

**Northern VA Region CoPA  
Action Plan  
2009**

**Definition of a Community of Practice**- “groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis” (Wenger, McDermott, & Snyder, 2002)

**CoPA Leader**: Lynne Blythe, LSM Rappahannock Rapidan & ITCRR Program Manager

**CoPA Core Group**: Lynne Blythe, LSM Rappahannock Rapidan, Alison Standring, LSM Rappahannock Area, Barbara Willard, LSM Shenandoah Region, Ginny Heuple, LSM Prince William, Robin Crawley, LSM Alexandria, Margaret Jones, LSM Arlington, Alan Phillips, LSM Fairfax-Falls Church, Marilyn Hoexter, LSM Loudoun

Local Core Group: Rappahannock Rapidan: Lynne Blythe, LSM Rappahannock Rapidan, Rebecca Phillips, Head Start Orange County, Linda Reid, parent, Leslie Maryk, parent, Casey Shelton, parent, Colette Reynolds, SLP, Kelly Hill, PT, and Christine Batchellor-McElroy, OT

**2009 Goals**

**Goal 1: Increase participation in Northern Region CoPA**

Objective 1- The Northern Region Core Group will recruit second CoPA Leader through local parent networks.

**Goal 2: Increase participation in local Northern Region CoPA**

Objective 1- Core group will identify established networks, email lists, and other community contact lists to link to CoPA.

Objective 2- Using contact information from this year’s CoPA activities, continue to build contact list through email, listserve, direct mail.

Objective 3- Core group will offer more choices in location and time of event for CoPA activities in order to encourage greater participation.

**Goal 3: Provide information and training to the community, professionals and families of children with ASD**

Objective 1- Based upon feedback from last year's CoPA events, hold at least 6 meetings (but not more than 9) addressing topics identified by last year's participants.

Objective 2- Share information developed from Northern Region CoPA (northern group led by Stephanie Kent)

Objective 3- Based upon comments from LSM Meeting of 04/17/09, partner with Alexandria ITC to expand opportunities for families and professionals to participate in October 6 event.

Objective 4- Use CoPA funds to purchase books, DVD's, current information to give to local libraries for public circulation.