AUTISM resources

For families of children with autism and developmental disabilities.

Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans
Supporting All Disabilities

Louisiana Parent Training & Information Center

Changing Lives Every Day

Rev. April 8, 2022

Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans and Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center is a statewide agency and an IRS approved 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. All of our programs, services, and resources are free to families of children with disabilities in the state of Louisiana.

Any information provided by Families Helping Families (FHF) and/or Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center (LaPTIC), its staff, and/or its volunteers is intended for informational and educational purposes only. Any information expressed or implied is not intended nor should be construed as legal, medical, or other professional advice. FHF and/or LaPTIC do not render legal, medical, or professional advice or recommendations nor is legal, medical or other professional advice implied by any information given. Any information provided should not replace consultations with qualified legal, educational, medical, or other professionals to meet individual or professional needs. Reference to any program, service, therapy, or treatment option does not imply endorsement by FHF and/or LaPTIC or by its organizational staff members and should not be construed as such.

Families Helping Families
OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS
Supporting All Disabilities

Louisiana
PARENT TRAINING & INFORMATION CENTER

Changing Lives Every Day

700 Hickory Avenue, Harahan, LA 70123 | 504-888-9111 | 800-766-7736 | info@fhfofgno.org| fhfofgno.org

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Updated on 4/8/2022

AUTISM

ABA (Statewide)

The Art in Me - Applied Behavior Analysis, Counseling.
Contact: Mandy Parten, BCBA
Contact: Melissa Thibodaux, BCBA, M.A., LPC
Address: 1617 Metairie Road
Metairie, LA 70005
Phone: (504) 494-1461 Melissa
Phone: (504) 481-7359 Mandy
E-mail: artinmenola@artinmenola.com

Atlas Autism Center - provides in clinic therapy to children with autism. Our services include the following: assessment, 1:1 direct therapy (ABA), group instruction, and parent training. In addition, ATLAS will begin accepting afternoon clients for our Social Skills Group in the spring of 2019.
Address: 1000 Behrman Hwy.,
Gretna, LA 70056
Phone: (504) 265-0548
Email: atlasautismcenter@gmail.com

Autism Spectrum Therapies - AST serves the Greater New Orleans, Northshore and Baton Rouge areas, including parts of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington Parishes providing ABA services, social skills, adults and teen services, OT & SLP (services are offered on a limited basis at some locations.)

METAIRIE | ORLEANS -ABA Services & AST Learning Center - (504) 434-4310
Address: 5700 Citrus Blvd., Suite A1
New Orleans, LA 70123
NORTHSHORE - ABA Services - (985) 317-3598
Address: 500 River Highlands Blvd., Ste. 700, Covington, LA 70433
SLIDELL - ABA Services - (985) 605-7666
310 Gateway Dr., Ste A, Slidell, LA 70461
Contact:Rebecca Mandal-Blasio, Ph.D.
Phone: (888) 856-6707
Cell: (504) 239-6707
Fax: (504) 265-9339
E-mail:
rebecca.mandal-blasio@autismtherapies.com

The Behavior Guru - We service the greater New Orleans area from ages 0+. Services include ABA therapy, Functional Behavior Assessments, Behavior Intervention Plans, Individual Consultations, Direct Intervention, Social Skills Instruction, Parent/Family Training, Teacher Training, IEP attendance, and Workshops.
Contact: Mindy Rothstein, PhD, BCBA-D
Address: New Orleans, LA 70115
Phone: (504) 345-8222
E-mail: contact@thebehaviorguru.com

The Behavioral Intervention Group - Our learning center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy, Social Skills Training, Academic Tutoring and Parent Coaching for children with autism and other developmental disorders.
Address: 7222 Bluebonnet Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Phone: (225) 757-8002
Fax: (225) 757-8822
E-mail: admin@big-br.com

Behavioral Developmental Services - is a therapy center that works with children and young adults with ASD. Developmental delays, behavioral problems, and individuals that are needing social skill development. BDS uses ABA, counseling, and group therapy as part of their therapy practices. We currently have offices in Monroe, Ruston and Olla, Jena and Winnsboro, La.
Address: 3201 Armand St., Monroe, LA 71201
Address: 1002 South Vienna Ruston, LA 71270
Phone: (318) 600-6640

Behavior Support Solutions - is an ABA agency that provides services in home, school and community settings. Most insurance plans accepted. Some Medicaid plans accepted.
Address: New Orleans Area
Phone: (800) 661-3669 x 802
Email: intakes@behaviorsupportsolutions.com

Behavior Teaching Concepts, LLC
At BTC, we provide individualized ABA programs. Each client's program focuses on socially significant behaviors and skills that will create meaningful changes for the individual and family. We strive to prepare our clients to become contributing and participating members of the community. Clinic Program ages 2-6 and Natural Environment Sessions ages 2-21.
Address: 1024 N. Atlanta St.,
Metairie, LA 70003
Phone: (504) 517-4282
Email: info@behaviorteach.com

Brennan Behavior Group - Brennan Behavior Group offers a comfortable and friendly atmosphere, where individuals and families can find support for a wide range of behavioral, psychological, emotional, and educational challenges.

Our multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, social workers, licensed counselors, and certified teachers offer a full-range of psychological, educational, and behavioral services.

Whether through consultation, comprehensive diagnostic evaluations, or counseling/therapy, our team will guide you from navigating challenges to finding the most appropriate and effective courses of action.

Testing and evaluation, therapy, ABA therapy school-based and clinic-based, teletherapy and online services, academic support, and more.

MAIN OFFICE
Address: 433 Metairie Rd., Suite 615
Metairie, LA 70005
ABA CLINIC
Address: 7039 Canal Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124
THE BALANCE COLLECTIVE
Address: 2712 Athania Parkway
Metairie, LA 70002
Phone: (504) 833-6730
Email: frontdesk@brennanbehavior.com

Butterfly Effects, LLC - Our team provides therapy mostly to children 21 years of age and younger, however, each referral is evaluated individually to determine our ability to help. Team members with collective expertise in the areas of ABA, psychology, and other related health services guide program development and treatment planning, while providing oversight to a team of skilled Behavior Technicians. Services are offered in the Greater New Orleans area and Baton Rouge.
Address: 4201 N I-10 Service Road West,
Metairie, LA 70006
Client Services: (888) 880-9270
E-mail: clientservices@butterflyeffects.com

Care Tec Pediatric Center - ABA provider. At Care Tec, we use a multidisciplinary approach to improve the lives of children diagnosed with diverse mental health issues, Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and/or other developmental disabilities. Although we serve children with multiple needs, our main focus is to provide services for children on the spectrum.
Address: 2840 Military Highway
Pineville, LA 71360
Phone: (318) 704-5304
Alternate Number: (337) 301-1029

Fax: (318) 704-5821

The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) - The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) is one of the world's largest organizations using Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in the treatment of autism spectrum disorder.
Email: info@centerforautism.com

- **BATON ROUGE EAST**
  Address: 11606 Southfork Ave. Suite 300 Baton Rouge, LA 70816
  Phone: (225) 292-5981
- **BATON ROUGE WEST**
  Address: 7932 Summa Ave., Suite B-2, Baton Rouge, LA 70808
  Phone: (225) 349-7171
- **DENHAM SPRINGS**
  Address:230 Veterans Blvd., Denham Springs, LA 70726
  Phone: (225) 349-7960
- **HAMMOND**
  Address:1250 SW Railroad Ave #130, Hammond, LA 70403
  Phone: (985) 500-3240
- **LAFAYETTE**
  Address: 1003 S Hugh Wallis Rd, Suite B-2, Lafayette, LA, 70508
  Phone: (337) 205-4444
- **YOUNGSVILLE**
  Address: 107 Centre Sarcelle Blvd #703, Youngsville, LA 70592
  Phone: (337) 857-3674
- **MANDEVILLE**
  Address: 1325 W Causeway Approach Mandeville, LA 70471
  Phone: (985) 272-1824
- **NEW ORLEANS - UPTOWN**
  Address:733 Dante St.
  New Orleans, LA 70118
  Phone: (504) 517-1711
- **NEW ORLEANS – WEST BANK**
  Address: 3712 MacArthur Blvd #100
  New Orleans, LA 70114
  Phone: (504) 882-8105
- **PRAIRIEVILLE**
  Address: 17505 Old Jefferson Highway, Prairieville, LA 70769
  Phone: (985) 500-3130
- **GONZALES**
  Address: 1028 E Worthey St, Gonzales, LA 70737
  Phone: (504) 399-9851
- **SHREVEPORT**
  Address: 7607 Fern Ave #403
  Shreveport, LA 71105
  Phone: (?)

The Chartwell Center - Chartwell Consortium offers ABA services for children 3-7 and to individuals of all ages after school. Chartwell has an alternative education setting, which integrates ABA practice and collaborates with other professionals for additional recommendations. The education program focuses on appropriate academic targets, increased independence and skills that would help students succeed in a typical school. Chartwell's PATH program works with adults on vocational skills.
Address: 1225 Magazine Street
New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: (504) 899-2478
Fax: (504) 899-2416

ChatterNOLA - ChatterNola is a boutique private practice specializing in early intervention services in Speech-Language Pathology and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). We focus on delivering high-quality, evidence-based, individualized therapy that will meet the unique needs of each client we serve from birth through 8 years.
Address: LaPlace, LA
Phone: (504) 250-6422

Children's Autism Center - The Autism Center at Children's Hospital provides comprehensive, evidence-based assessment and treatment for children with the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Although clinical care is the primary mission of The Autism Center at Children's Hospital, the center also serves as a training facility for providers. It engages in innovative research endeavors to promote understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder and its impact on families. If you have any questions at all on the diagnosis or are wondering what treatments for ASD might look like, please visit The Autism Center or give us a call. Our dedicated team is here for the families in Louisiana and will help you get the answers you need for your child or adolescent.

Services Provided at The Autism Center

We provide many different services to help the children and adolescents in New Orleans and beyond once they have been diagnosed with ASD because there are no two cases the same. We understand this is a life-altering diagnosis. We have prepared our staff to help in any way necessary and provide the family with all the information needed while at home in between visits to our Center. Services we offer include:

Parent/Caregiver Group Workshops

Primarily focus on using Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to improve behavior and teach life skills.

- One-time workshops on different topics that rotate and are offered weekly
- Topics include: Learning about ASD, Behavior management, Toilet Training, Teaching Talking, Feeding Challenges, Sleep Problems, Anxiety
- Parents and caregivers of children with an ASD diagnosis or who are waiting for an evaluation can register to attend

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

For children and adolescents 18 months to 21 years of age

- Provided by licensed Psychologists and postdoctoral fellows under supervision
- Provider Referral Guide

Social Skills Group

- For children four years and older who are verbal and could benefit from group treatment
- Designed to target crucial social interaction skills
- Groups meet once per week for 8-14 weeks (dependent on the child's age and group)
- Caregivers of participating children meet concurrently to learn ways to support children with skills.
- Groups occur on a rotating basis
- Documentation of ASD diagnosis required
- Advanced registration is required/Insurance accepted

Short-Term, Focused Family Consultation

- For parents and caregivers to learn how to support and encourage their child's development using Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) methods in an outpatient therapy format
- Sessions occur once per week for 8 to 12 weeks
- A licensed Psychologist or Postdoctoral Fellow works with the caregiver to determine the focus of treatment, makes recommendations for changes week to week, and monitors progress with the caregiver
- Consultation may focus on a variety of topics including teaching talking and play skills, managing challenging behavior, working on essential life skills (e.g., toileting, feeding), and decreasing

anxiety
- Documentation of ASD diagnosis required
- Advanced registration is required/Insurance accepted

Address: 210 State Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 896-7272

Crane Rehab Center - Offering a comprehensive early intervention program for children diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. The program will include Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Applied Behavior Analysis therapy (ABA) within an interdisciplinary model. This program will provide children with ASD the opportunity to receive quality, evidence-based, treatment at one location.

Adult Facility
Address: 101 River Road, Ste.112
Jefferson, LA 70121
Phone: (504) 828-7696

Pediatric Facility
Address: 8300 Earhart Blvd. Suite 100
New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 866-6990
Contact: Katie Barlow, BCBA
Email: info@cranerehab.com

Creating New Connections, LLC - helps children with autism spectrum disorders create meaningful interactions with the world. Providing Parent Education Courses, focused ABA Program | Consultation Services, Early Childhood ABA Therapy, Teen Social Skills Groups.
Contact: Christine Tilley, BCBA
Address: 3401 Canal Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70125
Phone: (504) 231-8981 Christine
Phone: (985) 637-1643
E-mail:
Christine@creatingnewconnections.com
sally@creatingnewconnections.com

The Emerge Center - is a non-profit center whose mission is to empower children and adults to reach their greatest potential, and to effectively communicate and interact. Services include individual and group speech therapy, occupational therapy, psychology/behavioral services, and audiology. Autism program combines one-on-one ABA therapy (clinic-based and home-based) with group speech-language preschool classes, and other therapies as needed.
Address: 7784 Innovation Park Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70820
Phone: (225) 343-4232

GRACE Behavioral Interventions - Located in River Ridge and provide home, school, and clinic based services. We are currently in network with Cigna, Louisiana Health Care Connections, and Healthy Blue. Grace Behavioral Interventions utilizes the science of Applied Behavioral Analysis to provide individualized instruction to assist our clients in achieving goals, and improve socially significant behaviors.
Phone: (985) 859-1312

Greater New Orleans Resource Center on Developmental Disabilities - Anyone receiving services through GNORCDD must have been deemed eligible by the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) i.e.: MHSD and JPHSA/CSPDD. Psychologist, Dr. Nicole Lasserre provides ABA therapy on site, at home, and in school.
Contact: Denise Ben
Jefferson & Orleans Parishes
Address: 234 F. Edward Hebert Blvd.
Belle Chasse, LA 70037
Phone: (225) 567-1254 Ext.300
Cell: (504) 810-2012

Gulf South Autism Center - Pre-School Program, Group Speech Therapy, Individual ABA for School-Age Children, Individual Occupational Therapy, Individual Speech Therapy.
Contact: Brian Esteve, LBA, Clinical Director
Address: 7252 Lakeshore Dr.
New Orleans, LA 70124
Phone: (504) 323-3450
Fax: (504) 323-3455

Live Oak Children's Center - Behavioral Psychology Services to children of ALL needs. Services include Psychology, ABA, Feeding Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy Art Therapy, and Parent and Professional Training.
Address: 56 Louis Prima Dr., Suite A
Covington, LA 70433
Phone: (985) 327-7256
Fax: (985) 327-7253
E-mail: info@liveoakchildrens.net

Louisiana Autism Center - Each child is an individual and deserves services that are designed specifically for them. Based upon your child's specific strengths and unique characteristics, we draw from extensive research on Autism Spectrum Disorders, Applied Behavior Analysis, Learning Theory, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to develop an individualized treatment package.
Address: 2036 Jackson St.
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone: (318) 641-3083, (318) 641-0444
Fax: (318) 641-6112

McNeese Autism Program - The McNeese Autism Program provides comprehensive treatment services for children with autism spectrum disorders. Our services include intensive early interventions, problematic behavior clinics, social skills groups, language training, pediatric feeding problem interventions, and family training. Our experienced professional staff is comprised of Board Certified Behavior Analysts who are committed to the highest standards of evidence-based practice for your child's specific needs and work closely with you to design the very best treatment for your child.
Address: 4205 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA
Phone: (337) 475-5000 or (800) 622-3352

Merakey Shelley Hendrix Autism Center - Louisiana Autism Centers: Merakey joined the Capital Region by bringing its continuum of services for individuals with autism to the community. Applied behavioral methods are embedded within all Merakey Autism programs to foster basic skills and maximize functional communication. Our comprehensive approach and highly qualified staff are trained to successfully support each child's area of need and increase their opportunities for success. With a rich history of providing autism services, Merakey utilizes Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) as part of a multi-disciplinary team to oversee and develop programs specifically targeted to meet the needs of the individuals we serve. Services include:

- School services
- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Ancillary Therapy Services including Speech and Language and Occupational Therapy
- Gateway Transition Services - Merakey Cheatham Transition House

Address: 9150 Bereford Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Phone: (225) 960-7689

HAMMOND

Address: 14088 W Club Deluxe Rd.
Hammond, LA 70403
Phone: (985) 542-0077
Acceptable forms of payment include Medicaid, Commercial Insurance, and self-pay.

Mercy Family Center Diagnostic Clinic at Cypress Academy - Offering a variety of services for children identified as "at-risk" including assessment of behavior, expressive and receptive language, speech, personal independence (problem-solving and daily living skills), play and cognitive skills with a diagnostic team comprised of a psychologist and speech-language pathologist. 1:1 and group Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy services in a clinical setting both within a student's regular school day and within Cypress' school building supervised by a BCBA-Certified Child Psychologist with the potential for an After-School Intervention Program at Cypress to grow.
Contact: Corrina Spedale
Address: Touro Synagogue, 4238 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70115
Phone: (504) 383-3337
Email: cspedale@cypressacademy.org

Ochsner - Michael R. Boh Center for Child Development - The Michael R. Boh Center for Child Development is dedicated to improving the lives of children and adolescents with developmental disorders through comprehensive interdisciplinary team evaluations, integrated treatment protocols, high quality evidence-based patient care, direction of special education services, and professional education and research.
Address: 1319 Jefferson Hwy.
New Orleans, LA 70121
Phone: (504) 842-3900.

Erin Perry, BCBA - Provides ABA services to families with children with autism and other related developmental disabilities.
Address: New Orleans, LA
Cell: (225) 266-7214
E-mail: danceusm@yahoo.com

SOAR Autism Center - We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization offering applied behavior analysis therapy (ABA), speech therapy, social skills, life skills, independent living skills, educational advocacy, support network meetings, lending library, resources, workshops and trainings, as well as community events, adult social events and support. We accept most insurances including Medicaid for ABA.
Contact: Sherri Houin, Executive Director/CEO
Address: 21 Industrial Pkwy., Bldg. A, Ponchatoula, LA 70454
Phone: (985) 370-2300
Fax: (844) 205-7627
E-mail: Shouin@soarwithautism.org

ST. BERNARD OFFICE
Address: 317 W. Genie Street
Chalmette, LA 70043
Phone: (504) 371-5565

Spears Learning Center - Services provided are one-on-one ABA Therapy Speech Therapy and Parent Training.
Contact: Kelly Spears MS, CCC-SLP/BCBA
Address: 2612 Metairie Rd. Metairie, LA 70001
Phone: (504) 309-5679
Northshore Clinic Phone: (985) 871-0689
E-mail: spearslearningcenter@gmail.com

St. Nicholas Center - St. Nicholas Center offers a wide range of services including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Skills training, and diagnostic testing. Services are provided to children with autism, developmental delays, and neurological disorders in a fun loving, and educational environment.
Address: 2519 Ryan St., Lake Charles, LA 70601
Phone: (337) 491-0800
Fax: (337) 491-0508

Email: info@stnickcenter.org

Stella Learning Center - is the first Autism and related disorders learning center in the Tri-Parish area: Terrebonne, Lafourche, and St. Mary. Related disorders include Autism Spectrum Disorders, ADHD, Downs Syndrome, learning disabilities, and cognitive disabilities. SLC offers teaching behavior systematically in a highly structured environment utilizing intensive interventions based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).
Address: 310 South Hollywood Rd.
Houma, LA 70360
Phone: (985) 868-2671

The Touchstone Center - The Touchstone Center is a private facility dedicated to providing the state of the science Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services to individuals, families & schools.
Address: 1018 Verret Street, Houma, LA 70360
Address: 311 Jackson Street
Thibodaux, LA 70301
Phone: (985) 492-1941
Fax: (985) 492-1943
Email: thetouchstonecenter@gmail.com

Therapuetic Learning Center
Address: 3329 Metairie Rd, Metairie, LA 70001
Phone: (504) 565-7300
TLC is an innovative pediatric Occupational, Speech, and Physical Therapy practice dedicated to improving the well-being of children within the greater New Orleans area. TLC supports children to enhance their learning and development from infancy through young adulthood. Our team's 30+ years of professional practice, in addition to raising our own children, has given us the belief that a change in the way therapy services have been offered is imperative. Therefore, our goal is to provide a holistic and family-centered therapy for all of our clients. We value a team approach; and therefore, the relationship with our client's education team and parents are just as important as our relationship with your child to ensure their success.

We provide therapy services at our outpatient clinic, as well as **ABA centers**, daycare centers, preschools, and schools across the greater New Orleans area including private and charter schools. Providing therapy in a child's educational setting allows real-time observation, collaboration with your child's education team to ensure carryover of skills, and decreasing disruption of your family's schedule to transport your child to therapy.
*** We accept Blue Cross Blue Shield, United Healthcare, Aetna, and Coventry health insurances. *** At this time we do not accept Medicaid insurance.

West Behavioral - is a private intervention and consulting practice that provides individualized behavioral interventions and services. Our services are broad and reach multiple populations of individuals. At West Behavioral, we use applied behavior analysis (ABA) to improve socially significant behavior, reduce socially significant problem behaviors and ensure that each individual reaches their full potential.
Contact: Lindy West, BCBA
Address: 611 State Street, Jennings, LA 70546
Phone: (337) 246-7525
E-mail: lindy@westbehavioral.com

Within Reach - Center for Autism - provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services to individuals diagnosed with Autism or other developmental disabilities.
Contact: Emily Bellaci, LBA, BCBA
Address: 1515 Demosthenes St.
Metairie, LA 70005
Phone: (504) 885-4327

E-mail: Emily@WithinReachNOLA.com

EVALUATIONS

Children's Autism Center - The Autism Center at Children's Hospital provides comprehensive, evidence-based assessment and treatment for children with the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Although clinical care is the primary mission of The Autism Center at Children's Hospital, the center also serves as a training facility for providers. It engages in innovative research endeavors to promote understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder and its impact on families. If you have any questions at all on the diagnosis or are wondering what treatments for ASD might look like, please visit The Autism Center or give us a call. Our dedicated team is here for the families in Louisiana and will help you get the answers you need for your child or adolescent.

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Address: 210 State Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 896-7272

Children's Hospital Behavioral Health Center
Children's Hospital New Orleans Behavioral Health Center understands the importance of treating the whole child. Our behavioral care specialists currently offer a range of services to improve emotional and mental well-being, including inpatient and outpatient support. Expert behavioral care is provided by our highly skilled professionals who are dedicated to improving the lives of our children and adolescent patients and their families.
Address: 210 State Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 896-7200

Brennan Behavior Group - Brennan Behavior Group offers a comfortable and friendly atmosphere, where individuals and families can find support for a wide range of behavioral, psychological, emotional, and educational challenges.

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Whether through consultation, comprehensive diagnostic evaluations, or counseling/therapy, our team will guide you from navigating challenges to finding the most appropriate and effective courses of action.

Testing and evaluation, therapy, ABA therapy school-based and clinic-based, teletherapy and online services, academic support, and more.

MAIN OFFICE
Address: 433 Metairie Rd., Suite 615
Metairie, LA 70005
ABA CLINIC
Address: 7039 Canal Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124
THE BALANCE COLLECTIVE
Address: 2712 Athania Parkway
Metairie, LA 70002
Phone: (504) 833-6730
Email: frontdesk@brennanbehavior.com

Dr. Terry Johnson
Address: 3350 Ridgelake Dr, Suite 272
Metairie, LA 70002.
Phone: (504) 874-3190
Email: drterryphd@bellsouth.net
Does autism evaluations; private insurance only. Dr. Johnson is a licensed psychologist with over 20 years of experience working with children, adolescents, and their families. She offers help for children with diagnoses to determine a course of treatment.

Dr. Laurie Olson
Address: 3350 Ridgelake Dr, Suite 274
Metairie 70002
Phone: (504) 400-9218
Dr. Laurie Olson has over 20 years of experience with children with autism & other developmental disabilities. She is often called upon to assist with behavioral challenges & works closely with the child's parents and teachers. Dr. Olson was schooled in behaviorism & has recent, intensive training from the TEACCH Autism Program at UNC.

Dr. Patricia Blackwell
Pelts, Kirkhart, and Associates, LLC.
Address: 1539 Jackson Ave, NOLA 70130
Phone: (504) 581-3933
Does autism evaluations but possibly does not take insurance, only out-of-pocket.

Live Oak Behavioral Psychology
Address: 56 Louis Prima Drive, Suite A, Covington, LA 70433
Phone: (504) 450-7561
Brand new clinic based on Northshore; possibly might do autism evaluations using private evaluation – ADHD, Gifted evaluations, learning disabilities, and autism; also does home-based ABA services

Behavioral Health and Human Development Center
Address: 4517 Lorino St, Metairie, LA 70006
Phone: (504) 454-3015
Email: bhhdc01@yahoo.com
The Behavioral Health & Human Development Center is a developmental health and wellness clinic operated by Dr. Carlos Reinoso, a developmental psychologist. The center specializes in the assessment and treatment of developmental disorders including Autism, Asperger's Disorder, DHD, Dyslexia, and Learning Disabilities.

Dr. Kristin Callahan
Address: 137 N. Clark Street, NOLA 70119
Phone: (504) 301-8669
Email: Dr.kristincallahan@gmail.com
Dr. Callahan is a licensed psychologist who provides comprehensive diagnostic assessments for children suspected of having an autism spectrum disorder. She runs social skills groups, provides individual and family treatment, consults with families and schools regarding challenging behaviors related to autism spectrum disorders, and conducts trainings for parents, teachers, and professionals regarding early identification, diagnosis, and intervention for children with autism.

Mercy Family Center
Address: 110 Veterans Blvd., Suite 425, Metairie, LA 70005
Phone: (504) 838-8283 (Metairie)
(985) 727-7993 (North Shore)
Counseling, group therapy, educational, guidance services, testing, and assessments. Cognitive assessments, gifted and school entrance examinations, medication management, psychopharmacology,

treatment of attention deficit, diagnosis and treatment for hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), anxiety management, and chronic Illness/pain management, coping with affective mood disorders, counseling for trauma.

LSU Health New Orleans
School of Allied Health - Human Development Center
Autism Spectrum Disorder Interdisciplinary Diagnostic Clinic
Schedule an appointment

Tulane Doctors - Center for Autism & Related Disorders (TCARD)
Lisa D. Settles, PsyD
Kathryn Wampold, LMSW
Margaret Hauck, PhD
Address: 131 S. Robertson St., 14th Floor A, New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 988-3533 for appointments
Fax: (504) 988-0496
Email: autism@tulane.edu
The Tulane Center for Autism and Related Disorders (TCARD) was developed as a multidisciplinary team specializing in the identification and management of Autism and other Developmental Disorders.

Ochsner - Michael R. Boh Center for Child Development
Address: 1319 Jefferson Hwy.
New Orleans, LA 70121
Phone: (504) 842-3900.
The Michael R. Boh Center for Child Development is dedicated to improving the lives of children and adolescents with developmental disorders through comprehensive interdisciplinary team evaluations, integrated treatment protocols, high quality evidence-based patient care, direction of special education services, and professional education and research.

Rebecca Graham, Ph.D.
Louisiana Licensed Psychologist #1436
Address: 8558 Highway 23 Unit 2
Belle Chasse, LA 70037
Phone: (985)778-3654
Email: dr.rebeccagraham@gmail.com

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES

To support all families in accessing high quality childcare, the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) provides financial assistance to low-income families while they are working or attending school.

CCAP Household Eligibility
Address: P.O. Box 260037
Baton Rouge, LA 70826
Phone: (877) 453-2721
Fax: (225) 376-6060, (225) 342-3906
Email: LDEccap@la.gov

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES 0-3

EarlySteps
EarlySteps provides services to families with infants and toddlers aged birth to three years (36 months) who have a medical condition likely to result in a developmental delay, or who have developmental delays.

EarlySteps System Point of Entry (SPOE) Referrals

Region 10 - *Parish: Jefferson*
Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
Address: 1321 26th St. Kenner, LA 70026
Phone: (504) 496-0165
Toll Free: (866) 296-0718
Email: brian.jakes2@selahec.org

Region 1 - *Parish: Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines*
Easter Seals of Louisiana
Address: 1010 Common Suite 2440, New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 595-3408
Toll Free: (877) 595-3408
Email: hbell@laeasterseals.com

Region 2 - *Parish: East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, Pointe Coupee, Iberville, Ascension*
Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
Address: 4324 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd, St. C-155, Baton Rouge, LA 70816
Phone: (225) 925-2426
Toll Free: (866) 925-2426
Email: brian.jakes2@selahec.org

Region 3 - *Parish: Assumption, St. John, St.*

Charles, St. James, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary
Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
Address: 602 Parish Road
Thibodaux, LA 70301
Phone: (985) 447-6550
Toll Free: (866) 891-9044
Email: brian.jakes2@selahec.org

Region 4 - *Parish: Lafayette, Iberia, St. Martin, Vermillion, St. Landry, Evangeline, Acadia*
First Steps Referral and Consulting LLC
Address: 138 East Main Street
New Iberia, LA 70560
Phone: (337) 359-8748
Toll Free: (866) 494-8900
E-mail: babyfsrc2@bellsouth.net

Region 5 - *Parish: Beauregard, Jefferson Davis, Allen, Cameron, Calcasieu*
First Steps Referral and Consulting LLC
Address:138 East Main Street
New Iberia, LA 70560
Phone: (337) 359-8748
Toll Free: (866) 494-8900
E-mail: babyfsrc2@bellsouth.net

Region 6 - *Parish: Vernon, Rapides, Winn, Grant, LaSalle, Catahoula, Concordia, Avoyelles*
Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana
Address: 2840 Military Hwy.
Pineville, LA 71360
Phone: (318) 704-1038
Toll Free: (855) 449-0900
E-mail: kim.spoe@gmail.com

Region 7 - *Parish: Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Claiborne, Bienville, Natchitoches, Sabine, DeSoto, Red River*
Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana
Address: 2620 Centenary Blvd. Bldg. 2 Suite 249, Shreveport, LA 71104
Phone: (318) 226-8038
Toll Free: (866) 676-1695
E-mail: kim.spoe@gmail.com

Region 8 - *Parish: Ouachita, Union, Jackson, Lincoln, Caldwell, Morehouse, West Carroll, East Carroll, Richland, Franklin, Tensas, Madison*
Easter Seals of Louisiana
Address: 1863 Avenue of America Monroe, LA 71201
Phone: (318) 322-4788
Toll Free: (877) 322-4788
Email: pnewton@laeasterseals.com

Region 9 - *Parish: St.Tammany, Livingston, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington*
Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
Address: 1302 J.W. Davis Drive
Hammond, LA 70403
Phone: (985) 429 - 1252
Toll Free: (866) 640-0238
Email: brian.jakes2@selahec.org

Home and Community-Based Services – Human Service District/Authority

Flexible Family Fund- OCDD provides monthly stipends to families of eligible children with severe or profound developmental disabilities from birth to age 18 to help their families meet extraordinary costs. These subsidies are offered on a first-come, first served basis. To submit an application, contact a human services district or authority.

Individual and Family Support - services provide assistance not available from any other resource that will allow people with developmental disabilities to live in their own homes or with their families in their own community. These services include respite care, personal assistance services, specialized

clothing, dental and medical services, equipment and supplies, communication services, crisis intervention, specialized utility costs, specialized nutrition, and family education. Services are provided through contractual agreements by private provider agencies or through individualized agreements with individuals and families who obtain their own service providers.

Medicaid home and community-based waiver programs - allow people greater flexibility to choose where they want to live and to use services and supports that best suit their needs. Services provided must represent a least-restrictive treatment alternative. Each home and community-based waiver has specific service packages and eligibility requirements. Waiver opportunities are dependent upon funding, and are also offered based on the individual's need and priority level from their Screening for Urgency of Need (SUN) through the Request for Services Registry.

Tiered Waiver System - OCDD's four developmental disability home and community-based waivers, New Opportunities Waiver (NOW), Residential Options Waiver (ROW), Supports Waiver, and Children's Choice Waiver have now been operationalized to a tiered waiver system of service delivery, which will allow for individuals to be supported in the most appropriate waiver.

Human Services Districts/Authorities

Click the name of a Human Services District/Authority for information that is more detailed.

Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority (JPHSA)
Address: 1500 River Oaks Rd West
Jefferson, LA 70123
Phone: (504) 838-5257
INTAKE (East Bank) Lee Taylor (504) 838-5429
INTAKE (West Bank) Jeffery Watkins
(504) 371-0214 Parishes Served: *Jefferson*

Metropolitan Human Services District (MHSD)
Address: 3100 General DeGaulle Drive
New Orleans, LA 70114
Phone: (504) 568-3130
Parishes Served: *Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard*

Acadiana Area Human Services District (AAHSD)
Address: 302 Dulles Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506
Phone: (337) 262-5610
Parishes Served: *Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, Vermilion*

Capital Area Human Services District (CAHSD)
Address: 4615 Government Street, Building 2, Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Phone: (225) 925-1910
Toll Free: (866) 628-2133
Parishes Served: *Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana*

Central Louisiana Human Services District (CLHSD)
Address: 429 Murray Street, Suite B
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone: (318) 484-2347
Parishes Served: *Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon, Winn*

Florida Parishes Human Services Authority (FPHSA)
Address: 835 Pride Drive, Suite B
Hammond, LA 70401
Phone: (985) 543-4730
Parishes Served: *Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington*

Imperial Calcasieu Human Services District (IMCAL)
Address: One Lakeshore Drive, Suite 2000, Lake Charles, LA 70607
Phone: (337) 475-3100
Parishes Served: *Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis*

Northeast Delta Human Services Authority (NEDHSA)
Address: 2513 Ferrand Street
Monroe, LA 71201
Phone: (318) 362-3396
Parishes Served: *Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, West Carroll*

Northwest Louisiana Human Services District (NLHSD)
Address: 3018 Old Minden Road, Suite 1211, Bossier City, LA 71112
Phone: (318) 741-7455
Parishes Served: *Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster*

South Central Human Services Authority (SCLHSA)
Address: 5593 Highway 31Houma, LA 70360
Phone: (985) 876-8805
Parishes Served:*Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, Terrebonne*

MEDICAID

Louisiana Department of Health – MEDICAID
Medicaid provides medical benefits to low-income individuals and families. Although the federal government establishes the general rules for Medicaid, specific requirements are established by each state. In Louisiana, over a million residents receive health care coverage through Medicaid, most of whom are children under 19. The Louisiana Medicaid Program operates within the Louisiana Department of Health.

Apply now or renew coverage for any Medicaid program by visiting the Louisiana Medicaid Online Application (OLA). Once you submit the online application, it is sent immediately to the Medicaid office for processing, and there is no delay for mailing or faxing a paper form.
Phone: (888) 342-6207

Act 421 TEFRA
Act 421 created what is known as a TEFRA option in Medicaid. TEFRA refers to the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, which is a United States federal law that can help families with children younger than 19 years old who have a disability receive care in their homes rather than an institution. TEFRA programs are sometimes referred to as the Katie Beckett program or the Katie Beckett waiver in other states. In Louisiana, the program is Act 421 Children's Medicaid Option (Act 421-CMO).

In order to be eligible for the Act 421-CMO option, a child must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a Louisiana resident.
- Be a United States citizen or qualified non-citizen.
- Under the age of 19 (not to exceed the age of 18).
- Has a disability that is recognized under the definition of disability utilized in the Supplemental Security Income program of the Social Security Administration, regardless of whether the child is eligible to receive benefits under that program.
- Has or has applied for a Social Security Number.

- Excluding the assets (resources) of parents, the child does not have total assets (resources) exceeding $2,000 in value.
- Excluding the income of parents, the child's income is less than three (3) times the Federal Benefit Rate (FBR), referred to as the individual Special Income Limit (SIL).
- The child meets an institutional level of care provided in a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or intermediate care facility (ICF).
- Care provided safely at home for less than the cost of institutional care.

Steps to Enrolling in Act 421-CMO

There are four (4) general steps to enrolling in the Act 421-CMO program. In order to begin the enrollment process, complete a Medicaid application and submit verification documents. Coverage for Act 421-CMO cannot begin prior to January 1, 2022, which is the date the program, went into effect.

Step 1. Completing a Medicaid Application

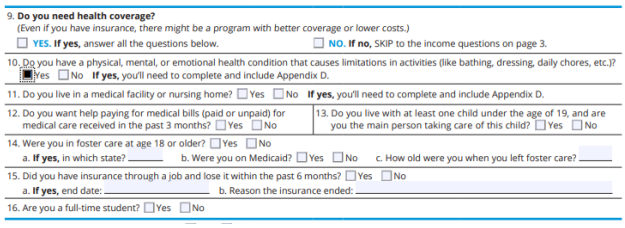
There are four (4) ways to apply for Medicaid – online, by mail, in person or by phone. Choose the method that works best for you.

1. Apply **online**.
2. To apply by phone, call 1-888-342-6207.
3. To apply in person, locate the nearest application center **here** or Medicaid Regional office **here**.
4. If applying by mail, **download** Medicaid application. Mail completed application to:

Medicaid Application Office
6069 I-49 Service Rd, Suite B
Opelousas, LA 70570

When applying for Medicaid, the disability question (as shown in question 10 below), needs to be answered 'yes' to be routed for Act 421-CMO processing:

Applicants determined ineligible for other Medicaid or CHIP programs that meets all other criteria for Act 421-CMO continues to Step 2 of the enrollment process


9. **Do you need health coverage?**
(Even if you have insurance, there might be a program with better coverage or lower costs.)
☐ **YES. If yes,** answer all the questions below. ☐ **NO. If no,** SKIP to the income questions on page 3.

10. Do you have a physical, mental, or emotional health condition that causes limitations in activities (like bathing, dressing, daily chores, etc.)?
☐ Yes ☐ No **If yes,** you'll need to complete and include Appendix D.

11. Do you live in a medical facility or nursing home? ☐ Yes ☐ No **If yes,** you'll need to complete and include Appendix D.

12. Do you want help paying for medical bills (paid or unpaid) for medical care received in the past 3 months? ☐ Yes ☐ No

13. Do you live with at least one child under the age of 19, and are you the main person taking care of this child? ☐ Yes ☐ No

14. Were you in foster care at age 18 or older? ☐ Yes ☐ No
a. **If yes,** in which state? _____ b. Were you on Medicaid? ☐ Yes ☐ No c. How old were you when you left foster care? _____

15. Did you have insurance through a job and lose it within the past 6 months? ☐ Yes ☐ No
a. **If yes,** end date: _____ b. Reason the insurance ended: _____

16. Are you a full-time student? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Step 2. Level of Care Assessment at your Local Governing Entity

Your **Local Governing Entity** (LGE) needs to complete an assessment to determine if the applicant meets the level of care requirement. You will receive a level of care packet, which contains documents to complete and return to LDH. **All forms must be filled out completely, supporting documentation provided (where indicated) and returned to LDH timely**.

Families will receive a packet to complete and return to Medicaid. The forms that you receive are dependent on which level of care pathway is deemed appropriate for your child. Your packet may contain these documents:

- Act 421-CMO cover letter with instructions on how to complete forms;
- Authorization to Release or Obtain Health Information form (HIPAA);
- Child's Medical and Social Information form (included for the MEDT disability determination); (and an Instruction Sheet); or a
- Health Records Request Form.

The LGE completes the assessment by reviewing information and forms provided by the applicant so**it is important to follow the instructions in the level of care packet when completing the forms**.

Submit the completed level of care packet to Medicaid to upload into the eligibility system via:

- Fax to: 1-225-389-8019
- Email to: **ltcprocessing@la.gov**
- Mail to: Medicaid Application Office; 6069 1-49 Service Road, Suite B, Opelousas, LA 70570.

Or

- Upload the documents directly to your Medicaid account using the **self-service portal**. The instructions on how to upload documents to your account is located **here**.

Applicants that meet the level of care requirement continues to Step 3 of the enrollment process.

Step 3. Disability Determination

Applicants must meet the definition of disability as set forth by the Social Security Administration. Medicaid will request a disability decision from the Medical Eligibility Determination Team (MEDT) for applicants that do not have a disability determination with the Social Security Administration Office. MEDT may need additional documentation in order to reach a decision on the disability determination.

If you would like assistance in gathering the necessary medical records, you can sign an ***Authorization to Release or Obtain Health Information Form (HIPAA 202L)*** to obtain these records directly from the providers (physicians, home health, social service, etc.) that is in the level of care packet. This form is used to assist you in obtaining medical records needed to determine if your child meets the level of care and disability requirement for the Act 421-CMO program. Applicants that meet the disability requirement continues to Step 4.

Step 4. Enrollment/Service Coverage through a Healthy Louisiana plan

Applicants meeting the medical and financial requirements will receive Medicaid coverage through a **Healthy Louisiana plan**. When completing a Medicaid application, you can choose a Healthy Louisiana health and dental plan.

If you have not selected a health plan, enrollment in a health plan is automatic upon enrollment in Medicaid. The family will have 90 days from date of enrollment to change plans when automatic enrollment occurs. Louisiana Health Insurance Premium Program (LaHIPP)

If your child is enrolled in the Act 421-CMO (TEFRA) program, LaHIPP may pay for your individual insurance plan or your employer-sponsored insurance, subject to an annual review for cost-effectiveness.

You can apply for LaHIPP **here**. Download the application and submit one of three ways:

- Email: La.HIPP@la.gov
- Fax: 1-855-618-5486
- Mail: LDH ATTN: LaHIPP P.O. Box 91030 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0930

If you are approved for LaHIPP, your child will be disenrolled from the Healthy Louisiana plan (MCO) for physical health services, but will remain enrolled for behavioral health and NEMT (Non-emergency medical transportation) services. Physical health services will be covered by fee-for-service (also known as traditional Medicaid).

This may affect whether your provider accepts your Medicaid coverage. Before enrolling in LaHIPP, you can use the “Find a Provider” tool to see if your child’s doctor will accept Medicaid with LaHIPP. The tool can be found

here.

Please see the **Act 421 FAQs** for more information on LaHIPP.

For more information, visit the **LaHIPP web site**.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Frequently Asked Questions

FAMILY OPPORTUNITY ACT

Family Opportunity Act Medicaid provides health coverage to uninsured or underinsured children who have disabilities in families with too much income to qualify for regular Medicaid or LaCHIP.
Family Opportunity Act Medicaid opens coverage up to children with disabilities in families with a higher income range, allowing families to buy in to the Medicaid Program.

EPSDT Personal Care Services

(See Long Term--Personal Care Services (LT-PCS) for Medicaid recipients ages 65 or older, or age 21 or older with disabilities)
Physician and Personal Care Attendant Agencies

ELIGIBILITY:

All Medicaid recipients 0 through 20 years of age not receiving Individual Family Support waiver services. However, once a recipient receiving Individual Family Support waiver services has exhausted those services they are then eligible for EPSDT Personal Care Services. Recipients of Children's Choice Waiver can receive both PCS and Family Support Services on the same day; however, the services may not be rendered at the same time

COVERED SERVICES:

Basic personal care-toileting & grooming activities; Assistance with bladder and/or bowel requirements or problems; Assistance with eating and food preparation; Performance of incidental household chores, only for the recipient; Accompanying, not transporting, recipient to medical appointments; Does NOT cover any medical tasks such as medication administration, tube feedings, urinary catheters, ostomy or tracheostomy care.

Medicaid Long-Term Care Services

Long-term services and supports are delivered in institutional and home and community-based settings. Medicaid coverage is available to eligible people receiving long-term care services in nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, and home and community-based settings. Long-term care services may be more immediately available in a facility setting than other long-term care options.

Special Needs & Parent Support Services of LA, LLC - (SNAPSS, La)
Medicaid Help Line
Free Medicaid advocate assisting people with disabilities and complex medical needs navigate all Medicaid Services. Info, referral, resources, access to care, denials of care, appeals, elderly or developmental disability waivers.
Phone/Text: (504) 300-5117
Facebook: @SNAPSSLa
Messenger: @SNAPSSLa
Website: KarenScallan.com
Email: kcscallan@gmail.com

SOCIAL SECURITY

A child with a disability

Social Security does not yet have an online application for Children's benefits. Visit Apply For Disability Benefits – Child (Under Age 18) to apply for your child.

You can complete the online Child Disability Report if you are ready to apply now.

An adult with a disability
You can now file for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) online but only if you meet certain requirements. You are eligible to file online for SSI if you:

- Are between the ages of 18 and 65
- have never been married
- Are not blind
- Are a U.S. citizen residing in one of the fifty states, District of Columbia, or the Northern Mariana Island
- haven't applied for or received SSI benefits in the past; and
- Are applying for Social Security Disability Insurance at the same time as your SSI claim.

Find out if you are eligible to receive Social Security Disability Benefits.
Once you finish the online process, a Social Security representative will contact you for any additional information needed for the applications.

You can also schedule an appointment with a local Social Security office to file an application. Call **(800) 772-1213** TTY **(800) 325-0778**) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday or contact your local Social Security office. Learn more and start the disability process at our Disability Benefits page.

AUTISM RESOURCES IN LOUISIANA

Autism Society North Louisiana
Address: P.O. Box 15031, Monroe, LA
Website: www.autismsocietynorthla.com
Email: autismnorthla@gmail.com

Autism Society Southwest Louisiana
Address: P.O. Box 1805,
Lake Charles, LA 70602
Phone: (337) 855-2068
Website: www.autismsocietyofswla.com
Email: swautismchapter@gmail.com

Autism Society Greater New Orleans
Address: P.O. Box 7028, Metairie, LA 70010
Phone: (504) 603-6548
Website: www.asgno.org
Email: info@asgno.org

Autism Society Greater Baton Rouge
Address: P.O. Box 14587
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
Phone: (225) 221-7873
Website: www.autismsocietygbr.org
Email: autismsocietygbr@gmail.com

Autism Society Louisiana
Address: 12824 Arlingford Ave,
Baton Rouge, LA 70815
Phone: (800) 955-3760
Website: www.lastatechapter.com
Email:
autismsociety_lastatechapter@yahoo.com

Autism Society Bayou
Address: P.O. Box 551, Amelia, LA 70340
Website: www.bayouautism.org
Email: bayouautism@yahoo.org

Autism Society Acadiana
Address: 3108 West Pinhook Road, Ste 101,
Lafayette, LA 70508
Phone: (337) 235-4425
Website: www.acadianaautism.com
Email: contact@acadianaautism.org

Exceptional Lives of Louisiana
Find disability information for your child.
Phone: (844) 354-1212
Email: info@exceptionallives.org

NATIONWIDE RESOURCES

Autism Society of America

55 years and counting, the Autism Society, including our nationwide network of affiliates, connects people to the resources they need through education, advocacy, support, information and referral, and community programming.

Autism Speaks

This is the world's leading Autism science and advocacy organization. They're dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for Autism. They also increase awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders and advocate for the needs of individuals with Autism and their families. They have created several toolkits for persons with autism, parents, and educators.

National Autism Association

The National Autism Association supports families and autistic individuals through six main areas of focus that include:

- Advocacy
- Research
- Education
- Direct tools
- Hope
- Thoughtful awareness

NAA runs several programs to support these areas of focus.

- Big Red Safety Box: This program provides tools to help families prevent wandering incidents.
- Big Red Safety Toolkit: This is a free resource shipped to teachers, school administrators, and aides to minimize dangerous wandering.
- Give a Voice: This program provides communication devices to autistic individuals who are minimally verbal or nonverbal.
- Autism ATRIUM: This program offers free education and training, including toolkits, webinars, and educational materials.

Autism Self Advocacy Network

The Autistic Self Advocacy Network seeks to advance the principles of the disability rights movement with regard to autism. ASAN believes that the goal of autism advocacy should be a world in which autistic people enjoy equal access, rights, and opportunities. We work to empower autistic people across the world to take control of our own lives and the future of our common community, and seek to organize the autistic community to ensure our voices are heard in the national conversation about us. Nothing About Us, Without Us!

Autism Research Institute

The Autism Research Institute works to support the health and well-being of people affected by autism through innovative, impactful research, and education.

Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative

Founded in New York City, the Simons Foundation for Autism Research Initiative (SFARI) funds and performs scientific research to support the treatment, diagnosis, and understanding of autism. SFARI seeks to advance the science behind autism research by providing grants, tools, and opportunities to scientists and researchers as well as education and resources to families and individuals directly impacted by autism.

Association for Science in Autistic Treatment

The Association for Science in Autistic Treatment provides education and resources related to science-based treatments for autism. The organization advocates for the use of the scientific method and disseminates

factual information to parents and the general public.

EQUINE THERAPY

GaitWay Therapeutic Horsemanship
Address: 1300 Lawrence Parkway
St. Gabriel, LA
Address: 152 Turner Road, Port Allen, LA
Phone: (225) 319-7344
Email: info@gaitway.org

Greater New Orleans Therapeutic Riding, Inc.
Address: P. O. Box 23284,
New Orleans, LA 70183-0284
Phone: (985) 651-5239
Email: info@gnotrc.com
Activities: Grooming & Tacking, Hippotherapy, Therapeutic Riding Disabilities Served: ADD or other Hyperactivity Disorder, Amputee, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Developmental Delay or Disability, Downs Syndrome, Head Trauma/Brain Injury, Hearing Impairment, Learning Disability, Intellectual Disability, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Orthopedic, Paralysis

Happy Trails Therapeutic Horsemanship Center, Inc.
Address: 17050 Hwy 16, Franklinton, LA
Phone: (985) 839-9736

Crossroads Riding Center
Address: 600 Claiborne Street, Pineville, LA
Phone: (318) 623-5507
Email: indabrocato@yahoo.com
Activities: Equine Facilitated Experiential Learning, Grooming & Tacking, Ground Work, Recreational Riding, Therapeutic Riding Disabilities Served: At Risk Youth, Emotional, Behavioral, or Mental Health, and Substance Abuse.

Cascade Stables
Contact: Avery Bul Scheurich
Address: 700 East Dr, New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 891-2246
Offers one-on-one saddle seat-riding instruction to children with disabilities; instructors are NOT certified in Therapeutic Horseback Riding but are comfortable teaching children and adults with disabilities.

FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES REGIONAL CENTERS

Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans
Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center (LaPTIC
Region 10 – serving parishes of Jefferson (LaPTIC – statewide)
Mary Jacob, Executive Director
Address: 700 Hickory Ave.
Harahan, Louisiana 70123
Phone: (504) 888-9111 or (800) 766-7736
Fax: (504) 353-2350
Email: info@fhofgno.org

Families Helping Families of Southeast Louisiana, Inc.
Region 1 – serving parishes of Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard
Aisha Johnson, Executive Director
Address: 2401 Westbend Parkway, Suite 3090, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114
Phone: (504) 943-0343 or (877) 243-7352
Fax: (504) 940-3242
Email: info@fhfsela.org

Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge, Inc.
Region 2 - serving parishes of East and West Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and Ascension
Dr. Marilyn Thornton, Executive Director

Address: 2356 Drusilla Lane
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809
Phone: (225) 216-7474 or (866) 216-7474
Fax: (225) 216-7977)
Email: info@fhfgbr.org

Bayou Land Families Helping Families, Inc.
Region 3 – serving parishes of Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, Terrebonne
Charles S. Michel, Ed.D, Executive Director
Address: 286 Hwy. 3185
Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301
Phone: (985) 447-4461 or (800) 331-5570
Fax: (985) 447-7988
Email: bayoulandfhf@gmail.com

Families Helping Families of Acadiana, Inc.
Region 4 – serving parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermillion
Nicole Flores – Executive Director
Address: 100 Benman Rd.
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506
Phone: (337) 984-3458 or (855) 984-3458
Fax: (337) 984-3468
Email: info@fhfacadiana.org

Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana, Inc.
Region 5 – serving parishes of Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Jeff Davis
Susan Riehn, Executive Director
Address: 1830 Ryan Street, Suite A
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601
Phone: (337) 436-2570 or (800) 894-6558
Fax: (337) 436-2578
Email: info@fhfswla.org

Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of LA, Inc.
Region 6 – serving parishes of Avoyelles, Concordia, Catahoula, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon and Winn
Jim Sprinkle, Executive Director
Address: 2840 Military Hwy., Suite A
Pineville, Louisiana 71360
Phone: (318) 641-7373 or (800) 259-7200
Fax: (318) 640-4299
Email: fhfxroads@aol.com

Families Helping Families Region 7
Region 7 – serving parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Red River, Natchitoches, Sabine, and Webster
Chanel Jackson, Executive Director
Address: 215 Bobbie St., Suite 100,
Bossier City, Louisiana 71112
Phone: (318) 226-4541 or (877) 226-4541
Fax: (318) 226-4518 Fax
Email: info@fhfregion7.com

Families Helping Families of Northeast Louisiana, Inc.
Region 8 – serving parishes of Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll
Stacey Guidry-Little, Executive Director
Address: 5200 Northeast Road
Monroe, Louisiana 71203
Pone: (318) 361-0487 or (888) 300-1320
Fax: (318) 361-0417
Email: info@fhfnela.org

Northshore Families Helping Families, Inc.
Region 9 – serving parishes of Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington
Kathy Dillon, Executive Director
Address: 108 Highland Park Plaza
Covington, Louisiana 70433
Phone: (985) 875-0511 or (800) 383-8700
Fax: (985) 875-9979
CSHS (985) 345-8300 or (877) 537-8700
Email: nfhf@bellsouth.net

LEGAL

Special Needs Trusts, interdiction, continued tutorship, guardianship, less restricted alternatives and more

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Vicknair Law Firm
Address: 3112 Jackson St.
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone: (844) 908-1206
Email: info@vicknairlawfirm.com
Estate planning, wills, trust/special needs trusts, probate, tax issues.

Crowell & Owens
Zebulon "Zeb" Winstead
Address: 934 3rdSt 6thfloor
PO Box 330
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone: (318) 445-1488
Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

Theus Law Offices, LLC
Address: 1902 Jackson St
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone: (318) 769-9395
Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

BATON ROUGE AREA

Losavio & DeJean LLC
Peter Losavio, Jr.
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Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Toll Free: (800) 835-5864
Phone: (225) 769-4200
Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

Legacy Estate & Elder Law of LA, LLC
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Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Phone: (225) 744-0027
Full service Special Needs Planning

Daigle, Fisse & Kessenich
Alison C. Bondurant
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Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Phone: (225) 421-1800
Email: abondurant@daiglefisse.com
Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, and various other areas of practice

Kadair Law Firm
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Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Phone: (225) 766-5454
Estate planning, trusts/special needs trusts

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Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5801
Phone: (225) 387-2277
Special needs trusts, guardianship, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

Poche` Estate Planning Law Firm
Laura Poche`
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Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Phone: (225) 224-8099
Email: info@pochelaw.com
Estate planning, special needs trusts

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Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

Newman, Mathis, Brady & Spedale
Bradley J. Spedale

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Estate planning, wills, trusts, special needs trusts

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Federal, state and local tax matters; estate planning; elder and disability law; gift and estate taxation and planning

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Wiener, Weiss & Madison
Richard Lamb
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Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Phone: (225) 930-4772
Email: rlamb@wwmlaw.com
Estate planning, successions/probate, trusts/special needs trusts, wills, and other legal services

HOUMA/THIBODAUX AREA

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Houma, LA 70360
Phone: (985) 580-2520
Estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid law, special needs planning, asset protection; Certified Financial Planner

LAFAYETTE AREA

Theus Law Offices, LLC
AddressL 400 E. Kaliste Saloom Rd
Suite 4200-A
Lafayette, LA 70508
Phone: (318) 541-8999
Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

Jankower Law Firm
Steve Jankower
Address: 110 Exchange Place, Suite 101
Lafayette, Louisiana 70503
Phone: (337) 289-1745
Email: Steve@Jankower.com
Medicaid and estate planning for the elderly and for individuals with disabilities and special needs

LAKE CHARLES AREA

Lorenzi & Barnatt, LLC
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PO Box 3305
Lake Charles, LA 70601
Toll Free: (877) 269-8978
Phone: (337) 513-0886
Estate planning, special needs trusts, health care directives and simple or complex wills, powers of attorney, interdictions & continuing tutorships, elder law

Sigler, Arabie & Cannon
Address: 630 Kirby St
Lake Charles, LA 70601
Phone: (337) 439-2033
Estate planning, wills, powers of attorney, living wills, trusts/special needs trusts, real estate and business law

Stutes & Lavergne
Address: 600 Broad St
Lake Charles, LA 70601
Phone: (337) 433-0022
207 North Church St
Jennings, LA 70546
(337) 246-9988
Email: info@stuteslaw.com
Estate planning, wills, donations, powers of attorney, advanced directives, trusts/special needs trusts, interdictions & continuing tutorships

Taylor Porter Law Firm
John McDermott
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Phone: (337) 436-7787
Email: john.mcdermott@taylorporter.com
Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, powers of attorney, tax law, and various other areas of practice

MONROE AREA

Michael J. Rhymes, Attorney at Law
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Monroe, LA 71201
Phone: (318) 388-4500
Special needs trusts, interdiction, continuing tutorship, and a wide range of legal services

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Phone: (318) 322-4478
Email: lawofficegggreen@aol.com
Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, social security & disability, interdictions and continuing tutorships

GREATER NEW ORLEANS AREA

Legacy Estate & Elder Law of LA, LLC
Linda S. Melancon, Betty Raglin
Address: 3801 Canal St, Ste 214
New Orleans, LA 70119
Phone: (225) 744-0027
Full service Special Needs and elder care planning

Buchler & Buchler, LLC
Katherine F. (Katy) Buchler
Address: 3014 Metairie Rd.
Metairie, LA 70001
Phone: (504) 541-9020
Estate planning, trusts/special needs trusts, business and real estate transactions

Morrison Law Group PLC
Chip Morrison
Address: 3813 N Causeway Blvd Ste 200
Metairie, LA 70002
Phone: (504) 831-2348
Estate planning, including trusts/special needs trusts; probate, successions, elder law
Medicaid planning

John E. Sirois
Address: One Galleria Blvd Suite 735
Metairie, LA 70001
**Metairie office open by appointment only; see Hammond office for more info*
Phone: (985) 580-2520
Estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid law, special needs planning, asset protection; Certified Financial Planner
Estate planning, including trusts/special needs trusts; various other areas of practice

Ronda M. Gabb & Associates, LLC
Address: 3501 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 300
Metairie, LA 70002
Phone: (800) 738-4222
Email: reception@rondamgabb.com
A Louisiana Estate Planning & Elder Law Practice devoted entirely to Estate Planning, including Wills, Trusts, Successions and Estate Administrations, Elder Law, Medicaid, VA Benefits, Special Needs and Life Care Planning issues

Sessions, Fishman & Nathan, LLP
Joel A. Mendler
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Email: jmendler@sessions-law.com
Carole Neff
Email: cneff@sessions-law.com
Address: 400 Poydras St. Suite 2550
New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: (504) 582-1510
Estate planning, elder law and special needs planning, bankruptcy law, product liability law, and various other areas of practice

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Email: smoragas@millinglaw.com
Federal, state and local tax matters; estate planning; elder and disability law; gift and estate taxation and planning

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Estate planning and related legal services to clients of all ages, with a focus on the needs of older or disabled individuals and their families.

Nicaud & Sunseri Law Firm, LLC
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Address: 3000 18thSt
Metairie, LA 70002
Phone: (504) 662-9596
Services for parents with minor and adult children with disabilities including special (supplemental) needs trusts and continuing tutorship.

The Law Office of Michael A. Tusa, LLC
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Phone: (504) 833-0785
Special needs trusts, taxation, other areas of practice

Spera Law Group
Molly Sullivan
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New Orleans, LA
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Estate planning, special needs trusts

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Estate planning, wills, successions, trusts/special needs trusts, tax law

Low Profit Law Group of Louisiana, L3C
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Email: eschmidtesq@gmail.com
Sliding scale fees; Family law, interdiction; Probate/successions; Estate planning, including living wills, trusts/special needs trusts, and medical power of attorney; Bankruptcy; Real Estate and business law

Loyola University College of Law
Cheryl Buchert, Clinical Professor of Law
Phone: (504) 861-5599
Loyola University College of Law is offering Continuing Tutorship services for families that live in Orleans or Jefferson Parish. The Loyola Law Clinic does not charge attorney fees; however, the parents will need to pay for any court costs and/or recording fees. There is a financial eligibility which is 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Financial eligibility will be discussed with the potential client during a telephone interview. Services are provided by students under the close supervision of Ms. Buchert, and are offered during fall and spring semesters on a first-come, first-served basis.

NORTH SHORE AREA

Branton Law Firm
Address: 522 N. New Hampshire St Suite 11
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Family law, wills, special needs trusts

Vicknair Law Firm
Address: 1070-B West Causeway Approach
Mandeville, LA 70471
Phone: (844) 908-1206
Email: info@vicknairlawfirm.com
Estate planning, wills, trust/special needs trusts, probate, tax issues

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Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Successions and Estate Administrations, Elder Law, Medicaid, VA Benefits, Special Needs and Life Care Planning issues

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Services for parents with minor and adult children with disabilities including special (supplemental) needs trusts and continuing tutorship.

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SHREVEPORT AREA

Gilsoul & Associates, LLC
Joseph Gilsoul
Address: 2950 Fairfield Ave, Ste 300
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Phone: (318) 524-9966
Full service special needs and estate planning

Richie, Richie & Oberle, LLP
Paul D. Oberle, Jr.
Address: 1800 Creswell Ave
Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone: (318) 995-3339
Estate planning, tutorships, interdiction, wills, trusts/special needs trusts

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Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, interdictions, continuing tutorships, family law

Weems, Schimpf, Haines, Shemwell & Moore
Kyle Moore, Michael Carney
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Shreveport, LA 71104
Phone: (318) 674-4977 or (318) 222-2100
Estate planning, trusts/special needs trusts, wills, social security denials, continuing tutorship, interdiction, and a wide range of other legal services

Wiener, Weiss & Madison
Richard Lamb
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Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone: (318) 226-9100
Email: rlamb@wwmlaw.com
Estate planning, successions/probate, trusts/special needs trusts, wills, and other legal services

TAKEN FROM Legacy Estate & Elder Law of LA, LLC website:

Do you have a child or adult who is physically or mentally disabled? If so, it is very likely that you will need to create a special needs trust as a part of your estate planning. Very often, those with special needs are receiving needs-based government assistance in the form of Supplemental Security Income "SSI" and/or Medicaid. If your loved one receives an inheritance from you, that inheritance may disqualify them for their SSI or Medicaid. To ensure this does not happen, you will need to create a special needs trust to hold their inheritance. This type of special needs trust is called a third-party special needs or supplemental

needs trust because it is created with the assets of someone other than the person receiving government benefits. When you create the special needs trust, you appoint a trustee to manage the assets in the trust for the benefit of the special needs trust beneficiary. In this way, the assets in the special needs trust can be used for your loved one's benefit, but the assets will not disqualify them from receiving SSI or Medicaid.

Often, someone who is receiving SSI or Medicaid receives an inheritance or is involved in an accident and receives a settlement, the receipt of this money will disqualify them from receiving those SSI or Medicaid benefits. To allow them to continue receiving those benefits, a first-party special needs trust (also known as a self-settled or a d(4)(a)) can be created and the assets received in the inheritance or settlement can be placed in this trust so the SSI and/or Medicaid benefits can continue to be received. This type of trust is called a first-party special needs or supplemental needs trust because it holds the assets of the person who is receiving the benefits.

In addition to creating special needs trusts, there are also many other considerations that families with special needs members should consider as a part of their overall estate planning. One of the most important things to consider is ensuring the special needs person will have the necessary income and assets they will need to live comfortably during their lifetime. A life insurance policy naming the special needs trust as its beneficiary is a good way to ensure the special needs person has those necessary resources. There are also special considerations when retirement plan assets are left to a special needs trust as it could create adverse tax consequences or the inadvertent loss of SSI or Medicaid when distributions have to be made from those retirement assets.

Another important consideration in special needs planning is the use of a letter of intent. Although not a legal document, a special needs lawyer can assist you in drafting a letter of intent. This document memorializes the information that only you may know about your special needs child's medical history, habits, likes and dislikes, experiences and wishes so those who come behind you as your child's caregiver can have this invaluable knowledge to assist with your child's care.

It is also possible that your child with special needs will need to have a legal guardian (what is known in Louisiana as a curator or a tutor) appointed for them when they turn 18 since Louisiana law will presume they have legal capacity to make decisions for themselves even if this is not the case. They may also need someone to act as their legal representative after you are no longer able to do so.

These and many more issues should be addressed for families with a special needs person. At Legacy Estate & Elder Law, our attorneys are well-versed in special needs planning and we are members of the Academy of Special Needs Planners, an organization devoted to providing resources to families with special needs members and attorneys who practice in this area of the law.

Creating a detailed plan for the disabled individual can eliminate stress and confusion in the long-run and can provide you peace of mind now in knowing that you have planned for your loved one with special needs when you can no longer provide care and financial support for them.

MUSIC THERAPISTS

Private practice

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New Orleans, LA 70125
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Email: lovesmusictherapy@gmail.com
Website: http://www.lovesmusictherapy.com

RECREATION

Art

NOLArts Learning Center
Address: 1215 Prytania St. #424,
New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: (914) 844-5053 / (410) 693-5305
E-mail: NOLArtslearningcenter@gmail.com
NOLArts Learning Center is a nonprofit which creates opportunities for young people with autism and other special needs to engage with the New Orleans cultural community through creative projects, performances and events. Through advocacy and education, NOLArts promotes inclusion and acceptance of diverse abilities.

Social

Cortez Caravan Special Dance Group – Social group that holds dances and events.
Address: 3310 Florida Ave., Kenner, La. 70065
Contact: Dave Doll
Phone: (504) 458-1328
Contact: Susan Brumfield
Phone: (504) 455-6845

Jefferson Parish Recreation Department Pinnacles - East Bank
Address: Ree Alario Center, 6921 Saints Drive
Metairie, LA 70003
Contact: Leslie H. Dunn, Recreation Special Programs Supervisor
Phone: (504) 736-6999 ext. 110
Email: LDunn@jeffparish.net

Jefferson Parish Recreation Department – West Bank
Contact: Susan Hirschman
Phone: (504) 349-5000

People First of NOLA - Meets every 3rd Tuesday of the Month from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Contact: Leona Harris | Families Helping Families of NOLA
Address: Ashé Cultural Arts Center
1712 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70113
Phone: (504) 943-0343

Arc of Greater New Orleans (ArcGNO) – Krewe of Arc Social Club
Address: 925 Labarre Rd., Metairie, LA 70003
Phone: (504) 837-5105
Fax: (504) 831-4107
Email: vstamant@arcgno.org
The Krewe of Arc Social Club was established at the Arc of Greater New Orleans to provide leisure and recreation activities for individuals after hours. The activities are planned by the club members and club advisors and also by Arc staff and volunteers. The club hosts various club fundraisers to fund numerous club activities. Club dues cost $5.00 per month and are due each month on the 17th. The Krewe of Arc is open to all Arc clients.

Autism Society of Greater New Orleans (ASGNO)
Address: P.O. Box 7028, Metairie, LA 70010
Phone: (504) 464-5733
Email: info@asgno.org
Services include: Brushes, Buddies and Beyond for Autism (Art Club) in Chalmette and Metairie, Family Game Night in Slidell and New Orleans, Sensory Friendly Film Program at participating AMCs on the 2nd and 4thTuesday (7pm) and Saturday (10am), Annual Autism Awareness Festival, resource directory, Mini-Grant Program for teachers and families, and links to advocacy resources.

Boy Scouts of America – Southeast Louisiana Council
Address: 4200 S. I-10 Service Rd. West,
Metairie, LA 70001
P.O. Box 1146, Metairie, LA 70004
Phone: (504) 889-0388 / (800) 394-9410
Fax: (504) 889-1162

Scouting is a year-round program uniquely designed to meet the needs of young people and their families. The program offers fun and challenging activities that promote character development and physical fitness. Family involvement is an essential part of the program, and parents are encouraged to play an active role in making the most of the short time they have to impact the lives of their children.

Southeast Louisiana Council serves Scouting in Southeast Louisiana Parishes of Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemine, St. John the Baptist, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. Tammany, and Terrebonne

Girl Scouts Louisiana East
Address: 841 S. Clearview Pkwy.
New Orleans, LA 70121
Phone: (504) 733-8220 / (800) 644-7571
Fax: (504) 733-8219
Email: customercare@gsle.org
We're 2.6 million strong—1.8 million girls and 800,000 adults who believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)™ to change the world. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts Louisiana East serves the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana.

Champions of Greater New Orleans
Contact: Dee Ducote
Address: P.O. Box 1114, Metairie, LA70004
Phone: (504) 390-1995
Email: championsofgno@yahoo.com

CGNO is a Louisiana non-profit group serving children, teens and young adults with differing abilities and their families. Champions provide social, recreational and educational activities. Our members have fun while forging new friendships and developing social and life skills. We have meetings, field trips, an annual family camping trip, a yearly dance, and a support system and fellowship for parents or caregivers. Siblings are welcome to participate in all activities.

Sports

S.M.C.L. Foundation - Established in March 2006 to improve the quality of life of our veterans or youth with disabilities and those who are economically disadvantaged in the Metro New Orleans Community and Southeast Louisiana. The Rollin' Pelicans are a Division 3 wheelchair basketball team and represent Louisiana as members of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA). The team is supported by SMCL Adaptive/Paralympic Sport Club of New Orleans.
Contact: Julius Lee
Phone: (504) 450-4014
Email: Jleepva@cox.net

The Miracle League of Greater New Orleans
The Miracle League provides all children with special needs, regardless of their level of disability, the opportunity to play league sports and be part of a team.
Address: 200 Henry Clay
New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 894-5415 or (504) 899-9511
Email: glorio@chnola.org

The Miracle League Northshore
We provide any disabled child, regardless of their level of disability, the opportunity to play league sports and enjoy the emotional and physical benefits of being part of a team sport.

Address: 13505 Highway 1085
Covington, LA 70433
Phone: (504) 301-7614
Email: lira.casborne@lcmchealth.org

Special Olympics Louisiana Area 1 - Greater New Orleans | Area 1 is comprised of the following parishes:Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemines.

- Fall – Bowling
- Winter – Basketball
- Spring – Bocce, Athletics
- Summer – Swimming, Softball

Area Leader: Gabe Feldman
Phone: (202) 441-6280
Email: GNO@laso.org

New Orleans Fencers Club - Offers seated and wheelchair fencing for all ages and abilities.
Phone: (504) 430-0053

The League of Angels
Email: angels.league@yahoo.com
Did you know the League Of Angels accepts players from all over! You don't have to be a resident of St Bernard to join our league. All are welcomed.The League of Angels will offer a chance for the special needs community to play sports and be one with Da Parish.
Address: Val Riess Park Chalmette
1101 Magistrate St.
Chalmette, LA 70043

Ski-Dawgs Adaptive Water Skiing
Think Adaptive skiing is just for someone in a wheelchair. Think again! Adaptive skiing doesn't mean just someone in a wheelchair, if you have any kind of disability that prevents you from skiing the traditional way then adaptive skiing may be for you.
Phone: David (985) 516-8283
Adaptive/Paralympic Sport Club of New Orleans–Contact Us

ACEing Autism
Address: Tulane University, Reily Center Tennis Courts, 31 McAlister Dr., New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (310) 288-0120
Email: Hannah Case: hcase@tulane.edu/
Abby Marden: amarden@tulane.edu
For scholarships: info@aceingautism.org
Provides sports-related (tennis) intervention for children age 10 and up who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Scholarships for the program are available upon request. Racquets and all equipment are provided by the organization.

Swimming

Cross Gates Family Fitness
Autism Swims – First Friday of the Month. 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. event for members/non-members and their families. Sign up at the desk.
Address: 1131 Gause Blvd, Slidell, LA 70458.
Phone: (985) 643-3500

Jo Jo's Hope Therapeutic Swimming at Elmwood Fitness Center - JoJo's Hope focuses on an interactive aquatic curriculum that includes games, songs, and laughter. Sessions are on Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays. Activity programs are adapted to meet the needs of individuals with mental or physical limitations. The therapeutic programs

are specially designed for those with Multiple Sclerosis, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Autism, Down syndrome, and other disabilities. JoJo's (ages 6 months-100 years) Cost is $30/month for insurance coverage.
Address: 102 High Avenue Metairie, LA
Phone: (504) 957-9962

Love Swimming - Year-round, indoor swimming school offering lessons for ages 6 months to adult.

Address: 5221 S. Front Street New Orleans
Phone: (504) 891-4662
Email: loveswimmingnola@gmail.com

Jewell's Pool
Address: 2315 Alcide Drive Marrero, LA
Phone: (504) 218-8800

Fitness

BeMo Buddies - Be More Human Performance's Special Needs Program
When it comes to special needs training, we focus on exercise & movements that will challenge the mind & the body. Here at Be More we focus on decreasing muscle atrophy as well as, brain atrophy. This means we help the clients learn more, retain more, relieve stress, alleviate anxiety, & improve overall mental health.
Address: 305 N. Vermont St.
Covington, LA 70433
Phone: (985) 768-9334

SOCIAL SKILLS GROUPS

The Behavior Guru - We service the greater New Orleans area from ages 0+. Services include ABA therapy, Functional Behavior Assessments, Behavior Intervention Plans, Individual Consultations, Direct Intervention, **Social Skills Instruction**, Parent/Family Training, Teacher Training, IEP attendance, and Workshops.
Contact: Mindy Rothstein, PhD, BCBA-D
Address: New Orleans, LA 70115
Phone: (504) 345-8222
E-mail: contact@thebehaviorguru.com

The Behavioral Intervention Group - Our learning center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy, **Social Skills Training**, Academic Tutoring and Parent Coaching for children with autism and other developmental disorders.
Address: 7222 Bluebonnet Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Phone: (225) 757-8002
Fax: (225) 757-8822
E-mail: admin@big-br.com

Children's Autism Center -
Social Skills Group

- For children four years and older who are verbal and could benefit from group treatment
- Designed to target crucial social interaction skills
- Groups meet once per week for 8-14 weeks (dependent on the child's age and group)
- Caregivers of participating children meet concurrently to learn ways to support children with skills.
- Groups occur on a rotating basis
- Documentation of ASD diagnosis required
- Advanced registration is required/Insurance accepted

Address: 210 State Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
Phone: (504) 896-7272

McNeese Autism Program - The McNeese Autism Program provides comprehensive treatment services for children with autism spectrum disorders. Our services include intensive early interventions, problematic behavior clinics, **social skills groups**, language training, pediatric feeding problem interventions, and family training. Our experienced professional staff is comprised of Board Certified Behavior Analysts who are committed to the highest standards of evidence-based practice for your child's specific needs and work closely with you to design the very best treatment for your child.
Address: 4205 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA
Phone: (337) 475-5000 or (800) 622-3352

SOAR Autism Center - We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization offering applied behavior analysis therapy (ABA), speech therapy, **social skills**, life skills, independent living skills, educational advocacy, support network meetings, lending library, resources, workshops and training's, as well as community events, adult social events and support. We accept most insurances including Medicaid for ABA.
Contact: Sherri Houin, Executive Director/CEO
Address: 21 Industrial Pkwy., Bldg. A, Ponchatoula, LA 70454
Phone: (985) 370-2300
Fax: (844) 205-7627
E-mail: Shouin@soarwithautism.org

St. Nicholas Center - St. Nicholas Center offers a wide range of services including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Skills training, and diagnostic testing. Services are provided to children with autism, developmental delays, and neurological disorders in a fun loving, and educational environment.
Address: 2519 Ryan St., Lake Charles, LA 70601
Phone: (337) 491-0800
Fax: (337) 491-0508
Email: info@stnickcenter.org

SUPPORT GROUPS

Advocating for Our Exceptional Kids (River Parishes Area)
This group is about sharing our knowledge of opportunities and experiences for our special needs children in the River Parish and the surrounding areas. Its primary goal is to serve as a platform for sharing advice, connections to therapies, dates of local events, lessons and anything beneficial for our kids. Feel free to post information that would be helpful and positive for our group!

Autism Society of Acadiana Vermillion Parish Support Group

Autism Society of Greater New Orleans Virtual Parent Support Group
ASGNO is thrilled to continue to offer our community-based parent-led parent support group! Our parent support group is a safe place to seek advice, and support from your peers who are experiencing the same struggles that you are. Seek solidarity, support, and suggestions that have worked for other people just like you!

Champions of GNO
Champions of Greater New Orleans is a group started by a family member of a teen with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The family had been frustrated by the lack of recreation and guided social opportunities for teenagers and young adults in the New Orleans area with varying abilities.

Colorful Connections NOLA
Hello, welcome to Colorful Connections Nola. I am Dewain Baldwin. My friend Marie and I started this group for people with autism and other disabilities. We are a loving group and strive to be inclusive of ALL identities.

We are looking to bring everyone together in the disabilities community to show them a good time. We want everyone to have access to fun recreational activities and social events like movie nights, playing fun games, etc. We are something special, we started with a fun small group, and now we have over 140 members so far! So if you're looking for something new to get into in New Orleans, please come join our fun Colorful Connections group and we will take good care of you and we will come together to help everyone out.

For feedback and questions, please message us.

Chase Answers – GROUP
I think that as parents going through some of the same struggles, we can help each other by sharing our experiences (negative or positive). Sometimes I just want to hear the opinion of another mom who really understands. Please feel free to share information on treatments, doctors, books, therapists, conferences, biomedical, homeopathy, HBOT, local resources or events, whatever you'd like.

Disability Advocacy Network for All
We strive to assist and advocate for persons with disabilities so that we can live up to our FULL potential in the community. In the workplace, home, school, church, grocery store, park, or anywhere else we may go. Please let us know how we can help!

GRASS (GReater AScension Special needs)
The GReater AScension Special needs group (GRASS) is a closed group for adult individuals who are differently abled and parents/guardians of individuals with special needs to share ideas, experiences, resources, equipment, etc. that may be helpful to others. This group is meant to be a safe place for people to share their feelings and to support each other.

LAdisABILITY Talk
LAdisABILITY Talk is a Louisiana statewide, online group where we can Talk Everyday All Day about disABILITY issues! Ask questions, share and make comments to Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans and Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center staff and your peers about anything disability-related.

LaPAC - Louisiana Parents of Adult Children with Disabilities
LaPAC is a statewide, online group where we can Talk Everyday All Day about disABILITY issues that are specific to parents (or family members) of ADULT CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. Ask questions, share and make comments to Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans staff and your peers about anything disability-related.

Louisiana 22q Support Network
The Louisiana 22q Support Network connects and supports families affected by 22q11.2 deletion syndrome (sometimes referred to as velo cardio facial syndrome or Digeorge syndrome) in Louisiana and surrounding areas.

Louisiana Autism and Special Needs Support Group

Louisiana Emergency Resources for those with Disabilities
This group is for emergency resources in Louisiana for those with disabilities. Only posts on emergency resources for those with disabilities in Louisiana are allowed.

New Orleans Mom Special Needs Moms
An online group for moms of children with special needs, sponsored by New Orleans Moms Blog.

NOLA Autism Parent's & Caregivers
A place where parents, and caregivers of people with autism spectrum disorder. Can share local events, and information. PLEASE share any helpful information you may have with our group!

Nola Warrior Moms
Support for moms with kids that need a little extra.

NOLA Down Syndrome Moms
Welcome! This is a safe space to ask questions, lean on other moms, and trade information about services in NOLA. Introduce yourself if you are new! So happy you are here.

Northshore Parents & Caregivers of Individuals with Disabilities
This group organization is for parents and caregivers for networking, supporting, encouraging, and discussing all aspects of raising/caring for a child/teenager/adult with special needs here on the Northshore!It is my hope that this can bring about awareness and advocacy for our children and their diagnoses in our area, along with having each other to lean on as not many understand our complex lives. I also hope this group can provide information on the developmental disability services that are available for our children and how to go about signing up for them. Your questions are always welcomed and encouraged!

Sensory Processing Disorder Parent Support - Jeanette Loftus
The best, most awesome, largest & busiest Sensory Processing Disorder Page :) Welcome to our SPD family, Welcome to our SPD community :)

SOAR with Autism Support Group
This group is for individuals who want to share information, resources, personal stories, or anything autism. This a closed sub group of SOAR-Strengthening Outcomes with Autism Resources, a Louisiana non-profit organization created by parents of children with autism.

St. Bernard Parents & Caregivers of Individuals with Disabilities
This group is for parents and caregivers for networking, supporting, encouraging, and discussing all aspects of raising/caring for a child/teenager/adult with special needs in St. Bernard Parish! It is my hope that this group can bring about awareness and advocacy for our children and their diagnoses in our area, along with having each other to lean on as not many understand our complex lives. I also hope this group can provide information on the developmental disability services that are available for our children and how to go about signing up for them. Your questions are always welcomed and encouraged!

Training Grounds
Every Step Together Program - Autism Support for Parents and Children

The We PLAY Center offers support to parents and families of children on the autism spectrum.

We provide parents the opportunity to network with other parents in an informal setting. We do this by offering online and in-person support where parents use play to build positive and fun relationships. Through play and joint activities,
the child is encouraged to boost language, social and cognitive skills.

Join fellow parents on this journey whether your awaiting an evaluation, diagnosis, are ready to start therapy, or just want to learn more. This group is for YOU!

Weekly support group for parents of children ages 1-5 who:

- Have been referred by a physician or community partner for an evaluation
- Have recently been diagnosed with autism and are awaiting therapy
- Need resources and a safe welcoming community

Meetings will take place on 5 consecutive Mondays.

Address: 2200 Lafitte St.
New Orleans, LA 70119
Phone: (504) 901- 0606
Email: support@mytraininggrounds.org