

## Miscellaneous / Informational Links

[ABC News On Call+ Autism](#) - Find answers to the most pressing questions on autism answered by the nation's top medical experts from the country's most prestigious medical centers.

[Americans with Disabilities \(ADA\) - 20th Anniversary Tool Kit](#) - The DBTAC - Network of ADA Centers is pleased to announce the release of the 2009 Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Anniversary Tool Kit which offers informative materials.

[Amherst Survival Center](#) - A regional resource providing food, clothing and community through volunteer efforts.

[The Asperger's Association of New England](#) - (AANE) is made up of individuals with Asperger's Syndrome (AS), their families, friends and professionals. AANE is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with AS and related conditions. Check this site for upcoming workshops, information, and advocacy issues.

[Assistive Technology Exchange](#) - Website where you can look for or list Assistive Technology devices for sale or for free. The goal of "getATstuff" is to help get Assistive Technology devices that are no longer being used into the hands of people who need and can benefit from them.

[AutismCares](#) - A growing number of national autism organizations have partnered to form AutismCares, a national initiative to help families with members who have autism that are challenged with disasters in their community. AutismCares registers families through a free online service to help manage and store their health care records and ensure that trained case managers are able to locate them more effectively in case disaster strikes their community.

[Autism Information Center](#) - National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, CDC - Their work includes identifying the causes of birth defects and developmental disabilities, helping children to develop and reach their full potential, and promoting health and well-being among people of all ages with disabilities.

[Autism Housing Pathways](#) - Autism Housing Pathways (AHP) was created to provide information, support and resources for families who seek to create secure, supported housing for their adult children with disabilities. Autism Housing Pathways seeks to foster education and awareness and disseminate information about the creation of self-directed housing for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities; to promote and support the formation and maintenance of such housing; and to assist families in creating self-directed housing for their adult children that supports their residential, recreational and community needs.

[Autism/Pervasive Developmental Disorders](#) – This site is filled with information and resources. Topics include: Life with Autism, new Theories, A Dad's Journal, Newsletters, Diagnosis, Alternative and Traditional Care, Behavioral Issues, Hidden Problems, Family Issues, and much more.

**[Autism Network International](#)** - Support and advocacy organization run by and for autistic people; offers personal stories, an email list and links to autism sites.

**[Autism Research Institute](#)** - ARI is primarily devoted to conducting research, and to disseminating the results of research, on the causes of autism and on methods of preventing, diagnosing and treating autism and other severe behavioral disorders of childhood. They provide information based on research to parents and professionals throughout the world.

**[Autism Risk and Safety Management](#)** - Website developed by Dennis Debbaudt that provides information and resources for Law Enforcement, First Responders, Parents, Educators, and Care Providers.

**[Autism Speaks](#)** - The goal of this organization is to give a voice to an entire community, to every family dealing with the hardships of autism. Dedicated to funding global biomedical research into the causes, prevention, treatments, and cure for autism; to raising public awareness about autism and its effects on individuals, families, and society; and to bringing hope to all who deal with the hardships of this disorder.

**[Autism Society of America](#)** - The mission of the Autism Society of America is to promote lifelong access and opportunities for persons within the autism spectrum and their families, to be fully included, participating members of their communities through advocacy, public awareness, education, and research related to autism.

**[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)** - The CDC, as the sentinel for the health of people in the United States and throughout the world, strives to protect people's health and safety, provide reliable health information, and improve health through strong partnerships.

**[Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades \(CDC\)](#)** - Los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) lanzaron su versión actualizada de CDC en Español, con una nueva presentación y nuevas herramientas que lo hacen más funcional y fácil de utilizar. Esta nueva versión forma parte del gran compromiso de los CDC de proporcionar información precisa y actualizada para los hispanohablantes sobre una amplia gama de temas de salud, entre los que se incluyen, promoción de la salud y prevención de enfermedades como asma, cáncer, diabetes y VIH/SIDA, vacunas, salud de los niños y riesgos ocupacionales.

**[College Support Program](#)** – Part of the College Internship Program. The program is designed to support young men and women with Asperger's, ADD, and other learning differences as they attend college and pursue a degree. CSP's specialized year-round curriculum is specifically designed to develop new skills and increase independence.

**[DisabilityInfo.org](#)** - maintained by New England INDEX, contains a wealth of information for people with disabilities, their friends, families and the people who serve them. Information within this site focuses primarily on Massachusetts.

**[Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism](#)** - The primary goal is to promote awareness and support families affected by autism spectrum disorders. The foundation is committed to funding organizations

that provide direct services, family support grants, education, advocacy and recreational opportunities with the purpose of improving the quality of life for individuals with autism and their families.

**[Family TIES of Massachusetts](#)** - A statewide information and parent-to-parent support project for families of children with special needs and chronic illness. It is administered by parent coordinators housed in each of the regional offices of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

**[First Signs](#)** - A national non-profit organization dedicated to early identification and intervention of children with autism and other developmental disorders. Its mission is to ensure the best developmental outcome for every child by promoting awareness regarding the most important and often overlooked aspects of development: social, emotional, and communication.

**[Forward Motion Coaching](#)** - Career development coaching for adults with Asperger's Syndrome so that they can find and keep meaningful work. Classes and workshops also offered.

**[Gluten-free.org](#)** - a site filled with internet links, gluten-free recipes, gluten-related ills, etc.

**[Independent Living on the Autistic Spectrum](#)** - An online support group (newsgroups, mailing lists, etc) for people with Autism or related conditions, including but not limited to Asperger Syndrome. Members from all over the world come together here to make friends, support each other, and share practical experiences and tips relevant to independent living with our condition.

**[K12 Academics](#)** - Website devoted to providing resourceful information about autism including, but not limited to, terminology, characteristics, epidemiology, and therapies.

**[Kids Health](#)** - A website containing information on autism that is directed towards kids, teens, and parents who are looking for information stated in understandable terms.

**[LADDERS](#)** - In association with the Massachusetts General Hospital, Pediatric Services, LADDERS is a multidisciplinary clinic whose mission is to provide the highest quality clinical, social and support services to those diagnosed with autism, pervasive developmental disorders and other developmental disabilities.

**[Manitas por Autismo \(A Little Hand for Autism\)](#)** - ¡Te damos la más cordial bienvenida a nuestra Alianza Manitas por Autismo! Somos una organización sin fines de lucro que trabaja día a día para brindar información sobre el autismo. Esperamos que compartas con nosotros todas tus experiencias, dudas o preguntas. Diariamente se generan muchos artículos, novedades y mensajes repletos de información de interés. Déjanos saber qué tipo de apoyo en particular necesitas y haremos todo lo posible por ayudarte. ¡Bendiciones para ti y tu familia!

**[MASS Aging and Disability Information Locator \(MADIL\)](#)** - is designed to help find information on services and programs that support seniors and people with disabilities in Massachusetts.

**[MASS Federation for Children with Special Needs](#)** - The Federation is a center for parents and parent organizations to work together on behalf of children with special needs and their families.

**[MASS Network of Information Providers for People with Disabilities \(MNIP\)](#)** - Online resource for people with disabilities containing extensive information on providers who serve people with disabilities. Included are databases of programs and agencies, physicians, dentists, and consultants. There are also over 200 fact sheets dealing with disabling conditions, benefits available, and helpful advice about navigating the social service system in the state.

**[Massachusetts Yellow Pages for Kids](#)** - Find educational consultants, psychologists, educational diagnosticians, health care providers, academic therapists, tutors, speech language therapists, occupational therapists, coaches, advocates, and attorneys for children with disabilities on the Yellow Pages for Kids for your state. You will also find special education schools, learning centers, treatment programs, parent groups, respite care, community centers, grassroots organizations, and government programs for children with disabilities.

**[National Center on Secondary Education and Transition \(NCSET\)](#)** - The National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) coordinates national resources, offers technical assistance, and disseminates information related to secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities in order to create opportunities for youth to achieve successful futures.

**[National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center \(NECTAC\)](#)** - This organization supports the implementation of the early childhood provisions, birth through 5 years, of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ( [IDEA](#) ). Their mission is to ensure that all eligible young children with disabilities and other special needs and their families benefit from strong, high quality state and local service systems and supports that are culturally appropriate and family centered. Available in English and Spanish.

**[NICHCY - National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities](#)** - A center that provides information to the nation on disabilities in children and youth; programs and services for infants, children, and youth with disabilities; IDEA, the nation's special education law; No Child Left Behind, the nation's general education law; and research-based information on effective practices for children with disabilities.

**[Oasis - Aspergers](#)** - OASIS stands for Online Asperger Syndrome Information & Support. It is an information source for families of children diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome and related disorders, educators who teach children with AS, professionals working with individuals diagnosed with AS, and individuals with AS who are seeking support.

**[Pioneer Valley Nutritional Therapy](#)** – Located in Northampton, MA, Craig Fear, NTP, uses the GAPS Diet as a holistic approach to autism and learning disabilities.

**[Pioneer Valley Parenting Resource Directory](#)** - The goal of this guide is to help parents & families navigate through all of the different resources available throughout the Pioneer Valley.

**[Project Ride](#)** - Project RIDE (Recreation, Independence, Development, and Equipment) is a program of Jewish Family Service of Western Massachusetts. We provide special needs children with modified tricycles and information about adaptive sports programs in Western Massachusetts. Our emphasis is on the importance of recreational activities for special needs children and their families. This program is for

children 6 and older with special needs living in Western Massachusetts who would not normally have an opportunity to ride a bike. The child should be able to pedal and steer the tricycle independently. A letter of support from their Primary Care Physician is required for participation. For more information, please call Liane Kendall @ (413) 737-2601.

**[Steve Chick, CFP, Financial Advisor](#)** - Specializes in planning for your future and the lifetime of a person with special needs. As a parent or guardian of a person with special needs, your knowledge can make a world of difference as you plan for the future of your loved ones. You don't have to go through this process alone. Special needs require special planning. I understand the challenges facing families like yours. Being prepared, setting goals for the future and understanding what it takes to achieve those goals are the stepping stones to a secure future for you and your family. I can help you identify your unique needs and goals, let you know where you are relative to where you want to be, and ultimately provide solutions to get you there. I am dedicated to working with you to identify your goals for yourself, your family and your loved one with special needs while educating you on your options for achieving a lifetime of financial security. Special needs require special planning.

**[Stride Adaptive Sports](#)** - STRIDE Adaptive Sports is a multidisciplinary, educational organization specializing in therapeutic recreation-related services for individuals with disabilities. Programs are cost-free for participants, and run on a volunteer basis. STRIDE contributes to each child's growth by offering the resources and opportunities that are often considered too costly for families to provide. STRIDE does not cater to any one type of disability.

**[Special Education Law and Advocacy - WrightsLaw](#)** - Parents, advocates, educators, and attorneys come to WrightsLaw for accurate, up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy for children with disabilities.

**[TalkAutism](#)** - An integrated group of communication technologies managed by experienced advocates. Our mission is to assist the autism community by being the one place to find many resources or speakers.

**[TEACCH - Chapel Hill](#)** - TEACCH stands for the Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children. The approach discussed on this site includes a focus on the person with autism and the development of a program around this person's skills, interests, and needs.

**[The Brain Development and Disorders Project at MIT](#)** - The project aims to merge the clinical strengths of the Developmental Medicine Center with the research strengths of the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences. The goal of the project is to use advanced research tools and methods to develop accurate diagnosis and treatment for children with developmental disabilities such as ASD and related developmental disorders. Specific projects include the study of vision, movement, language, touch and cognitive functions in children with ASD.

**[The Inclusion Series](#)** - The Inclusion Series is a unique resource for institutions and individuals. This award-winning series is widely used by educators, professionals and parents world wide. It is shown in workshops, university classrooms, parent-teacher meetings, in-service training programs, resource

centers, and other educational settings. These documentaries offer audiences examples of inclusion of people with disabilities in real-life situations and inspires all audiences.

**The Spiral Foundation** - A non-profit organization that was founded in 2002 with a mission to further the understanding of sensory processing disorder (SPD), formerly known as sensory integration dysfunction, through research and community education.

**Unified Sports Program** - The goal of USP is to teach sports to kids with disabilities alongside their friends. But USP actually has little to do with sports. It has EVERYTHING to do with teaching kids that having friends who are different than them is a great thing. We teach families with children who have disabilities that they should try and keep them involved with their friends as if the disability did not exist.

**Whole Children** - Whole Children offers movement, art, recreation and music programs for infants, children and teens of all abilities. The goal of our programs is to meet each child at their skill level in the most appropriate environment for that child. The emphasis in all classes is on finding and celebrating children's individual strengths, having fun, and making and sustaining friendships. All of our classes are taught by trained and/or certified instructors and most classes have a student/teacher ratio of 4:1.