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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Autism Center for Children Enters Second Season of Successful Partnership with Vanderbilt Kennedy Center

Autism Center's Main Office in Woodstock is Again Co-Presenting a Series of Free Workshops for Parents of Young Children Newly Diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Woodstock, GA – September 25, 2018 – Autism Center for Children, a practice advancing early diagnosis and treatment of autism in toddlers, today announced it is again partnering with Vanderbilt Kennedy Center's Treatment and Research Institute for Autism Spectrum Disorders (TRIAD) to deliver another season of its very successful Families First Program, a series of free workshops intended for parents of young children (ages 2-5) newly diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. These events will be live-streamed from Vanderbilt's main campus in Nashville, Tennessee to Woodstock, Georgia, where they are locally facilitated by Dr. Julie Crittendon and the expert staff at the Autism Center for Children. Like last year, the Families First workshops will occur on Saturday mornings, typically one per month. The next live-streamed event for Woodstock will be presented on Saturday, October 6, 2018.

The primary goal of Families First is to equip parents and caregivers with hands on, practical tools to support their child at home and in the community based in the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). This program is intended to be a place to start for families to set goals and apply strategies related to the topics presented. This information is provided in a structure where parents and caregivers have an opportunity to meet other parents of children with ASD with similar questions or concerns.

"We are very proud to partner with Vanderbilt TRIAD to again bring these workshops to Georgia families," declares Dr. Crittendon. "As always, it is our mission to provide autism services, resources and treatments that help deliver the most immediate, profound and lasting improvements in quality of life. This series of workshops has proven to better equip parents with the tools and information they most need after a recent diagnosis. You don't have to be a client of the Autism Center for Children, and perhaps best of all, these workshops are free."



The series of workshops are structured in a way where each topic can stand alone or families can attend multiple topics if they choose. During the workshops, information is presented to attendees and then families are placed into small groups where they collaboratively apply the strategies presented. Families are also given time to plan for their child and are provided with resources to bring home, such as visual supports and tip sheets, in order to more easily apply the ideas introduced during the workshop.

The fall portion of the 2018 schedule of workshop topics is as follows:

- Saturday, October 6, 2018: Teaching Safety Skills
- Saturday, November 3, 2018: Teaching Safety Skills
- Saturday, December 1, 2018: Developing Communication Skills

For more information on the Autism Center for Children or for these free workshop events, visit www.AutismCenterGA.com, follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AutismCenterGA and Twitter [@AutismAtlanta](https://twitter.com/AutismAtlanta), or call 678-996-4998.

About Vanderbilt TRIAD

The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center's Treatment and Research Institute for Autism Spectrum Disorders (TRIAD) is dedicated to improving assessment and treatment services for children with autism spectrum disorders and their families while advancing knowledge and training. Since its inception and through its evolution, TRIAD has provided services to thousands of children and families throughout Tennessee and beyond. TRIAD programs address community needs for cutting-edge information, high-quality support, and innovative interventions for children with autism spectrum disorders. TRIAD's specialized outreach staff provides training and direct consultation in state-of-the-art behavioral and educational assessment and intervention strategies in schools throughout the region.

About the Autism Center for Children

For parents concerned about their toddler's social communication development, the Autism Center for Children provides accurate identification and treatment of autism – at the earliest possible signs of detection – for the most immediate, profound and lasting improvement in their quality of life. Dr. Crittendon is a licensed clinical psychologist, Ph.D., BCBA-D, and the head of the Autism Center for Children. Her practice is a culmination of her work at Ole Miss, Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, University of Tennessee, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and with the Autism Partnership in California. The Autism Center for Children offers an increasing range of insurance coverage options for assessment and treatment of autism, and serves families in Atlanta and North Georgia from its main office in Woodstock, GA, located just off I-575 North at Exit 7 (Highway 92).

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