

Collaborating to Provide Services for Students with Autism in Public Schools

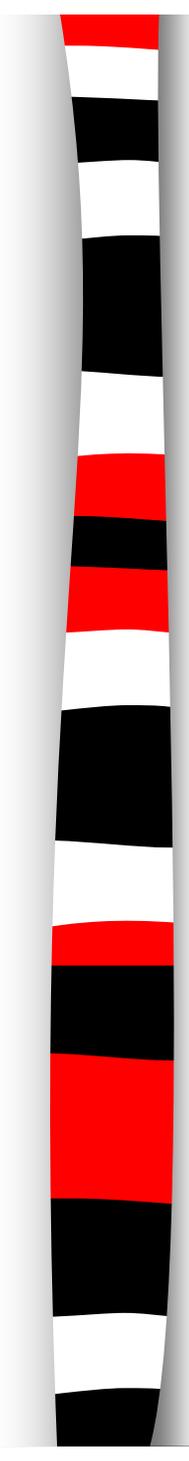


COMMONWEALTH *autism* SERVICE
leading the way



Shenandoah Valley Regional Program

- **Regional Non-Center Based**
- **Serves School Divisions of Augusta, Harrisonburg, Page, Rockingham, Shenandoah and Staunton**
- **Complements LEA Services**
- **Collaborative Partnerships**



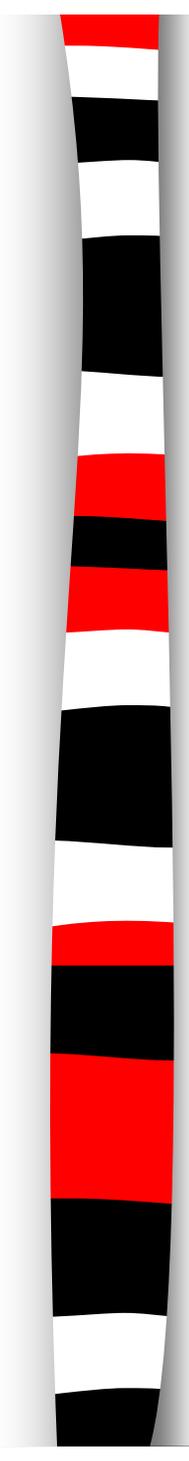
Need for Partnership

- Increased Identification
- Unique Instructional Needs
- Increased Litigation
- Focused Staff Development on Evidence-Based Methodologies



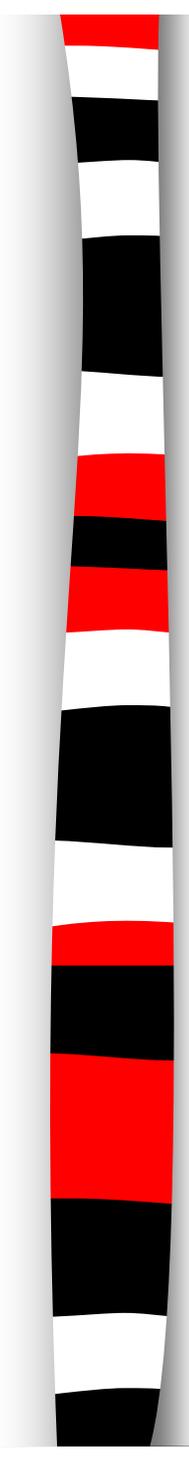
“White Paper”

- **Developed by Interdisciplinary Team**
- **Long-Term Action Plan for Evidence-Based Service Delivery**
 - Assessment
 - Instruction
 - Behavioral Intervention
 - Transition



Collaborative Efforts Between CAS and SVRP

- Strategic Planning
 - Needs Assessment
 - “White Paper”
- Staff Training
 - Characteristics
 - Classroom Structure/Organization
 - Assessment
 - Data Collection
 - Teaching/Behavior Management Strategies



Collaborative Efforts Between CAS and SVRP

- **Regional Autism Assessment Team**
 - Earlier Identification
 - Multidisciplinary Team Across Region
 - “Gold Standard” Assessment Tools
 - Fosters Parent/School Relationships



Impact

- Shared Philosophy
- Long-Term Plan
- Consistency of Services Across Region
- Focused Staff Development
- Increased Support for School Personnel



Outcomes

- Improved Services to Students
- Increased Local Capacity
 - Embedded Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs)
 - Shared Classrooms Among Divisions
 - Reduced Referrals for Out of District Placements
 - Additional Collaboration with CSA
- Cost-Effective
 - 153 students with moderate to severe autism
 - \$21,030 per student (Inclusive of \$2500 for CAS partnership)



Next Steps

- **Additional Partnerships to Increase BCBA/BCaBA Certification Options for Staff**
 - UMW
 - JMU
- **Continued Collaboration with CSA Administrators**
 - Local
 - State
- **Continued Collaboration with Commonwealth Autism Service to Achieve Our Most Important Goal.....**

