



Resource Guide

resources for those with autism and other developmental disabilities and their families





Resource Guide

This guide offers resources for those with autism and other developmental disabilities and their families.

Services included are not otherwise offered or are in addition to those provide by Little Friends:

Center for Autism
Educational Services
Community Day Program
Employment Services
Residential Services
Family Respite Services



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MEDICAL PROVIDERS

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Dr. Jessica Edison	AMITA Health Medical Group Pediatric Development 855.692.6482	Developmental Pediatrician
Dr. Peter Smith	University of Chicago 773-702-1000	Developmental Pediatrician
Dr. Balabanov	Rush University 312-942-5000	Neurologist (Epileptologist)
Dr. Charles Marcuccilli	Rush University 312-942-5000	Neurologist (Epileptologist)
Colleen M. Hanson, LCSW, P.C.	CORE Connection Counseling https://www.colleenhansontherapy.com/index.html 630-524-4000	Counseling
Pathways Psychology Services	https://pathways-psychology.com/ 630-293-9860	Providing counseling, therapy, psychological testing and neuropsychological testing for children, adolescents, and adults
Samara Care Counseling	https://samaracarecounseling.org/ 630-357-2456	Counseling/psychotherapy and psychiatric care for individuals, couples and families from diverse backgrounds and varied financial means.
Grow Wellness Group	https://growwellnessgroup.com/ 331-457-2020	Counseling / Psychologist
Stacey Sanicki	Integral Therapy https://www.integral-therapy.net/ 630-398-1023	Specializes in working with children, teens, and adults affected by a chronic medical illness or disability
Dr. Thomas Dimatteo	Wellspring Clinical Assoc. https://wca-il.com/ 630-541-8930	Psychiatrist
Dr. Peter Nichols	LifeStance Health https://lifestance.com/provider/peter-nichols-md/ 888-428-7890	Psychiatrist—Child and Adolescent
Dr. Kristin Clifford, PsyD	Grow Wellness Group 331-457-2108 https://growwellnessgroup.com/	Evaluation-Autism
Dr. Karen Rosian	Delta Behavioral Health https://www.deltabehavioralhealth.com/ 630-470-9483	Evaluation-Autism



MEDICAL PROVIDERS

continued

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Trinity Services	www.trinityservices.org/services-and-supports/trinity-counseling-center 815-485-6197	Evaluation-Autism (child & adult) Medicaid
Dr. Julie Young	Grow Wellness Group https://growwellnessgroup.com/ 331-457-2108	Evaluation-Autism (adults)
G&G Dentistry	Dr. Cory www.gandgpediatricdentistryandorthodontics.com/ 630-778-9500	Dentist
Glen Ellyn Pediatric Dentistry, P.C	Lance A. Lambert, D.D.S.; Claire Garcia, D.D.S., M.S.; Joyce Koh, D.D.S. www.gepediatricdentistry.com 630-858-8755	Dentist—special needs
Grove Dental	www.grovedental.com 630-410-1766	Dentist—special needs
Small Smiles	Dr. Dave www.smallsmiles.org 630-527-8686	Dentist
Ticho Eye Specialists	Benjamin Hendrik Ticho, MD www.tichoeye.com 708-423-4070	Optometrist
Visual Symptoms Treatment Center	Neil N. Margolis, FCOVD www.visualsymptomtreatmentcenter.com 847-255-1040	Optometrist-special needs



FUNDING/GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Illinois PUNS - Division of Developmental Disabilities	https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=41131	PUNS is a database that registers individuals who want or need Developmental Disability Waiver services (i.e. Community Integrated Living Arrangements, Home Based Supports, Child Group Homes) funded by the IDHS/DDD. As funding is available, individuals are selected from PUNS and invited to apply for DD Waiver
Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services	https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29736 Locator for the closest office to you: https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?module=12&officetype=7	DHS's Division of Rehabilitation Services works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families to achieve full community participation through employment, education, and independent living opportunities.
Illinois Department of Human Services	https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29727	Provide state's residents with streamlined access to integrated disability and rehabilitation services including jobs, independent living, education, and other services.
Social Security Administration	www.ssa.gov 800-772-1213	Federal government agency that provides information about and administers Social Security benefits.
Service Inc.	https://www.svcincofil.org/	Independent Service Coordination (ISC) Agency
Suburban Access	https://www.subacc.org/	Independent Service Coordination (ISC) Agency
Autism Hero Project	https://www.autismheroproject.org/application	Medical Insurance Grants cover medical insurance premiums
United Healthcare Children's Foundation	https://www.uhccf.org/	UHCCF grants help with medical expenses not covered, or not fully covered, by a family's commercial health insurance.



ADVOCACY GROUPS

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Advocate Health—Adult Down Syndrome Center	https://www.advocatehealth.com/health-services/adult-down-syndrome-center/	Our mission is to enhance their lives by providing comprehensive, holistic, community-based care and services using a team approach.
The Arc of Illinois	https://www.thearcofil.org/	The Arc offers resources and information, supports families in their individual advocacy efforts and trains and educates people with disabilities, families and professionals among other things.
The Autism Project (TAP) of Illinois	https://tap-illinois.org/	The Autism Program of Illinois (TAP) Service Network provide services to children, families, educators, childcare providers, and medical professionals.
Autism Speaks	https://www.autismspeaks.org/	Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the life span, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
Chicago Autism Network	https://www.chicagoautismnetwork.org/	Helping locals find and afford effective autism therapy and supports
Family Matters Parent Training and Information Center	https://www.fmptc.org/ Help Line: 1-866-436-7842	Family Matters provides information, referral, links, and training to parents, students with disabilities, and special education professionals.
Family Resource Center on Disabilities	https://frcd.org/	RCD is here to help you: Learn about your Rights and Responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); Make informed decisions about your child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP); Obtain appropriate services
IPADD Unite	https://www.ipaddunite.org/	Give Illinois parents, self-advocates, adult sibs and others who care about adults with developmental disabilities a dedicated online platform for networking, advocacy and information-sharing. Primary focus areas are: Employment, Community Service, and Rec/Leisure opportunities; Effective Transition Planning; Transportation; Housing; and how to pay for all of it.



THERAPEUTIC PROVIDERS

non BCBS/UHC & in-home

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Cultivate Behavioral Health & Education	www.cultivatebhe.com 855.444.5664	ABA services In-clinic, home, or community based (Magellan, Aetna, Cigna, Health Alliance)
Instructional ABA Consultants	www.iabaconsultants.com 331-229-8839	ABA In-home and clinic (Medicaid accepted)
By Your Side	https://byyoursideac.com/ 866-429-7543	In-home therapies (Aetna, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Cigna, Coventry Health Care, Humana, UMR, United Health Care)
The Autism Therapy Group	https://atgtogether.com/ 847-465-9556	In-home therapies (United Health Care, Tricare, Magellan, Cigna, UMR, Quartz Blue Cross Blue Shield, Aetna, Compysch)
Total Spectrum Care	https://totalspectrumcare.com/our-services/ 844-263-1613	In-home therapies (BlueCross BlueShield Forward Health, Aetna, Cigna)
BDI Playhouse	https://bdisplayhouse.com/ 708-78-1820	Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Feeding Therapy (Aetna)
Easter Seals DuPage & Fox Valley	https://www.easterseals.com/dfv/ 630-282-2022	Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, ABA (Aetna, Cigna, Humana, Medicaid, etc.)
Helping Hand	https://helpinghand-il.org/ 708-352-3580	Feeding Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy (Aetna, Cigna, Medicaid Managed Care)
Katie Bug Therapy	https://www.katiebugtherapy.com/ 630-904-0700	Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Feeding Therapy (Humana)
Pedia Progress	https://pediaprogress.com/ 630-929-0122	Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy (Aetna, Cigna)
Rise Up for Autism	https://riseupforautism.com/ 630-300-3400	Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, ABA
Rush Kids Pediatric	https://www.rushpt.com/services/pediatric-therapy/ 630-955-1940	Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, ABA (Aetna)

ADULT PROGRAMS

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
AID - Association for Individual Development	www.the-association.org 630-966-4000	Developmental and vocational training; job placement and on-the-job coaching services; crisis intervention; behavioral intervention; community education and advocacy.
Aspire of Illinois	https://aspirechicago.com/ 708-547-3550	Residential, day programs, life skills and employment options.
Clearbrook	www.clearbrook.org 847-870-7711	Day programs in developmental training and Autism, offering workshop and vocational training, supported employment and residential programs.
Cornerstone	www.cornerstoneservices.org 815-727-6667	Vocational, developmental, residential and behavioral health services through five program departments.
Helping Hand	www.hhrehab.org 708-352-3580	Residential, day programs, life skills and employment options.
IAG - Individual Advocacy Group	www.individualadvocacygroup.com 630-378-4083	Helps people with disabilities to select and receive appropriate, accessible, prompt, efficient and lifelong community based services and supports based on individual needs, choices and abilities to achieve their personal goals
Marklund	https://www.marklund.org/ 630-593-5500	Respite Care, Parenting Education, Extended Day Care, Medical Public Assistance Programs, Centers for Independent Living, Nursing Facilities, Medical Expense Assistance, Special Education
Park Lawn School & Activity Center	www.parklawnschool.org 708-425-3344	Vocational, residential, and support services including physical, occupational, and speech therapy, transportation, counseling, recreational activities, art therapy, supported employment, and other support services.
Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities	www.ray-graham.org 630-620-2222	Educational, vocational, community, respite, early intervention, recreational, home-based and residential programs .



ADULT PROGRAMS

continued

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
RRAF	www.rraf.org 630-495-7723	On-site and community based day programming, in home support, and overnight respite care.
Seguin Services, Inc.	www.seguin.org 708-863-3803	Job opportunities and housing options for adults with disabilities.



EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Cornerstone	www.cornerstoneservices.org 815-727-6667	
Helping Hand	www.hhrehab.org 708-52-3580	Programs offer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • career counseling, • job training and preparation, • job development and placement, • and job coaching and supports for community job placement
Parents Alliance Employment Project	www.parents-alliance.org 630-955-2075	
Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities	www.ray-graham.org 630-620-2222	Many funded by Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)
Turning Point Employment Training Program	www.turningpointautismfoundation.org	



SPECIAL RECREATION PROGRAMS

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Fox Valley Special Recreation Association (FVSRA)	www.fvsra.org 630-907-1114 (Batavia, Fox Valley, Geneva, Oswego, St. Charles, Sugar Grove, South Elgin Parks)	Adult Day Programs, Athletics, Youth/Teen programs, Inclusion, Sensory Space, Summer Day Camp
Gateway Special Recreation Association (Ray Graham)	www.gatewaysra.com 630-325-3857 (Burr Ridge, Elmhurst, Oak Brook, Pleasant Dale, Westchester and York Center, the City of Countryside, and the Villages of Hinsdale and Willowbrook)	Athletics, Special Events, Day Camps, Social Clubs
Northern Will County Special Recreation Association (NWCSRA)	www.nwcsra.org 815-407-1819 (Bolingbrook, Lockport Township, Plainfield and Romeoville)	Athletics, Adult Day Program, Adult Programs, Youth Programs, Day Camp, Sensory Oasis, Veterans Services
Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association (NEDSRA)	www.nedsra.org 630-620-4500 (Addison, Bensenville, Butterfield, Glendale Heights, Itasca, Lombard, Medinah, Oak Brook Terrace, Villa Park, Wooddale, and Schiller Park)	Youth & Adult Programs, Camps & School Days out, Cultural Arts, Community Events, Special Olympics, Adaptive Athletics, Sensory State, Veterans Support
Northwest Special Recreation Association (NWSRA)	www.nwsra.org 847-392-2848 (Bartlett, Hanover Park, Streamwood, Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Rolling Meadows, Mt. Prospect, South Barrington, Arlington Heights, Prospect Heights, Inverness, Palatine, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove)	Athletics, Sensory Garden, Day Camps, Community Outings, Inclusion Services, Leisure Education, Day Program, Social Clubs
Southeast Association for Special Parks & Recreation (SEASPAR)	www.seaspar.org 630-960-7600 (Clarendon Hills, Darien, Downers Grove, La Grange, La Grange Park, Lemont, Lisle, Westmont, and Woodridge, and the villages of Brookfield, Indian Head Park, and Western Springs)	Weekly programs, special events, day camps, Special Olympics training, adapted sports, the Wonders Multi-Sensory Room, cooperative programs, inclusion services, and much more.
Western Dupage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)	www.wdsra.com 630-681-0962 (Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glen Ellyn, Naperville, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield)	Competitive and recreational athletics, Special Olympics, adaptive sports, music, dance, art, theater, social clubs, camps, trips, special events and more



SPECIAL RECREATION PROGRAMS

continued

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Special Olympics Illinois	www.ilso.org 309-888-2551	Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities by giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.



CHILDREN/TEEN ACTIVITIES & CARE

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Friends for Therapeutic Equine Activities	www.ftea.org 630-588-8543	Therapeutic Horseback Riding
Ready Set Ride	www.readysetride.org 815-439-3659	Therapeutic Horseback Riding
Choose Chicago	https://www.choosechicago.com/accessibility-in-chicago/sensory-friendly-experiences-in-chicago/	Sensory Friendly Museums, Attractions, Theaters and Venues in Chicago
Kid Snips	2835 Showplace Dr Ste 131, Naperville 630-848-0008	Haircuts
Chicago TOP Soccer	www.chicagotopsoccer.com 630-935-7263	Players (kids age 5 and up) with intellectual and physical disabilities together with able bodied volunteers to learn and play soccer.
Premier Gymnastics	www.premiergymnasticsacademy.com 630-554-7480	Open gym time for children with autism.
Good Shepherd for Exceptional Children	http://www.gscenter.org/programs/respiteservices 708-335-0020	Respite
Center for Disability Services	http://www.cdsil.org/programs/family-supportrespites/ 815-744-3500	Respite
Clearbrook Respite Program	www.clearbrook.org/respites 847-385-2638	In-home and group Respite
Trinity Services Respite Care	https://www.trinityservices.org/services-and-supports/southwest-suburbs/respites 815-485-8146	In-home Respite
Turning Point The Hangouts	www.turningpointeautismfoundation.org/	Monthly social group for individuals on the spectrum. Each month the location and activity vary. We currently have a Young Adult Hangout and a Teen Hangout.



TRANSPORTATION

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Dial-A-Ride Service	See your local township	These door-to-door services include Dial-A-Ride buses and subsidized taxi options. Most Dial-A-Ride projects are funded through a joint effort between PACE and municipalities or townships
GoGo Grandparent	https://gogograndparent.com/ 855-464-6872 ext 68740	Rides, Groceries, Meals & More: Built Better For Older Adults And People With Disabilities. Screened & monitored services from Uber, DoorDash, Instacart etc, with or without a smartphone, 24/7.
Local Private Transportation Providers	Alliance: 630-285-1900 303 Taxi: 630-368-0303 Range of Motion: 630-871-8696	In addition to public transportation, there are several private providers in DuPage County. These are more expensive methods of transportation.
PACE Suburban Bus	http://www.pacebus.com/sub/paratransit/default.asp 847-364-PACE (7223) To apply for ADA Paratransit Service, call the RTA's ADA Paratransit Certification Program at (312) 663-4357 (V) or (312) 913-3122 (TTY).	Pre-arranged curb-to-curb service for persons with disabilities whose eligibility has been determined by the regional certification process. PACE's ADA Paratransit Services operate in all suburban areas that are within 3/4 mile of Pace's regular fixed routes and during the same days and hours as the regular fixed route service. The Regional Transportation Authority (also listed in this Guide) is responsible for determining eligibility for ADA Paratransit Service in the 6 county NE Illinois region.
Ride DuPage	www.RideDuPage@dupageco.org 630-407-6500 To find out more about how to become a registered rider, visit the "Sponsor Guidelines" section of the web site or contact DuPage County Human Services.	Ride DuPage is a transportation program that provides bus or taxi services for people who need travel assistance due to physical or cognitive limitations. Subsidized by a partnership of townships, cities, villages, Pace and DuPage County, Ride DuPage offers curb -to -curb transportation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at significantly reduced rates. Travel boundaries and ridership approval are determined on a case by case basis. In order to participate in the Ride DuPage transportation program, you must be a registered rider.
Marionjoy Driver Rehabilitation Program	https://www.nm.org/conditions-and-care-areas/rehabilitation-services/rehabilitation-specialty-programs/driver-rehabilitation-program	Marianjoy Driver Program offers comprehensive and highly regarded driving education to help individuals with disabilities learn (or relearn) how to drive and gain driving independence.



EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Developmental Checklist - Center for Disease Control	https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/digital-online-checklist.html	The CDC’s online checklist can help provide guidance to parents who may have concerns about their development,
Early Intervention Illinois Department of Human Services	https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=31183	Helps children between the ages of birth to three with disabilities or delays, to learn and grow. Infants and toddlers are evaluated to see if there is a delay in: movement, learning, dealing with others, behavior, and/or self-help skills.
Illinois State Board of Education—Special Education	https://www.isbe.net/specialeducation	The Illinois State Board of Education partners with school districts to provide programs and services for students with specialized educational needs. The Special Education Department assures that these programs and services meet state and federal requirements.
Wright’s Law	https://www.wrightslaw.com/	Parents, advocates, teachers, and attorneys come to Wrightslaw for reliable, up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy



TRANSITION RESOURCES

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
DuPage County Transition Planning Committee	https://sites.google.com/prod/view/dupage-tpc/home?authuser=0	A group composed of representatives from the local special education co-ops, school districts, Department of Human Services-Division of Rehabilitation Services office, adult service providers, vocational coordinators, representatives of the business community, parents and clients. We meet to network, educate, learn, share and support services for individuals with disabilities.
Illinois Department of Human Services' Division of Rehabilitation Services (IDHS/DRS),	www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=35176	Transition Services for Youth with Disabilities
Protected Tomorrows	https://protectedtomorrows.com/	At Protected Tomorrows, we guide you through the process of planning that future, alleviating your anxieties and transforming your uncertainty into positive action that not only secures a brighter future for your loved one with special needs, but helps you and your family member to grow on your journey together
Will-Grundy Transition Planning Committee	https://sites.google.com/psd202.org/will-grundytransitionplanningc/home	Connecting families to community-based services and providers for students and adults with disabilities. A consortium of schools, agencies and not-for-profit organizations banded together to improve vocational transition from education to jobs for all learners, but particularly for individuals with disabilities.



LEGAL RESOURCES

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Clancy & Associates	https://clancyassociates.com/ 773-929-9000 901 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532	Full-services special needs planning law firm
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission	https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gac/AboutUs/Pages/GuardFAQ.aspx	The Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission is an executive state agency created to safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities.
Mary Collins, Esq	3321 Hobson Road, Suite C, Woodridge, IL 630-241-7903 marycollins@marycollinslaw.com	Special Needs Trusts, ABEL Accounts
Laura Myers, Esq	3321 Hobson Road, Suite C, Woodridge, IL 630-381-1444 laura@myssdlawyer.com	Guardianship, SSI
Peter Papoutsis	630-540-8475 papoutsislaw1@gmail.com	Guardianship, Special Needs Trusts



PARENT “CONTINUING ED”

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Illinois State Board of Education—Glossary of Terms	https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Glossary-of-Terms.aspx	Acronyms used in Educational programming (ages 3-22)
Illinois Department of Human Services – Acronyms	https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29754	Acronyms used in Adult Services / Home Based Waiver (Medicaid) for Adult Day or Residential Services programming (age 22+)
Social Media Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPADD Unite • Lisle Naperville Autism Parent Community • Naperville & Aurora Moms of Special Needs Kids • Parents of Children with Autism Support Group: Wheaton, IL Facebook • Chicago Autism Parents and Providers • DuPage County Illinois Autism Awareness Support Group • Illinois Autism Awareness Group • Autism Talk Western Suburbs • Special Needs Family & Caregiver Connection of SW Cook & Will Counties • Autism Travel Experts VIP Group • D303 Special Education Parent Network • Special Needs Community of the West Suburbs of Chicago • Autism Support Group-Chicagoland area • Chicago Families Caregivers Support • Illinois Autism Awareness Group • Autism Parents Support and Discussion Group • The Village: Special Needs and Disabilities Resource Center • Chicagoland Area Special Needs Resources 	Online social media groups, connecting families and caregivers, sharing information, etc.
Podcasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tulips in Tuscany • Adventures in Autism • Josh Has Autism • The Autism Helper Podcast • All Autism Talk 	



CHILDREN'S GROUP HOME PROVIDERS

AGENCY/PROVIDER	CONTACT INFORMATION	SERVICES
Cornerstone Services	https://www.cornerstoneservices.org/	
Goldie Floberg	https://www.goldiefloberg.org/	
Hope	https://hope.us/	
Little City	https://littlecity.org/	Agencies offering children's group home residential services for those with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities
Milestone	https://milestone-inc.org/	
PACTT	https://www.pactt.org/	