

Alphabetical Listing of Autism Resources

This list is presented for information purposes only. Additional information regarding any of the agencies/organizations should be directed to the agency or organization in question. By compiling this list, the BCPS Office of Special Education in no way endorses or promotes any of the agencies or organizations below. Some may require a fee for service.

Abilities Network

Abilities Network Autism Services enables individuals with autism to function as meaningfully and independently as possible in their homes and community, while providing their families with the strategies and resources necessary to assist their children in reaching their maximum potential. Autism Services provides family training, transition planning into adult services, and after school therapeutic integration programming.

410-828-7700

[Abilities Network Website](#)

Allied Sports

BCPS Allied Sports is a totally inclusive program that affords high school students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in their interscholastic sports alongside their non-disabled peers

443-809-2328

[BCPS Allied Sports Website](#)

Arc Baltimore

Dedicated to helping people with developmental disabilities make the most of their potential since 1949, the Arc Baltimore is one of the nation's largest and most respected organizations of its kind. The Family and Children Division offers a variety of supportive programs for children and their families with the goal of honoring family choices, providing opportunities for parents and caregivers to learn about resources and strategies, and to offer networks that build partnerships and promote self-advocacy. Services include a Respite Care Program, Parent Groups, Parent's Day Out, among other supports and services.

410-296-2272

[The ARC Baltimore Website](#)

Autism Service Dogs of America

Provider of service dogs for children with autism throughout the United States, Autism Service Dogs of America is a non-profit, community based organization. In 2002, Priscilla Taylor, founder and director, incorporated her love of dogs and her background as a special education teacher and formed a service dog agency to serve the needs of children.

[Autism Service Dogs Website](#)

Autism Speaks

Autism Speaks is the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization. The program's goal is to change the future of individuals who are impacted by autism spectrum disorders. Autism Speaks is devoted to

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bringing the autism community together to address this disorder that is on the rise and to do everything possible to raise public awareness, raise funds for research, and give hope to everyone who is impacted by autism.

Autism Speaks provides many downloadable Tool Kits that cover a wide array of topics. For a full list of Tool Kits visit: [Autism Speaks Tool Kits](#)

888-288-4762

888-772-9050 (*Español*)

[Autism Speaks Website](#)

Autism Society of Baltimore-Chesapeake (ASBC)

The Autism Society of Baltimore-Chesapeake (ASBC) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to acting as a voice for all people along the autism spectrum in the greater Baltimore area. It exists as a resource for anyone who needs help and support with the difficult job of raising, working with, and/or advocating for a person diagnosed with autism.

The ASBC provides hosts a variety of support groups and social events, and maintains a bi-monthly newsletter and calendar of events on its website.

410-655-7933

[ASBC Website](#)

The Autism Waiver in Maryland

The autism waiver in Maryland will allow eligible children with Autism Spectrum Disorders to receive specific waiver services in order to support them in their homes and communities. Children who apply to the waiver are referred from the registry to MSDE in chronological order.

To put your child on the waiver waiting list or check to see the current status of your child on the list, contact:
Autism Waiver Registry 866-417-3480

For more information, contact:

Baltimore County Public Schools 443-809-4130

[BCPS Autism Waiver Website](#)

Baltimore Area Special Hockey

The Baltimore Saints is an ice hockey program for both children and adults with a traumatic brain injury or intellectual disability such as autism. The program provides participants the opportunity to play ice hockey in an environment adapted to each of their abilities. Special Hockey is not only recreational, but therapeutic. It emphasizes social interaction, self-reliance, concentration and willingness to adapt to new experiences with a sense of accomplishment and pride.

410-370-1818

[Baltimore Saints Website](#)

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Baltimore County Department of Recreation & Parks' Office of Therapeutic Recreation Services

The Baltimore County Office of Therapeutic Recreation Services provides a wide variety of recreation opportunities and services for individuals with disabilities countywide. The programs are designed specifically for individuals with disabilities, as well as inclusion into general recreation programs. Distributed twice a year (Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer), the Leisure Resources newsletter lists program opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Visit the website for a copy of the current newsletter.

410-887-5370

[Therapeutic Recreation Website](#)

Baltimore County Family Navigator

Baltimore County Family Navigator Services offers support and guidance while helping families identify their strengths and challenges, find resources, and develop a plan of action. This free service is available to Baltimore County families who have a child with intensive needs related to mental/behavioral health or a developmental disability.

Family Navigator services include a **Kinship Care Program for extended family members as well as The Family Resource offering** a series of free workshops for all Baltimore County residents and anyone receiving services through Catholic Charities.

667-600-3074

[Family Navigator Website](#)

Baltimore County Public Schools' Special Education Resource Center (SERC)

The Resource Center supports parents of children with disabilities, ages birth to 21. Its mission is to promote positive, effective partnerships within the school community. Staffed by parents of children with disabilities, the center activities include but are not limited to: maintaining a comprehensive lending library; teaming with educators to teach free workshops; making community presentations to both parent groups and school staff; and directing parents to available community resources.

410-887-5443

[SERC Website](#)

Boy Scouts of America: Baltimore Area Council

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) works with parents to include boys age six years and older with special needs into community units or assists parents in locating special needs units throughout Maryland appropriate for their children.

443-573-2500

[Baltimore BSA Website](#)

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Children's Developmental Class: CCBC Essex Campus

The Children's Developmental Class, sponsored by CCBC's Division of Wellness, Education and Social Sciences helps children with special needs manage their unique challenges. Children are mentored in the areas of motor development, academic, and social skills. Children work with college student mentors to improve development in: emotional engagement; self-esteem; social and communication skills; body awareness; fine and gross motor skills; and balance and coordination.

443-840-1387

[Children with Developmental Challenges Website](#)

Disability Rights Maryland

Disability Rights Maryland (DRM), is federally mandated to advance the civil rights of people with disabilities. DRM provides free legal services to Marylanders of any age with all types of disabilities (developmental, intellectual, psychiatric, physical, sensory, learning, traumatic brain injury), who live in facilities, in the community or who are homeless. DRM maximizes resources by using an array of advocacy strategies, including information and referral, advice and counsel, outreach and education, monitoring and investigations, training and technical assistance, coalition and policy work, individual representation, impact litigation and support for self-advocacy. DRM creates a more integrated, just society and improves the lives of people with disabilities by advancing legal rights and ensuring equality of opportunity to participate in community life.

410-727-6352

[DRM Website](#)

Girl Scouts of Central MD (GSCM)

The Girl Scouts of Central Maryland works with parents to include girls age 5 and older with special needs into community units or assists parents in locating Special needs Units throughout Maryland appropriate for their children.

1-800-492-2521

[GSCM Website](#)

The Image Center of Maryland

The IMAGE Center is dedicated to the creation of a learning and thinking environment that challenges concepts of what people with disabilities can do. This includes peer mentoring, independent living skills training, advocacy, education transition, travel training, and support with resources and services in the community.

410-982-6311

[Image Center Website](#)

Jewish Community Center (JCC)

The JCC's department for people with Special Needs provides social and recreational programs for children, teens and adults with a range of disabilities. The programs provide participants with opportunities to interact with their peers, enhance self-esteem and improve social skills. They encourage the integration of participants

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into JCC classes, camps, after-school programs, groups and events. Inclusion in these programs helps all members develop a strong sense of belonging to the Jewish community.

410-559-3576

[JCC Website](#)

Kids Enjoy Exercise Now (KEEN)

The KEEN Johns Hopkins University Sports program is an opportunity for a student (ages 5-12) with disabilities, no matter how great, to enjoy some recreational fun with friends and enthusiastic volunteers, and without mom, dad or teachers. KEEN JHU Sports is one of 24 free programs created and run by KEEN Greater DC. KEEN is a nonprofit, volunteer-led organization that provides one-to-one recreational opportunities for children and young adults with developmental and physical disabilities at no cost to their families.

443-934-0834

[KEEN of Greater DC Website](#)

Kennedy Krieger Institute's Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)

The Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) at Kennedy Krieger Institute is a multifaceted, interdisciplinary program serving children, families, and professionals in the autism spectrum disorders (ASD) community. CARD combines research, clinical service, a therapeutic day program, and training programs to unlock the potential of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), enrich their life experiences, empower patients, and promote the well-being of families through evidence-based practices. One of their major endeavors is developing effective new models of care for families and providers, whether locally, nationally, or internationally. The Center has four primary programs: Clinical, Achievements, Outreach and Training and REACH Research Program

443-923-7630

[CARD Website](#)

Kennedy Krieger Institute's Pediatric Developmental Disorders Clinic

The mission of the Pediatric Developmental Disorders (PDD) Clinic is to provide consultation and intervention to caregivers of children with a wide variety of developmental disorders (e.g., pervasive development disorders spectrum, intellectual disabilities). Intervention focuses on empirically based approaches to behavior management and addresses both behavioral excesses (e.g., aggression, self-injury, tantrums) and behavioral deficits (e.g., compliance, self-help skills, toileting). For children with language delays and behavior disorders, there is a strong emphasis on providing training to develop verbal behavior (vocal and/or sign language).

443- 923-7508

[PDD Clinic Website](#)

The League for People with Disabilities

The League's year round Camping & Therapeutic Recreation program provides joyful, life-changing experiences in a safe environment and builds meaningful relationships in the lives of youth and adults. The League's Autism Services also works with families to help secure additional forms of funding, such as Low

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Intensity Support Services (LISS), to fund the cost of services for individuals not yet on the Autism Waiver.
410-323-0500

[The League Website](#)

Lighthouse “Sociabilities” Social Skills Program

Lighthouse, Inc. is a private non-profit youth and family services center located in Catonsville, Maryland. Lighthouse provides counseling for children, youth, and their families. The Lighthouse “Sociabilities” Program involves social skills groups designed to help kids have fun playing and interacting with peers.

410-788-5483

[Lighthouse Website](#)

Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Funding

Through the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), The Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) program is low level funding designed to improve an individual or family’s quality of life, increase or maintain independence, and participate in their communities. The LISS program uses an automated system called the Random Selection Process to select individuals who may be eligible for funding, granting up to \$2000 for services and items to address their needs.

The use of a Random Selection Process promotes equality and access for everyone. The process includes an application, selection, eligibility determination, and the procurement of eligible items and services. The system is indiscriminate; it does not consider the identity or any other personal aspect of the applicants.

LISS AGENCY FOR CENTRAL REGION

Penn Mar Human Services
310 Old Freeland Road
Freeland, Maryland 21053
410-343-1069

[Pen-Mar Website](#)

(844) 253-8694

[LISS Website](#)

Loyola Clinical Centers: Speech-Language Pathology

The Speech-Language Pathology services at the Loyola Clinical Centers take a step-by-step approach to speech therapy and provide hands-on assessments and treatment for children and specialized services for adults with a range of communication difficulties. As part of their approach to speech language therapy, they see the family (parents, siblings, extended family, spouses) as part of the client intervention. Family members are encouraged to participate in therapy sessions and will have opportunities to observe as well as speak with the clinicians.

410-617-1200

[Loyola Speech-Language Clinic Website](#)

Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education (MCIE)

The Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education Inc. (MCIE) is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the inclusion of students with disabilities in their neighborhood schools. Founded in 1988, MCIE provides a

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variety of services to families and schools. Their mission is to be the catalyst for meaningful and successful participation of all students in their neighborhood schools, through partnerships, advocacy, professional development, and public education.

410-859-5400

[MCIE Website](#)

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

People with developmental disabilities have the right to direct their lives and services. The DDA partners with people with developmental disabilities to provide support and resources to live fulfilling lives. The DDA is the primary State agency that funds community-based services and supports for people with developmental disabilities. The DDA provides a coordinated service delivery system so that people receive appropriate services oriented toward the goal of full integration into their community. The DDA's community-based service delivery systems includes various home and community-based services and supports provided through either a Medicaid State Plan or Waiver program or via DDA State funded services.

(844) 253-8694

[Maryland DDA Website](#)

Kinera Foundation

Kinera Foundation strives to enhance the quality of life for children with special needs and their families by providing parent support groups, social activities, access to various treatments and therapies, while continuing to support inclusive and community programs.

443-249-3126

[Kinera Website](#)

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)

The Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services provides leadership, support and accountability for results to local school systems, public agencies and stakeholders through a seamless, comprehensive system of coordinated services to children and students with disabilities, birth through 21, and their families. MSDE provides access to many publications and resources regarding special education on its website

[MSDE Division of Special Education and Early Intervention Services Website](#)

[MSDE Website](#)

Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MDTAP)

The Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MDTAP) is a program run by the Maryland Department of Disabilities. Their mission is to enhance the lives of all Marylanders with disabilities, older Marylanders, and their families by helping support access to assistive technology (AT) devices and services.

1-800-832-4827 (Voice-Toll Free)

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1-866-881-7488 (TTY-Toll Free)

[MDTAP Website](#)

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital's Autism Spectrum Center

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital's (MWPH) Autism services include testing and therapeutic services for children suspected of, or already diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Appropriate referrals are children two years of age through adolescence suspected of having or previously diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (autism, Asperger's syndrome, PDD-NOS, etc.). Additionally AARTS offers social skills groups as well as individual and family treatment.

410-367-2222

[MWPH Autism Spectrum Center Website](#)

The Parents Place of Maryland (PPMD)

Founded in 1991, The Parents' Place was created by parents of children and youth with disabilities to help other parents and families facing similar challenges. Today, The Parents' Place serves families of children and young adults from birth to age 22 with all disabilities. Individual assistance is provided over the phone and in-person to families who have questions about their child's needs such as special education and health care access. Additionally, Parents' Place provides a variety of workshops for parents and professionals as well as resources on a variety of relevant topics.

(410) 768-9100

[PPMD Website](#)

Pathfinders for Autism

Pathfinders for Autism was founded by a group of parents of children with autism to support and develop lifespan services and provide information and resources for families of children with autism. Pathfinders has an extensive data base of autism resources and providers in MD. Their website contains articles and other helpful information and resources for parents and professionals. They also provide free trainings, workshops and fun events across the state.

Helpline: 443-330-5341

Toll Free: 866-806-8400

[Pathfinders Website](#)

Rise for Autism

Since 2011, RISE has implemented several programs, informational resources, and services to those who fall on the Autism Spectrum. RISE has offered programs such as PALS, provided training and consultation to local school systems, and hosted year-round workshops and conferences on a variety of topics. RISE for Autism has also awarded over \$95,000 in grant funding to local families to assist with financial burden of services and has partnered with AACPD to improve the safety of individuals in our area through address flagging, the Annual Safety Resource Fair, and BE SAFE the Movie Training.

[Rise for Autism Website](#)

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Social Security Disability: Applying for Disability Benefits on the Basis of Autism

Social Security Disability benefits may be able to offset some of the financial burden caused by the Autism Spectrum Disorders.

800-772-1213

[Autism and Social Security Benefits Website](#)

Towson University Institute for Well Being

The Institute for Well-Being (IWB) at Towson University (TU) offers a wide spectrum of programs dedicated to promoting and enhancing health and wellness in the community. Serving as a dynamic inter-professional learning lab for Towson University students, the Institute for Well-Being weaves innovative services and educational programs across multiple centers into one organization. Our centers offer professional services from licensed and certified health care experts. Students work under the supervision of the health care staff who mentor and train them to provide the best practices in health and wellness. Services include The Hussman Center for Adults with Autism, the Occupational Therapy Center, and the Speech and Language Center.

410-704-7300

[TU IWB Website](#)