

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Daphne Plump  
Tel: (661) 478-6512  
Email: d.plump@centerforautism.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 18, 2013

**Encino Child Shows Remarkable Improvement with Intensive Autism Treatment  
Provided by Center for Autism and Related Disorders**

*Seven-year-old Riley Salz of Encino, California proves intensive applied behavior analysis (ABA) helps improve quality of life for individuals with autism; his family shares personal journey through Center for Autism and Related Disorders "Mission Possible: Portraits of Hope."*

**ENCINO, CA – JUNE 18, 2013** Seven-year-old Riley Salz of Encino, California is on the road to recovery from autism. He receives 40 hours a week of intensive, applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy (home services and school shadowing) from the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD). Riley has been in treatment with CARD since August 2008 and has seen remarkable developments, including learning to speak, starting conversations, making requests and commenting about his environment. Riley's personal journey through autism is now featured in CARD's "Mission Possible: Portraits of Hope" online series at {will plug in web address}.

When Riley was approximately nine months to a year old he would not point, didn't socialize, and speech did not exist. As he grew, challenging behaviors like excessive tantrums increased. "You know, you go to the pediatrician and they tell you that sometimes boys are slow or that things might take a while to come along," says his mother Monica Genewich. "But it was still not happening and right when he hit the 2-year-old mark, the wheels fell off the wagon. That's when I got some help."

Riley's family tried several autism treatment programs before finding CARD. "When we first began treatment with CARD, they said, 'Let's start off having Riley learn to sit down for two seconds'," says Monica.

CARD is considered the world's most effective treatment center using evidence-based, state-of-the-art therapy. CARD provides a variety of services based on the scientifically proven, applied behavior analysis (ABA) approach. Services include center-based treatment, home-based services and supervision, parent training, and school shadowing.

"CARD has a way of approaching every single problem you're going through, and really address the issues. When Riley began treatment with CARD, we immediately saw a difference, even with data keeping."

The comprehensive CARD model of treatment includes over 3500 lessons in eight areas of learning: academic, adaptive, cognition, executive function, language, motor, play, and social skills. In addition, the model's relationship-building, cognitive, and executive-functioning programs are known throughout the world for their focus on developing advanced skills such as perspective taking (i.e., inferring others' thoughts and feelings) and developing and maintaining friendships.

CARD has also developed and utilizes technology to increase access to autism treatment. Skills®, the online autism solution, was developed by CARD and is based on over 30 years of research on child development. CARD supervisors and therapists use the Skills program to assess a child's strengths and weaknesses, design a treatment plan, and track progress through integrated reports, graphs and timelines.

In August 2009, CARD researchers published "Retrospective Analysis of Clinical Records in 38 Cases of Recovery from Autism" in the Annals of Clinical Psychiatry, showing that recovery from autism is possible.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in 88 children in America is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), making autism more prevalent than juvenile diabetes, pediatric cancer and pediatric AIDS combined.

“If you think something is wrong, it’s not about you. Don’t bury your head in the sand,” says Monica. “Go get help because the help is out there to make your child’s life so much better.”

**About Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD):**

CARD treats individuals of all ages who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) with 25 treatment centers around the globe. CARD was founded in 1990 by leading autism expert and clinical psychologist Doreen Granpeesheh, PhD, BCBA-D. CARD treats individuals with ASD using the principles and procedures of ABA, which has been empirically proven to be the most effective method for treating individuals with ASD and is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the US Surgeon General. CARD employs a dedicated staff of over 1,000.

For more information about the Center for Autism and Related Disorders, visit: <http://www.centerforautism.com> or call (855) 345-2273.

###