

Autism Discovery Institute

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WHAT'S NEW

The Autism Discovery Institute, in its new building, has grown not only in size but also in the number of programs and services offered to families.

•Social skills groups:

- **Hi Fives*— a coed group for 4-6 year olds
- **Girl Talk*—for girls ages 10-12
- **Meet Up*—a coed group for 10-12 year olds, a collaboration with Rady Children's Outpatient Psychiatry Department

•**Intensive behavioral therapy:** This intervention is for children ages 3-10 with severe behavioral challenges including aggression or self-injurious behavior and involves both parent and child.

•**Insurance funding:** We are making progress in securing insurance funding for intervention services at the Autism Discovery Institute. BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) services should be covered by some insurance plans soon!



MEET THE DIRECTORS

Drs. Aubyn Stahmer and Christina Corsello, are both licensed clinical psychologists and share responsibility for oversight of the Autism Discovery Institute (ADI). Both Drs. Stahmer and Corsello are actively involved in research, management of the program and clinical work. Dr. Stahmer specializes in early intervention and behavioral treatment and Dr. Corsello specializes in screening, diagnosis, and assessment. Both are committed to providing the highest quality care through the ADI, by providing ongoing support and training to staff, integrating research and practice and coordinating care.

"We feel fortunate to have a talented and dedicated team, support from Rady Children's Hospital to realize our vision, and strong relationships with community agencies. "



TODAY'S TIP: Focus on Behavior—Provided by ADI Behavioral Specialist, Colleen Heider

Pay **more** attention to behaviors you would like to see more of, and whenever possible, ignore problem behaviors. Remember... consistency is KEY!

RESEARCH CORNER

The **REACH Project** is a new genetic study at UCSD and Rady Children's Hospital investigating genetic links to childhood developmental and behavioral conditions. Participation involves a one-time appointment with a quick blood draw, 3D picture of the child's head, and behavioral questionnaires.

For more information about our research programs, visit our website at www.rchsd.org/autism.

Learn more about Dr. Sebat's research:

- <http://psychiatry.ucsd.edu/faculty/jsebat.html>

RECENT RECOGNITIONS

The Autism Discovery Institute was recognized by Supervisor Pam Slater-Price on behalf of the County of San Diego and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors for outstanding service, leadership and commitment to children with autism. We are very honored to receive this recognition.



If you did not receive this newsletter directly and would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you would like to unsubscribe, please email Linda at lkmartin@rchsd.org.