal Kids Speak,” Kichura addressed the goal of communication.

- The Oman Daily Observer and Times of Oman have covered the trainings and presentations that May Institute staff have conducted in the region. [See story on page 1.]

- The article, “Behavioral Traps and How to Avoid Them,” was authored by Sarah Helm, M.A., BCBA and published in the Republican. Helm is the Clinical Director at the May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in West Springfield, Mass.

- CNN’s online article, “Stores Offer Quiet Shopping for Families of Kids with Autism,” quoted Candice Colón-Kwedor, Ph.D., LAAB, BCBA. She stressed the importance of experiences in public on children’s development. Dr. Colón-Kwedor is the Senior Clinical Director at the May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph, Mass.

- CBS Boston featured the segment, “Sensitive Santa Meets Children with Autism in Foxboro.” The piece highlighted the Bass Pro Shops and May Institute partnership. Mary Tiernan, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy, was interviewed.

- Ashley Clarke, M.S., OTR/L, a Occupational Therapist at the May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph, Mass., was featured in Bay State Parent’s “How You Can Help Children With Autism Enjoy the Holiday Season.”

- Randolph Herald, Fall River Herald News, and Taunton Daily Gazette published the column, “Limited, Supervised Screen Time Can Be Beneficial for Young Children.” It was authored by Paul Simeone, M.A., CCC-SLP, the Director of Allied Health Services at the May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph, Mass.

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to May Institute during the year! We are grateful to the individuals profiled in the pages of the report, and to their families for sharing their stories. They bring our mission to life.

You may view our 2016 annual report at www.mayinstitute.org/annualreport.

Join our online community!

We invite you to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. We’d love to connect with you!

Twitter
twitter.com/mayinstitute

Facebook
facebook.com/mayinstitute

LinkedIn
linkedin.com/company/the-may-institute

YouTube
youtube.com/mayinstitute6

Instagram
instagram.com/mayinstitute

ABOUT MAY INSTITUTE

Founded in 1955, May Institute has its roots in a family’s vision of enabling children with disabilities to lead the fullest lives possible.

Today, May Institute provides educational, rehabilitative, and behavioral healthcare services to individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities, brain injury and neurobehavioral disorders, and other special needs. May Institute also provides training and consultation services to professionals, organizations, and public school systems.

Our programs touch the lives of thousands of individuals and their families each year at more than 140 service locations across the country.

Together with the National Autism Center at May Institute, we are committed to identifying and applying universal standards for the treatment of autism and to providing care and hope to families throughout the country.