

CRAAG

Charlottesville Region Autism Action Group

April 27th CRAAG Meeting Rescheduled to June 23rd!



Why Is the April Meeting Rescheduled?

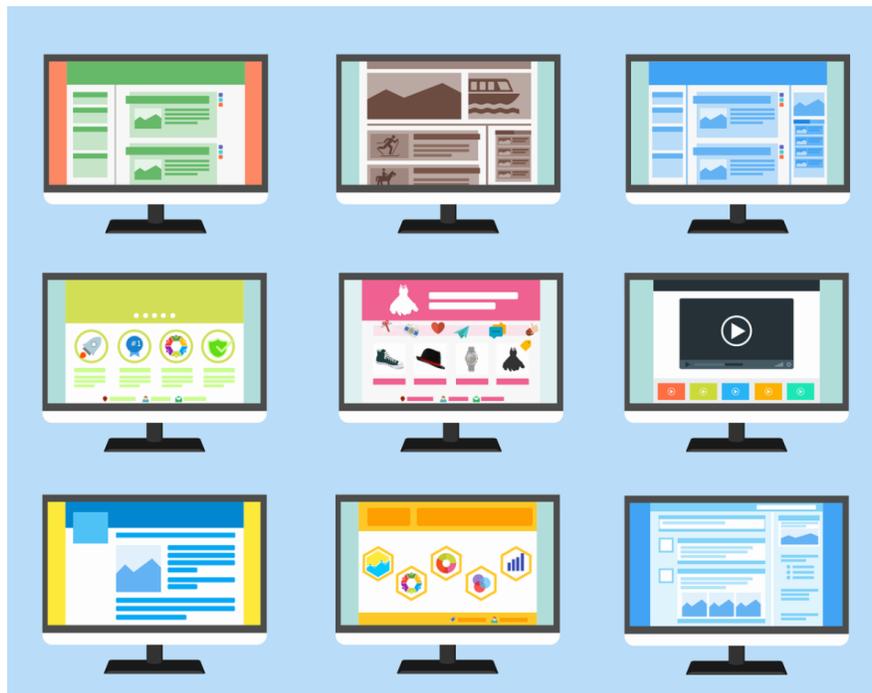
The General Assembly is still in special session, and until the FY23/24 budget is finalized, there is not a lot to discuss.

In the meantime, some updates from CRAAG:

- **24/7 Work Group** is paused pending the outcome of the FY23/24 budget.
- **Maximizing Independence Work Group** continues to meet monthly and make progress on community engagement activities.
- **Planning for Life After High School Work Group** is focusing on the **PREP/Albemarle County Public Schools Transition Conference and Fair** that takes place on Saturday, April 30th from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at PVCC. CRAAG will host an information table. There is still time to register for the Conference and Fair and complimentary lunch! [Register here.](#)

- This year CRAAG was one of the sponsors of **VIA's Run/Walk for Autism 5K** on April 16th. This is the first time we participated as a sponsor, and our table drew a sizeable number of race spectators and participants.
- Several CRAAG supporters attended the virtual **Annual SIS Stakeholder Meeting** on April 20th. The big news is that the **SIS-A** has been updated and Version 2 will roll out in early 2023. There is much to learn about the new **SIS-A-2**. CRAAG plans to keep our readers informed as information becomes available.
- Thanks to Cheryl Ribando for the very helpful list of **2022 Summer Activities In Charlottesville/Albemarle County**. [Download here](#).
- A quick reminder about **CA Human Services' Virtual 20th Annual Autism Conference** which runs from May 17th - June 17th. There is still time to register. Full registration is \$50 to \$125 (depending on whether you want CE's or not). [Download the Speakers and Conference Schedule here](#). [Register here](#).

Want to join a Work Group? [Email us!](#)
Questions about CRAAG? [Email us!](#)



**Next Virtual CRAAG Meeting is on
June 23rd from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Agenda and Zoom Link
Will Be Emailed In June!**

One focus of the June meeting will be to learn more about the services and role of the **Virginia Microboard Association**. CRAAG invited Kathy Matthews, Vice President of Family and Support Services and Co-Director of **Eli's Village** to speak to our group.

A Microboard is a novel approach. According to their website, "It starts with person centered planning and uses a self-determined model to develop and expand community connections. It consists of a team of like-minded people who assist in planning and supporting an individual by serving on the Microboard Board of Directors." [Click here](#) for more information about the Virginia Microboard Association.

Beginning in 2022, Eli's Village assumed responsibility for helping to educate families about Microboards after the Virginia Microboard Association closed. Eli's Village offers comprehensive life planning services for Special Needs Families. [Click here](#) for more information about Eli's Village.

**We hope you will join us in June
to learn more about Microboards, the
FY23/24 budget and more!**



April is for Autism

- Awareness**
- Acceptance**
- Action**

About CRAAG

CRAAG began in 2010 in collaboration with CA Human Services (formerly Commonwealth Autism). *CRAAG's mission is to raise awareness and enhance the quality of life for people with autism, developmental disabilities, and their families in Charlottesville City, Albemarle, Greene, Fluvanna, Louisa and Nelson counties.* We are a volunteer action group for families, self-advocates, and professionals who are interested in all age groups and levels of need. The daily concerns of CRAAG's active volunteers inform our focus on the needs of students transitioning out of high school, adults throughout the lifespan, and their families. Our advocacy is person-centered aimed at maximizing independent living with supports; meaningful employment; social connectivity; and community engagement. CRAAG's 2021 Housing survey initiated a years-long initiative in our region to expand the number of housing options, supports and services available to meet the needs of adults with developmental disabilities.

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