



## Let's Grab Coffee With

**SUE HOMAN**

VICE PRESIDENT OF CHILDREN'S CLINICAL SERVICES

Summer is flying by! Children's Services has been aptly renamed to Children's Clinical Services, which includes our 5 Early Intervention (EI) programs, our growing ABA Autism Services, and our newly created KDC Therapies program. One of KDC's goals is to ensure quality services for a lifetime; here is how the programs in Clinical Children's Services are making an impact for life!

Early Intervention provides support and education to families from the time their child is born until they are three years old. During these first three years, there are a variety of skills and developmental milestones children face. If the child is presenting with any challenges meeting the typical milestones, it can affect a child's learning in astounding ways. Helping parents make small corrections to get the child back on track is essential!

One of the more prevalent neurological developments is the onset of Autism. Our ABA Autism Services program staff have been providing support to families with this diagnosis for over 5 years. In October 2021, ABA Autism Services was awarded contracts from the Department of Public Health to partner with 4 out of 5 EI sites. These contracts allow us to support families who have recently received an autism diagnosis. This collaboration between EI and ABA Autism Services providers brings in new opportunities to effectively help families adjust to their new normal. It also allows families to stay with their ABA Autism Services provider after they no longer qualify for EI services at age three.

However, the majority of the children seen in EI do not have an autism diagnosis, and they may not qualify for a program with the school district. This is why we are launching the KDC Therapies program. Led by Julie Robinson OTR/L and Jessica Hanna OTR/L, this pilot program will start at the Attleboro office. KDC Therapies will offer speech and occupational therapies to children and teens ages 2-18.

KDC is proud to provide support for successful growth and development through these Children's Clinical programs.

## HBD! AND MANY MORE

Shoutout to our September and October birthdays, Happy Birthday!

### SEPTEMBER

Remya Suraj	Phyllis Donovan
Kathryn King	Teodara Veleva
Molly Chvatal	Caitlin Winslow
Sophia Edmonds	Jody Jacques
Alison Crippen	Michelle MacNeil
Peter O'Connell	Danielle Parrettie
Betsy Hunt	Heather Wickham
Linda Sarnia	Sandra Correia
Danielle Bassett	Leah Gage
Jennifer Wilson	Janet Bornstein
Monica Moura	Betty Dasher
Elizabeth Willey	Sarah Noia
Janelle Ciapocha	Sandy Martins
Zuziak	Camryn Gallagher
Nicole Pereira	Mariah Nolan
Jennifer Blancato	

### OCTOBER

Jina Ibrahim	Leticia Demello
Sarah Botieri	Anita Bullard
Brittani Campbell	John Read
Lindsay Beise	Bridget Delaney-Messana
Donna Poth	Lisa Lopes
Hilary Gebbia	Marilyn Vega Ortiz
Sharon Vieira	Chelsey Gilbert
Steven Suarez	Nancy Manty
Meredith Whittington	Grace Almeida
Haily Arruda	Carol Cameron
Elizabeth Hamerski	Cynthia Powell
Lizabeth Klein	Maria Sacco
Brian Kearsley	Elizabeth Necchi-Santos
Lisa Sheedy	Courtney Morgan
Desiree Martinez-McKenley	



## Have You Registered Yet?

The **Walk for KDC** is this Sunday, October 2nd! Make your miles meaningful and raise critical funds for YOUR program. Your commitment has the power to empower!

Visit [www.WalkforKDC.org](http://www.WalkforKDC.org) for event details.

## Word on the Street

### GROWTH IN FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

The Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS) approved several new services earlier this summer. These services will allow KDC to support more families in creative ways through the Family Support Center program on Cape Cod.



Marcia Galavotti, Vice President of Community Developmental Services explains that DDS approached KDC about using funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to expand the Family Support Center with new program initiatives including Hotel Respite, School Vacation Camps, and a Drop-in Center. "These are very exciting initiatives! Nicole Pereira [Director of Family Support Center] and I were very pleased, as it shows the confidence DDS and our Cape community has in the center. Nicole and her team do an amazing job with oversight of these programs."

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), also known as the COVID-19 Stimulus Package, is a bill to help speed up the country's recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing recession.

Jennifer Jenson, Cape Cod & the Islands Area Director for DDS stated, "I'm very excited for these projects, and really appreciate KDC's willingness to work with us to make it happen!"

These new initiatives will bring in an additional \$270,000 to the Community Developmental Services division, led by Marcia Galavotti.



### SPIRIT MONTH SUCCESS

July was filled with KDC spirit! All KDC locations celebrated each themed week their own way. Thank you to everyone who participated, and special thanks to the Spirit Committee for their efforts!



### LOCAL PAINTER GIVES BACK

Local painter Leo D. Allen (right) generously donated several beautiful paintings that are now hanging up in program spaces in New Bedford. Take a trip to check them out in person!



### FUNDS RAISED FOR EARLY INTERVENTION

emBargo, a local Hyannis restaurant, held their 7th Annual Aston's Bloody Mary Mix-Off in April and donated 100% of proceeds to support the Early Intervention program for Cape Cod & the Islands. The fundraiser raised more than \$54,000!

### NEW FISH IN THE POND

Give a warm welcome to our newest KDC team members!

#### Janey Bornstein

Registered Nurse, Adult Foster Care

#### Vanessa Corkery

Behavior Therapist, ABA Autism Services

#### Cynthia Cronan

Visitation Facilitator, Family Visitation Center

#### Ricardo Da Cruz

Visitation Facilitator, Family Visitation Center

#### Cindia Delgado

Interpreter, Early Intervention-Southbridge

#### Justina Goncalves

Talent Acquisition Specialist, Human Resources

#### Kelly Henson

Case Manager, Individual Support

#### Brian Kearsley

Director of Training & Development, Human Resources

#### Zariah Lima

Developmental Specialist, Early Intervention- Cape Cod & the Islands

#### Molly McNamara

Developmental Specialist, Early Intervention- Southbridge

#### Eric Pires

Habilitation Aide, Day Habilitation

#### Kayla Purcell

Developmental Specialist, Early Intervention- Plymouth

#### Jennifer Ryan

Physical Therapist, Early Intervention- Plymouth

#### Catharine Rykowski

Physical Therapist, Early Intervention- Cape Cod & the Islands

#### Aubrey Sherman

Speech & Language Pathologist, Early Intervention- Plymouth

#### Alexis Souza

Case Manager, Intensive Foster Care

#### Meredith Whittington

Behavior Therapist, ABA Autism Services

## Meet

### Donna Dovell

Donna is the Contract Manager in Finance and has been with the KDC team for 4.5 years. We asked Donna to shed a little light on who she is and what she loves about being part of the KDC team.



#### What do you enjoy most about your job?

I really enjoy hearing stories from field staff on how their efforts have such positive impacts on the people we serve. Through their stories I feel the compassion, sense of responsibility, and how proud they are when individuals reach their milestones.

#### What advice can you give someone who is just joining the team?

Relax, get to know your peers and ask a lot of questions!

#### What's the next place on your travel bucket list?

Calabria.

#### Any binge-worthy shows or good reads you recommend?

House of the Dragon. Just began, so I'll let you know if it's any good!

#### What's the one meal you could eat every day for the rest of your life?

Native tomato salad sandwich.

#### What's one thing – industry-related or not – you learned in the last month?

Try to find gratitude and appreciate all that you have every day.

## MILE AFTER MILESTONE

Happy Work Anniversary! Here's to many more years to come!

### SEPTEMBER

Elizabeth Bitgood • 28 yrs  
Mary Case • 22 yrs  
Wendy Conway • 17 yrs  
Deborah Mota • 16 yrs  
Susan Renner • 15 yrs  
Kerstin Buchka • 14 yrs  
Andrea Depatie • 11 yrs  
Allison Rosendale • 11 yrs  
Gail Belaief • 10 yrs  
Tracie Layman • 10 yrs  
Beverly Beatty • 8 yrs  
Megan Coupland • 7 yrs  
Marcia Galavotti • 7 yrs

### OCTOBER

Kerry Grelle • 22 yrs  
Betty Dasher • 20 yrs  
Jennifer Theran • 19 yrs  
Laura Peck • 18 yrs  
Tricia Viveiros • 18 yrs  
Anthony Sumbury • 18 yrs  
Kendra Burr-Sangster • 17 yrs  
Jennifer Blancato • 16 yrs  
Grace Almeida • 13 yrs  
Jean Wright • 8 yrs  
Jill DeCarteret • 7 yrs  
Jennifer Jarvis • 6 yrs

## What You Ought to Know About

### ABA AUTISM SERVICES

ABA Autism Services supports individuals of all ages affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder. It uses data-informed interventions to teach new skills and decrease behaviors that are disruptive or can negatively impact learning. Here are a few things you may or may not already know about ABA Autism Services!

- ABA Autism Services is a DDS funded program
- Referrals can be made by DDS, Early Intervention, insurance-based funding sources, and medical professionals
- In-home and community-based personalized services are offered
- People can benefit from ABA interventions at any age

“ABA Autism Services is a multifaceted approach which caters to strengths while encouraging opportunities to teach socially meaningful behavior. We have some of the most dedicated professionals who are truly invested in the long-term success of the individuals we serve.”

**GINA SHEA, M.ED, BCBA, LABA**  
ABA AUTISM SERVICES DIRECTOR



Visit Mission Central

## Did You Know?

Want to know what Day Hab has been up to? Looking for information on KDC's mileage reimbursement policy? Or did you miss Lisa's weekly communication video and want to catch up? You can find it all on KDC's **Mission Central** Intranet!



**KDC**  
Kennedy-Donovan  
Center

Kennedy-Donovan Center  
1 Commercial Street  
Foxboro, MA 02035