

October 2022

FEATURED NEWS



SAVE THE DATE

THE BLUEPRINT:
AN AUTISM AND IDD ENTREPRENEURIAL EVENT

MUSIC - PHOTOGRAPHY - ART - JEWELRY - GIFTS - MORE

11/30/22
10:00AM- 2:00PM

**The Blueprint: An Autism and IDD Entrepreneurial Event,
Nov. 30, 2022**

Save the date for this upcoming event hosted by the Coffeehouse, our program for adults with Asperger's and Autism.

Participants of the Coffeehouse are getting ready to wow attendees with fun music, colorful art exhibits and delicious treats.

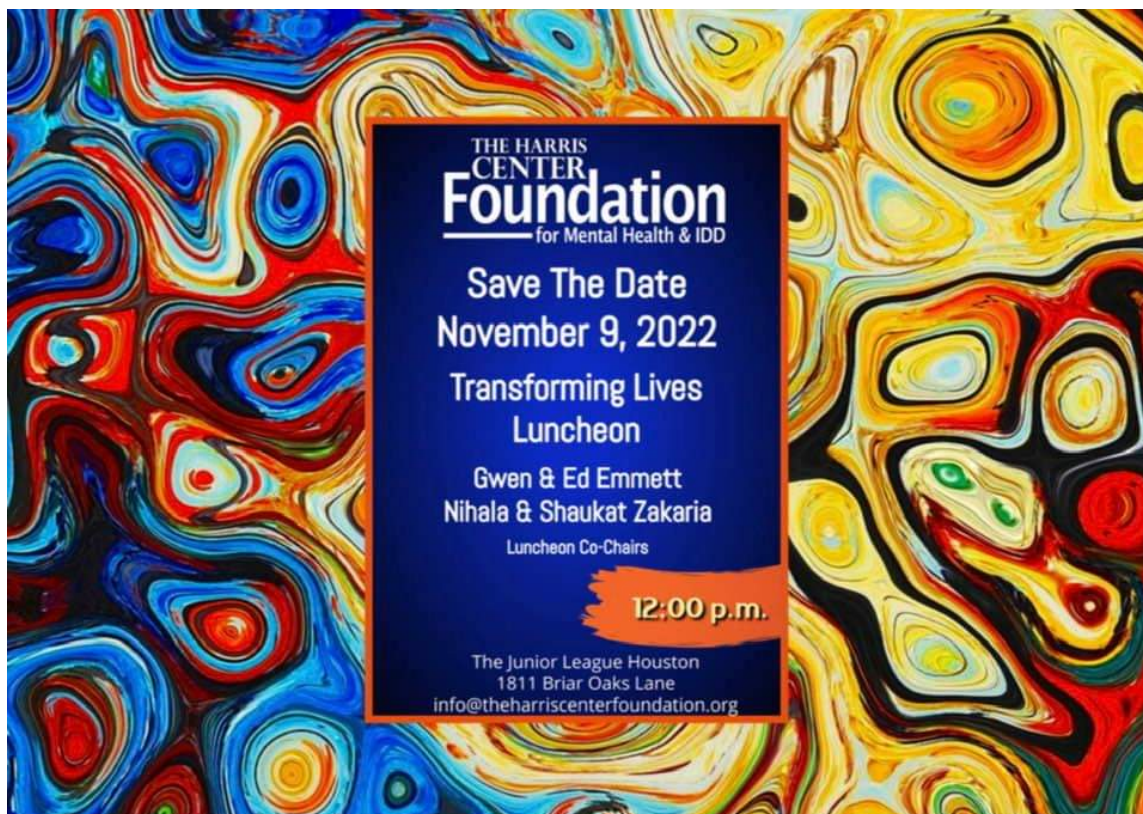
Come ready to knock things off your holiday shopping list with limited-edition hummingbird feeders, wreaths & flower arrangements, thank you & holiday cards, drawings and jewelry just to name a few!

You will have a delightful time and be inspired by three featured photography exhibits: "The Beauty of The Harris Center" "The Beauty of Houston" and "The Beauty of Autism".

Attendees will also get a chance to listen to "The Spectrum", a new podcast by the Coffeehouse.

There will also be door prizes - You can't miss out on all the fun!

The Coffeehouse provides Social skills and communication training for adults with Asperger's Disorder or autism and limited cognitive delays to facilitate employment and full community integration. Services include a "drop-in" model for people to attend discussions of relevant and interesting topics as their daily schedule allows, individualized treatment planning, peer monitoring, and psychological support.



Transforming Lives Luncheon, Nov. 9

Gwen & Ed Emmett and Nihala & Shaukat Zakaria invite you to the 1st Annual Transforming Lives Luncheon. This inaugural event will give participants the opportunity to learn more about The Harris Center Foundation and how it supports the important work of The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD.

Renowned writer and producer, Lisa Malosky, will lead luncheon-goers through a touching and enjoyable luncheon highlighting the significance of Mental Health & IDD services in our community.

[Reserve a Spot](#)



Vaccine Clinic for Clients

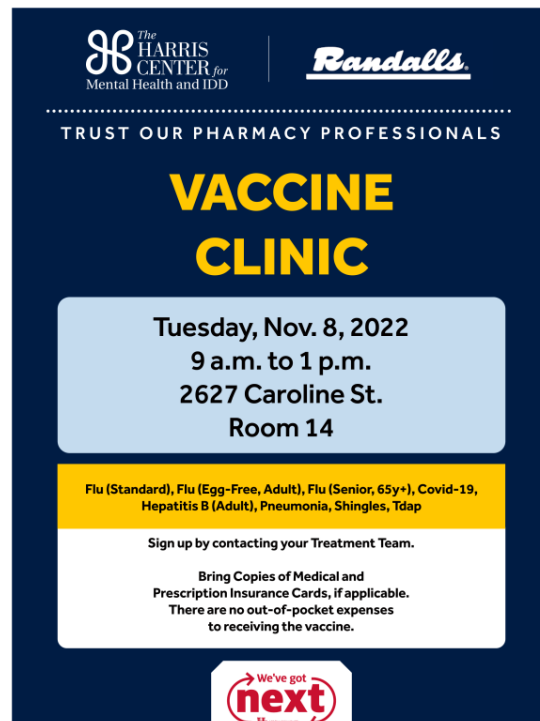
The Harris Center has partnered with Randall's to offer a vaccine clinic to the people we serve at our four outpatient mental health clinics.

The following vaccines will be offered at this vaccine clinic: Flu (Standard), Flu (Egg-Free, Adult), Flu (Senior, 65y+), Covid-19, Hepatitis B (Adult), Pneumonia, Shingles and Tdap.

Clients can register contacting their treatment team. Participants should bring copies of Medical and Prescription Insurance Cards, if applicable.

There are no out-of-pocket expenses to receiving the vaccine.

Help us spread the word
Download and share the event fliers



The flier is a dark blue rectangle with white and yellow text. At the top left is the logo for 'The HARRIS CENTER for Mental Health and IDD'. At the top right is the 'Randall's' logo. Below these is the text 'TRUST OUR PHARMACY PROFESSIONALS'. The main title 'VACCINE CLINIC' is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below that, in a light blue box, is the date and time: 'Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.' and the location: '2627 Caroline St., Room 14'. A yellow box lists the vaccines: 'Flu (Standard), Flu (Egg-Free, Adult), Flu (Senior, 65y+), Covid-19, Hepatitis B (Adult), Pneumonia, Shingles, Tdap'. Below that, in a white box, are instructions: 'Sign up by contacting your Treatment Team.', 'Bring Copies of Medical and Prescription Insurance Cards, if applicable.', and 'There are no out-of-pocket expenses to receiving the vaccine.'. At the bottom center is the 'next' logo with the tagline 'We've got next'.

The Harris Center Transformers are participating in this year's Buddy Walk!



The Harris Center Transformers are participating to show our support for more than 400,000 individuals with Down syndrome in the U.S. Every dollar we raise brings us

one step closer to ensuring that every individual will have the opportunity to reach their potential!

The fundraising efforts of this event will support local programs and services, as well as National Down Syndrome Society advocacy and public awareness initiatives that benefit all individuals with Down syndrome!

Make your tax-deductible donation today and take the first step toward helping us achieve our goal!

**Join the Harris Center Team Transformers
as we participate in this year's Buddy Walk!**

Event Date: Saturday, November 5, 2022

Time: 10am - 2pm

Location: Constellation Field, 1 Stadium Drive, Sugar Land, Texas 77498

Support The Harris Center Team Transformers



The Harris Center Hosted a Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon

The inaugural "Breast Cancer Awareness" luncheon held Oct. 19 was a huge success! Dr. Oke Oluchi, Assistant Professor, Department of General Oncology, Division of Cancer Medicine, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, was the guest speaker.

Dr. Oke presented an informational slideshow on the Stages of Breast Cancer and provided insightful answers to questions posed by attendees.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Power of Connection: Youth Peer Support in Texas



Published by Texas System of Care: Youth Peer Support Specialists (YPSS) draw upon their lived experience of behavioral health challenges and service use to connect, support, and inspire hope in a young person who is experiencing similar struggles. YPSS are near-age peers who occupy non-clinical roles and utilize their specialized training and personal and professional experiences of coping with, recovering from, and navigating resources and services for mental health, substance misuse, and/or trauma. Texas System of Care supports initiatives to incorporate lived experience and youth peer support into child-serving systems.

Special thanks to Gabby and her mom, Candy, for sharing their stories to inspire others, to Arianna for sharing about youth peer support, Eisenhower High School in Houston, and to The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD. This video would not have been possible without their generous contributions.

This video was created by Tishna Films, directed by Devon Foster, produced by Shuja Uddin, and funded by Texas System of Care to advance the integration of youth peer support in Texas. For more information, please visit <https://txsystemofcare.org>.

THE HARRIS CENTER IN THE MEDIA



The 988 crisis hotline is in demand. Crisis counselors deserve more help

The Harris Center for Mental Health, which houses the call center covering Southeast Texas, reported a 38 percent spike in the first six weeks of the 988 launch compared to the same time last year. Jennifer Battle, director of engagement at the Harris Center, told us their average answer time is less than 30 seconds. For people calling on a particularly rough day or night, these seconds matter.

[Read the Editorial](#)

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about The Harris Center?

Visit our website to learn more about our programs and services or view our [FY2022-2024 Strategic Plan](#) to see how we're working to transform lives in Harris County and beyond.

[Visit The Harris Center's Website](#)

Questions? Contact Communications@TheHarrisCenter.org.



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