



The Arc of Greater Houston

www.thearcofgreaterhouston.com

713.957.1600 FAX 713.957.1699

Resource Guide

for Special Needs

Local, State and National Resources

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United Way of Greater Houston

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LOCAL RESOURCES FOR THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA

General and Specific Disability Related Information and Parent Support Groups

All Disabilities/All Special Needs Inclusive, Parent Support Groups

- The Arc of Greater Houston 713.957.1600
 General referral and information services. Special education assistance to families including individual assistance and trainings for parents and professionals. Support Group that meets 1 time per month for parents of children with all disabilities. Supports *Familias Hispanas* support group. Social, leisure and respite programs. Also Self-Advocates support group for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
www.thearcofgreaterhouston.com
- Exceptional Parents of Little Angels 281.464.3799
Pasadena. Parent run support group that meets monthly at the Pasadena library
- Familias Hispanas 713.869.9582
 Parent run, **Spanish speaking**, parent support group for parents of children with all types of disabilities. Supported by The Arc of Greater Houston. Meets at least 1 time per month.
- Families Can Program- Parent Education Project 713.743.5435
Central. For families of children with special health care needs. Parent caseworkers work one-on-one with families to find services for their children and to enhance the family's quality of life. They also offer a parent support group on the first Monday of the month from 10:00 to 12:00pm at the Children's Museum (named Houston Parent Information Network)
<http://las.uh.edu/pep/familiesCan.aspx>
- Family to Family Network 713.466.6304
Northwest and other areas in the greater Houston region. Parent-led information, referral, education, and support groups for families with children who have disabilities.
<http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org>
- Houston Commission on Disabilities 713.837.9003
Central. 12 members appointed by the mayor of Houston. They meet monthly at the Metropolitan Multiservice Center and the public is allowed to attend. For those who want to participate in the future direction of disability services in Houston, this meeting is highly recommended.
<http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/commission.html>
- Jewish Community Center of Houston 713.729.3200
Southwest Houston. Online resource guide for special needs concerns. Various cultural and social programs for special needs children, "Nite Owls" for special needs adults, and "Keshet & The Bureau of Jewish Education" for parents and professionals involved in special education.
www.houstonjewish.org/programsforspecial.asp
www.icchouston.org
- March of Dimes 713.623.2020
Central. Organization whose mission is to prevent birth defects, including preventable disabilities.
www.marchofdimes.com/texas
- Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) 713.837.9061
 713.837.9040 (TTY)
Central. Regulates city services and advocates for the rights and needs of persons with disabilities in Houston.
<http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/index.html>
- Side by Side 281.332.9270
Gulf Coast Area. Parent Support Group
- Tzu Chi Support Group for Families with Special Needs (contact Michelle Yi) 713-270-9988
Southwest. Support group for families of Asian descent who have children with special needs. The group meets monthly on the second Saturday of the month from 2:00 to 4:00pm.
<http://texas.us.tzuchi.org/>
- United Cerebral Palsy 713-838-9058
Central. They provide some respite services and activities for children with all types of disabilities
<http://www.ucphouston.org/>

Specific Information and Parent Support Groups by Type of Disability

ADD / ADHD

Attention Deficit Disorders Association: Southern Region 281.834.6883
Multiple support group sites. Information and support for people affected by ADD and ADHD. See website for current list of support group meetings, trainings and conferences.
www.adda-sr.org
 Spanish: <http://www.adda-sr.org/Spanish/Spanish%20Index.htm>

Clinic for Attention Problems at Texas Children's Hospital (Learning Support Center) 832.822.3700
Medical Center. Evaluation, intervention planning and treatment. May not have significant co-morbid conditions
 Such as a disruptive behavior, anxiety or adjustment disorder
<http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/LearningSupport/Programs.aspx>

Autism, Asperger Syndrome & PDD

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapist Network 281.988.9393
 Direct ABA services, trainings
<http://www.abatherapistnetwork.com/>

Asperger & PDD-NOS Parent's Support Group 281.257.6686
Spring. A support group for family members of persons with Asperger Syndrome.

ASPPIE 832.788.7912
Far Southwest. Support groups for families of individuals with Asperger Syndrome and for persons with Asperger's Syndrome.
<http://www.aspieinfo.com>

Autism Society of America - Greater Houston Chapter 713.513.7575
Medical Center. Monthly parent support group meeting as well as a newsletter.
<http://www.houstonchapterasa.org/>

Autism Society of America – Northwest Houston Chapter 281.686.0103
Far Northwest – Tomball. Meets the first Thursday of the month in the evening.
http://www.autism-society.org/site/Clubs?club_id=1400&pg=main&JServSessionIdr007=hdbjvc7ul1.app27a

Autism Society of America – Texas Gulf Coast Chapter No phone listing
Far South. Parent support groups and trainings occur regularly.
<http://www.asa-tgcc.org/>

Behavior Training and Treatment Center (BTTC) 281.239.1379
In-home services. Therapeutic interventions for people with PDD/Autism, and MR, using Applied Behavior Analysis techniques.
www.bttcdaytreatment.com

The Coffee House 713.970.8344
 For individuals with Asperger Disorder. Social skills training, transitional support, prevocational training, nursing services, individualized treatment plans. A service of MHMRA.

Connections Center - Relationship Development Intervention 713.838.1362
Bellaire. Information, training and curriculum for those who have an autism spectrum disorder.
<http://www.rdiconnect.com/>

The Developmental Disabilities and Dual Diagnosis Clinic 713.500.2670
Medical Center. Outpatient evaluation and treatment for children and adults who have mental retardation, autism, or other developmental disabilities, and whose psychiatric disorders or behavioral symptoms interfere with their independence, productivity, and community integration. A program of UT Health Science Center.
<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/schools/med/psychiatry/msi/chdr2/MR/dd.htm>

Families for the Early Treatment of Autism (FEAT) 281.348.7067
Central and other Houston area locations. Information about autism, local resources, and support groups.
www.feathouston.org

F.O.C.U.S Initiative

281.240.0663

Stafford. Skills training, advocacy and family consultation for autism spectrum concerns.

www.asdfocus.comMy Friend's House

713.970.8344

A service of MHMRA. Eight week, Summer program for adolescents with Asperger Disorder. Social skills, behavior and independent living training and other activities.

www.mhmraofharriscounty.orgMental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) FASD Program

713.970.7604

Various locations. Services include those for persons with mental retardation, autism, and other developmental disorders, as well as services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees the HCS Medicaid waiver program. Services for qualified individuals with autism spectrum disorders include ABA programs, SKIP program, Coffee House, My Friend's House, day habilitation, and employment training.

www.mhmraofharriscounty.org/The Shape of Behavior

832.358.2655 or 866.437.2165

Center-based program providing 30 hours per week of one-on-one ABA therapy to children ages 18-months and up. Six locations.

www.shapeofbehavior.comTexas Autism Advocacy

(website only)

Web presence only. Great source of information and resources for autism compiled by a local Houston area parent.

<http://www.texasautismadvocacy.org/>Texas Young Autism Project

800.673.2110

Central. A research and teaching program at the University of Houston that provides intensive behavior interventions for preschoolers with autism.

<http://www.texasyoungautismproject.com/>***Blind/Vision Impaired***Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Technology Houston office

713.802.3100

Range of services for vision impairments

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dbs/dbsoffices.asp>Houston Council of the Blind

713.520.9237

Nonprofit, membership based, information, support and education

<http://www.acbt-houston.org/>Lighthouse for the Blind

713.527.9561

Education, rehabilitation and community programs.

<http://www.houstonlighthouse.org/WhatWeDo/CenterforEducation.htm>Taping for the Blind

713.622.2767

<http://www.tapingfortheblind.org/>***Cerebral Palsy***UCP Houston

713.838.9050

Various locations. Provides services for children and adults with disabilities, including therapeutic programs, social and leisure activities, and caregiver respite.

www.ucphouston.org***Deaf/Hearing Impairment***Center for Hearing and Speech

713.523.3633

Clinic, school, classes, family support services, including a parent support group for families and children with hearing impairments.

<http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/>

<u>Deaf Houston Post</u>	(website only)
A newspaper for those with hearing impairments http://www.deafhoustonpost.com/	
<u>Deaf Network of Texas</u>	(website only)
Web network of links, blogs and information regarding deaf services http://deafnetwork.com/wordpress/blog/2007/11/09/medicaid-and-medicare/	
<u>Houston Association for Communication Disorders</u>	713.623.8424
Organization for speech and hearing disorders, monthly support groups, conferences and outreach. http://www.hacd.org/	
<u>Sign Shares</u>	713.869.4373
Translation, interpretation, training http://signshares.com/	
 <i>Down Syndrome</i>	
<u>Down Syndrome Association of Houston</u>	713.682.7237
Various locations. Information and support for people affected by Down Syndrome. For Spanish, call 713.382.4134 www.dsah.org	
<u>Down Syndrome Clinic</u>	832.822.3478
Evaluation, referral, tracking and treatment clinic for children with Down Syndrome. Part of Texas Children's Hospital. Open Monday and Tuesday mornings. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/DownSyndrome/Default.aspx	
 <i>Epilepsy</i>	
<u>The Baylor Epilepsy Center</u>	713.798.8259
Comprehensive evaluation for individuals with epilepsy.	
<u>Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Texas</u>	713.789.6295
Support groups, information and referral, public awareness presentations, recreation programs http://www.epilepsyfoundation.org/local/setexas/	
<u>Texas Comprehensive Epilepsy Center</u>	713.500.7117
Comprehensive care for people with epilepsy http://www.texasepilepsycenter.com/	
 <i>Fetal Alcohol Syndrome</i>	
<u>The Arc of Greater Houston</u>	713.957.1600.
FASD support group that meets occasionally. FASD brochures, training and educational outreach provided. www.thearcofgreaterhouston.com	
<u>Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston</u>	713.942.4100
Classes, information and referral, prevention, case management and support groups. They also have the K.I.N.D.E.R. Rx Clinic for children who have been exposed to drugs (281-200-9123). www.council-houston.org/ http://www.council-houston.org/Public/index.asp?page_ID=328 (for KINDER Clinic)	
<u>March of Dimes</u>	713.623.2020
Central. Organization whose mission is to prevent birth defects, including preventable disabilities such as FASDs. www.marchofdimes.com/texas	

Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) FASD Program 713.970.7604
Various locations. The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program provides diagnosis of FASD for children who live in Harris County. Other services of MHMRA include those for persons with mental retardation, autism, and other developmental disorders, as well as services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees the HCS Medicaid waiver program.
www.mhmraofharriscounty.org/MRSD/fasd.htm

Mental Retardation Needs Council of Harris County 713.680.8195
 Free, downloadable brochure addressing F.A.S.D.s. A consortium of local agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting the supports and services necessary for improving the lives of those with mental retardation and related cognitive, developmental disabilities.
www.mrnc.hctx.net/

Language/Speech Impairment

Houston Association for Communication Disorders 713.623.8424
 Organization for speech and hearing disorders, monthly support groups, conferences and outreach.
<http://www.hacd.org/>

The Parish School 713.467.4696
West Houston. Day school for children with communication and learning difficulties, who have average to above average learning potential, ages 18 months through fifth grade.
www.parishschool.org

Learning Disabilities

International Dyslexia Association 832.282.7154
 Information and referral, newsletter and trainings
<http://www.houstonida.org/>

Learning Disabilities Association of Fort Bend County 281.265.5295
Sugar Land. Information and training assistance for families of children who have learning disorders.
 No website

Texas Reading Institute/Family Literacy 281.293.7904
West Houston. Extensive reading programs for students with all types of reading difficulties. Comprehensive assessments available for reading disorders.
www.familyliteracy.net/

Neuhaus Education Center 713.664.7676
Central. Provides parent information, some trainings and links to trained reading tutors. In depth training and certification for special education professionals in reading intervention.
www.neuhaus.org

Mental Illness

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Houston 713.600.1131
Multiple locations. Information, referral, and support groups for persons with mood disorders.
www.dbsahouston.org

The Gathering Place 713.729.3799
Multiple locations. *Free.* Provides a supportive environment for adults with mental illness, to practice social skills, find support, and develop friendships.
www.thegatheringplacehouston.org

Harris County Psychiatric Center 713.741.5000
 Various inpatient and outpatient, mental health services as well as a useful links page on the website
<http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/index.htm>
http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/spanish_index.htm

Menninger Clinic (at Baylor College of Medicine) 800.351.9058, ext. 5140 or 713.275.5000
Medical Center. Comprehensive treatment for adults and adolescents with complex mental illness (co-occurring conditions), specializing in anxiety and eating disorders.
www.menningerclinic.com

- Mental Health Association 713.523.8963
Central. Educational training concerning mental health issues; legislative advocacy. Their resource guide contains many residential placement options, hospitals, and psychiatrists.
www.mhahouston.org
- Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) 713.970.7070
Various locations. Provides service to persons with mental retardation, autism, and other developmental disorders, and services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees several waiver programs for children with disabilities.
www.mhmraofharriscounty.org
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
 713.970.3455
Various locations. Information and referral, support groups, multi-week courses including *Visions for Tomorrow*
<http://www.nami.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=155>
- Visions for Tomorrow 512.693.2000
Various locations. This family-to-family class provides a great deal of useful information about specific disorders, advocacy, coping, rehabilitation as well as other concerns for caregivers of children with brain disorders (disorders include mental health as well as cognitive/learning impairments). A program of National Alliance on Mental Illness
<http://www.namitexasvft.com/>
- Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disability***
- The Arc of Greater Houston 713-957-1600
 Information and referral. Social, leisure and respite programs for persons with developmental disabilities. Special education assistance for families of all children with all types of disabilities (free). Parent support groups. Legislative activities at local, state and national level. Also Self-Advocates support group for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
www.thearcofgreaterhouston.com
- Behavior Training and Treatment Center (BTTC) 281.239.1379
In-home services. Therapeutic interventions for people with PDD/Autism, and MR, using Applied Behavior Analysis techniques.
www.btcdtreatment.com
- Down Syndrome Association of Houston 713.682.7237
Various locations. Information and support for people affected by Down Syndrome. **For Spanish, call 713.382.4134**
www.dsah.org
- The Developmental Disabilities and Dual Diagnosis Clinic 713.500.2580
Medical Center. Outpatient evaluation and treatment for children and adults who have mental retardation, autism, or other developmental disabilities, and whose psychiatric disorders or behavioral symptoms interfere with their independence, productivity, and community integration. A program of UT Health Science Center.
<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/schools/med/psychiatry/msi/chdr2/MR/dd.htm>
- Grupo de Apoyo 713.921.3036
East Houston. Support group for families who have a child with mental retardation and/or a dual diagnosis. Families with children having other disabilities are welcome to attend. **Spanish** speaking only group. The contact person is Faustino Lopez.
- Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) 713.970.7070
Various locations. Provides service to persons with mental retardation, autism, and other developmental disorders, and services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees several waiver programs for children with disabilities.
www.mhmraofharriscounty.org
- Mental Retardation Needs Council of Harris County 713.680.8195
 A consortium of local agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting the supports and services necessary for improving the lives of those with mental retardation and related, cognitive developmental disabilities.
www.mrnc.hctx.net/

Muscular Dystrophy

Muscular Dystrophy Association 713.522.3941
 7 Support groups in the greater Houston area for individuals and their families affected by any of the 40 neuromuscular diseases. <http://local.mda.org/site/PageServer?pagename=PostalCodeResults&PostalCode=77018&CampaignCode=M4211&Lookup=Lookup>

Tourette Syndrome

Tourette Syndrome Association of Texas 281.370-3401
Multiple locations. Information, referral, and support for families affected by Tourette Syndrome.
www.tourettetexas.org

Child Care

Child Care Licensing (TDFPS) 1.512.438.4800
Austin (Statewide). On-line search tool for child care providers by county or city, age of child, type of care requested., and other variables. Search can be limited to "special needs" only. Also provides information about child care licensing standards and procedures in Texas.
www.txchildcaresearch.org

Collaboratives for Children 713.365.0313
West Houston. Parent and community education regarding child care issues. On-line or telephone referral for child care services to meet specific family needs. Services available in **Spanish**.
www.initiativesforchildren.org
<http://www.collabforchildren.org>

Education

Private School Options

The Arbor School 713.827.8830
West Houston. Intensive intervention, ages birth through 12. Accepts children with developmental delays, or other medical conditions that place them at risk of developing developmental delay.
www.arbor.org

Atlantis Foundation 281.474.1430
Seabrook. Day and residential school for children, ages 3 to 21, with autism, emotional disturbance, mental retardation, or other disabilities.
<http://home.houston.rr.com/atlantisfound>

Avondale House 713.933.9544
Southwest Houston. Day school education, day habilitation programs, and residential care for persons with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders.
www.avondalehouse.org

The Briarwood School 281.493.1070
West Houston. Nonprofit independent school providing education for children with learning disabilities and developmental delays. Grades K-12. Also has summer learning program.
www.briarwoodschool.org

Bridges (a program of Texas Children's Hospital) 713.621.5137
 Provides relationship therapy, speech therapy, sensory integrative therapy, and group intervention for children under 4 who have autism spectrum disorders
www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/bridges

- Hope Village 281.482.7926
Friendswood. Residential facility for students with intellectual disabilities, ages 6 through adult. Also has day and summer programs for children with intellectual disabilities. Sheltered workshop available.
www.hope-village.com
- Houston Learning Academy 713.974.6658
 Day school for children with learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, or other disabilities. Ages 14 to 19.
www.hlahighschools.com
- Houston Outdoor Learning Academy (HOLA) 713.224.4652
Heights. Accredited school offering individualized curricula with a focus on activity- based, outdoor learning. Grades 6-12. Accepts children with or without disabilities.
www.holainfo.com
- Houston Private Schools (web site only)
 An online guide to private schools, after school activities, specialists, camps, and child-care in the greater Houston area. Sponsored by the Greater Houston Partnership.
www.houstonprivateschools.org
- The Joy School 713.523.0660
 Day school for children with learning differences.
www.thejoyschool.org
- The Learning Repertoire 713.436.5333
Pearland. Behavior and learning programs for children with autism and developmental disorders, based on the principals of Applied Behavior Analysis.
www.learningrepertoire.org
- The Monarch School 713.479.0800
West Houston. School provides a therapeutic education for children with neurological differences. K-12.
www.monarchschool.org
- New Day Treatment Program 713.970.4407
Central. TEA certified alternative day school for students with developmental disabilities, behavioral and psychiatric needs.
- The Parish School 713.467.4696
West Houston. Day school for children with communication and learning difficulties, who have average to above average learning potential, ages 18 months through fifth grade.
www.parishschool.org
- Providence Treatment Center 281.208.1117
Missouri City. Day school and treatment center for children with autism, bipolar disorder, major depression, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and multiple impairments. TEA approved non-public school.
www.providencetreatmentcenter.com
- The Redd School 281.440.1106
Northwest Houston. Day school for children with learning differences and emotional issues. PreK-8.
www.reddschool.com
- The Rise School 713.532.7473
 Medical Center Area. Day school providing early childhood education services to children with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities and to children without disabilities. Ages 6 months to 6 years.
www.riseschool.org
- The Shape of Behavior 832.358-2655
 Provides individual and data based treatment to children with special needs related to autism, Asperger's disorder, Down Syndrome, learning disabilities, ADHD, mental retardation, abuse, emotional problems and any other children with special needs. Six locations throughout Houston and outer suburbs.
www.shapeofbehavior.com
- Verbal Behavior Clinic of Houston 713-528-2343
Kemah & Houston. Individualized instruction in Verbal Behavior & Applied Behavior Analysis methods. Behavioral & learning programs for children with mild to severe disabilities including PDD, autism, Asperger's Syndrome, ADD and other disabilities.
www.tullisfarmschool.org

The Westview School 713.973.1900
West Houston. Day school for children with PDD/autism and other communication or interactional disorders, using a multisensory curriculum emphasizing each child's strengths. Age 2 through fifth grade (to be expanded).
www.westviewschool.org

Educational Advocacy and Law: Free Services

Advocacy, Inc. 713.974.7691
Multiple locations. Provides direct advocacy services including special education for individuals with disabilities. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education concerns. Services available **in Spanish**.
www.advocacyinc.org

The Arc of Greater Houston- The Right to Learn Program/Education Department 713.957.1600
Central/Northwest Houston. Provides direct consultation, assistance, and training for parents of children involved in the special education process. Trainings for professional also offered. A service of The Arc of Greater Houston.
www.thearcofgreaterhouston.com

Family to Family Network 713.466.6304
 Parent run organization that can provide phone assistance regarding some special education concerns.
<http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org>

Helpful Interventions 281.272.2206
 For parents of children with special needs. Provides screening and assessment, educational consultation, advocacy training and workshops, referrals to appropriate community services, and educational follow-up services.

TEAM Project 713-524-2147
 Parent staffed organization. Special Education phone assistance. Trainings.
www.PartnersTx.org

Private Special Education Attorneys

C. Michael Black 713-522.5999
Jacque Brennan jacbrennan@gmail.com 713.824.2874
Martin Cirkiel www.cirkielaw.com 512.244.6658
Ernie Hill carlos99@yahoo.com 713.686.6600
Christopher L. Jonas Jonas4IDEA@aol.com <http://www.angelfire.com/co4/chrisjonas/> 361.937.1800
Helen Malveane Lone Star Legal Aid 713.652.5911
Dorene Jackson Philpot Toll-Free Voice 866.202.0918 281.989.2010
Elaine Roberts Advocacy, Inc. 713.974.7691

Private Special Education Advocates (not attorneys)

Louis H. Geigerman, National ARD/IEP Advocates 281.744.8442
<http://www.narda.org>

LD Advocates - Jimmy Kilpatrick 832.814.7463
<http://www.ldadvocates.com>

Higher Education Resources

Houston Community College Disability Support Services 713.718.5422
 Coordinates accommodations for students with disabilities at Houston Community College.
<http://nwc.hccs.cc.tx.us/services/counseling/accommodations>

North Harris Montgomery Comm. College Disability Support (Teresa Garza) 281-618-5690
North Harris & Montgomery County. Accommodations for students with disabilities.
<http://www.northharriscollege.com/21891/>

<u>Prairie View A&M, Office of Disability Services</u>	936.857.4625
<i>Prairie View.</i> Provides assistance with necessary accommodations for students with disabilities attending Prairie View A&M. http://www.pvamu.edu/pages/1478.asp	
<u>Rice Disability Support Services</u>	713.348.5841
<i>Rice University.</i> Provides and facilitates support services and accommodations for all individuals with disabilities on the Rice University campus, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors.	
Adaptive Technology Office	713.348.5754
http://dss.rice.edu	
<u>San Jacinto College North Disability Support</u>	281.476.1888
<i>San Jacinto College North (East Houston).</i> Vocational opportunities and support for students with disabilities. http://www.sjcd.edu/ No web presence for disability services	
<u>University of Houston Center for Students with DisABILITIES</u>	713.743.5400
<i>Central.</i> Provides numerous academic support services to students with any type of learning disability, health impairment, physical limitation or psychiatric disorder, at the University of Houston. http://www.uh.edu/csd	
<u>VAST Program (Vocational Advancement & Social Skills Training)</u>	713.518.5422
<i>Houston Community College.</i> Educational opportunities for individuals who have learning, developmental, and/or physical disabilities. Courses are offered in the following areas: Academic, Personal/Social Development, Enrichment and Computers. http://nwc.hccs.cc.tx.us/ce/vast	

Other Education Resources

<u>Discover Technology</u>	(website only)
Computer classes and laboratories for persons with mental, physical, or other disabilities. Also has e-mail pen pals, and a clip art catalog with images of persons with disabilities engaged in a variety of activities. www.discovertechnology.com	
<u>Harris County Department of Education</u>	713.694.6300
Information about public education services in Harris County. www.hcde-texas.org	
<u>Region IV Education Service Center (TEA)</u>	713.744.6303
Supports public school teachers and staff. Their special education library is open for use by all education professionals. http://www.esc4.net	

Employment/Day Habilitation

<u>All the Little Things Count</u>	281.393.1719
<i>Alvin.</i> Day habilitation program with sheltered workshop, for HCS recipients from Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Montgomery, and Wharton counties. www.allthelittlethingscount.com	
<u>American Habilitation Services</u>	713.592.0996
<i>South Houston.</i> Supported employment primarily for HCS recipients www.ahsonline.com	
<u>Bay Area Rehabilitation Center/Baytown Opportunity Center</u>	281.427.0545
<i>Baytown.</i> Supervised work training, structured workshops and classrooms. Ages 16 to adult. Services available in Spanish .	
<u>Bethesda/Good Samaritan</u>	281.516.4044
<i>Cypress.</i> Supported employment for HCS recipients. www.blhs.org	
<u>The Brookwood Community</u>	281.375.2100
<i>Brookshire.</i> A residential community of adults with disabilities providing life skills, social, and vocational training. http://brookwoodcommunity.org	

<u>The Center (CRI)</u> <i>Central.</i> Adult activity center providing day habilitation with a sheltered workshop. www.cri-usa.org	713.525.8400
<u>Diversity Day Activities and Health Services</u> <i>Northwest Houston.</i> Day habilitation, vocational training, job placement services, and respite services. www.diversitydayactivity.com	713.365.0429
<u>Goodwill of Houston: Employment Services</u> <i>North Houston.</i> Job training, placement, and support for persons with disabilities. http://www.goodwillhouston.org/employment.htm	713.692.6221
<u>Gulf Coast Community Services Association</u> <i>Multiple locations.</i> Adult literacy, GED, and ESL classes. Employment training and support. Services available in Spanish . www.gccsa.org	713.393.4700
<u>H.E.A.R.T. Program</u> Specific vocational training program for gainful employment of individuals with developmental disabilities including mental retardation and autism. www.heartprogram.org	713.692.4278
<u>Hope Village</u> <i>Friendswood.</i> Residential and day programs for individuals with mental retardation, including a developmental work center. www.hope-village.com	281.482.7926
<u>Imagine Enterprises</u> <i>Seabrook.</i> Employment training, support, and planning for persons with disabilities. www.imagineenterprises.com/ correct	281.474.7887
<u>Lighthouse Vocational Educational Program (Lighthouse Houston)</u> Vocational training for individuals with visual impairments. Also provides some adult day programming for individuals who are not able to maintain employment independently. www.houstonlighthouse.org/WhatWeDo/VocationalEducation.htm correct	713.284.8422
<u>Mayor's Committee for Employment of Persons w/Disabilities</u> Provides support to job seekers with disabilities, and to employers. www.hmcepd.org	(website only)
<u>MHMRA (Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority)</u> Various vocational programs for persons diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder or Mental Retardation. Services available in Spanish . www.mhmraofharriscounty.org	713.970.7070
<u>Nightingale Vocational Rehabilitation Center</u> <i>Southwest Houston.</i> Vocational rehabilitation.	713.981.1543
<u>Reach Unlimited</u> Vocation skills, independent living, day habilitation offered. www.reachunlimited.org	281.469.5030
<u>Sean Ashley House</u> <i>Southwest Houston.</i> Adult day habilitation program for HCS recipients with individualized life skills training. Accepts non-HCS recipients also. www.seanashleyhouse.org	713.667.6460
<u>Special Home Care Living Center</u> <i>Southwest Houston.</i> Supported employment for HCS recipients correct	713.771.3133
<u>Techs and Trainers</u> <i>Southwest Houston.</i> Technology and skills training covering computer rebuilding	713.729.6633
<u>Texana Mental Health Mental Retardation Center</u> <i>Rosenberg.</i> Supported employment for persons with mental retardation and/or mental illness. www.texanacenter.com	281.342.9387

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services	866.281.1804
<i>Multiple locations.</i> Provides vocational assessments, training, support, and assistive devices for individuals with disabilities who are seeking employment. www.dars.state.tx.us	
The Trend Healthcare Services	281.575.9246
<i>West Houston.</i> Supported employment for HCS recipients	
The Village Learning Center	281.358.6172
<i>Kingwood.</i> Life skills & job training for persons with learning disability & developmental delays. http://www.villagelac.org/temp.html /	
Willow River Farms	713.525.8300
<i>Brookshire.</i> A residential community of adults with disabilities with an emphasis on artistic, craft, and gardening vocational skills. cri-usa.org	
Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services (DARS)	800.628.5115
<i>Formerly Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC)</i>	
<i>Multiple locations.</i> Vocational services available to graduating school students with disabilities who will need assistance in gaining employment. Applicant guide available in Spanish . www.dars.state.tx.us Spanish: www.dars.state.tx.us/Spanish.shtml	
Houston Regional Office	713.735.3470
TTY	866.581.9328

Financial-Needs-Disability Related, Financial Services

See [State Financial Assistance Resources](#) pg. 26

Guardianship and Estate Planning

Attorneys

Jacquie Brennan	713.824.2874
Michele Goldberg lawmkg@sbcglobal.net	713.218.8800
Doris Stewart	713.827.8540
Wesley Wright & Associates	713.961.9595
Lisa Wilson	281.583.0353

Non-attorney Guardianship and Estate Planning Assistance

Steve Rhatigan steve@stemark.com	281.364.7211
The Arc of Texas, Master Pooled Trust, Chris Oglesby	512.454.6694
www.thearcoftexas.org	800.252.9729

Housing/Home Modification/Accessibility Needs

Center for Independent Living - Houston	713.974.4621
<i>Southwest Houston & Angleton.</i> Housing advice, assistance and counseling for persons with disabilities. www.coalitionforbarrierfreeliving.com	
Gulf Coast Community Services Association	713.393.4700
<i>Multiple locations.</i> The Home & Safety Security Program conducts homes inspections for elderly persons or persons with disabilities to check for safety and security concerns. Includes installation of wheelchair ramps, and basic repairs. www.gccsa.org	

Texas Home of your Own Coalition, [formerly Home of Your Own Program (HOYO)] 713.838.9050
800.988.4696
Down payment assistance, home modification funds, and home buying education classes for individuals with disabilities, and their families. Services available in **Spanish**.
<http://ucptexas.org/texashoyo>

In-Home Family Services (IHFS) 713.970.7070
A MHMRA program which may provide home modification funds for persons with disabilities.

Private Providers Association of Texas 512.452.8188
Organization of private group home providers in Texas.
www.ppat100.com

Legal Issues (also see Educational Advocacy & Law)

Advocacy, Inc. 713.974.7691
Provides direct advocacy services including employment advocacy for individuals with disabilities. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education and other legal concerns. Services available in **Spanish**.
www.advocacyinc.org
Spanish: <http://www.advocacyinc.org/espanol.htm>

General Legal

Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program 713.228.0732
Lone Star Legal Aid 713.652.0077
Dispute Resolution Center 713.755.8274
Houston Lawyer Referral Service 713.237.9429
Legal Line-free phone advice on 1st & 3rd Wednesday, each month, 5-9 pm 713.759.1133
Legales-Spanish-version of Legal Line, 1st Thursday each month, 5-9 pm 713.755.1133
Legal Hotline for Older Texans-for 60+Texans, answer legal questions free, referrals 800.622.2520

Medical Equipment & Adaptive Technology

Lions Club

Multiple locations. Most Lions Club chapters provide free eyeglasses to children in need, in partnership with local school districts. Ask your school nurse for a referral.
www.lions2s2.org/section39.htm

Medco

713-956-5288

Multiple Locations. Feeding supplies including formula, tubes, pumps. Also have incontinent supplies and suction equipment.

Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

800.628.5115

Formerly Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC)

Multiple locations. Vocational services available to graduating school students with disabilities who will need assistance in gaining employment. Applicant guide available in **Spanish**.

www.dars.state.tx.us

Spanish: www.dars.state.tx.us/Spanish.shtm

Houston Regional Office 713.735.3470

TTY 866.581.9328

Respite

State Agencies and Nonprofit Organizations that provide respite:

Most of these have income requirements as well as disability related requirements. Check with each organization for specifics.

The Arc of Greater Houston

713.957.1600

Ongoing, group respite activities in the community for individuals with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. Children and adults served by differing programs. Fees for programs. Activities include:

Saturday Fun Day
Adventure Club/Greater Houston Recreation
Weekend Respite
Summer- day and overnight camps

www.thearcofgreaterhouston.com

The Center 713.525.8400

Day and overnight respite services for people with mental retardation. Day respite is available on a partial or full day basis. Overnight respite stays cannot exceed 30 days. Fee for services.

www.cri-usa.org/respitcenter.htm

MHMRA of Harris County 713.970.7070

All respite services require intake completion and there is typically a fairly long waiting list. However, they provide a wide range of respite services, including in-home respite if the individual qualifies. A diagnosis of mental retardation and or an Autism spectrum disorder is required. Financial assistance if qualified.

www.mhmraofharriscounty.org

United Cerebral Palsy of Houston 713.838.9050

They provide respite services for individuals with Cerebral Palsy and other disabilities. Financial assistance may be provided in some cases. Respite activities include ongoing programs as well as in-home respite services.

www.ucphouston.org

Social & Leisure

Adventure Club 713.957.1600

Tomball. Community-based activities for individuals with developmental disabilities, ages 15 and older. Activities are age appropriate (bowling, sporting events, theater, shopping excursions, and more). A program of The Arc of Greater Houston.

<http://thearcofgreaterhouston.com/adventure.html>

Best Buddies 800.892.8339

Various locations. This program operates at several high school and colleges, to bring together students with and without intellectual difficulties for meaningful one-on-one relationships. There is also an e-buddies program for internet-capable students.

www.bestbuddiestexas.org

Dionysus Theatre Troupe 713.728.0041

Southwest Houston. Provides a theatre experience for teens and young adults who are disabled, disadvantaged, chronically ill, or those able-bodied actors who want to help us spread our message of love, dignity and tolerance for people of all abilities.

www.dionysustheatre.org

Dream Catcher Stables 281.397.4694

*Spring. *Sliding scale.** Recreational horseback riding for persons with disabilities, including learning disabilities.

Greater Houston Recreation 713.957.1600

Multiple Locations. Community-based activities for individuals with developmental disabilities, ages 15 and older. Activities are age appropriate (bowling, sporting events, theater, shopping excursions, and more). A program of The Arc of Greater Houston.

<http://thearcofgreaterhouston.com/houstonrec.html>

Illuminations Theatre with the Deaf 713.529.6910 voice
713.529.6909 TTY

*Central. *Free.** Performs theater and dramatic readings in English, Spanish and ASL at various locations.

www.illuminationstheatre.org

Kids on the Block Puppet Troupe (Assistance League of Houston) 713.526.7983

A puppet show that teaches disability awareness to children. Performs at schools in HISD and Spring Branch.

www.assistanceleaguehou.org/

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center 713.284.1973

Central. A recreational & sports center for people of all ages with mental & physical disabilities.

<http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/adaptivereccenter.html>

<u>PRIDE Therapeutic Equestrian Center</u> <i>Brazoria County.</i> Recreational and therapeutic horseback riding for adults and children with disabilities. http://hometown.aol.com/prideanimals	979.798.1243
<u>The River Performing and Visual Arts Center</u> <i>Central.</i> A barrier-free, affordable arts enrichment program for children aged 2-19 with disabilities and/or chronic illness, as well as their siblings and friends. www.riverperformingvisualarts.com correct	713.520.1220
<u>Saturday Fun Day</u> <i>Central, Kingwood, & Cy-Fair.</i> A recreational day program for children and teens with mental retardation, autism, and pervasive developmental disorders, ages 4-21. Meets two Saturdays per month. Siblings welcome! A program of The Arc of Greater Houston. http://thearcogreaterhouston.com/saturday.html	713.957.1600
<u>Special Olympics - Houston</u> Year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons eight years of age and older with mental retardation. www.sotx.org	713.290.0049
<u>Teens Together</u> <i>Bellaire.</i> *Free.* A social group for students with and without disabilities, ages 14-18, supporting interaction and fun between students with differing physical and cognitive abilities.	713.667.6242
<u>Texas Adaptive Aquatics</u> <i>Northeast/Lake Houston.</i> *Some programs free.* Water sports for persons with physical and mental disabilities. All ability levels. www.taasports.org	281.324.4653
<u>Vern Cox Multi-purpose Center</u> <i>Pasadena.</i> A recreational sports center for people of all ages with mental and physical disabilities.	281.487.1755
<u>The Village Learning Center</u> <i>Kingwood.</i> Social activities & support for persons with developmental delay & learning disorders. http://www.villagelac.org/temp.html /	281.358.6172

Treatment Services (Behavioral and Medical)

<u>Ask Your Nurse</u>	713.566.5437
<u>Asian American Family Counseling Center</u> <i>Southwest Houston.</i> Culturally competent mental health services, information and referral for Asian Americans in Houston. Services in English, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean. www.aafcc.org	713.339.3688
<u>The Battin Clinic</u> <i>Galleria area & Nassau Bay.</i> Multidisciplinary assessment for children with neurocognitive, learning, behavioral, and emotional difficulties.	713.621.3072
<u>Bay Area Rehabilitation Center (Adult Day Health Program)</u> <i>Baytown.</i> Day program designed for adults who are unable to live independently, with a holistic approach supporting each participant's capacity for functional independence. Ages 22 and up. www.bayarearehab.org	281.838.4477
<u>Bay Area Rehabilitation Center (Pediatric Services)</u> <i>Baytown.</i> Physical, occupational, and speech therapy for children with developmental disorders. Ages 3-21. www.bayarearehab.org	281.838.4477
<u>Behavior Training and Treatment Center (BTTC)</u> <i>In-home services.</i> Therapeutic interventions for people with PDD/Autism, and MR, using Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. http://www.btccdaytreatment.com/index.cfm	281.239.1379

- Blue Bird Circle Clinic 832.822.5046
Texas Children's Hospital. Specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of neurological disorders in children. Multidisciplinary approach provides comprehensive care to children and families.
www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/Neuro/Neurology/Default.aspx
- Brief Evaluation and Intervention Program (BEIP) 832.822.3700
Texas Children's Hospital. Excellent program for preschool children with complex behavioral and emotional difficulties. Incorporates parent into therapy and educates parent in ongoing therapeutic techniques to use at home.
www.texaschildrenshospital.org/CareCenters/LearningSupport/Programs.aspx
- The Center for Hearing and Speech 713.523.3633
Central. Clinical and educational programs focusing on oral deaf education (encouraging speech production and recognition rather than sign language). Ages birth to 18.
www.centerhearingandspeech.org
- Connections Center 713.838.1362
Bellaire. Information, training and curriculum for those who have an autism spectrum disorder.
<http://www.rdicconnect.com/>
- The Developmental Disabilities and Dual Diagnosis Clinic 713.500.2580
Medical Center. Outpatient evaluation and treatment for children and adults who have mental retardation, autism, or other developmental disabilities, and whose psychiatric disorders or behavioral symptoms interfere with their independence, productivity, and community integration. A program of UT Health Science Center.
- K.I.N.D.E.Rx Clinic 281.200.9123
Medical Center. Comprehensive medical and social services for children and families affected by prenatal drug or alcohol exposure.
http://www.council-houston.org/Public/index.asp?page_ID=328
- HCPC (Harris County Psychiatric Center) 713.741.5000
Medical Center. A 250-bed acute care public psychiatric hospital. Also provides partial hospitalization and outpatient services. Services provided in **Spanish and Vietnamese**.
<http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/index.htm>
Spanish: http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/spanish_index.htm
Vietnamese: <http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/vietnamese-admission-procedures.htm>
- Interface-Samaritan Counseling Center 713.626.7990
Galleria area & 1960 area.. *Sliding scale.* Christian-oriented individual and group counseling.
<http://interface-samaritan.org>
- Menninger Clinic (at Baylor College of Medicine) 800.351.9058, ext. 5140
Medical Center. Comprehensive treatment for adults and adolescents with complex mental illness (co-occurring conditions), specializing in anxiety and eating disorders.
www.menningerclinic.com
- Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) 713.970.7070
Various locations. Provides service to persons with mental retardation, autism, and other developmental disorders, and services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees several waiver programs for people with developmental disabilities.
www.mhmraofharriscounty.org
- Meyer Center for Developmental Pediatrics 832.822.3400
Texas Children's Hospital. The Meyer Center provides diagnosis and individualized treatment planning for infants, children and adolescents with suspected developmental and/or learning problems. Provides written treatment plans and testing to parents and referring physicians.
www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/DevelopmentPediatrics/Default.aspx
- Multiple Sclerosis Center 713.790.3333
Methodist Hospital. Comprehensive patient care, research, and referrals for persons with multiple sclerosis. Services available in **Spanish**.
www.methodisthealth.com/ms/index.htm
- SIRE 281.353.6160
Hockley, Spring. *Sliding scale.* Therapeutic horseback riding for persons with disabilities.
<http://www.sire-htec.org/newSite/default.shtm>

Texas Young Autism Project 800.673.2110
Central. A research and teaching program at the University of Houston that provides intensive behavior interventions for preschoolers with autism.
<http://www.texasyoungautismproject.com/>

THS Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women 877.847.8377
Multiple location & in-home services. For Medicaid clients only. Case managers assist families in securing comprehensive medical and social services, including basic needs like clothing and shelter, and complex needs like coordinating referrals to multiple specialists. Available in **Spanish**.

TIRR (The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research) 800-44REHAB 800.447.3422
Multiple Locations. Interdisciplinary rehabilitation services, patient care, medical education, and research. Provides a complete continuum of care for patients needing medical rehabilitation.
<http://www.memorialhermann.org/locations/TIRR.html>

Winter & Associates Pediatric Rehabilitation Center 713.528.3030
Southwest Houston. A comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility for children, providing occupational, physical, and speech therapy. *Provides transportation to those who qualify.* Services provided in English, **Spanish, Chinese, Cantonese, and Italian**.
www.winterpediatrictherapy.com

Transportation/Accessible Transportation

Metro Lift 713.225.0119
 Information about the accessibility of Houston Metro system, and how to use Metro Lift services.
<http://www.ridemetro.org/TransportationServices/metrolift.asp>

Other Need Support- General, not specifically disability related

Basic Needs Support

Community Youth Services Resource Directory (web only)
 A wealth of information about Houston area programs serving children and families, including basic needs support, medical, psychological, and legal resources.
www.hc-ps.org/pdf_files/CYS%20Directory%202002.pdf

ECHOS (Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services) 713.270.0369
Southwest Houston. This program helps people without insurance gain access to existing health and social services, regardless of ability to pay or immigration status.
www.echos-houston.org

Gateway to Care 281.820.4616
Harris County. Information low-cost community health care services for the uninsured and underinsured in Harris County.
<http://www.gatewaytocare.org/>

Gold Card 713-873.2000
 A Harris County Hospital District program which provides access to county hospital and health services for persons with extremely low income. Call the above number for eligibility determination (part of Ben Taub).
<http://www.hchdonline.com/patient/onecard/goldcard.htm>

Gulf Coast Community Services Association 713.393.4700
Multiple locations. Basic needs assistance, including food pantry, clothing, prescription vouchers, bus tokens for employment, and employment training. The Home Management & Homemaker program may assist with meal preparation and general housekeeping for homebound.
<http://www.gccsa.org/>

Medicaid Assistance 800.252.8263
 Referrals to Medicaid providers by geographical area.

Summer Food Service Program (DHS) 713.676.6832
Multiple locations. *Free* Provides nutritious meals free to all children age 18 and younger at participating feeding sites. Does not require proof of income or registration. Services available in **Spanish**. For additional information call Summer Food Hotline at 2.1.1.
<http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/summerfood07.html>

Crisis Services

In an emergency call 911
Call 911 for an ambulance, the police, or the fire department during emergencies.

Adult Protective Services 800.252.5400
 Investigates abuse and neglect of adults with disabilities, including financial exploitation, neglect by caregiver, and self-neglect.
www.tdprs.state.tx.us/Adult_Protection/About_Adult_Protective_Services/default.asp

Casa de Esperanza 713.529.0639
Medical Center area. Voluntary foster care for children ages zero to 6 who are at risk of abuse or neglect due to family crisis and/or the child's special needs. Casework services provided to the family to develop a safe, stable environment for the child's return.
www.casahope.org

Child Protective Services 800.252.5400
 Investigates the abuse and neglect of children, including medical neglect. Provides services to families in crisis.
www.tdprs.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/About_Child_Protective_Services/default.asp

Crisis Intervention 713.HOTLINE (713.468.5463)
 Provides 24-hour crisis counseling by telephone. Also provides community education programs.
For Spanish call 713.526.8088.
www.crisishotline.org

Houston Area Women's Center 713.528.2121
 Provides shelter, counseling, and support services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Services available in **Spanish**.
<http://www.hawc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=splash>

General Childhood

Child Builders 713.400.1155
 non-profit organization advocating for children's mental health and emotional wellness. Provides parents and children with resources and life skills training to build healthy families.
www.childbuilders.org

Early Connections 713.600.1234
 Free information about early childhood development and parenting. Available in **Spanish**.
www.earlyconnect.org
Spanish: <http://www.earlyconnect.org/espanol/espanol.htm>

General Cultural Health Care Resources

Arab-American Cultural and Community Center 832.351.3366
Southwest Houston. Cultural and social programs, including free health screenings. Services available in **Arabic**.
www.acc-houston.com

Community Family Center 713.923.2316
East Houston. Various community programs including health care and counseling. Services available in **Spanish**.
www.communityfamilycenters.org

Chinese Community Center 713.271.6100
West Houston. Referral and support for Asian-Americans and Asian immigrants to Houston. Offers some health, education and caregiver support services. Services available in **Chinese**.
www.ccchouston.org

Vietnamese Culture and Science Association 281.933.8118
 Provides cultural, health and educational programs for the Vietnamese community. Services available in **Vietnamese**.
 (Website is English only.)
www.vhkhvn.org

STATE RESOURCES IN TEXAS

General Information and Support

All Disabilities

Adapt of Texas

512.442.0252 TTY

Organization advocating to free people with disabilities from nursing homes and other institutions.

<http://adaptoftexas.org>

Advocacy, Inc.

800.252.9108

Advocates, protects and advances the legal and service rights of people with disabilities by providing direct advocacy services. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education concerns. Services and some web information is available in **Spanish**.

www.advocacyinc.org

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD)

512.478.3366

A grassroots organization that brings together diverse disability individuals and groups, as well as related parties like service provider organizations and state agencies.

www.cotwd.org

(The) Department of Aging and Disability Services

512.438.3011

800.458.9858

One of five Texas state agencies for social services. They serve older Texans, persons with disabilities and persons with mental retardation. Services can be comprehensive such as waiver services including HCS, CLASS and Texas Home Living Waiver. See *State Financial Assistance Section* (page 26 for more detail).

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/index.cfm>

(The) Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services

800.628.5115

One of five Texas state agencies for social services. DARS specifically offers disability services including rehabilitative services, *Early Childhood Intervention* (ECI), blind services and disability determination services. They have local offices across the state. See *State Financial Assistance Section* (page 26 for more detail).

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/>

(The) Department of State Health Services

888.963.7111

Oversees *Children with Special Health Care Needs*, epilepsy comprehensive out patient services, mental health services for children and adults (the mental health side ---the Mental Health Authority---of MHMRA is now subsumed under this agency). See *State Financial Assistance Section* (page 26 for more detail).

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/default.shtm>

The Disability Policy Consortium

512.371.1783

An independent group of statewide advocacy organizations that strives to achieve the development and full implementation of public policy that promotes and supports the rights, inclusion, integration, and independence of Texans with disabilities.

www.dpctexas.org/

Environmental Lead Hotline

888.778.9440

Provides information about the dangers of lead and lead-based products in the home. Takes reports of suspected lead contamination for investigation and remediation.

www.dshs.state.tx.us

Partners Resource Network

800.866.4726

Empowering Texas parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children.

www.partnerstx.org

Project Sunshine

866.778.6744

Provides free social, educational and recreational services to children and families facing medical challenges.

Several chapters in Texas

www.projectsunshine.org

<u>Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities</u>	512.463.5739 512.464.5746 TDD
Division of the governor's office that provides disability resources including statistics, history, services and more http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/disabilities	
<u>Texas Disability Law</u>	512.463.5739 512.464.5746 TDD
Summary of Texas Legislation affecting individuals with disabilities. http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/disabilities/resources/keylaws	
<u>Texas Health and Human Services Commission</u>	877.541.7905
One of five Texas state agencies. Oversees <i>Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, food stamps and nutrition programs, family violence services, refugee services and disaster assistance.</i> http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/	
<u>Texas Information Referral (211 call line)</u>	512-206-4787
Service of the state of Texas where the number 211 can be dialed via phone in Texas for information and referral about social, health and other services including state agencies. http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/tirn/tirnhome.htm	
<u>Texas Parent to Parent</u>	866.896.6001
Supports children with disabilities, chronic illnesses and other special needs by empowering their families to be advocates for them through peer support, resource referral and public awareness. www.txp2p.org/	
 <i>Brain Injury</i>	
<u>Brain Injury Association of Texas</u>	800.392.0040
Information, referral and advocacy for persons affected by brain injury. www.biatx.org	
 <i>Epilepsy</i>	
<u>Epilepsy Foundation of Central and South Texas</u>	210.653.5353
Working to improve the lives of the adults and children with epilepsy in the 77 counties of Central and South Texas. www.epilepsyfoundation.org/efcst	
 <i>Fetal Alcohol Syndrome</i>	
<u>Texas Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Consortium</u>	512.206.4544
Consortium of agencies in Texas whose goal is to increase FAS awareness. Offer meetings, conferences, and web resources. www.main.org/texasfasc/	
 <i>Mental Illness</i>	
<u>Mental Health Association in Texas</u>	512.454.3706
A broad-based citizens' movement organized to promote mental health, prevent mental illness through research and education, and improve care and treatment for persons with mental illnesses. http://www.mhatexas.org	
<u>NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness)</u>	800.633.3760
Training and support groups for families experiencing mental illness as well as consumer support groups and psychoeducational classes http://namitexas.org	
<u>Texas Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health</u>	281.335.5600
Advocating and providing direct support for the needs of children with mental illness and their families. www.txffcmh.org	
<u>Texas Mental Health Consumers</u>	512.944.9972
Organizes, encourages, and educates mental health consumers in Texas. www.tmhc.org	

Mental Retardation

The Arc of Texas 800.252.9729
Texas headquarters for The Arc, providing state and national advocacy for individuals with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. They also publish, in conjunction with Advocacy Inc., *It's a New IDEA* which can be downloaded *for free* from their website.
www.thearcoftexas.org

Child Care

Texas Assoc. of Child Care Resources & Referral Agencies 866.892.4453
Contains a section for special needs children, and the Inclusive Child Care Resource Guide.
<http://www.taccrra.org/web/index.jsp>

Education

Advocacy, Inc. 800.252.9108
Provides direct advocacy services for individuals with disabilities. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education concerns. Services and many web publications are available in **Spanish**.
www.advocacyinc.org

Central Texas-Rehabilitation Commission. 254-200-2204
Vocational rehab program for Texans with physical, emotional, and mental disabilities for jobs.
www.workforcelink.com/newworkforce/index.html

Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) 800.628.5115
Serves children ages birth to three who have or are at risk of developmental delays.
www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/index.shtml

Learning Disabilities Association of Texas 800.604.7500
Information and support for parents regarding special education in Texas.
www.ldat.org

Partners Resource Network 800.866.4726
Empowering Texas parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children.
www.partnerstx.org

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Texas Unit 512.323.9390
Provides audio recordings of a wide variety of written material for individuals who have difficulty reading due to any physical or developmental disability.
http://www.rfbid.org/Units/Texas_Unit.htm

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services 866.281.1804
State agency that provides vocational services to post high school students with disabilities needing assistance in gaining employment (formerly Texas Rehabilitation Commission)
www.dars.state.tx.us

Educational Advocacy and Law

The Legal Framework 432.563.2380
A project maintained by the Region 18 Texas Education Service Center- provides a guide to Texas education law as well as nation education law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). Part of Texas Improvement Process.
www.esc18.net

Office of Civil Rights- Texas Branch (US Dept. of Education) 214.661.9600
For assistance related to civil rights in school context. They suggest that families e-mail or fax concerns to: E-mail: OCR.Dallas@ed.gov; FAX: 214.661.9587

Texas Project First (website only)
 TEA sponsored/parent organization created - special education, informational website. TEA compliance project in conjunction with Region 9 Education Service Center. All info is TEA approved/sanctioned. Grants provided to Family To Family Network for website creation and upkeep.
www.texasprojectfirst.org

Texas Senate (website only)
 You can link to your local/state senators to weigh in on educational legislation
www.senate.state.tx.us

Texas House of Representatives (website only)
 You can link to your local/state house representatives to weigh in on educational legislation.
www.house.state.tx.us

TEA Information Regarding Making Complaints 800.252.9668
 For making complaints that concern Texas public schools. Remember, also put complaints in writing and mail or fax them. This makes the complaint official.
www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed/medcom/compinfo.html

TEA Special Education 512.463.9414
 A great source of special education laws, regulations and other educational topics under Texas Education Agency control.
www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed

Employment

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (formally TRC) 1-800-628-5115
Multiple locations. Provides vocational assessments, training, support, and assistive devices for individuals with disabilities who are seeking employment.
www.dars.state.tx.us

Financial Assistance

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) 877.543.7669
 The Texas Health and Human Services Commission oversees this program. Low cost health insurance for children who do not qualify for Medicaid and are not covered by private insurance. Family must meet income eligibility guidelines. Web site available in **Spanish**.
<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/chip/index.html>
Spanish: <http://www.chipmedicaid.org/espanol/index.htm>

Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)- formally CIDC 800.252.8023
Texas Department of State Health Services oversees this service. For children with a chronic physical or developmental condition that will last longer than 12 months. For those with mental retardation/autism/ADHD/ and mental health disabilities there must be a co-occurring, health need related to bodily tissues such as a seizure disorder, cerebral palsy or any condition that has physical manifestations. (This funding is also available to a person of any age who has Cystic Fibrosis.). The child may have Medicaid or CHIP already but the funds from the two services must have been exhausted before CSHSN use.
www.dshs.state.tx.us/CSHCN/

In-Home and Family Support Services 512-438-3011
The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program. Provides direct grant benefits to individuals with disabilities to purchase services that enable them to live in the community. Eligibility: Must be 4 or older. Individuals whose income exceeds 105% of the state median income for household size are assessed for a co-payment. The individual must have a physical disability that substantially limits his or her ability to function independently. Administration and eligibility are overseen by the Department of Aging and Disability Services.
<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/ihfs/index.html>

State of Texas Assistance and Referral System (STARS) (web site only)
 Your one-stop on-line site for discovering what state assistance programs your family qualifies for. Easy to use and comprehensive. Web site available in **Spanish**.
<https://www.yourtexasbenefits.com/wps/portal>

Texas Department of Insurance

800.252.3439

If your child has a disability and you are having problems with obtaining insurance then this state agency may be able to help. They also publish a free brochure (order it from this number- 1-800-599-7467) "What Texans with Disabilities Should Know About Insurance".

<http://www.tdi.state.tx.us>

Waiver ProgramsCommunity Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)

512.438.3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program.

800.458.9858

Provides home and community-based services as a cost effective alternative to placement in an intermediate care facility for people with disability conditions other than mental retardation that affects their ability to function in daily life (ICF-MR/RC). This program is not statewide and has a long waiting list. Eligibility: No age requirements, but the individual must have had the onset of the disability (other than mental retardation and it must affect the ability to function in daily life) before age 22. He or she must meet the ICF-MR/RC Level of Care criteria, have a demonstrated need for habilitation, have an approved Individual Service Care Plan for waiver services and reside in the geographic jurisdiction area. Financial eligibility criteria allows for special exclusions for *children* with disabilities. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/CLASS/index.cfm>

Community Based Alternatives

512-438-3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program.

800.458.9858

Provides home and community-based services to people who are elderly and to adults with disabilities as a cost-effective alternative to living in a nursing home. DADS employees provide case management services. Must be 21 or older. May have a disability or be elderly. Must meet a medical necessity for a nursing home determination. Must choose waiver services over nursing home based on informed choice.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/CBA/index.cfm>

Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Medicaid Waiver Program

877.438.5658

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program.

800.458.9858

Support for families caring for children who are medically dependent and to encourage de-institutionalization of children in nursing homes. This is a Medicaid home and community-based waiver program (so it is your child's income that is considered). Very long waiting list. If useful for your child, get on it ASAP. Eligibility: The child must meet the medical necessity criteria (as diagnosed by a physician) although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. for home nursing care. Eligibility ends at age 21. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/MDCP/index.cfm>

Home and Community Based Services (HCS) Medicaid Waiver Program

512-438-3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program.

800.458.9858

Very long waiting list. Large range of comprehensive service options such as therapy, residential assistance and case management. No age limit. Cannot be enrolled in another Medicaid waiver program. Expenses over \$20,000 per year. Must have a diagnosis of mental retardation. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/HCS/index.cfm>

Texas Home Living Waiver Program

512-438-3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program.

800.458.9858

Large range of comprehensive services such as therapy, residential assistance and case management up to the amount of \$20,000 per year. Must live at home with family or in independent home (no group homes). Diagnosis of mental retardation required. Cannot be enrolled in another Medicaid waiver program. No age limit. Administered through the Department of Aging

and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/TxHmL/index.cfm>

General Social and Government Issues

<p><u>Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP)</u> Non-partisan research organization committed to improving public policies. www.cppp.org</p>	512.320.0222
<p><u>Citizen's Opinion Hotline</u> Callers can leave a message for the governor on matters of public interest.</p>	800.252.9600
<p><u>Texas Senate</u> You can link to your local/state senators from this site. www.senate.state.tx.us</p>	(website only)
<p><u>Texas House of Representatives</u> You can link to your local/state house representatives from this site. www.house.state.tx.us</p>	(website only)
<p><u>Texas Health and Human Services Helpline</u> Referrals to agency services and providers in Texas.</p>	800.252.8263

Legal Issues (also see Educational Advocacy & Law)

<p><u>Advocacy, Inc.</u> Protects and advocates for the legal rights of persons with disabilities in Texas. Services available in Spanish. www.advocacyinc.org</p>	800.252.9108
<p><u>Guardianship Alliance of Texas</u> Information, referral, and public hearings regarding guardianship issues in Texas. http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/si/gat</p>	512.424.6599
<p><u>Texas Appleseed</u> Handbook for individuals with mental retardation/intellectual disabilities and their families to help navigate the criminal justice system http://www.texasappleseed.net/projects_fairDefenseMental.shtml</p>	512.804.1633
<p><u>Texas Civil Rights Project</u> A nonprofit group which educates the public about civil rights in Texas, and brings suit against state agencies to protect civil rights. http://www.texascivilrightsproject.org</p>	512.474.5073
<p><u>Texas Lawyers Care</u> An on-line directory of free or low cost legal services available to lower income Texans. Also contains information about how to file complaints against public agencies. http:// www.texasbar.com/Template.cfm?Section=Texas_Lawyers_Care1 (correct)</p>	800.204.2222
<p><u>Texas Youth Commission (TYC)</u> Rehabilitation for youths sentenced for committing serious criminal acts. Web site contains a detailed overview of the Texas correctional system for youths. Information available in Spanish. http://www.tyc.state.tx.us/index.html Spanish: http://www.tyc.state.tx.us/espanol/index.html</p>	512.424.6130

Medical Equipment & Adaptive Technology

<p><u>Project Mend</u> Medical equipment, supplies, and other services for low-income individuals with disabilities. http://www.projectmend.org/</p>	888.903.6363
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Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services (DARS) 800.628.5115
Multiple locations. Vocational services, including when needed, adaptive technology, available to graduating school students with disabilities who will need assistance in gaining employment. Applicant guide available in **Spanish**.
www.dars.state.tx.us Houston Regional Office 713.735.3470
<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/spanish.shtml>

Texas Technology Access Project 800.828.7839
 Provides information, conducts training, and works with policy makers to support individuals with disabilities in their efforts to acquire and use technology as a routine part of day-to-day living. Services available in **Spanish**.
<http://tatp.edb.utexas.edu/>

Social & Leisure

The Door in the Wall (website only)
 San Antonio. Social and leisure information for persons with disabilities.
www.doorinthewall.org

Special Olympics - Texas 800.876.5646
 Year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons eight years of age and older with mental retardation.
<http://www.sotx.org>

Texas Talking Books 800.252.9605
 Free. Audio tape, Braille, and large print formats for books and magazines available for loan through the Texas library system. Materials are delivered to the home at no charge.
www.tsl.state.tx.us/tbp

VSA Arts of Texas 512.454.9912
 Creates learning opportunities through the arts for persons with disabilities, and supports creative expressions by persons with disabilities.
www.vsatx.org

Treatment Services (Medical & Behavioral)

Center for Play Therapy 940.565.3864
 Information and referral about play therapy for children.
<http://www.coe.unt.edu/cpt/prosindex.html>

Health Professions Complaint Referral System 800.821.3205
 Automated line directs caller to the correct department to initiate complaints against health professionals, including doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, and other medical workers.

Texas Network for Children (Youth for Tomorrow) (website only)
 Internet database containing information on more than 500 residential treatment providers in Texas. Updated each week. Searchable by age, diagnosis, and reimbursement source.
www.yft.org

NATIONAL RESOURCES

General Information & Support

All Disabilities

- About Face 800.665.3223
Provides information and social support to individuals with facial differences, and their families.
www.aboutfaceinternational.org
- American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) 800.840.8844
A meeting ground for all persons with disabilities to become informed and become active in advocating for disability rights and services.
www.aapd-dc.org
- American Disability Association (ADA) (website only)
Promotes awareness of disability culture and works to enhance quality of life and access to freedom for persons with disabilities.
www.adanet.org
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 800.311.3435
Federal agency responsible for promoting good health practices and providing credible information on all health topics. Web site contains an A to Z list of health topics. Most topics available in **Spanish**.
www.cdc.gov
- Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) 202.783.2229
Coalition of 100 national disability organizations working together to advocate for changes in public policy that promote independence, empowerment, & inclusion for persons with disabilities.
www.c-c-d.org
- Council for Disability Rights 312.444.9484
Advocates for public policy change through education and information.
www.disabilityrights.org
- disABILITY Information and Resource (website only)
Really useful information on disability issues, with a large focus on assistive technology and medical links. Interesting collection of advocacy links, too.
www.makoa.org
- DisabilityInfo.gov (website only)
Official federal website for reporting on federal initiatives for disability needs.
www.disabilityinfo.gov
- Easter Seals 800.221.6827
Disability advocacy. Also provides referrals to local services for persons with disabilities.
www.easter-seals.org
- Family Village (University of Wisconsin) (website only)
Numerous links and resources for a wide variety of disability-related concerns.
www.familyvillage.wisc.edu
- Kid's Quest on Disability and Health (CDC) (website only)
Site for children to help them understand disabilities and learn how to interact with children who have special needs.
www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/kids/
- National Council on Disability 202.272.2004
Excellent advocacy information as well as government reports on a variety of disability-related studies that can be downloaded for free.
www.ncd.gov

- National Organization on Disability (NOD) 202.293.5960
 Raises disability awareness through educational programs, with an emphasis on inclusion and participation.
www.nod.org
- PACER Center 952.838.9000
 An advocacy organization based in Minnesota working to improve the quality of life for children with disabilities through parent to parent networking and community collaboration.
www.pacer.org/
- People with Disabilities Foundation (PWDF) 415.931.3070
 Education and advocacy for persons with disabilities.
www.pwdf.org/
- Public Citizen Health Research Group (E-letter) 202.588.1000
 Founded by Ralph Nadar, this organization promotes research-based, system-wide changes in health care policy, with particular emphasis on psychiatric drugs. Contains a drug information database detailing common psychiatric drugs.
www.citizen.org/eletter/
- TASH 202.263.5600
A community for families, individuals, service providers, and educators working to promote inclusion and opportunity for all persons with disabilities.
www.tash.org
- Through the Looking Glass 800.644.2666
 A dialogue between people with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities, siblings, spouses and adult children of parents with disabilities, emphasizing a life cycle approach which integrates perspectives gained from personal and family disability. Information available in **Spanish**.
www.lookingglass.org
Spanish: www.lookingglass.org/spanish/index.php
- Wide Smiles (website only)
 A nice site for resources and links to a wide variety of interests for those with special needs, including some interesting information on concerns related to having a cleft palate.
www.widesmiles.org/useful/special.html
- ADD/ADHD***
- ADDinSchool.com (website only)
 Information about a number of treatment resources and strategies for parents and teachers.
www.addinschool.com
- Children and Adults with ADD/ADHD (CHADD) 800.233.4050
 Information, referral and support. Web site available in **Spanish**.
www.chadd.org
- Autism, Asperger Syndrome, & PDD***
- Amicus for Children (website only)
 Two moms of kids who have Asperger Syndrome started this organization. Pleasant, informative & a useful starting point for Asperger info. Some general disability info, especially legal subjects.
www.amicusforchildren.org
- Aspie.com (website only)
 Web page with basic resources regarding Asperger syndrome.
<http://www.aspie.com/>
- Asperger Syndrome Organization (OASIS) (website only)
 Website covering many aspects of Asperger Syndrome.
<http://www.aspergersyndrome.org/>
- Autism National Committee (AUTCOM) (website only)
 A national "think tank" advancing the research, understanding and practice of positive, relationship- and communication-based approaches to assisting children and adults with autism.
www.autcom.org

- Autism.org (website only)
A wealth of information related to autism. Contains information in English, Spanish, Chinese, Italian, Japanese, and Korean.
www.autism.org
Spanish: <http://www.autism.org/translations/spanish.html>
Chinese: <http://www.autism.org/translations/chinese1.html>
Italian: <http://www.autism.org/translations/italian.html>
Japanese: <http://www.autism.org/translations/japanese1.html>
Korean: <http://www.autism.org/translations/japanese1.html>
- Autism-PDD Resources Network (website only)
A good site for a variety of information related to this disability.
www.autism-pdd.net/
- Autism Research Institute (ARI) (website only)
Conducts research into the causes of autism and on methods of preventing, diagnosing and treating autism and other severe behavioral disorders of childhood.
www.autism.com/ari/
- Autism Society of America (ASA) 301.657.0881
Promotes lifelong access and opportunity for all individuals within the autism spectrum, and their families, to be fully participating, included members of their community.
www.autism-society.org
- Autistic Kids (website only)
Website currently under construction.
www.autistickids.org
- Autistics.org (website only)
Very useful site created by people with autism stressing self-independence and self-advocacy.
www.autistics.org
- The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies (website only)
Nonprofit research organization. Covers research related issues for applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.
www.behavior.net
- Families of Adults Afflicted with Asperger Syndrome 508.790.1930
Education and support for families of adults with Asperger Syndrome.
www.faaas.org
- Families for the Early Treatment of Autism (FEAT) (website only)
National nonprofit with branches in many states, including Texas.
www.feat.org
- Dixie's 15 Minutes (website only)
A good directory of internet resources and links with other sites about Asperger Syndrome can be accessed from this home page.
www.kandi.org/
- MAAP Services 219.662.1311
Information for and about individuals with high functioning autism/Asperger Syndrome.
www.maapservices.org
- Tony Attwood's site 61.7.3285.7888 (international)
A web site for parents, professionals, and people with Asperger Syndrome. Mr. Attwood has developed a number of publications and products concerning Asperger.
<http://www.tonyattwood.com.au/>

Brain Injury

- Brain Injury Association of America 703.761.0750
Information, referral, and advocacy for persons with brain injury.
www.biausa.org

Cerebral Palsy

American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine 414.918.3014
 Multidisciplinary scientific society devoted to the study of cerebral palsy and other childhood onset disabilities. Contains information & referral about CP and other developmental disorders.
www.aacpdm.org/index?service=page/Home

Cerebral Palsy Connection (website only)
 Families share information about stories about their experiences with CP.
www.cpconnection.com/

UCP (formerly United Cerebral Palsy) 800.872.5827
 As one of the largest health charities in America, UCP's mission is to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities.
www.ucp.org

Down Syndrome

The Down Syndrome Information Network (website only)
 An on-line library concerning Down Syndrome and related topics.
www.down-syndrome.info

Karen Gaffney Foundation 503.973.5130
 Karen Gaffney, a woman with Down Syndrome, graduated from high school with a full diploma, created her own web site and foundation, and does public speaking engagements advocating for the types of supports that helped her succeed.
www.karengaffneyfoundation.com

Mosaic Down Syndrome on the Web (website only)
 Information related to Mosaic Down Syndrome, compiled by a mother who could not find information on the subject when her daughter was born.
www.mosaicdownsyndrome.com

National Down Syndrome Congress 800.232.6372
 Advocacy for persons with Down Syndrome and their families.
www.ndsccenter.org

National Down Syndrome Society 800.221.4602
 Information and referral, focused on education, research, and advocacy for persons with Down Syndrome and their families. Information available in **Spanish**.
www.ndss.org

Dyslexia

International Dyslexia Association 410.296.0232
 Information about dyslexia, and links to related sites and support groups. Some information available in **Spanish**.
www.interdys.org

Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes 800.233.1819
 Special learning/tutoring program for children with learning disorders, including dyslexia.
www.lbjp.com

Epilepsy

Epilepsy Foundation 800.332.1000
 Information, referral, support, and advocacy for persons with epilepsy.
www.epilepsyfoundation.org

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

The Arc of the United States 800.433.5255
Has numerous materials about fetal alcohol syndrome as well as other developmental disabilities. Type in FAS once you have reached their Web site to download information or send for FAS/FAE kits and self-advocacy materials.
www.thearc.org/

Come-Over-To FAS Enterprises 520-296-9172
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: support, training, advocacy, and many printed resources. Videos, posters, brochures, presentations, and workshops for prevention and intervention. Website is loaded with information and resources for parents and professionals.
www.come-over.to/FASCRC

National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome 800.666.6327
Develops and implements innovative community based and culturally appropriate prevention, intervention, education and advocacy strategies nationwide. Comprehensive information available by E-mail or postal mail.
www.nofas.org/

Fragile X Syndrome

FRAXA Research Foundation 978.462.1866
A group founded by three parents of children with Fragile X Syndrome that supports scientific research aimed at finding a treatment and a cure.
www.fraxa.org

National Fragile X Foundation 800.688.8765
Information about Fragile X Syndrome and links to related sites. Available in **Spanish**.
www.fragilex.org/html/home.shtml
Spanish: <http://www.fragilex.org/html/espanol.htm>

Klinefelter Syndrome

Klinefelter Syndrome Support Group (website only)
Information about Klinefelter Syndrome and links to local support groups.
klinefeltersyndrome.org

Learning Disorders

Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities (website only)
Good starting point for researching types of learning disabilities. Available in **Spanish**.
www.aboutld.org

International Dyslexia Association 410.296.0232
Information about dyslexia, and links to related sites and support groups. Available in **Spanish**.
www.interdys.org

LD On Line (website only)
Huge amount of accommodation, modification, and curriculum information related to disabilities.
www.ldonline.org correct

Learning Disabilities Association of America 412.341.1515
A grassroots organization whose members are individuals with learning disabilities, their families, and the professionals who work with them, which strives to advance the education and general welfare of children and adults with learning disabilities.
www.ldanatl.org

<u>Life Success for Children</u>	626.791.1255
An on-line, downloadable parents' guide to supporting the success of children with learning disabilities, based on research findings and teaching experience at the Frostig Center. www.frostig.org/LDsuccess/	
<u>Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes</u>	800.233.1819
Special learning/tutoring program for children with learning disorders, including dyslexia. www.lblp.com	
<u>Nat'l Assoc for the Education of African-American Children w/Learning Disabilities</u>	614.237.6021
Information, referral, and research into special education and learning disorders in minority populations. www.charityadvantage.com/aacl	
<u>Nonverbal Learning Disorder Association (NLDA)</u>	860.658.5522
Committed to facilitating education, research and advocacy for children and adults who manifest disabilities associated with the syndrome of nonverbal learning disorders www.nlda.org/	
<i>Mental Illness</i>	
<u>Anxiety Disorders Association of America</u>	240.485.1001
Dedicated to informing the public, healthcare professionals and legislators that anxiety disorders are real, serious and treatable. Provides information, referral, and support. www.adaa.org	
<u>Child and Adolescent Bi-Polar Foundation</u>	847.256.8525
Information about early onset bi-polar disorder. www.bpkids.org	
<u>Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA)</u>	800.826.3632
Working to improve the lives of persons with mood disorders. www.dbsalliance.org	
<u>Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health</u>	240.403.1901
A network of local organizations advocating for child's mental health issues. www.ffcmh.org	
<u>HealthyPlace.com</u>	(website only)
Information on various mental health disorders and disabilities. www.healthyplace.com	
<u>National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)</u>	703.524.7600
Information, referral, and advocacy for persons with mental illness and their families. www.nami.org	
<u>National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia & Depression</u>	516.829.0091
Supports research into finding the causes, better treatments, and eventual cures for schizophrenia and mood disorders. www.narsad.org	
<u>National Association for the Dually Diagnosed</u>	800.331.5362
Promotes treatment services for individuals who have developmental disabilities and mental health needs. www.thenadd.org	
<u>The International Foundation for Research & Education on Depression</u>	410.268.0044
Information, referral, and support for persons experiencing depression. www.ifred.org	
<u>National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)</u>	866.615.6464
Federal agency conducting research into the causes and treatment of mental illness. Provides free brochures to educate the public about mental illness and related issues. Most brochures available in Spanish . www.nimh.nih.gov	
<u>Mental Health America</u>	800.969.6642
Advocacy, education, and research into issues pertaining to mental health and mental illness. www.nmha.org	

Research & Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health 503.725.4040
 Good site for info and research on children's mental disorders from Portland State University.
www.rtc.pdx.edu/

Treatment Advocacy Center 703.294.6001
 Information & referral site, working to eliminate barriers to treatment for severe mental illness.
www.psychlaws.org

Mental Retardation

Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities 800.424.3688
 Information about Mental Retardation and related disabilities. AAMR promotes progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights for people with intellectual disabilities.
www.aamr.org

The Arc of the United States 800.433.5255
 Good resource for learning about developmental disabilities. Great link to government officials where you can e-mail representatives with disability advocacy concerns.
www.thearc.org

The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies (website only)
 Nonprofit research organization. Covers research related issues for applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.
www.behavior.net

National Association for the Dually Diagnosed 800.331.5362
 Promotes treatment services for individuals who have developmental disabilities and mental health needs.
www.thenadd.org

Muscular Dystrophy

Muscular Dystrophy Association 800.572.1717
 A research, education, and community services organization serving persons with neuromuscular disease. Information available in **Spanish**.
www.mdausa.org
 Spanish: <http://www.mdausa.org/espanol/>

Prader-Willi Syndrome

Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (PWSA) 800.926.4797
 Information, referral and support for person and families affected by Prader-Willi Syndrome.
www.pwsausa.org

Rett Syndrome

International Rett Syndrome Association 800.818.7388
 Information, referral, support and advocacy for persons with Rett Syndrome.
www.rettsyndrome.org

Rett Syndrome Research Foundation 513.874.3020
 Created by six parents of children with Rett Syndrome to find treatments and a cure.
www.rsf.org

Tourette Syndrome

Tourette Syndrome Association (TSA) 718.224.2999
Working to identify the cause of, find the cure for, and control the effects of Tourette Syndrome.
www.tsa-usa.org

Tourette Syndrome Plus (website only)
Information and stories compiled by a psychologist treating persons with Tourette Syndrome, who is also the mother of two children with Tourette Syndrome.
www.tourettesyndrome.net

Williams Syndrome

The Williams Syndrome Association 800.806.1871
Devoted to improving the lives of individuals with Williams syndrome by supporting research into all facets of the syndrome, and developing up to date educational materials.
www.williams-syndrome.org

Caregiver Support

ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center 919.490.5577
Excellent clearinghouse for information about respite and other caregiver issues.
www.archrespite.org

Care Guide 888.721.9797
Information and referral regarding elder care, but applicable to any family in a care giving situation.
<http://www.careguide.com/html/home.html>

Caregiver.com 954.893.0550
On-line magazine providing information, support, and guidance for family caregivers.
www.caregiver.com

Caregiver Network Inc. (CNI) (website only)
Canadian on-line caregiver support community with useful information about caregiver concerns and strategies, geared towards Alzheimer care but pertinent for any caregiver.
www.caregiver.on.ca/

The Father's Network (website only)
Support for fathers raising children with special health needs & disabilities. Available in **Spanish**.
www.fathersnetwork.org/
Spanish: <http://www.fathersnetwork.org/page.php?page=711>

National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA) 800.896.3650
Organization supporting and advocating for family caregivers.
www.nfcacares.org/

National Organization for Empowering Caregivers (NOFEC) 212.807.1204
Assistance, education, support and referrals for informal family caregivers. Also promotes public awareness about the realities of caregiving.
www.care-givers.com/

National Respite Coalition (affiliated with ARCH) 703.256.9578
Advocates for quality, accessible, planned and crisis respite services for all families and caregivers in need of such services.
www.archrespite.org/NRC.htm

Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving (RCI) 229.928.1234
Supports research, education, and training to promote the mental health and well-being of individual, family, and professional caregivers.
<http://rci.gsw.edu/>

Child Care

Afterschool.gov (website only)
 Information and referral for choosing child care, including a section on special needs child care. Some brochures available in Spanish.
<http://www.afterschool.gov>

National Network for Child Care (website only)
 Information and referral for choosing child care.
www.nncc.org

Education

Support for Educators and Parents

About Special Education (website only)
 Good site for information on many disabilities and related concerns.
<http://www.specialed.about.com/>

All Kinds of Minds (website only)
 Non-profit organization founded by Dr. Mel Levine for the purpose of educating parents, teachers and other professionals about learning differences, and how to approach differences in learning.
www.allkindsofminds.org

CADRE 541.686.5060
 Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education
 Provides technical assistance to education agencies in compliance with the mediation requirement in IDEA Provides information to parents & other professionals about special education mediation.
www.directionservice.org/cadre

Center on Community Living and Careers 812.855.6508
 Good site for transition information. A service of Indiana University
www.iidc.indiana.edu/cclc

Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) 920.492.5960
 A Wisconsin education site. Contains excellent information about writing appropriate individual education goals.
www.cesa7.k12.wi.us/sped/index.html

Do 2 Learn (website only)
 Teacher and parent material for use with children who have cognitive disabilities. Offers some free downloads.
www.do2learn.com

HEATH Resource Center 202.973.0904
 A national clearinghouse for postsecondary education for persons with disabilities.
www.heath.gwu.edu/

Inclusion Daily (website only)
 Good resource for inclusion ideas as well as advocacy issues.
www.InclusionDaily.com/

Life Success for Children 626.791.1255
 An on-line, downloadable parents' guide to supporting the success of children with learning disabilities, based on research findings and teaching experience at the Frostig Center.
www.frostig.org/LDsuccess/

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition 612.624.2097
 Great site for transition and disability related information.
www.ncset.org

- National Center on Education Outcomes (NCEO) 612.626.1530
Graduation requirements for students with disabilities by state. Includes full-text of state education laws by state.
<http://cehd.umn.edu/NCEO/TopicAreas/Graduation/gradTopic.htm>
- National Information Center on Children and Youth with Disabilities 800.695.0285(v/tty)
Great free, downloadable publications that cover virtually all aspects of IDEA (many in **Spanish**). State by state resource guide provides good information.
www.nichcy.org/
Spanish: <http://www.nichcy.org/spanish.htm>
- Office of Special Education; US Department of Education 800.872.5327
They have interesting research articles as well as updates on nation level, special education topics.
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html
- Pro Ed on line 800.897.3202
Publishes quality assessment, curriculum and research tools for students with disabilities, as well as several interesting professional journals and books. Based in Austin.
www.proedinc.com
- Project Participate 303.315.2318
Good site for inclusion strategies and inclusion success stories.
<http://www.projectparticipate.org/>
- Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic 866.732.3585
Provides audio recordings of a wide variety of written material for individuals who have difficulty reading due to any physical or developmental disability.
<http://www.rfbid.org/index.htm>
- Sopris West Educational Services 800.547.6747
Educational Publishers. The site has curriculum, activities and special education publications for concerns such as transition and ARD meetings.
www.sopriswest.com
- Speaking of Speech (website only)
A place to share ideas about special education for speech and language disabilities.
www.speakingofspeech.com
- Special Education News 202.320.0521
Provides very up-to-date information on special education issues.
www.specialednews.com/
- Special Education Resources on the Internet (SERI) (website only)
List of internet resources relating to various aspects of special education.
www.seriweb.com (correct)
- TEACCH (website only)
Information regarding the TEACCH curriculum, which has been used successfully with some students who have autism.
www.teacch.com
- Educational Advocacy & Law***
- The Center for Education and Employment Law (formerly Oakstone Legal) 800.365.4900
Produces technical publications regarding IDEA and ADA law interpretations. Good source for finding detailed legal documents.
<http://www.ceelonline.com/>
- The Council of Parent Attorney and Advocates (COPAA) 410.372.0208
Great site for educational law concerns.
<http://copaa.net/>
- EDLAW (website only)
One of the premiere sites for finding information about educational advocacy concerns. Comprehensive, with good links.
www.edlaw.org

- Equip for Equality 800.758.6869
An Illinois nonprofit. Information covering general disability concerns such as ADA, employment, housing and more.
www.equipforequality.org/
- Families and Advocates Partnership for Education (FAPE) 952.838.9000
Great advocacy site. 9528380199 (TTY)
www.fape.org
- FindLaw (website only)
Great source for obtaining actual laws related to special education and other concerns.
www.findlaw.com
- IDEA Practices (website only)
A comprehensive list of IDEA concerns and resources. They have excellent links. Funded by the Office of Special Education programs.
www.ideapolicy.org/home.htm
- LRP Publications (website only)
Legal publications addressing detailed aspects of IDEA, focused on the bare minimum of what the schools must provide by law. Intended for school professionals, but useful to parents, too.
www.lrp.com
- Mayerson and Associates (Mayerlaw) 212.265.7200
A special education advocacy site. Nice synopsis of landmark court cases.
www.mayerslaw.com
- National Center on Education Outcomes (NCEO) 612.626.1530
Graduation requirements for students with disabilities by state. Includes full-text of state education laws by state.
<http://cehd.umn.edu/NCEO/TopicAreas/Graduation/gradTopic.htm>
- National Dissemination Center on Children and Youth with Disabilities 800.695.0285
Great, free downloadable publications that cover virtually all aspects of IDEA. Also a good state-by-state resources guide. Available in **Spanish**.
www.nichcy.org
Spanish: <http://www.nichcy.org/spanish.htm>
- No Child Left Behind 888.814.6252
Official government site for the No Child Left Behind Act. Some information in **Spanish**.
www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml
Spanish: <http://www.ed.gov/espanol/bienvenidos/es/index.html?src=gu>
- Office for Civil Rights (Department of Education) 800.421.3481
The national web site for the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Education. Provides contact information for complaints about schools by state.
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html?src=mr>
- OSERS (Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services) 800.872.5327
(Spanish) 800.872.5327
Some interesting research as well as occasional updates on national level special education issues. Some information available in **Spanish**.
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html?src=mr>
Spanish: <http://www.ed.gov/espanol/bienvenidos/es/index.html?src=gu>
- The Policymaker Partnership for Implementing IDEA (PMP) (website only)
This is the site that policy-makers use to find out and disseminate new IDEA information. They also have videoconferences you can watch on-line.
<http://www.ideapolicy.org/home.htm>
- Reed Martin (website only)
An attorney's site providing useful educational advocacy information and links.
<http://www.reedmartin.com/>
- Special Education News (website only)
Frequent updates on education and advocacy news.
www.specialednews.com

Wrightslaw

(website only)

Great site for special education law and advocacy information.
www.wrightslaw.com

Employment

The Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE)

804.278.9187

Working to improve and expand integrated employment opportunities, services, and outcomes for persons experiencing disabilities.

www.apse.org

The Center for Education and Employment Law (formerly Oakstone Legal)

800.365.4900

Produces technical publications regarding IDEA and ADA law interpretations. Good source for finding detailed legal documents.

<http://www.ceelonline.com/ceel/default.asp>

Goodwill Industries International

800.741.0186

Working to eliminate barriers to opportunity for people with special needs, particularly in the area of employment.

www.goodwill.org

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability

877.871.0744

Technical assistance on employment of people with disabilities.

www.ncwd-youth.info

Ticket to Work

866.968.7842

New legislation gives individuals receiving disability benefits greater freedom to work and earn income without losing benefits. The program also includes employment training.

www.yourtickettowork.com

Financial & Basic Needs Support

Supplemental Social Security Income

800.772.1213

800.325.0778 (TTY)

Families of children with disabilities may be able to receive a supplemental income to help offset the cost of raising a child with a disability. Eligibility is based on family income, the number of people in the family, and the severity of the disability. Some information available in **Spanish**.

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/index.htm>

Housing Accessibility & Home Modification

Concrete Change

(website only)

Supporting universal design efforts to make all homes accessible to persons with disabilities.

www.concretechange.org

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (HUD)

202.708.1112

Information about the rights of persons with disabilities in regards to housing, and how to file complaints. Information available in **Spanish**.

www.hud.gov/offices/ftheo/disabilities

Spanish: <http://espanol.hud.gov/offices/ftheo/disabilities/index.cfm?&lang=es>

ImproveNet

(website only)

Searchable database of home improvement/remodeling contractors.

www.improvenet.com

Infinitec

708.444.8460

Information about home modification for houses and apartments. A program of UCP in Illinois.

<http://www.infinitec.org/live/index.html>

National Resource Center on Supportive Housing and Home Modification 213.740.1364
Working to make supportive housing and home modification a more integral component of all communities.
www.usc.edu/dept/gero/nrcshhm/index.htm

WELLcome Home 765.285.1471
Information about home modification and accessibility.
www.bsu.edu/wellcomehome/index.html

Legal Issues (also see Educational Advocacy & Law)

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law 202.467.5730
National advocates for the legal rights of adults and children with mental disabilities.
www.bazelon.org

Disability Law Resource Project 800.949.4232
Provides technical assistance, training, and materials related to Americans with Disability Act
www.dlrp.org

FindLaw (website only)
Great source for obtaining actual laws related to special education and other concerns.
www.findlaw.com

National Guardianship Association 877.326.5992
Information, referral and advocacy for excellence in guardianship.
www.guardianship.org

Police and Autism 772.398.9756
Training materials for law enforcement and other first responders in recognizing and interacting with persons with autism.
<http://policeandautism.cjb.net/>

Medical Equipment & Adaptive Technology

ABLEDATA 800.227.0216
A federally funded project which provides information about assistive technology and rehabilitation equipment. Contains information on over 30,000 products.
www.abledata.com

Assistivetech.net 800.726.9119
Clearinghouse of information regarding assistive technology.
www.assistivetech.net

disABILITY Information and Resource (website only)
Really useful information on disability issues, with a large focus on assistive technology and medical links. Interesting collection of advocacy links, too.
www.makoa.org

HotBraille (website only)
Web links to Braille resources.
www.hotbraille.com

National Resource Center on Supportive Housing and Home Modification 213.740.1364
Working to make supportive housing and home modification a more integral component of all communities.
www.usc.edu/dept/gero/nrcshhm/index.htm

Think and Link (website only)
Helps individuals with cognitive disabilities set up and use e-mail accounts.
www.think-and-link.org

WELLcome Home 765.285.1471
Information about home modification and accessibility.
www.bsu.edu/wellcomehome/index.html

Religion

- Council for Jews with Special Needs 480.629.5343
Helping persons with special needs participate fully in Jewish religious, social, and cultural life.
www.cjsn.org
- Disability Awareness Ministries 612-230-DAMI (3264)
A movement to encourage accessibility and inclusion in the Methodist Church.
<http://www.disability-awareness.org/>
- The Episcopal Disability Network 612.729.4322
Information about the status of addressing disability issues in the church, and support for local congregations wishing to improve accessibility.
<http://disability99.org/>
- Muslim Community Support Services (MCSS) 888.773.3777
A Massachusetts advocacy and support organization for Muslim Americans. They do not have operations in Texas, but are able to answer questions about health, legal, social, and cultural concerns for the Muslim community.
www.muslimsupport.org
- National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities 202.529.2933
Working towards full inclusion for all persons with disabilities in the Church and in society.
www.ncpd.org
- Parish Ministry Consultants 800.369.4636
A program of Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services that helps persons with disabilities locate accessible area congregations, and participate more fully in church life.
www.blhs.org/resources/spiritualResources/pmc.asp

Social & Leisure

- Ability OnLine Supports 866.650.6207
A free internet community where children and youth with disabilities or illness and their parents can meet others like them, make friends from all over the world, share their hopes and fears, find role-models and mentors, and feel like they belong.
www.ablelink.org/
- Assistive Media (website only)
Provides **free** access to audio files of a wide variety of printed material over the internet.
www.assistivemedia.org
- Center for Creative Play 412.371.1668
Information about developmental toys, and how to make simple adaptations to toys for special needs children to improve play ability.
www.center4creativeplay.org/adapted.htm
- Challenge Aspen 970.923.0578
Year-round recreational and cultural programs for people with cognitive and physical disabilities, and their families.
www.challengeaspen.com
- Fishing Has no Boundaries 800.243.3462
Sponsors accessible fishing events for persons with a broad range of disabilities.
www.fhnbinc.org
- Infinitec (website only)
Extensive information about recreational accommodations for persons with disabilities. Contains sections on gardening, travel, shopping, sports, outdoor activities, transportation, & entertainment.
www.infinitec.org/play/index.html
- National Center on Physical Activity and Disability 800.900.8086
Information about the exercise needs for individuals with disabilities, and exercise opportunities.
www.ncpad.org

Think and Link

(website only)

Helps individuals with cognitive disabilities set up and use e-mail accounts.

www.think-and-link.orgTurnstep: Adaptive Aerobics

(website only)

www.turnstep.com**Accessible Travel**Access to Travel

1.800.465.7735 TTY/TTD

Canadian government website including comprehensive travel information for persons with disabilities in Canada. Web site available in **French**.<http://www.accesstotravel.gc.ca/main-e.asp>**French:** <http://www.accesstotravel.gc.ca/main-f.asp>Amtrack: Accessibility Services

800.872.7245

800.523.6590 TTY/TTD

Information about accessibility services from Amtrack and requesting special accommodations.

http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/Page/Collection_Page&c=Page&cid=1080080554568&ssid=139Greyhound Bus Customers with Disabilities Travel Assistance

800.752.4841

Information about accessibility services from Greyhound and requesting special accommodations.

www.greyhound.comDOT Disability Hotline

800.778.4838

800.455.9880 TTY

Information about how to plan air travel, the rights of individuals with disabilities under the Air Carrier Access Act, and real-time assistance in resolving issues concerning service animals, stowage of personal equipment, and other accommodations.

<http://airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/hotline.htm>Society for Accessible Travel and Hospitality

212.447.7284

Tips and resources for persons with mobility impairments, communication disabilities, & autism.

www.sath.org/**Treatment Services (Behavioral and Medical)**American Hippotherapy Association

888.851.4592

Information about how horses are used to improve the results of physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

www.americanhippotherapyassociation.orgAmerican Music Therapy Association

301.589.3300

Information and referral about music therapy.

www.musictherapy.orgBehavior On-Line

(website only)

Interdisciplinary site for the exchange of information concerning mental health and applied behavior science.

www.behavior.netThe Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies

978.369.2227

A nonprofit research organization. Information about issues related to applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.

www.behavior.orgCanine Companions for Independence

800.572.2275

Provides service dogs for persons with limited mobility, hearing impairment, cognitive deficit, or emotional challenges.

www.caninecompanions.orgDelta Society

425.226.7357

A wealth of information about therapeutic human-animal interactions.

www.deltasociety.org

National Hispanic Prenatal Health Line 800.504.7081
Bilingual helpline staff answer questions about prenatal care and provide referrals to culturally competent health providers by zip code. Also provides **bilingual** fact sheets on numerous topics.
www.hispanichealth.org

NeedyMeds.com (website only)
 Information clearing house for patient assistance programs and other programs that provide medications to low income patients who cannot afford to pay for them.
www.needymeds.org

National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped 303.534.5360
 Provides free, comprehensive dental care for persons with disabilities. May provide in-home service to home bound individuals. Links to providers by state.
www.nfdh.org

Su Familia: National Hispanic Family Health Hotline 866.783.2645
Bilingual helpline staff answer questions about health topics and provide referrals to local health providers by zip code. Also provides bilingual fact sheets on various conditions.
www.hispanichealth.org

Wired on Wheels (website only)
 Rates the accessibility of restaurants based on reviews from clients with disabilities and their families and friends.
www.wiredonwheels.org

Other Need Support- General, not specifically disability related

Crisis & Disaster Preparedness

Administration for Children and Families: Coping with Disaster 214.767.9648
 Suggestions for how to help children with cognitive disabilities cope with disaster, tragedy and traumatic stress, based on the events of September 11, but useful for any traumatic situation
www.acf.hhs.gov/

American Red Cross (Houston: 713.526.8300) or 202.303.4498
 Information about disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities.
<http://www.redcross.org/>
<http://www.redcross.org/images/pdfs/preparedness/A4497.pdf> (for preparing for persons with disabilities)

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration) 800.480.2520
 Information about disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities.
<http://www.fema.gov/index.shtm>
<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/specialplans.shtm> (for persons with special needs info)