

RESOURCE GUIDE

for Children with Disabilities and their Families

DISCLAIMER: Some resources contained in this guide include non-Orthodox synagogues and organizations. Inclusion of those with varying abilities is a need in all denominations, and we recognize that the Orthodox community can learn much from the diversity of resources these institutions provide. Their inclusion in this guide is for informational purposes only and does not necessarily reflect B'nai David-Judea's endorsement or recommendation of those synagogues and organizations for worship, educational, or ritual purposes. B'nai David-Judea merely recognizes that those organizations may have resources that can be helpful depending on one's individual circumstances. Please note, B'nai David-Judea does not guarantee the services of any of the providers listed on this guide.

Table of Contents

Note: All asterisked programs are partner agencies of HaMercaz.

Jewish Community Information and Referral.....	1
Education	2
Financial Assistance.....	12
Legal Services and Advocacy	13
Medical and Related Support Services	16
Support Groups & Counseling.....	19
Therapeutic Services	25
Residential Facilities	31
Social and Recreational Activities	32
Synagogue and Chaplaincy	38
Technology Assistance	40
Vocational Training	41
Helpful Websites.....	42

Jewish Community Information and Referral

HaMercaz: Your One-Stop Special Needs Resource for Families with Children with Developmental Disabilities and Special Needs (for children ages 0-22)

12821 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood 91601 ♦ Phone (866) 287-8030

Contact: Sarah Blitzstein, Director

Email: hamercaz@jfsla.org Website: www.hamercaz.org

A one-stop program for Jewish families with children with special needs and developmental disabilities. Families become connected with a network of services providing on-going assistance as well as with special needs program, at synagogues and camps in the Jewish community. HaMercaz offers parent workshops and support groups and is available to provide staff training and professional development. HaMercaz is a collaborative program of the Jewish Federation, staffed by Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, with partner agencies including: Bet Tzedek, BJE: Builder of Jewish Education, Camp Ramah in California, ETTA, Far West USY Hevrah, Friendship Circle, Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles, Jewish Free Loan Association, Jewish Vocational Service, OurSpace, Shalom Institute, The Miracle Project, Vista Del Mar Child and Family Service, Yachad LA, and Zimmer Children's Museum.

If your child ages out of services listed in this guide, there is another community resource:

Los Angeles Jewish Abilities Center (LAJAC): The community resource for Jewish adults with special needs and caregivers.

Contact: Michelle Resnick, Director

Email: mresnick@jewishla.org Website: <http://www.lajac.org/>

Through a state-of-the art website, case management and better coordination between service providers, LAJAC opens the door to a world of empowerment and opportunities that promote self-advocacy, independence, and accessibility to practical resources for adults with special needs.

Education

General Resources

***BJE: Builder of Jewish Education – JKidLA**

6505 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (323) 761-8614

Email: educate@bjela.org Website: www.bjela.org

BJE, through its JKidLA/Concierge service works with families to find the right educational opportunity for their family and child. Staff are able to help families think through available options and determine the choices based on the individual needs of the child.

In addition, the agency works closely with congregational Religious Schools to enhance the work being done to increase access to Jewish education for children who learn differently.

Preschools

Adat Ari El (Conservative) – Rose Engel Early Childhood Center

12020 Burbank Blvd., Valley Village, CA 91607 ♦ Phone (818) 766-6379

Email: info@adatariel.org Website: www.aaecc.org

The Adat Ari El Rose Engel Early Childhood Center is an inclusive, developmentally based program that allows a child's interests to bring out his or her potential. The Center provides an infant/toddler program, nursery school, enrichment classes, and social skills classes. Teachers work collaboratively with specialists and parents to ensure that the child can access the curriculum successfully, by working together towards specific goals and objectives. The typically developing children in the classroom help to model appropriate behaviors, and become strong advocates for those children needing the most help.

Beth Shir Shalom (Reform) – Early Childhood Center

1827 California Ave. Santa Monica, CA 90403 ♦ Phone (310) 829-2517

Website: www.bethshirshalom.com

Children with special needs are welcome in their nursery school programs. Families must provide a shadow for children who need one-on-one attention.

Cedars Sinai Cheerful Helpers Child and Family Study Center

3300 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90010 ♦ Phone (213) 387-7252

Contact: Ellen K. Reinstein, Director

Email: info@cheerfulhelpers.org Website: www.cheerfulhelpers.org

For children ages 2-7 who are having difficulties with social and emotional development, including delays in speech and language, sensory-integration, motor-planning, self-regulation and socialization. The Center's model is on helping children with special needs by treating the entire family. *Vendored by California Regional Center*

Temple Isaiah (Reform) – Preschool

10345 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064 ♦ Phone (310) 277-2772

Contact: Tamar Andrews, Director

Email: tamar@templeisaiah.com Website: www.templeisaiah.com

Temple Isaiah Preschool is committed to providing an early childhood Jewish education to all Jewish children in Los Angeles regardless of developmental level. The preschool employs highly educated, nurturing and sensitive teachers who work in partnership with families and specialists to create a non-restrictive environment for all. Staff is complemented by a marriage and family therapist and several affiliated occupational and behavioral therapists. Children with special needs are placed within the traditional classroom and are provided with any and all resources to succeed. Teachers and administrators regularly attend IFSP and IEP meetings to ensure consistency and competency of care.

Temple Judea (Reform) – Early Childhood Center

5429 Lindley, Tarzana, CA 91356 ♦ Phone (818) 342-3840

Contact: Margie Ipp, Early Childhood Center Director

Email: mipp@templejudea.com Website: www.templejudea.com

Temple Judea's Early Childhood Center is dedicated to enhancing the development of young children in a safe and positive Jewish environment. The Parenting Center and Nursing School provide a supportive place for families with children ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Families must provide a shadow or aide, if deemed required by director and teacher.

Religious Schools & Tutoring

Beth Shir Shalom (Reform) – Religious School

1827 California Ave. Santa Monica, CA 90403 ♦ Phone (310) 453-3361

Contact: Elana Mabashov, Jelli Director

E-mail: elana@bethshirshalom.org Website: www.bethshirshalom.com

Children with special needs are welcome in Beth Shir Shalom's religious school programs. Beth Shir Shalom's educational philosophy recognizes learning as an interactive process. Their programs are designed to enable students of all ages to become well-versed Jews who comfortably participate in both the Jewish and secular communities. Beth Shir Shalom offers both Hebrew language education and Judaic study.

Congregation Or Ami (Reform) – Mishpacha Family Alternative Learning Program

26115 Mureau Rd. Suite B Calabasas, CA 91302 ♦ Phone (818) 880-4880

Contact: Rabbi Julia Weisz, Rabbi & Director of Education

Email: rabbijulia@orami.org Website: www.orami.org

Family education program for families with children in grades PreK-7. Children with a range of special needs are integrated within regular program with or without aides. Classes meet on Sunday mornings. A Bar/Bat Mitzvah program for children with special needs is also available.

Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue – Hand in Hand Program

24855 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90265 ♦ Phone (310)456.2178

Contact: Cantor Marcello Gindin, Cantor

Email: cantor@mjcs.org Website: www.mjcs.org/

The Hand in Hand Program is a free after school program for children and teens with special needs. The after school program provides children with special needs with an opportunity to socialize, learn new skills, and have fun. Hand in Hand offers activities such as music therapy, arts and crafts, play and structured social interaction with other children, both with and without special needs. They serve both children and young adults with special needs, ages seven and above.

***OurSpace – Education Programs**

A joint program of Valley Beth Shalom and Temple Aliyah

Valley Beth Shalom: 15739 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91436 ♦ Phone (818) 788-6000

Temple Aliyah: 6025 Valley Circle Blvd, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 ♦ Phone (818) 346-3545

Rabbi Adam Schaffer, Director rabbiadam@templealiyah.org

Contact: Susan North Gilboa, Director ♦ Phone 818-530-4069

Email: sngilboa@vbs.org Website: www.ourspacela.org

OurSpace - Where Jewish Experiences Happen for Children and Young Adults with Special Needs is a collaborative effort of Valley Beth Shalom (VBS) and Temple Aliyah (TA).

- **Shaare Tikva** (VBS): Offers Jewish learning and social experiences for children ages 3-18 with a range of developmental delays and/or Autistic Spectrum Disorders. Participants develop their Jewish identities using art, music, multi-sensory and hands-on interactive learning experiences, enabling them to participate in a full Jewish life with family, friends, and community. Meets Sunday mornings.
- **Makom Sheli** (VBS): Provides a space for children in grades K-2nd who thrive best in a small class environment because they either have an IEP or are currently being evaluated. Teachers embrace learning differences and help participants navigate their social world. This program encourages participants who have learning or social challenges to use their skills and abilities to the fullest. Integrating music, movement, and multi-sensory activities, participants actively engage in learning about Jewish holidays, traditions, values, blessings, and Hebrew language along with their peers. Meets Sunday mornings.
- **Moreshet** (VBS): Offers students a weekly, one-to-one or small group study session, providing additional Hebrew, Judaic and B'nei Mitzvah preparation.
- **Learning Space Alef and Bet** (TA): Creates Jewish learning experiences for children in 3rd-5th grades (Alef) and 6th-7th grades (Bet) with language and visual processing disorders, anxiety disorders, ADHD, OCD, health, learning and/or social challenges. Through a multidisciplinary hands-on approach, and focusing on students' strengths, professionally trained teachers provide individual and group instruction that enable students to be actively engaged in the learning process.
- **TeenSpace** (TA): A space for 8th-11th graders with learning and social challenges to engage in Jewish learning and social opportunities with teenage peers. Using creativity and technology, participants focus on their Jewish identities, Tikkun Olam, and Jewish values. Throughout the year, participants create individual and group projects about their Jewish journeys.
- **The Artistic Spectrum of Jewish Learning for Adults:** Encourages adults (over the age of 18) with special needs, to participate in life-long Jewish learning through the arts, while socializing with friends and community. Meets weekly on Sunday. (VBS)

Temple Beth Hillel (Reform) – Religious School Yachad Program

12326 Riverside Dr., Valley Village, CA 91607 ♦ Phone (818) -763-9148 x141

Contact: Rabbi Eleanor Steinman, Religious School Director

E-mail: rabiellie@tbhla.org Website: www.tbhla.org

The Yachad program is an afternoon Hebrew/Judaica program that serves children from K-7th grade. Class placement depends on individual needs of child, which is determined by administration and family working together. The Yachad coordinator works with all families and teachers to ensure ongoing and smooth integration into classrooms. Students can be fully included with or without a 1:1 or placed in a special education environment depending on needs. Individualized tutoring is also available.

Temple Judea (Reform) – Religious School

5429 Lindley, Tarzana, CA 91356 ♦ Phone (818) 758-3800

Contact: Rebecca Platt, Director of Education

Email: rplatt@templejudea.com Website: www.templejudea.com

The following programs are offered at Temple Judea. Synagogue membership is required for participation:

- **Classroom Program:** Offered one day a week for grades TK-7th grade. Instruction model includes weekly classes, enrichment activities, and retreats.
- **High School Programming:** High School students meet weekly and explore Judaism in the context of different intensive options designed to engage students Jewishly through things they already love to do from the arts to social action.

***Vista Del Mar – Jewish Life Programs (non-denominational)**

3200 Motor Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90034 ♦ Phone (310) 836-1223 ext. 209

Website: <http://www.vistadelmar.org>

Jewish Life Programs (JLP) at Vista Del Mar offers families with children with autism and other special needs the opportunity to experience the joy of Jewish life and community in an atmosphere of meaning, celebration, wonder, and full acceptance. Programming takes place in Vista Del Mar's on-campus Konheim Temple or other parts of campus. Programs include:

- **Nes Gadol B'nei Mitzvah Classes: My Life as a Blessing:** For tweens and teens of all ages who wish to prepare for B'nei Mitzvah. B'nei Mitzvah celebrations can be held in on campus synagogue, home synagogue of family, or in private settings.
- **Nes Gadol Confirmation Classes: My Life as a Mensch:** For teens of all ages who have completed B'nei Mitzvah studies.
- **Family Holiday Celebrations:** All Jewish holidays are celebrated either in weekly classes or in special family programs held throughout the year. Visit the website for special holiday family celebrations, along with special Shabbat services. Online reservations required.
- **Inclusive High Holiday Services:** High Holiday Services are fully inclusive of families with children with autism and other special needs. Quiet room is available. Services take place in Vista Del Mar's Temple without charge. Reservations are required.
- **The Moses-Aaron Cooperative:** A traveling program which presents the writings and poetry of those with autism who have limited verbal communication (but have learned how to type via ipad or computer) by inviting synagogue youth to stand side by side with their autistic peer to share their words publicly – often for the first time.
- **Private Tutoring:** Partners with family's home synagogue for B'nei Mitzvah preparation and ceremony. Contact for more details and pricing.

Non-Public Schools

Frostig School (Learning Disabilities)

971 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107 ♦ Phone (626) 791-1255

Email: school@frostig.org Website: www.frostigschool.org

The Frostig School is dedicated to helping children with learning disabilities (including dyslexia, non-verbal learning disabilities, and ADHD). The three-part mission includes: direct service, training, and research. Programs offered include: a day school for students with learning disabilities, after school tutoring and summer programs.

The HELP Group – Day Schools

13130 Burbank Blvd, Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

Phone (818) 781-0360 ♦ Admissions (818) 779-5262

Website: www.thehelpgroup.org

The HELP Group's day schools offer elementary, middle school and high school programs for children with specific learning disabilities, Asperger's Disorder, autism spectrum disorders, non-verbal learning disabilities, emotional/behavioral disabilities, and other developmental disabilities. They also have mental health services program, comprehensive assessments for autism, early childhood and speech and occupational therapy. *Vendored by California Regional Center*

- **Bridgeport School** (Autism Spectrum Disorder School)
13130 Burbank Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA 91401
4160 Grand View Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90066
Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/bridgeport-school>
- **Bridgeport Vocational Education Center** (Autism Spectrum Disorder School)
14646 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405
<http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/bridgeport-vocational-education-center/>
- **North Hills Prep** (Therapeutic School)
15339 Saticoy Street Van Nuys, CA 91406
Website: <http://www.northhillsprep.com/>
- **Parkhill School** (Therapeutic School)
15339 Saticoy Street, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/parkhill-school/>
- **Summit View School** (Learning Disabilities School)
12101 W. Washington Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90066 ♦ Phone (310) 397-4417
6455 Coldwater Canyon Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91606 ♦ Phone (818) 623-6300
Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/summit-view-school-2/>
- **Stem³ Academy**
6455 Coldwater Canyon Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91606 ♦ Phone (818) 623-6386
Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/stem3/>
- **Sunrise School** (Autism Spectrum Disorder Schools)
13130 Burbank Boulevard Sherman Oaks, CA 91401
4160 Grand View Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90066
Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/sunrise-school/>

- **Village Glen School** (Autism Spectrum Disorder School)
13130 Burbank Boulevard Sherman Oaks, CA 91401
4160 Grand View Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90066
Website: <http://www.villageglen.org/>
- **Young Learners Preschool** (Autism Spectrum Disorder School)
13164 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91401
4160 Grand View Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90066
Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/school/young-learners-preschool-for-autism/>
- **Westview School** (Learning Disabilities School, Therapeutic School)
12101 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90066 ♦ Phone (310) 478-5544
Website: <http://www.westviewschool.com/>

Kayne-Eras Center – Education Programs (Developmental Delay, Learning Disability, Emotional or Behavior Challenge, or Health Impairment)
5350 Macado Road Culver City, CA 90230 ♦ Phone (310) 204-3300
Website: <http://www.ecf.net/school/> Email: info@ecf.org

Kayne Eras Center is a large multi-service center serving children and families through its special education programs and services. Provide the highest quality educational programs and therapeutic services to meet the needs, goals and hopes of individuals with special learning, emotional and developmental challenges. Offers a state certified Non-Public School (K-12), diagnostic and therapeutic Services, mental health services, adult services program, and an after-school program.

Park Century School (Learning Disabilities)
3939 Landmark Street Culver City, CA 90232 ♦ Phone (310) 840-0500 ♦ Fax (310) 840-0590
Contact: Ms. Judith Fuller
Website: www.parkcenturyschool.org

Offers a program of instruction that is built around each student's intellectual, physical, psychological, social, and moral development. A supportive, remedial, and enriching curriculum helps students learn skills and strategies necessary to return to a traditional school setting when possible. Students have access to three types of instruction for optimal learning: one-to-one instruction, individualized instruction, and small group lessons.

UCLA Early Head Start Program

222 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 ♦ Phone (213) 974-4103 ♦ Fax (213) 217-5106

Website: <http://ceo.lacounty.gov/ccp/hsp.htm>

Early Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that provides educational services and advocacy for families to promote optimal child health, nutrition, and development. Parental involvement is a crucial aspect of the program as families work towards maximizing their infant's/toddler's health, development and overall family self-sufficiency. Infants and toddlers (birth-36months) from income eligible families, and pregnant women from low-income families can participate in Early Head Start.

*Vista Del Mar

3200 Motor Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90034 ♦ Phone (310) 836-1223

Email: geninfo@vistadelmar.org Website: www.vistadelmar.org

Vista Del Mar offers a range of educational services for children with special needs from pre-K to 12th grade. *Some programs are vendored by California Regional Center.* Programs include:

- **Vista Pre-School: The Baron School for Exceptional Children** - An innovative, accredited, non-public therapeutic school designed for children ages three through eleven with severe emotional problems, behavioral challenges, learning disabilities, autism, autistic spectrum disorders, and developmental delays.
- **Vista School** - A therapeutic learning environment that provides children identified with learning disabilities or developmental challenges, as well as those experiencing social problems, emotional problems, behavior problems or other mental health issues, with classes that can meet their special needs while encouraging them to grow emotionally and academically. School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).
- **Arts Enrichment** - Provides students from elementary through high school the opportunity to develop their creative potential and benefit therapeutically. Different methods of expression are incorporated, including: acting, dance, voice, drumming, photography, Art and music production.

Westmark School (Learning Disabilities)

5461 Louise Avenue Encino, CA 91316 ♦ Phone (818) 986-5045

Website: www.westmarkschool.org

Westmark School provides a motivating environment where students with learning differences discover their unique paths to personal and academic excellence in preparation for a successful college experience. Westmark serves students who struggle academically in more traditional learning environments. Teachers help students develop the strategies needed to succeed in school and encourage them to discover new ways to process information. Through multi-modality instruction and alternative assessment activities, Westmark students have the opportunity to utilize their strengths and become self-advocates, critical thinkers, problem solvers and independent learners.

Education Websites

California's Early Start Program (birth-36 months; early-intervention programs):

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/EarlyStart/home.cfm> ♦ Phone (800) 515-BABY

California School Directory

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/sd/>

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Special Education

<http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/1705> ♦ Phone (213) 241-6701

State of California Department of Education- Special Education Resources

www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se ♦ Phone (916) 445-4613

Financial Assistance

***Jewish Free Loan Association (JFLA)**

Los Angeles Office: *6505 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 715, Los Angeles, CA 90048* ♦ Phone (323) 761-8830

San Fernando Valley Office: *5429 Lindley Avenue, Tarzana, CA 91356* ♦ Phone (818) 344-1072

Email: info@jfla.org Website: www.jfla.org

JFLA's Ruth B. Ziegler Loan Fund for Families of Children with Special Needs provides interest-free loans of up to \$10,000 to families in Los Angeles, Ventura and Orange Counties for therapy & diagnostic expenses, educational reimbursement for waiting periods, home improvement expenses for medical necessity and funding to purchase specialized vehicles.

California Children's Services (CCS)

9320 Telstar Ave, Suite #226, EL Monte, CA 91731 ♦ Phone (800) 288-4584

Email: CCS@ph.lacounty.gov Website: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Services/CCS/Pages/default.aspx>

CCS is a statewide program that coordinates and pays for medical care and therapy services for children under 21 years of age with certain health care needs. Parents are encouraged to contact a CCS nurse regarding their individual case for approval of eligibility. Los Angeles County CCS is part of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health.

Legal Services and Advocacy

State Council on Developmental Disabilities

411 N. Central #620, Glendale, CA 91203 ♦ Phone (818) 543-4631

E-mail: losangeles@scdd.ca.gov; losangeles@scdd.ca.gov Website: www.scdd.ca.gov

Advocacy to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families get the services they need. Advocates for the civil, legal, and service rights of persons with developmental disabilities and works to ensure that the support and services they receive are of the highest possible quality.

***Bet Tzedek Legal Services**

3250 Wilshire Blvd., 13th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010 ♦ Phone (323) 939-0506 ♦ Fax (213) 471-4568
Website: www.bettzedek.org

Provides free legal representation for people with low income in the areas of housing, health care, consumer protection and government benefits. Bet Tzedek Self-Help Conservatorship Clinics provide assistance to those seeking a conservatorship for a family member or friend and information on alternatives to conservatorship. Bet Tzedek is not able to provide legal assistance with special education issues or family law.

Southwestern Law School - Children's Rights Clinic

3050 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90010 ♦ Phone (213) 738-6621 ♦ Fax (213) 738-5751

Email: childrensrights@swlaw.edu Website: www.swlaw.edu/academics/clinic/childrensrightsclinic

The Children's Rights Clinic provides representation to families in the areas of special education, school discipline, and other education-related issues. The clinic is staffed by law students who represent clients under the professional supervision. These services are provided free of charge.

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)

3075 Adeline Street, Suite 210, Berkeley, CA 94703 ♦ Phone (510) 644.2555 ♦ Fax/TTY (510) 841-8645

Email: info@dredf.org Website: www.dredf.org

The Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), is a leading national civil rights law and policy center directed by individuals with disabilities and parents who have children with disabilities. The organization is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities through legal advocacy, training, education, and public policy and legislative development.

Disability Rights California, Inc.

350 South Bixel Street, Suite 290, Los Angeles, CA 90017 Phone (213) 213-8000 ♦ Fax (213) 213-8001

Email: info@disabilityrightsca.org Website: www.disabilityrightsca.org

The mission of Disability Rights CA (DRC) is to advocate, educate, investigate and litigate to advance and protect the rights of Californians with disabilities. DRC has a wide variety of publications on policy and laws relating to special needs and disabilities. They also offer assistance and occasional legal representation, primarily in class-action suits. Provide referrals to help qualify for SSI or MediCal. Open Monday-Friday 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Disability Rights Legal Center

800 S. Figueroa Street Suite 1120, Los Angeles, CA 90017

Phone (213) 736-1031 ♦ Fax (213) 736-1030

Email: drlc@drcenter.org Website: www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org

The mission of the Disability Rights Legal Center is to promote the rights of people with disabilities and the public interest in and awareness of those rights by providing legal and related services. They provide education and outreach on disability rights, have an education advocacy program for low-income/non-English speaking clients and a disability mediation center for issues outside of education.

Foundation for Advocacy, Conservatorship, and Trust (F.A.C.T.)

19725 Sherman Way, Suite 200, Winnetka, CA 91306-3668 ♦ Phone (818) 225-7393

Email: info@factcalifornia.org Website: <http://www.factcalifornia.org/>

Provides case management, conservatorship, advocacy and trust consultation for adults with disabilities and their families. Parent pre-planning workshops are also offered.

The K.E.N. Project

23679 Calabasas Road, #540, Calabasas, CA 91302 ♦ Phone (818) 222-8118 ♦ Fax (818) 222-2201

Email: specialkidslaw@gmail.com Website: www.kenproject.com

K.E.N. is a nonprofit agency committed to helping families and professionals expand their knowledge and understanding of the laws designed to protect the rights of children with special needs. The organization provides: Advocacy Instruction, Parent Training, Family Support, Brandon's Buddies Play Dates.

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

634 S. Spring St. Suite 400A, Los Angeles, CA 90014 ♦ Phone (323) 801-7991 ♦ Fax (323) 801-7945

Website: www.lafla.org

LAFLA operates four Self Help Legal Access Centers located in the Inglewood, Long Beach, Santa Monica and Torrance Courthouses. The Centers are walk-in clinics that offer individuals who are representing themselves legal information, assistance in preparing legal forms, guidance on a variety of civil matters, including evictions, divorces and paternity actions, and civil harassment. Referrals to private attorneys or other legal services programs are provided.

Learning Disabilities Association of California

Los Angeles Office: *P.O. Box 1067, Sierra Madre, CA 91025* ♦ Phone (626) 355-0240

Email: lalda@lalda.org Web Site: www.lalda.org

LDA-CA is a non-profit volunteer organization of parents, professionals, and adults with learning disabilities. Its purpose is to promote and support the education and general welfare of children and adults of potentially normal intelligence who manifest learning, perceptual, and/or behavioral handicaps.

Medical and Related Support Services

Bikur Cholim

8489 West Third St., Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (323) 852-1900 ♦ Fax (323) 852-0727

Email: info@bikurcholim.net Website: www.bikurcholim.net

Nonprofit organization providing life-saving services and social support programs for children, adults, and families suffering from serious and life-threatening illness. Programs and services include the Bikur Cholim House, Medical Referrals, Case Management, Blood Drives, Hearts of Angels Volunteers, Patient Advocacy, Kids Helping Kids Toy Program, Community Health and Education Events.

Chai Lifeline, West Coast Division

475 S. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90035 ♦ Phone (310) 274-6331

Website: www.chailifeline.org/westcoast

Provides Jewish families dealing with life-threatening or lifelong illness with access to year-round programs and comprehensive services, all free of charge. From hospital visits and parties to professional case management, they offer an extensive network of assistance and support for the entire family.

Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90027 ♦ Phone (323) 660-2450

Website: www.chla.org

CHLA treats seriously ill and injured children in Los Angeles and provides multidisciplinary care with 33 pediatric sub-specialties and many special services for children and families. The University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) works with families who have children with developmental disabilities through diagnosis and evaluation, clinical services, feeding behavioral pediatrics, community mental health, learning abilities and community-based programs.

San Fernando Valley MEND

10641 N. San Fernando Rd., Pacoima, CA 91331 ♦ Phone (818) 896-0246

Website: www.mendpoverty.org

MEND operates a Medical, a Vision and a Dental Clinic, founded and developed by volunteer healthcare professionals. The clinics assist poor, under-served families who, otherwise, would not have access to these services. Primary dental services provided include cleanings, fillings, extractions, sealants and some endodontic procedures. Oral Surgery is also provided on site, and periodontal visits are available as needed. Clients must live in the MEND service area, which include: Pacoima, Arleta, Sylmar, Lake View Terrace, San Fernando, North Hills, and Mission Hills. MEND also serves Clients living in Sun Valley and Panorama City who meet the income guidelines with food and clothing assistance ONLY.

TARJAN Center at UCLA

760 Westwood Plaza, Rm: 58-228, Semel Institute, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1759

Phone (310) 825-5054 ♦ Fax (310) 794-1143

Email: bstoffmacher@mednet.ucla.edu Website: <http://tarjancenter.ucla.edu>

Part of a national network of University Centers for Excellence in developmental disabilities, education, research and service with three core programs in the arts, health and well-being and civic engagement. They have clinical and community-based services in the areas of autism, Down syndrome, early intervention, mental health for individuals with developmental disabilities, Prader-Willi syndrome, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Williams Syndrome. They are also partnering with the UCLA Orthopaedic Hospital Center for Cerebral Palsy.

UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

300 UCLA Medical Plaza, Suite 1253, Los Angeles, CA 90095-6967 ♦ Phone (310) 794-4008

Email: clinic@autism.ucla.edu CART Website: <http://www.semel.ucla.edu/autism>

Child and Adult Neurodevelopmental (CAN) Clinic Website: <http://www.semel.ucla.edu/autism/clinic>

The Center for Autism Research and Treatment has a strong focus on the design and testing of experimental treatment interventions, founded on basic and clinical science advancements. Currently UCLA offers the following programs and services:

- **Autism Clinic** - provides a specialized, high-level of multi-disciplinary expertise, in its approach to this difficult and poorly understood disorder.
- **ABC Partial Program** - program for the enhancement of Achievement, Behavior, and Cognition is a short-term integrated day treatment program for children between the ages of 3-12 years with internalizing and externalizing problems.
- **Parenting and Children's Friendship Program** - offers social skills group programs for children in elementary school, junior high and high school who are having problems making or keeping friends. The program also offers parent training/behavior modification programs for parents with children and early adolescents.
- **Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization Program** - a short-term integrated day treatment program for young children who have been diagnosed with, or may have, autism, developmental disabilities, and behavior disorders
- **Early Childhood Clubhouse** - a social recreational after-school program for children ages 3 to 6 with autism, Asperger's Disorder, developmental disabilities, and/or behavioral disorders.

UCLA Neuropsychiatry Institute: Autism Clinic

300 UCLE Medical Plaza, Suite 1253, Los Angeles, CA 90095 ♦ Phone (310) 794-4008

Email: clinic@autism.ucla.edu Website: www.semel.ucla.edu/autism/clinic

The Neuropsychiatry Institute (NPI) is UCLA's multidisciplinary institute of human neuroscience, and is a unifying focus of scholarly activity at UCLA. They have many different clinical programs including: ADHD, mental retardation and epilepsy.

Support Groups & Counseling

Aviva Center

7120 Franklin Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90046 ♦ Phone (323) 876-0550 Fax (323) 436-7042

Email: ask_us@avivacenter.org Website: www.Avivacenter.org

Aviva Center provides a variety of therapeutic services for children with special needs and their families including outpatient mental health services, community based programs and early enrichment services.

Autism Speaks

6330 San Vicente Blvd., Suite 401, Los Angeles, CA 90048

Phone (323) 549-0500

Website: www.autismspeaks.org

Dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for the needs of individuals with autism and their families. It's website has many free resources and tools for families.

Center for the Developing Mind

2990 South Sepulveda Blvd., #308, Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (310) 444-0111

Contact: Esther Hess

Email: drhess@centerfortheDevelopingMind.com Website: www.centerfortheDevelopingMind.com

Center for the Developing Mind is a multidisciplinary treatment facility in West Los Angeles that specializes in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of children, adolescents and young adults with developmental and/or regulatory concerns.

Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles

16461 Sherman Way, Suite 180, Van Nuys, CA 91406 ♦ Phone (818) 786-0001 ♦ Fax (818) 786-0004
Website: www.dsala.org

Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles (DSALA) is a resource center for individuals with Down syndrome and their families by:

- Providing members with up-to-date information about Down syndrome through their website, email blasts, support groups, trainings and conferences
- Advocating on behalf of individuals at both the local and national levels
- Training medical professionals and others who work with individuals with Down syndrome so they gain a better understanding of the issues facing families
- Enriching the lives of individuals with Down syndrome by promoting opportunities for them to take an active part in their communities
- Providing support for families of children with Down syndrome, connecting them with other families, and to community organizations, Peer Counseling, as well as vital information on educational, medical and community services

Fragile X Association of Southern California (FRAXSOCAL)

P.O. Box 6924, Burbank, CA 91510-4227 ♦ Phone (818) 754-4227
Email: info@fraxsocal.org Website: www.fraxsocal.org

FRAXSOCAL was formed to promote public awareness of Fragile X Syndrome with special emphasis on educators and health professionals. FRAXSOCAL aims to provide a forum for families of children with Fragile X to meet and share their ideas, concerns, and problems.

Foothill Autism Alliance

P.O. Box 10193, Glendale, CA 91209 ♦ Phone (818) 662-8847

Contact: Yudi Bennett

Email: info@foothillautism.org Website: www.foothillautism.org

A non-profit, all-volunteer organization of parents, professionals, and care-givers, dedicated to providing education, resources, and support to the autism community.

Jay Nolan Community Services

15501 San Fernando Mission Blvd, Ste. 200, Mission Hills, CA 91345

Phone (818) 361-6400 ext. 155 ♦ Fax (818) 365-0522

Email: info@jaynolan.org Website: www.jaynolan.org

Jay Nolan Community Services has provided support to people with autism and their families. Using a person-centered approach, JNCS believes in every person living a quality life and they hold their direct support team accountable to its mission. Jay Nolan Community Services works with people with autism and other developmental disabilities. Services include:

- Family Support (younger than 22 years of age)
- Employment and Supported Employment
- Supporting Living – customized support for individuals
- Day Services (meaningful activities, employment and volunteer opportunities)

***Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS)**

Locations: Greater Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley

Phone (877) 275-4537 (Central Access)

Email: communications@jfsla.org Website: www.jfsla.org

Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles is a non-sectarian agency that provides a wide range of social services to men, women and children regardless of age, race or religion. Programs and services include:

- **People With Disabilities:** provides a variety of services for people with disabilities, ranging from counseling, case management, and information and referral to support groups, education, social activities and independent living skills
- **Child & Family:** skilled therapists work directly at JFS counseling centers to address the needs of children, teens and their families in individual and group settings
- **Orthodox:** The Aleinu Family Resource Center provides counseling specially geared towards Orthodox community.

- **Shelter Services:** JFS operates shelters for survivors of domestic violence and their children
- **Immigrant Support:** offers programs that help make immigrants' transitions to a new county and culture smooth, successful and positive
- **Social Recreation:** activities for fun and learning are offered throughout the LA region to enhance overall well-being
- **Older Adult Resources:** comprehensive services for senior adults, with the goal of helping them to remain healthy and active
- **Counseling & Support:** provides therapy and mental health intervention services for children, teens, adults, couples and families going through life transitions
- **Food & Hunger:** provides groceries, kosher meals and supportive services for families and individuals who struggle with food insecurity

Kayne-Eras Center – Therapy and Support Programs

5350 Machado Lane, Culver City CA 90230 ♦ Phone (310) 204-3300

Website: <http://www.ecf.net/therapeutic-services/>

The Kayne Eras Center is a comprehensive educational and therapeutic service center for children with special needs and their families. The center offers:

- Behavioral Therapy
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Educational Therapy
- Mental Health Program

Services are available to the wider community through fee-for-service, school district Individual Educational Plans, or Regional Center referrals. Individual sessions by licensed or credentialed therapists can be provided in the client's home, school, including the Kayne Eras School.

San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Inc.

16360 Roscoe Blvd., 2nd Floor, Van Nuys, CA 91406 ♦ Phone (818) 901-4830 Fax (818) 373-4830

Email: info@sfvcmhc.org Website: www.movinglivesforward.org

A private, non-profit agency dedicated to improving the mental health of individuals and families within the community. Primary emphasis is placed on providing services to children, adolescents and transitional age youth with serious emotional disorders, and services for adults and older adults with severe and persistent mental illness. The Center also provides specialty programs that offer homeless services, homeless and at-risk of homeless veterans services, vocational services, transitional housing, and programs that assist victims of domestic violence. The Center strives to:

- Facilitate and encourage the development of each consumer to his/her highest level of functioning and potential.
- Provide effective and culturally sensitive therapeutic services based on each consumer's individualized needs, strengths and choices.
- Maximize the involvement of consumers and family members in planning, evaluation and implementation of services
- Provide a continuum of therapeutic programs that include appropriate alternatives to psychiatric hospitalization and effectively serve consumers in the least restrictive setting possible.
- Provide early intervention programs that serve to prevent the onset of mental illness or the development of more serious mental illness.
- Eliminate negative perceptions and increase awareness and understanding of mental illness.
- Promote the highest level of social inclusion and community integration for all persons served.

Westside Family Resource & Empowerment Center

5901 Green Valley Circle, #320, Culver City, CA 90230 ♦ Phone (310) 258- 4063

Website: www.wfrec.org

Westside Family Resource and Empowerment Center (WFREC) staff are experienced parents and family members of individuals with special needs who are trained to provide emotional and informational support to families who have a child or young adult with a disability, chronic illness or other special health care needs. We also provide information and support for professionals and teachers working with people who have disabilities. Support groups and specific disability groups offer parents whose children have similar challenges the opportunity to meet and share information and mutual support. When families share common concerns and experiences the support can be uniquely meaningful. We also sponsor trainings and workshops to help families advocate for their children and access services and community resources.

***Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities**

9831 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035 ♦ Phone 310-229-9000 ext. 206

Email: losangelesyachad@ou.org Website: www.njcd.org/losangeles

Yachad addresses the needs of all individuals with disabilities within the Jewish community, ages 13 and above. Services include: enhancement of social skills, recreational activities, vocational services and job placement, referral services, counseling and case management as well as advocacy.

***Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services**

3200 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90034 ♦ Phone (310) 836-1223 or (888) 22-VISTA

Email: geninfo@vistadelmar.org Website: www.vistadelmar.org

Provides a wide range of therapeutic services to special needs, emotionally disturbed, abused or neglected children, and to their families. Programs include counseling, early intervention for children with development and/or family needs, school based social workers, support for pregnant teens, parent groups, trauma recovery, and self improvement workshops. Fees are available on a sliding scale.
Vendored by California Regional Center

Therapeutic Services

Ability Tools

1000 G Street, #100, Sacramento, CA 95814 ♦ Phone (800) 390-2699 TTY: (800) 900-0706

Website: <http://www.abilitytools.org>

Ability Tools, formerly the AT Network, is California's Assistive Technology Act Program, provides a variety of services for Californians with disabilities of all ages. Ability Tools offers a FREE membership to anyone interested in learning more about AT and looking to connect with other like-minded individuals via the Ability Tools listserv. Services include:

- AT Exchange marketplace
- Device Lending Libraries
- Financial loan program for AT
- Information & Referral
- Reuse program in affiliation with organizational partners
- In-person and webinar trainings, technical assistance to organizations on AT issues and coordinate the California Assistive Technology Reuse Coalition.

Behaviortech Solutions

16430 Ventura Blvd., Suite 107, Encino, CA 91436 ♦ Phone (818) 788-2100

Website: <http://www.behaviortech.net>

Behaviortech Solutions, founded by Dr. Bruce Gale, is dedicated to the development and implementation of state-of-the-art web-based assessment and treatment programs for education and mental health.

Beverly Hills Speech & Language Center

141 El Camino Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212 ♦ Phone (310) 746-5247 ♦ Fax (310) 858-5951

Website: www.bhslc.com

The Beverly Hills Speech & Language Center serves children of all ages. Their mission is to accurately diagnose and treat children with a wide range of communication disorders, including but not limited to: Articulation, Language, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Auditory Processing, Learning Problems, Oral Motor Dysfunction, Apraxia, Voice, Tongue Thrust and Stuttering. *Vendored by California Regional Center*

BIG FUN Therapy and Recreational Services

Phone (310) 837-7849

Email: info@bigfungymnastics.com Website: www.bigfungymnastics.com

Multiple locations in: Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Torrance, Rancho Santa Margarita, Simi Valley, and Van Nuys

Therapy and recreational programs for children with special needs, including social skills development, gymnastics, and occupational therapy. Their goal is to give each child the opportunity to experience an active life filled with excitement, self-confidence, discovery and fun while improving strength/motor/balance/coordination skills and addressing behavior and sensory needs. Insurance accepted.

Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)

19019 Ventura Blvd Ste. 300., Tarzana, CA 91356

New inquiries: (855) 345-2273 ♦ Phone (818) 345-2345 ♦ Fax (818) 758-8015

Website: www.centerforautism.com

Multiple L.A. Area Service Locations: Tarzana, Thousand Oaks, Torrance, Woodland Hills

CARD Specialized Outpatient Services (SOS) provides assistance with specific areas of concern for a family and develops and implements strategies to diminish problem behaviors and teach necessary skills. They follow the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to treat autism and develop individualized treatment plans. Provides individualized supervised treatment plans, direct 1:1 therapy, off-site family workshops, autism assessments, school district employee training, parent training, specialized outpatient services for specific problems and external collaboration with other service providers.

Child Development Institute

6340 Variel Avenue, Suite A, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 ♦ Phone (818) 888-4559

Email: info@cdikids.org Website: www.childdevelopmentinfo.com

The Institute provides developmental screenings & diagnostic evaluations, education, support and access to community resources for intervention. *Vendored by California Regional Center*

Family Focus Resource & Empowerment Center

California State University, Northridge - 18111 Nordhoff St. Room E109, Northridge, CA 91330

Phone (818) 677-6854 ♦ Fax (818) 677-5574

Email: family.focus@csun.edu Website: www.csunfamilyfocus.com

The FRC aims to empower families to advocate for their children birth-22 with special needs so they can receive the most effective services and greatest opportunities, resulting in productive, inclusive, and enriched lives. The FRC resources include: Training & Educational Seminars, Parent-to-Parent Support, Helping Parents Understand their Role in their Child's Education, IEP advocacy, Annual Family Educator Conferences, and Student Record Notebook Training.

The HELP Group – Mental Health Services

13130 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91401 ♦ Phone 877-994-3588 ♦ Fax 818-779-5295

Website: <http://www.thehelpgroup.org/program-type/mental-health-clinical-programs/>

The HELP Group provides various mental health & clinical programs, including:

- **Outpatient Services**

Contact: Cristina Rivera, Intake Coordinator (San Fernando Valley) ♦ Phone (818) 267-2753

Hugo Sibrian, Intake Coordinator (Culver City) ♦ Phone (310) 751-1174

The Help Group, through its many specialized clinical and educational programs, provides assistance to children and families within their communities through its Child and Family Center therapeutic and educational programs.

- **REACH After-School Day Rehabilitation**

Contact: Fabiola Ortiz, Program Coordinator ♦ Phone (818) 267-2719

The REACH program (Recreation, Enrichment, Athletics, Counseling and Health) is a unique after-school mental health program funded by L.A. County Department of Mental Health and designed specifically for children ages 5-12 with social, emotional and/or behavioral challenges.

- **Stepping Stones Therapeutic Preschool Program**

13130 Burbank Boulevard, Sherman Oaks, CA 91401 ♦ Phone (818) 779-5242

Contact: Lizeth Cervantes

Stepping Stones Intensive Day Treatment Program for Preschool Children provides a therapeutic, nurturing and enriching environment for children, ages 2.5 to 5, who need early intervention for social, emotional, behavioral, neurological and/or psychological challenges.

Holding Hands, Inc.

Los Angeles: 2115 Beverly Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90057 ♦ Phone (323) 938-3434

Burbank: 2101 N. Glenoaks Blvd. Burbank, CA 91504 ♦ Phone (818) 848-8825

Contact: Ziba Nassab

Website: www.holdinghandsinc.com

As a multidisciplinary clinic, Holding Hands, Inc. serves children, teens and adults with special needs and their families. Its clinical team focuses on the consumer's strengths and individual differences while developing an intervention plan that addresses his or her needs and unique profile. We provide the following services: FloorTime/DIR, Adaptive Skills, Behavioral Intervention, Social Skills Group Training, Therapeutic Aides, Music Therapy / Instrument Lessons, Psychological Services, and Parent Support Group. *Vendored by California Regional Center, School Districts and Insurance*

Intercare Therapy

6360 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (888) 428-3223 ♦ Fax (323) 866-1881

Email: info@intercaretherapy.com Website: www.intercaretherapy.com

Intercare Therapy is a multidisciplinary service provider for children in the Los Angeles area. We provide a wide range of evidence-based services, including intake assessments, comprehensive in-home, and school-based behavior intervention as well as speech therapy and social skills to children/teenagers (age 3-22) with the disabilities of autism, speech and language disorders, mental retardation, ADHD, developmental delays, and other developmental and behavioral disabilities. The programs are individualized to students' and their family needs. Intercare Therapy currently serves throughout Los Angeles County and is vendored by regional centers and contracted with Los Angeles Unified School District.

Leaps-n-Boundz

5433 Beethoven St., Los Angeles, CA 90066 ♦ Phone (310) 302-0035 or (310) 821-0963

Website: www.leapsnboundz.com

Locations: West Los Angeles, Van Nuys, Los Angeles (Playa Vista), Pasadena

Leaps-n-Boundz offers a variety of adaptive sports, fitness and recreation programs to the community; including gymnastics, swimming, day camps, social thinking groups, community outings and family weekend getaways. Every child enrolled in Leaps-n-Boundz has an individualized program which has been designed to address their specific needs. Sessions are usually one hour in length and include a variety of activities which address coordination, body awareness, strength, endurance, attention and focus.

Speech Language & Educational Associates

16500 Ventura Blvd, Suite 414, Encino, CA 91436

5901 Green Valley Circle, Suite 130, Culver City, CA 90230

5300 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 312, Los Angeles, CA 90029

Phone (818) 788-1003 ♦ Fax (818) 788-1135

Email: hwade@speechassociates.com Website: www.speechassociates.com

Speech Language & Educational Associates assesses each individual's special needs and abilities in speech & language, early childhood development, educational and school readiness needs, behavioral challenges & family support, voice and stuttering, social skills, adult neurological needs, myofunctional swallowing disorders, and accent reduction. It provides (1) speech and language evaluations and therapy, (2) auditory processing evaluations and therapy, (3) educational evaluations and therapy, (4) developmental evaluations and therapy, (5) child development services, as well as (6) Parent Training for behavior, child development, and communication skills (7) Occupational therapy (8) Behavioral Intervention. Services are provided in our clinics, schools, hospitals and in the home. Services are available in: English, Hebrew, Spanish, Farsi, Russian, Armenian, Arabic and Yiddish.

Step By Step Child Development Center

1412 14th Street, Santa Monica CA 90404 ♦ Phone (310) 581-0590 ♦ Fax (310) 587-0050

Website: www.stepbystepeduplay.com

Provides behavioral intervention, social skills and early intervention therapy for children with autism, Down's syndrome, or other disabilities and support for their families. Infant toddler preschool, pre-K and transition K for all children (Inclusion). Occupational and Speech therapy services are integrated in all classes. Ages 3 months – 14 years. *Vendored by the Regional Center.*

Therapy in Action

18522 Oxnard St, Tarzana, CA 91356 ♦ Phone (818) 708-2292

Website: www.therapyinaction.com

Therapy in Action is a Pediatric Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Center providing unique and high quality individual OT and PT services to children with special needs. Therapy in Action also has several programs designed for typically developing children. Programs include:

- **Pencils in Action:** As handwriting is a complex visual-motor skill, improvements often require more than just practice at home. Therapy in Action combines the best of both therapeutic and tutorial techniques. (Available in both English and Hebrew)
- **Play Pals:** An intense, individualized program pairing a “rookie” player with two “pro players”
- **Open Gym:** Perfect for those sensory seekers who need an outlet for their energy and a great way to help “couch potatoes” with weight management (especially those who haven't found their niche in organized sports)

Therapy West and pLAY Studio

8717 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034 ♦ Phone (310) 337-7115

6820 S. Centinela Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230

18333 S. Main Street, Gardena, CA 90248

Website: www.therapywest.org

Therapy West and pLAY Studio is a leader in pediatric practice, provides up-to-date occupational, physical, and speech and language therapy by highly trained professionals in the areas of developmental disabilities including autism spectrum disorders. Local involvement is based on providing therapeutic services in schools, in community settings, and in three local clinics. In addition to individual and group-based early intervention services, the organization provides resources and educational programs for parent support groups. *Vendored through California Regional Centers, school districts, and private insurance*

Wellness Works Therapy – Every Child Achieves

6400 Laurel Canyon Blvd. Ste. 600, North Hollywood, CA 91606 ♦ Phone (800) 311 -8860

Email: info@everychildachieves.com Website: www.everychildachieves.com

Contact: Brandon Seigel

Wellness Works Therapy is a multi-disciplinary company offering Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy along with nutrition, child development and health and wellness programs. It offers specialties in everything from developmental treatments (patients with developmental delays) to neurological and orthopedic rehabilitation. It is a regional center vendor, an in-network preferred provider with over 85 insurances, and a non-public agency delivering school-based services throughout Southern California. *Vendored by California Regional Center*

Medical Services, Counseling, Support Groups, Therapy Websites

State of California Department of Developmental Services Directory of Regional Centers

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/RC/RCList.cfm>

Family Resource Centers and Networks

www.frcnca.org

Residential Facilities

*ETTA – Housing & Residential Services

Administrative Office: 12722 Riverside Dr. Suite 105 North Hollywood, CA 91607

Phone (818) 985-3882 ♦ Fax (818) 487-9740

Contact: Josh Taff, Director of Outreach Phone (818) 985-3882 ext. 238 or (916) 799-2097

Email: josh@etta.org Website: www.etta.org

ETTA is an agency of excellence that provides a full spectrum of services modeled on Jewish values for adults with developmental disabilities. ETTA's Housing & Residential Services include:

- **Residential Living:** Warm, family-style homes for up to six adults residents and two full-time, on-site staff members. All homes are on residential streets in thriving communities embraced by their neighbors and visitors. *Vendored by California Regional Center and licensed by the State of California*
- **Independent living:** Co-op style living in community homes or apartments for adults, supported by a case manager. Residency may be transitional or permanent.

Housing Websites

CA Department of Developmental Services

www.dds.ca.gov

Los Angeles County Independent Living Centers

www.drcinc.org/independent-living-centers.html

Social and Recreational Activities

Ballet For All Kids

16422 Ventura Blvd, Encino, CA 91436 ♦ Phone (805) 524-5503

Contact: Bonnie Schlachte, Director

Email: info@balletforallkids.com Website: www.balletforallkids.com

Ballet for All Kids employs the Schlachte Method of teaching dance to people of all abilities and disabilities. This method has been very successful in instructing both neuro-typical adults and children as well as those within the Autism Spectrum, those who have learning and developmental disabilities, anxiety, behavioral challenges, and people who have ADHD in a non-competitive, sensory-aware, nurturing environment. All classes have sensory-aware instructional aides who are there to help each dancer attain their goals of learning ballet and other dance genres.

Camp Chesed (Day Camp)

8939 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA, 91324 ♦ Phone (818) 349-3932 ♦ Fax (818) 349-2667

Contact: Jacque Hays, Director

Email: info@campchesed.com Website: www.campchesed.com

Two-week free day camp held at the beginning of each summer at the Leichman High School in Reseda.

***Camp Ramah in California**

17525 Ventura Blvd. #201 Encino, CA 91316 ♦ Phone (310) 476 8571

Email: elana@ramah.org Website: www.ramah.org

Contact: Elana Naftalin-Kelman

- **Tikvah Program:** A residential summer camp program for kids ages 10-17 with learning, emotional and developmental disabilities. Inclusion with non-disabled peers happens throughout the day during all camp activities. *Vendored by the California Regional Center*
- **Ezra Program:** A summer vocational training program for young adults ages 17-23, focusing on vocational skills, independent living abilities, self-image, social functioning, and Jewish Community skills. *Vendored by California Regional Center*
- **Camp Ohr Lanu:** Family camp for families of children with special needs, with parallel programming for parents, siblings and kids with disabilities.

***ETTA – Recreational Programs**

Administrative Office: 12722 Riverside Dr. Suite 105 North Hollywood, CA 91607

Phone (818) 985-3882 ♦ Fax (818) 487-9740

Contact: Josh Taff, Director of Outreach, (818) 985-3882 ext. 238 or (916) 799-2097

Email: josh@etta.org Website: www.etta.org

ETTA is an agency of excellence that provides a full spectrum of services modeled on Jewish values for adults with developmental disabilities. ETTA's Social Programing includes:

- **Summer@ETTA** (ages 14+): A unique social and life skills summer program designed specifically for Jewish teens and young adults with special needs.
- **Darrison Family Shabbaton Program** (post Bar/Bat Mitzvah): The opportunity to experience the spirit and warmth of Shabbat in different communities.
- **Ongoing Social & Recreational Activities**: ETTA engages in various fun, inclusive activities throughout the year for its clients and beyond. These activities include holiday parties, sports, game nights, eating out, trips and more.

Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle is a non-profit organization that addresses the challenges facing the families of children with special needs in a novel and innovative way. Through a full range of activities and events, the Friendship Circle creates its own special environment of friendship and love. Many Friendship Circles offer Sunday Circle, a drop-off of educational and therapeutic activities, martial arts classes for children with behavioral or attention issues, and Holiday Celebrations that accommodate families with special needs children and summer/winter camp programs.

- ***Friendship Circle of Los Angeles**

1952 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034 ♦ Phone (310) 280-0955

Contact: Rabbi Michael Rav-Noy, Executive Director Miriam Rav-Noy, Program Director

Email: info@fcla.org Website: www.fcla.org

***Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles (JBBBSLA)**

6505 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (323) 761-8675

Website: www.jbbbsla.org

Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles (JBBBSLA) provides professionally-supported, free, one-to-one mentoring for Jewish boys and girls, ages 6 and older, who could benefit from an additional committed, attentive, and positive adult role-model. Mentoring can be of great benefit to siblings of children with special needs, providing additional adult attention, support and guidance, enhancing development, and enabling youth to explore their interests through consistent outings with a dedicated, adult friend. Children can be enrolled at www.jbbbsla.org/enroll.

Jewish Deaf Community Center

507 Bethany Road, Burbank, CA 91504

Website: www.jdcc.org

Programming includes social events, cultural activities and community services including a Havurah (friendship group) for singles, teens, and families. JDCC conducts High Holiday services and a community Passover Seder in American Sign Language.

***Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles – Chaverim**

12821 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91606 ♦ Phone (818) 464-3360 ♦ Fax (818) 464-3363

Website: www.chaverimjfsla.org

Chaverim is committed to providing social activities that enhance the quality of life for adults with developmental disabilities such as autism, cerebral palsy, and learning disabilities. Our supportive environment helps our members realize their potential and become active, vital members of the community. Activities include outings, classes, holiday celebrations, and trips.

KEEN LA

601 S. Figueroa Street, Suite #2500, Los Angeles, CA 90017 ♦ Phone 213-267-1777

Email: info@keenlosangeles.org Website: www.keenlosangeles.org

KEEN LA provides free sports and recreational programs for kids with disabilities including but not limited to autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy. At each KEEN Session, a KEEN participant (athlete) is paired up with a KEEN coach (volunteer) for a variety of age appropriate activities.

***OurSpace – Social/Recreational Programs**

A joint program of Valley Beth Shalom and Temple Aliyah

Valley Beth Shalom: 15739 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91436 ♦ Phone (818) 788-6000

Temple Aliyah: 6025 Valley Circle Blvd, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 ♦ Phone (818) 346-3545

Contact: Susan North Gilboa, Director ♦ Phone (818) 530-4069

Email: sngilboa@ourspacela.org Website: www.ourspacela.org

OurSpace- Where Jewish Experiences Happen for Children and Young Adults with Special Needs. Informal and formal Jewish programs include: Classes, social groups, art and music opportunities as well as parent support groups

- **B'Yachad Alef (TA):** A monthly social group for Jewish children with special needs ages 6-8 and 9-12. Includes two hours of indoor and outdoor activities such as: cooking, arts, and playing games with a partner or group that encourage socialization and connection with peers.
- **B'Yachad Bet (VBS):** A monthly social group for Jewish teens and young adults ages 14-18+ with special needs. Participants go on field trips throughout Los Angeles and enjoy visiting the Science Museum, LACMA, participating in community service, yoga sessions, sports, drum circles, Shabbat dinner, and going to Sky High.
- **Kolot Tikva (Voices of Hope) Choir (TA):** Program is geared to participants who love to sing, are interested in learning to sing in Hebrew and English, the words of our liturgy, Torah, Jewish values, along with Shabbat and Holiday songs. In addition to the wonderful song sessions, the Kolot Tikva choir performs at various community events and synagogue services throughout the year. Meets two Sundays per month, plus some performance dates.
- **Parent & Grandparent Bagel 'n' Chat / Snack 'N' Chat:** Provides monthly discussion, workshop presentations, and a support group for parents/grandparents to network, share, socialize and create a community of friends.
 - **Bagel 'N' Chat** on Sundays A.M. monthly at Valley Beth Shalom
 - **Snack 'N' Chat** on Tuesdays P.M. monthly at Temple Aliyah

Shlemut Network

C/O Temple Menorah, 1101 Camino Real, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 ♦ Phone (310) 402-7425

Contact: Rabbi Deborah Goldmann

Email: rabbideborah@templemenorah.org Website: <https://shlemutnetwork.wordpress.com/>

Provides monthly social events for adults with developmental disabilities.

Special Macabee Program – Westside JCC

5870 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036 ♦ Phone (323) 938-2531

Website: <http://www.westsidejcc.org/>

Free 12-week basketball program for boys and girls, men and woman ages 15-60. Separate programs for men and women. Held Mondays between 5:30pm – 7:00pm.

The Miracle Project

Phone: (310) 829-7034

The Miracle Project uses a groundbreaking methodology providing children, teens and adults of all abilities the tools to build communication, community, and greater self-esteem through inclusive theater, film and expressive arts programs. The Miracle Project was profiled in the Emmy award winning HBO documentary, Autism: The Musical and has classes, trainings, and camps in Santa Monica, West LA, Sherman Oaks and Thousand Oaks. The Miracle Project is a program of Project Miracle a 501 (c)3 corporation.

USY Hevrah Program—United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Pacific Southwest Region

Contact: Merrill Alpert, Director of Youth Activities – Far West Region United Synagogue Youth

Email: alpert@uscj.org ♦ Phone (818) 986-0907 Website: <http://www.fwusy.net/hevrah/>

The Hevrah Program brings together program participants and active USYers for socialization, religious, and educational programs, and their own social action programming too. Hevrah programs take place monthly throughout the school year and draws participants from Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties. Events include: Shabbat dinners, picnics, drum circles, Sukkah Parties, Movie Nights, Bowling, Scavenger Hunts for the Homeless and Theater performances.

***Vista Del Mar – Inspired Teens and Enrichment Programming**

3200 Motor Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90034 ♦ Phone (818) 836-1223 ext. 322

Contact: Naomi Salamon, Cultural Enrichment and Leadership Development

Email: naomisalamon@vistadelmar.org Website: www.vistadelmar.org

The Vista Inspired Teens Program is run by enthusiastic teenagers, ages 13-19, that strives to make a difference and enrich the lives of kids with special needs. “Inspired Teens” host events and programs intended to connect the lives of teens of all abilities. Led by Vista Del Mar Board Member, Susan Corwin.

We Rock The Spectrum Kid’s Gym

5520 Crebs Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356 ♦ Phone (818) 708-0860

Email: info@werockthespectrumkidsgym.com Website: www.werockthespectrumkidsgym.com

We Rock the Spectrum Kid’s Gym provides children with a fun and motivational environment to help them in the areas of strength, movement and sensory processing, communication experiences, behavior modifications, social interactions and self-care skills.

Synagogue and Chaplaincy

Board of Rabbis of Southern California

6505 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 900, Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (323) 761-8600

Email boardofrabbis@jewishla.org Website: www.boardofrabbis.org

Provides education and resources for community members, rabbis and chaplains. Educates about disability awareness in the Jewish community. Provides outreach to synagogues for members of the community. Engages with interfaith partners for cooperation, understanding and learning.

Ezra Network

Website: <http://www.jewishla.org/Ezra>

Provides on-site social services in the comfort and privacy of a partnering synagogue. The Ezra Network is a partnership between Jewish Family Service, Jewish Vocational Service, and Bet Tzedek to provide social services across Los Angeles. Services include assistance with accessing government benefits, counseling, information and referrals, job search assistance, legal counsel and a host of other supports. For hours and locations, visit the website.

Klein Chaplaincy Service of the South Bay

1101 Camino Real, Redondo Beach, CA 90277 ♦ Phone (310) 921-2187 ♦ Fax (310) 921-2138

Contact: Rabbi Gila Katz, Executive Director

Website: www.kleinchaplaincy.com

The Klein Chaplaincy Service is an independent, non-profit agency that is dedicated to fulfilling the Mitzvah of Bikur Cholim (visiting the sick) and providing support to those with health and healing needs. A trained chaplain is available for counseling and spiritual support visits.

Temple Beth Am, Koleinu Shabbat Service

1039 La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90036 ♦ Phone (310) 652-7353

Contact: Reut Sklar

Email: betham@tbala.org Website: www.tbala.org/

Shabbat Services designed for Jewish children with special needs, 3rd grade and up, held twice monthly. Services are one hour, are highly interactive and accommodating of children who need to be in small group. Also host High Holiday services.

Temple Beth Solomon of the Deaf

Meeting Site: *18200 Rinaldi Place, Northridge, CA 91326*

Email: tbsdeaf@verizon.net Website: http://www.jdcc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2543:temple-beth-solomon-of-the-deaf-southern-california&Itemid=101

TBS members represent a cross-section of the deaf world: those deafened before acquiring language, those deafened later in life, lip-readers (oralists), and those who use sign language (manualists), those who are hard of hearing, hearing adults with deaf children, deaf adults with deaf children, deaf adults with hearing children, deaf and hearing grandparents/siblings, and deaf and hearing professionals connected to the deaf community including teachers, social workers, and interpreters.

Technology Assistance

Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP)

Phone (800) 806-1191

Email: info@ccaf.us Website: <http://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/>

The Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) is a California State mandated program, administered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The DDTP has two components:

- The California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) provides assistive telephone devices such as large button phones, telephone headsets and remote speaker phones
- The California Relay Service (CRS) provides specially trained operators to relay conversation as it takes place for people who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech disabled.

EmpowerTech

9100 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 204 Los Angeles, CA 90045 ♦ Phone (310) 338-1597

Website: www.empowertech.org

The goal of the EmpowerTech is to increase awareness, understanding and implementation of assistive technology by children and adults with disabilities. Empower Tech strives to provide people with disabilities access to the latest in assistive technology.

Vocational Training

*ETTA – Job & Life Skills Services

Administrative Office: 12722 Riverside Dr. Suite 105 North Hollywood, CA 91607

Phone (818) 985-3882 ♦ Fax (818) 487-9740

Contact: Josh Taff, Director of Outreach, (818) 985-3882 ext. 238 or (916) 799-2097

Email: josh@etta.org Website: www.etta.org

ETTA is an agency of excellence that provides a full spectrum of services modeled on Jewish values for adults with developmental disabilities. ETTA's Job & Life Skills Services include:

- **Independent Living Services (ILS):** Provides 1:1 services to clients who wish to increase their independence skills, for a limited period of time (generally 2 years or less). Can include job-readiness training skills. *Vendored by California Regional Center*
- **Supported Living Services (SLS):** Provides 1:1 services to clients who wish to increase their independence, for a potentially unlimited period of time (up to 24/7 ongoing support). Can include job-readiness training skills. *Vendored by California Regional Center*
- **Isak Boruchin Adult Day Program:** Clients participate in purposeful and enriching activities such as volunteering, job development, skill building, and recreation at sites within their local community. *Vendored by California Regional Center*
- **Concierge case management & job training:** Offers the support of SLS or ILS services on a concierge, private-pay basis to expand the range and hours of services available. Concierge services can be provided as a complete package or on an hourly basis to supplement services currently received.

*Jewish Vocational Service

6505 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90048 ♦ Phone (323) 761-8888 ♦ Fax (323) 761-8575

Email: askus@jvsla.org Website: www.jvsla.org

JVS offers two programs: Vocational Evaluation and Employment Preparation & Placement for individuals with disabilities, ages 16 and older. JVS also specializes in serving people who are blind and visually impaired and in the area of assistive technology.

*Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities

9831 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035 ♦ Phone (310) 299-9000 ext. 206

Contact: Orit Faguet

Email: losangelesyachad@ou.org Website: www.yachad.org/losangeles

Vocational assessment and training with job placement assistance. The National Jewish Council for Disabilities works with companies to ensure job placements are mutually beneficial and successful.

Helpful Websites

Autism Society

<http://www.autism-society.org>

Arthritis Foundation

<http://www.arthritis.org>

Bravekids-online resource guide for children with chronic, life-threatening illnesses or disabilities

<http://www.bravekids.org>

California's Early Start Program Family Resource Centers & Networks (birth-36 months)

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

California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) – Links to all Regional Centers

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/>

California Department of Education- Special Education Division (CDE-SED)

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/>

California Non-Public Schools (NPS) Directory

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/sd/>

California Regional Centers Information and Directory

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/RC/RCList.cfm>

California State Council on Disabilities

<http://www.disabilityresources.org/CALIFORNIA.html#LISTINGS>

Council for Jews with Special Needs

www.cjsn.org

Cure Autism Now (CAN)

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/site-wide/cure-autism-now>

Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles

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

Family Resource Centers and Networks

www.frcnca.org

(Harbor Regional Center—Online List of Resources

<http://www.harborrc.org/resources>

Lanterman Regional Center Resource Directory

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

Los Angeles Care – Searchable Accessible Doctor’s office list

<http://www.lacare.org/members/medi-cal/findadoctor>

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Special Education Website

<http://dse-web.lausd.k12.ca.us/>

CA Department of Developmental Services

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/>

United Cerebral Palsy – Los Angeles Chapter

<http://www.ucpla.org/resources/>

Valley Regional Center

<http://www.nlacrc.com/>

Westside Regional Center

<http://www.westsiderc.org>