

Virginia Autism LINKS: Leading Innovation through Navigation, Knowledge and Supports





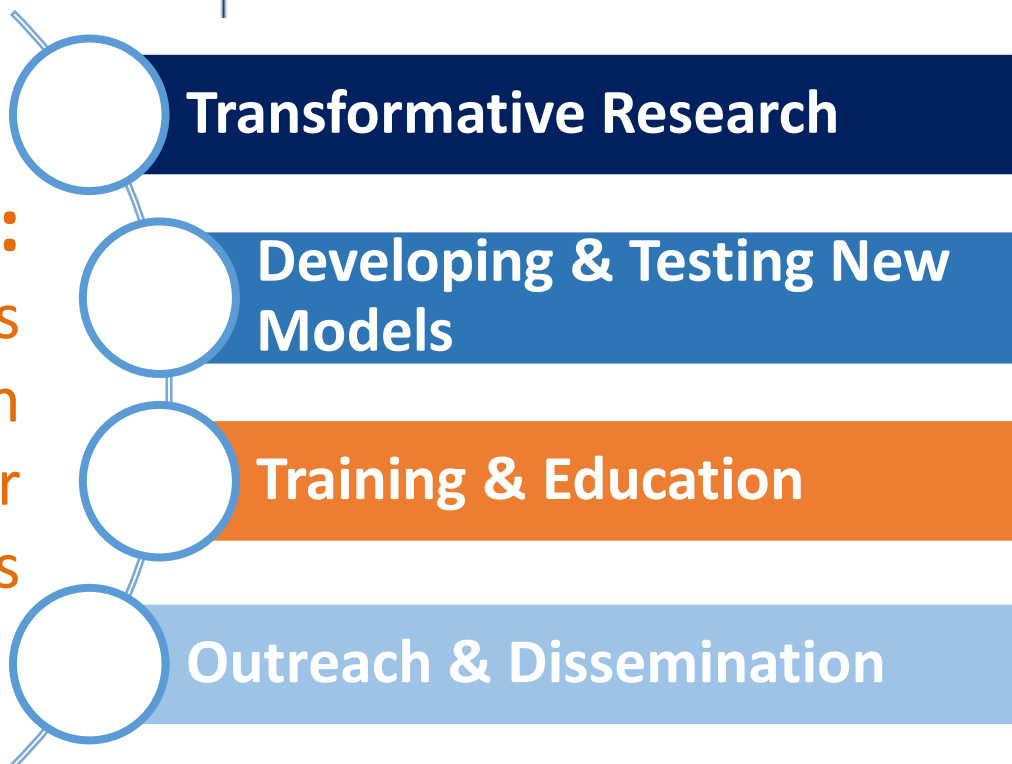
Broader UVA Programs



Supporting Transformative
Autism Research



BLUE RIDGE
— LEND —



STAR Mission:

To improve the lives of individuals with autism and their families



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Virginia Autism LINKS Goals

1. Improve access to **early identification & evidence-based care** for children with or at-risk for autism and other developmental disabilities (ASD/DD) in underserved areas
2. Increase access to **coordinated & integrated care** for children with/at risk for ASD/DD in underserved areas
3. Strengthen **knowledge & self-efficacy** in families of children with/at risk for ASD/DD in underserved areas



Virginia Autism LINKS Communities

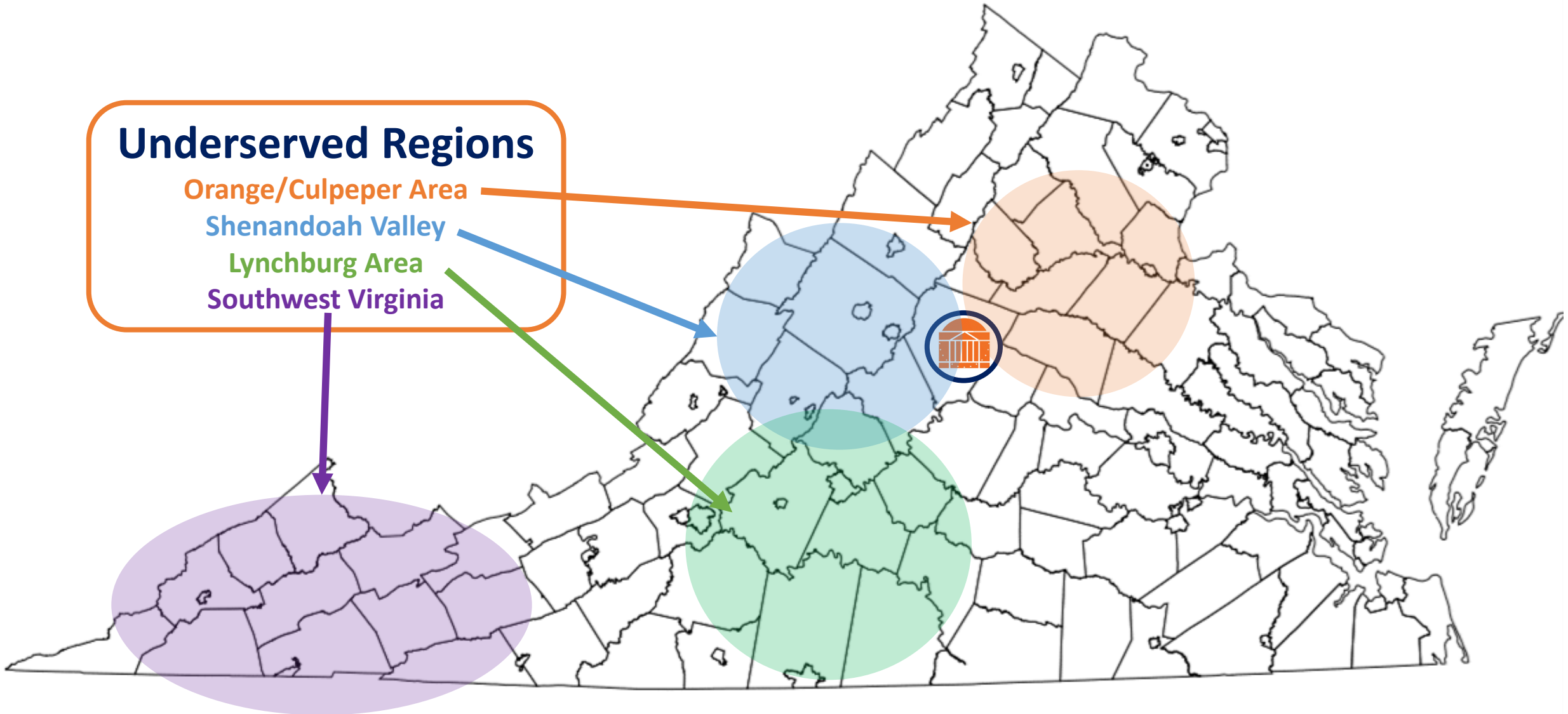
Underserved Regions

Orange/Culpeper Area

Shenandoah Valley

Lynchburg Area

Southwest Virginia

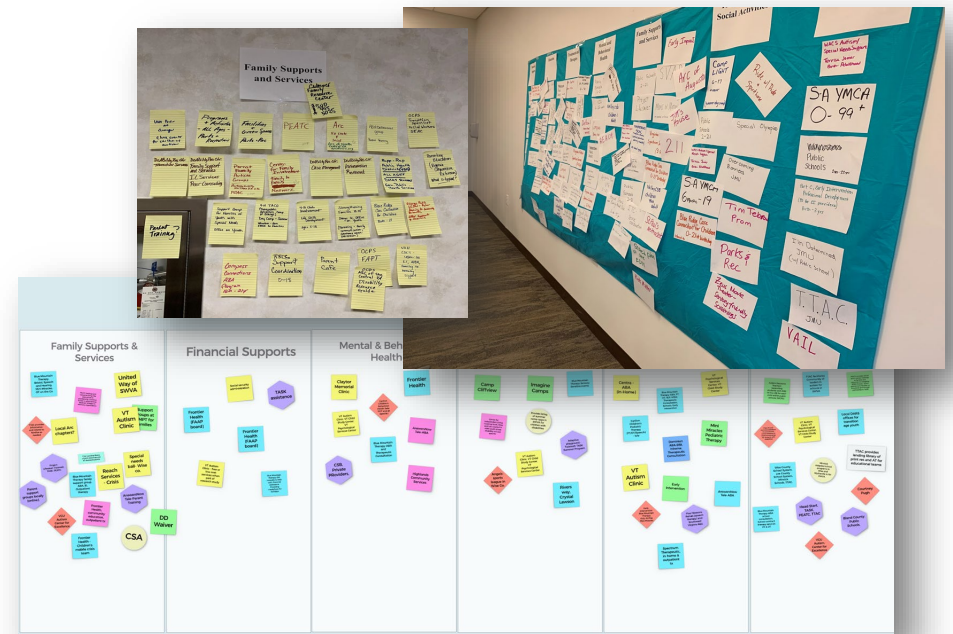


Community Engagement Process



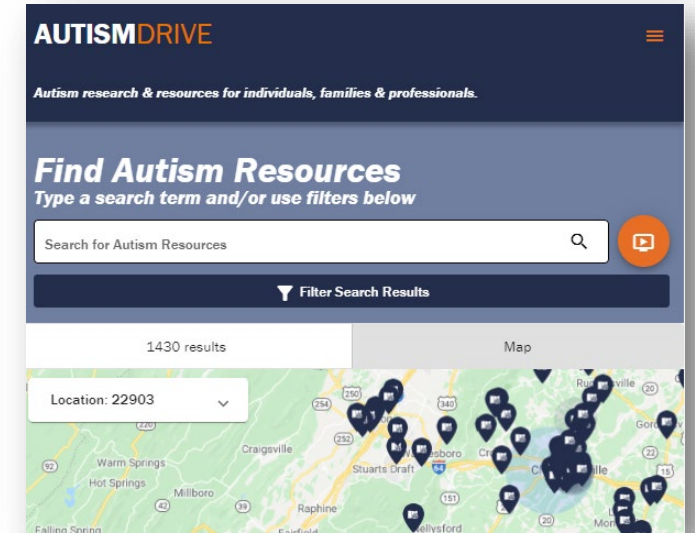
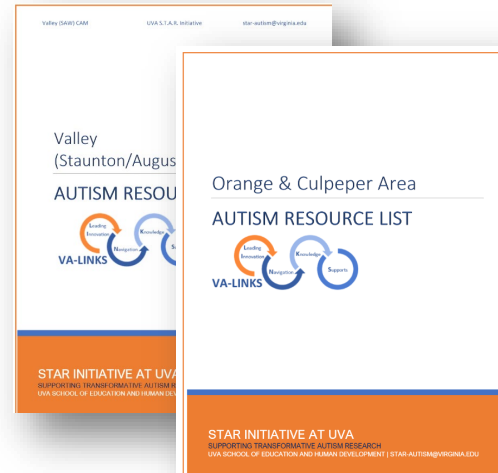
Community Asset Mapping

- **Strengthens, engages, and empowers communities**
 - Shifts focus from *deficits* to assets to build sustainable local change
- **Partner with community members to:**
 - Identify local assets, strengths, and capabilities
 - Identify priorities and goals
 - Work together to co-produce solutions



Family Navigation, Education & Outreach

- Resource Sharing
 - Resource lists and toolkits
 - Mappable online resources
- Family Education
 - Virtual family education
 - Newsletters
- Ongoing Support & Navigation
 - Emotional support/coaching
 - Care coordination
- Collaboration & Coordination



Tele-Mentoring & Virtual Learning Communities



ECHO Autism

Regular Virtual Sessions
Hub & Spokes
Case-based Learning
Best-Practice Didactics



Virtual Learning Community

Community-Identified Goals
Local Goal-Group Meetings
Monthly Virtual Learning Sessions

