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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Center for Autism and Related Disorders Hosts Open House for CARD Virginia School,  
For Families of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders**

**VA, DC, MD, WV – JANUARY 16, 2012** The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) will host CARD Virginia School Open House events in the months of February and March for families of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs). An Open House will be held on February 9, 14, and 27 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, and on March 8, 14, 20, and 26 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. The CARD Virginia School is located at 5400 Shawnee Road, Ste. 208 in Alexandria. Light refreshments will be served and families will have the opportunity to tour the school and meet with managing staff and teachers.

CARD Virginia School's unique program for students 3 to 12 years of age offers enrollment for up to 12 students, with a one-to-one student-teacher ratio. The year round calendar includes approximately 215 days of instruction per year.

CARD Virginia School has an academic program built on excellence and coupled with our world-renowned autism treatment program. Founded in 2011, the CARD Virginia School is a Private Special Education Day School licensed by the Virginia Department of Education. The CARD Virginia School Curriculum is based on the Virginia Department of Education standards and is enhanced by CARD's web based program called Skills® which assesses each student's skills and any challenging behaviors that may impede a child's overall functioning and ability to learn. Once an assessment is completed, Skills designs an individualized curriculum to address development in eight main areas: academic, play, executive, cognition, social, motor, language and adaptive skills. Skills is being implemented by schools across the country including the Los Angeles Unified School District, the second largest school district in the nation.

"Our teachers are Board Certified Behavior Analysts and certified educators who have years of experience treating and teaching children with autism spectrum disorders. We are confident that the unique needs of each student is met, enabling them to perform consistently at their peak," says Managing Supervisor Mary Ann Cassell, MA, BCBA.

Registrations for 2012 will be accepted at the Open House. For more information about CARD Virginia School, visit: <http://virginia.centerforautism.com>.

**About the Center for Autism and Related Disorders:**

The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) is one of the world's largest and most successful organizations treating children with autism, Asperger's syndrome, PDD-NOS, and related disorders using state-of-the-art therapy. CARD treats autism using the principles and procedures of applied behavior analysis which has been empirically proven to be the most effective method for treating individuals with autism and is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the US Surgeon General. For more information about the Center for Autism and Related Disorders, visit: [www.centerforautism.com](http://www.centerforautism.com).

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