Disability Resource Guide

March 2017

jfs Jewish Family Service
LIGHT • HOPE • HELP

jfs Jewish Family Service
Disability Services

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ADVOCACY

Advocacy, Inc. (See Disability Rights Texas**).**

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. (AACAP). National nonprofit professional medical association dedicated to treating and improving the quality of life for children, adolescents, and families affected by mental, behavioral or developmental disorders. Advocacy, information. **Contact: http://www.aacap.org/**

American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). National nonprofit cross-disability member organization dedicated to ensuring economic and political empowerment of people with disabilities. Works in coalition with other disability organizations and advocates for the implementation and enforcement of laws for people with disabilities. Advocacy, information & referral, resources. Interfaith component. Complaint pages link to various government agencies and other organizations. **Contact: 800-840-8844 (V/TTY) or 202-521-4315 (Voice/TTY). http://www.aapd.com**

American Council of the Blind. National nonprofit membership organization of blind, visually impaired and sighted individuals, strives to increase the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and quality of life, for all blind and visually-impaired people. Advocacy, information, publications and a daily listing of employment opportunities under its ACB "Job Connection." **Contact: 800-424-8666 or 202-467-5081. http://www.acb.org/**

American Foundation for the Blind. National nonprofit advocating for blind and visually impaired individuals. Advocacy, information, technology evaluation. **Contact: 800-232-5463. http://www.afb.org/default.aspx**

Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA). National nonprofit organization promoting the prevention, treatment, and cure of anxiety, depression, and stress-related disorders through education, practice, and research. **Contact: 240-485-1001. http://www.adaa.org/**

The Arc of Greater Houston. Nonprofit organization committed to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Advocacy, support groups, programs for individuals with disabilities, resources, research, referral, respite services, camps and social activities. Affiliated with The Arc of Texas and The Arc of the United States. English & Spanish
Contact: 713-957-1600. http://www.aogh.org/

Association for Science in Autism Treatment (ASAT). National nonprofit organization committed to improving the education, treatment, and care of people with autism. Seeks to provide accurate, scientifically sound information about autism and treatments for autism and to improve access to effective, science-based treatments for all people with autism. Advocacy, information, resources, links. **Contact: http://www.asatonline.org/**

Attention Deficit Disorder Association (ADDA). Nonprofit membership organization providing information, resources and networking opportunities to help adults with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder lead better lives and advocate for community resources.
Contact: http://www.add.org/. Southern Region Chapter Contact: http://www.adda-sr.org/_281-897-0982.

Autism Society. National nonprofit membership organization works to improve the lives of all affected by

autism. Advocacy, information and referral. **Contact: 301-657-0881 or 800-328-8476.** http://www.autism-society.org/ ,

Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Nonprofit organization organized by and for individuals with autism spectrum conditions. Advocacy, information. English & Spanish. **Contact: 202-596-1056.** http://autisticadvocacy.org/

Texas Brain Injury Alliance. Nonprofit organization for brain injury survivors and family members. Affiliated with Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA). Advocacy, support group, referrals and educational resources. **Contact: 800-392-0040.** http://www.texasbia.org

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD). National nonprofit membership organization provides advocacy, resources, vocational and group support for individuals with AD/HD. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-233-4050.** http://www.chadd.org

Children at Risk. Nonprofit organization advocates for children and change through research, education and by influencing public policy. A member of *Voices for American Children.* **Contact: 713-869-7740.** http://childrenatrisk.org/

Coalition for Barrier Free Living. Brazoria County, Houston and Ft. Bend Centers for Independent Living promote the full inclusion, equal opportunity and participation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of community life. Services include: advocacy, information & referral, peer support, independent living skills training, links to other resources. Part of Texans for Independent Living.
Contact: (713) 974-4621. http://coalitionforbarrierfreeliving.com/index.html

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD). Nonprofit disability advocacy organization controlled by individuals with disabilities. Offers legal information, market research and training. Seeks to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, inclusion and integration into all aspects of society. Fee-based disability consulting services to businesses, corporations, governmental entities and nonprofit organizations. **Contact: 512-478-3366.** http://www.txdisabilities.org/

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). International professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. Advocacy, special education, support services, resources. **Contact: 888-232-7733 (toll-free); 866-915-5000 (TTY).** http://www.cec.sped.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home

Disability Rights Texas. Federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency for Texans with disabilities. Seeks to help people with disabilities understand and exercise their rights under the law. Advocacy, monitoring, information & referral materials and services, training, legal representation for low income persons with disabilities and extensive resources. English, Spanish, ASL videos. Affiliated with National Disability Rights Organization **Contact: 1-800-252-9108.** www.ndrn.org **East Texas Regional Office: 713-974-7691, 866-362-2851 (Video Phone)** http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/

Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT). Independent nonprofit organization providing advocacy, information, resources and support for families of children with autism. Special emphasis on early diagnosis and ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis). **Houston Contact: (281) 361-3328.** http://www.feathouston.org/

Family to Family Network. Independent nonprofit grassroots organization providing advocacy, support, information & referrals, education and training for families of people with disabilities. Extensive links to resources, agencies and organizations. **Contact:**
713-466-6304. **www.familytofamilynetwork.org**

Houston Center for Independent Living. Contact: (713) 974-4621 or TTY Direct: (713) 974-2703. See ***Coalition for Barrier Free Living.*** **http://www.hcil.cc/index.html**

Houston Council of the Blind. The mission of the Houston Council of the Blind ("HCB") is to improve the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and quality of life for all persons who are blind or visually impaired. **Contact: 713-520-9237**. **http://www.acbt-houston.org**

Houston Jewish Special Needs Group. Independent, parent-driven advocacy group promoting social activities, information and networking for Jewish families with children and young adults with special needs. A local forum is available at: **http://groups.yahoo.com/group/houstonjewishspecialneeds/**
Website: **www.HoustonJewishSpecialNeeds.org**.
Contact: **houstonjewishspecialneeds@yahoo.com**

International Dyslexia Association. Nonprofit organization providing advocacy, referrals, education and support to persons with dyslexia and related learning disorders. **Houston Contact: 832-282-7154.**
http://www.houstonida.org

International OCD Foundation. International nonprofit membership organization seeking to advocate about, support research and raise awareness of issues surrounding obsessive compulsive behavior and the people who live with it. **Contact: 617-973-5801** **http://www.ocfoundation.org/**

The Jewish Deaf Resource Center (JDRC). Advocacy and initiatives to increase communication access to services, rituals, learning and other Jewish communal experiences. **Contact: 917-705-8941 (Voice) or 866-948-1771 (Videophone).** **http://www.jdrc.org/index.html**

John Fair III Spinal Cord Injury Foundation. The mission of the John Fair III Spinal Cord Injury Foundation is to provide economic relief, education, and awareness to new and existing teens and young adults with spinal cord injuries. **Contact: 713-253-5084**. **http://johnfair.org/**

Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA). National nonprofit membership organization works on behalf of people with learning disabilities. Advocacy, information, resources, referrals. **Contact:**
http://www.ldanatl.org/aboutld/parents/index.asp. **Texas:** **http://www.LDAAMERICA.org/**
Texas Association Contact: http://www.ldaamerica.org

LD Online. Nonprofit on-line resource seeking to help children, teens and adults reach their full potential by providing information and advice about learning disabilities and ADHD. Information, referral lists, resources, forums. A national educational service of WETA-TV, the PBS station in Washington, D.C.
Contact: 703-998-2060. **http://www.ldonline.org/**

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD- Houston). Advocacy, information and referrals for residents with disabilities in the Greater Houston Metropolitan area; assists clients in the resolution of complaints. Deals with emergency services, including free visual fire alarms for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. Facilitates the delivery of city services to individuals with disabilities and the removal of

architectural, communication and attitudinal barriers in public and private programs and services; sponsors free legal clinics. Pedestrian Accessibility Review Program (PAR) provides side walk and curb cut installation where there is no accessible path of travel for persons with disabilities to grocery stores, pharmacies, medical clinics or doctors' offices, school, church, bank or credit union, job sites or bus stop or Metrolift pick up area. **Contact: 832-394-0814 or mopdmail@houstontx.gov.**
http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/index.html

Mental Health America of Greater Houston. Houston nonprofit agency working to promote mental health and to improve the care and treatment of persons living with mental illness through education and advocacy. Advocacy, education, information & referral, resources. Also: *Children's Mental Health Action Network Resource Guide.* **Contact: 713-523-8963, 713-522-5161 (I&R).**
http://www.mhahouston.org/

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Nonprofit membership organization offering advocacy, peer support groups, information, referral and education. **Contact: http://www.nami.org Houston Contact: 713-970-4419. http://www.namigreaterhouston.org/**

National Down Syndrome Society. Nonprofit organization works to benefit people with Down syndrome and their families through national leadership in education, research and advocacy, information and resources. Local affiliates. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-221-4602. http://www.ndss.org/**
Houston Contact: 713-682-7237. http://wordpress.dsah.org/

National Federation of the Blind. National nonprofit membership organization seeking to improve the lives of blind people through advocacy, education, research, technology, and programs encouraging independence and self-confidence. **Contact: 410-659-9314 https://nfb.org/**

National Multiple Sclerosis Society. National nonprofit organization and its network of chapters nationwide promote research, education, advocacy on critical issues and organize a wide range of programs to serve those with MS and their families. Advocacy, information, resources, support, services. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-344-4867. http://www.nationalmssociety.org/**
Lone Star Chapter (Houston) Contact:713-394-2900. http://www.nationalmssociety.org/txh

National Organization on Disability (NOD). National nonprofit organization that raises disability awareness through programs, publications and its website. Working with business, corporate, government and community leaders, it partners with a range of organizations and governments to remove barriers and change attitudes for people with disabilities. Extensive links to housing, employment, education and other resources. **Contact: 646-505-1191. http://www.nod.org/**

Paralyzed Veterans of America. Paralyzed Veterans of America works to create an America where all veterans and people with disabilities, and their families, have everything they need to live full and productive lives. **Contact: 1-800-232-1782. http://www.pva.org**

Partners Resource Network. Operates three regional federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI) serving Texas parents of children and youth (ages 0-22) with disabilities. Advocacy, information and referral, extensive links to resources, information. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. **Contact Houston TEAM: 713-524-2147 or 877-832-8945. http://www.partnerstx.org/**

RespectAbilities. A new national, non-profit, non-partisan organization whose mission is to: (1) Reshape the attitudes of American society so that people with disabilities can more fully participate in and contribute to society, and (2) Empower people with disabilities to achieve as much of the American dream as their abilities and efforts permit. RespectAbility was founded to correct and prevent the current disparity of justice for people with disabilities: **Contact: 202.517.6272 office** **http://respectabilityusa.com/**

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD). State board appointed by the Governor, works with individuals, parents, family members, advocacy groups, state agencies, service providers and federal, state and local policymakers to increase individual choice and inclusion. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-262-0334 (toll-free) or 512-437-5432 (Voice).** **http://www.txddc.state.tx.us**

Texas Council for Exceptional Children (TCEC). Nonprofit organization including professional educators, families and others working on behalf of individuals with exceptionalities. Affiliated with CEC. **Contact:** **http://community.cec.sped.org/tx/home**

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). State of Texas agency whose mission is to work in partnership with Texans with disabilities and families with children who have developmental delays to improve the quality of their lives and to enable their full participation in society. Administers programs that help Texans with disabilities. English and Spanish. The department has four divisions:
Rehabilitation Services

Blind Services

Early Childhood Intervention Services

Disability Determination Services

Contact: 800-628-5115 (Voice), 866-581-9328 (TTY). **http://www.dars.state.tx.us**

Texas State Independent Living Council (ILC). Charged with developing the State Plan for Independent Living, in conjunction with TXDARS and Network of ILCs. Current 3-year plan is available on website. **CONTACT: 512-371-7353.** **http://www.txsilc.org/**

Tourette Syndrome Association. National nonprofit organization offers advocacy, information, referral, educational resources, teacher guides, strategies and support. Newsletters for youth and young adults. Local and state chapters. English & Spanish. **Contact: 718-224-2999.** **http://www.tsa-usa.org/**
Texas: 281-238-8096. **http://www.tourettetexas.org/default.html**

Turning Point National Gulf Coast Turning Point is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization designed to teach people with mobility impairments the skills necessary to fully enjoy the outdoors, and to provide free or low cost activities. **Contact: 409-939-4827**. **http://www.turningpointnation.org/gulf_coast.html**

Easter Seals National nonprofit organization that works through affiliates to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through advocacy, assistance, camps, respite care and opportunities nation-wide. Links to other helpful sites. **Contact: 800-872-5827 or 202-776-**

0406. http://www.ucp.org/ **Houston: Easter Seals Houston. 713-838-9050.** http://www.eastersealshouston.org/

United Way Of Greater Houston. The mission of the United Way is to increase the organized capacity of people to care for themselves and others and to mobilize our community to make lasting improvements in critical needs areas. **Contact: 713-685-2300**. http://www.unitedwayhouston.org

Variety. Variety the Children's Charity of Texas, is dedicated to empowering children with disabilities through funding and special access to activities. **Contact: 713-426-5437**. http://www.varietytexas.org

VOR. Independent nonprofit membership organization that advocates for high quality care and human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. **Contact: 877-399-4867.** http://www.vor.net/

VSA Texas. VSA Texas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that strives to create a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. **Contact: 512-454-9912**. http://www.vsatx.org/

Wrightslaw. Independent on-line resource seeking to provide parents, advocates, educators, and attorneys with accurate, up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy. Seminars, extensive links, Yellow Pages for Kids with Disabilities, free e-newsletter. **Contact:** http://www.wrightslaw.com/

Yachad, The National Jewish Council for Disabilities. Nonprofit membership organization dedicated to addressing the needs of all individuals with disabilities and including them in the Jewish community. Offers advocacy, education, resources, support and programs. A department of the Orthodox Union. **Contact: 561-504-1033 or** houstonyachad@ou.org

ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

For children ages 3+ and older, request an evaluation at the nearest elementary school. A list of Greater Houston Area School Districts with their primary telephone numbers and websites may be found in the Addendum of this Guide. In Houston, call **713-556-7025.** http://www.houstonisd.org//Domain/15681

Autism Treatment Centers of Texas. Nonprofit organization provides assessment, information, life skills training and residential services in Dallas and San Antonio, Texas. Also provides services to individuals who are blind and/or deaf. Residential facilities are single family homes and duplexes, located in neighborhoods; programming, activities, living skills. Associated with Autism Society of America and National Association of Residential Providers for Adults with Autism. Licensed by TEA, Texas Department of MHMR, Home and Community based Services. **Contact: 972-644-2076 (Dallas). 210-590-2107 (San Antonio).** http://www.atcoftexas.org

Baylor Psychiatry Clinic. Baylor College of Medicine, Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Adult outpatient clinic. Comprehensive assessment and treatment for psychiatric, psychological and relationship difficulties; evaluation, treatment and counseling. Fees: insurance accepted; sliding scale is available. **Contact: 713-798-4857.** http://www.bcm.edu/psychiatry/?PMID=2029

Center for Hearing and Speech. Nonprofit United Way agency providing a range of resources and services for children (ages 0-18) with hearing impairment and their families. Assessment, audiology and speech clinics, play therapy, individual and family counseling, parent support groups and auditory-oral school

(ages 18 mos. – 7 yrs.). Houston, TX. **Contact: 713-523-3633.**
http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/

Children's Learning Institute. Part of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, CLI is a source for proven clinical and educational programs covering early childhood through late teens. Services include clinical assessment, diagnosis and treatment of learning disorders, and research on techniques to enhance a child's home and learning environment. **Contact: 713-500-3709.**
http://www.childrenslearninginstitute.org/overview/default.aspx

Cypress Creek Hospital. Private psychiatric hospital, inpatient and outpatient services, 24 hours-a-day. Assessment, crisis intervention, referral and hospitalization services for adolescents (ages 13 – 17) and adults. Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and Texas Department of Health. **Contact: 281-586-7600. http://www.cypresscreekhospital.com/**

DePelchin Children's Center. Nonprofit United Way agency provides services designed to prevent and resolve social and emotional crises for children and their families. Assessment, parenting skills, residential services, therapy, psychological services. Several locations in the Greater Houston Area. **Contact: 713-730-2335 or 888-730-2335 (toll-free).** **http://www.depelchin.org/**

Early Childhood Intervention Keep Pace (ECI). Evaluation to determine eligibility and need for psychological and/or developmental services for children (ages birth – 3) with developmental delays. Parent-referrals accepted. Fees: sliding scale. Part of Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Harris County Dept. of Education and Texas Early Childhood Intervention. English & Spanish. Serves 13 school districts in Harris County, TX. **Contact: 713-694-6300** **http://www.ecikeeppace.org**

Harris County [TX] Department of Education (Therapy Services). Assessment, intervention, consultation, training, and direct services to children (birth to 21); maximum education grade 12. **Contact: 713-696-8237.** **http://www.hcde-texas.org/default.aspx?name=SpecEdHome**

Harris County Psychiatric Center. Outpatient and in-patient diagnostic assessment and treatment for children, adolescents & adults. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. Fees, Insurance. Part of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Outpatient Services provided by the University of Texas Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences . **Contact: 713-741 5000.**
http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/

Houston Independent School District (HISD). The largest independent school district in the Greater Houston Area, HISD offers a wide range of ancillary educational and supportive services to its students and parents. **Contact: 713-556-7121.** **http://www.houstonisd.org/domain/7888**
• *Special Education.* Instructional and related services are available in all HISD schools. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. **Contact: 713-556-7025.** **http://www.houstonisd.org//Domain/15681**

IntraCare Behavioral Health. Non-profit behavioral health facility providing inpatient and outpatient mental health and dependency services for people of all ages. Affiliated with NIMH and NAMI. **Contact: North Hospital: 281-893-7200.** **http://www.intracare.org/pages/programs.htm**

Jewish Family Service. Nonprofit United Way agency offering assessment and a broad range of counseling, supportive, life-skills, employment and educational services. Disability Services Department offers employment services, support groups, *Disability Services On-line Resource Guide. Alexander Institute for Inclusion* actively supports inclusion initiatives throughout Houston & Harris County. English, Hebrew and Russian. Fee: Sliding scale. Some insurance. **Contact: 713-667-9336.**
http://www.jfshouston.org

Menninger Clinic. Affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine and The Methodist Hospital in the Texas Medical Center. Offers both inpatient and outpatient assessments and therapy.

- *Adolescent Treatment Program.* Adolescents (ages 12-17) with behavior or substance abuse issues or psychiatric disorders.
- *Compass Young Adult Treatment Program.* Ages: 18-30 with psychiatric disorders.
- *Hope Adult Program.* Individualized treatment for adults (ages 18+).

All programs contact: 713-275-5000 or 800-351-9058 (toll-free).
http://www.menningerclinic.com/

MHMRA (Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County) Dedicated to providing or ensuring provision of services and supports to people with mental disabilities and their families. Fee: Medicaid, CHIP, private insurance, adjustable fees. **Contact: 24-hour Help Line: 713-970-7000 or 866-970-4770 (toll-free). 800-735-2988 (Hearing impaired) http://www.mhmraharris.org/index.asp**

- *Adult Mental Health.* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/Adult-Mental-Health-Services.asp**
- *Children and Adolescent Services.* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/Child-And-Adolescent-Services.asp**
- *Intellectual and Autism Services (IDD).* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/IDD.html**
- *Crisis and Emergency Services.* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/Crisis-And-Emergency-Services.asp**

Contact: 713-970-7000 Help Line 24 hours a day for questions or support.

The Monarch School. Private accredited nonprofit school in Houston, TX, for children who have neurological differences: pre-K through 12th grade. Diagnostic Clinic offers assessment services including: speech and language, academic, adaptive behavior, psychological, and/or psycho-educational assessments. School, summer program, life academy, learning center, workshops. Fees. **Contact: 713-479-0800.**
http://www.monarchinstitute.org/about-us

Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). National nonprofit organization addressing neuromuscular diseases. Provides assessment, clinics, camps, information, research, resources and support. **Contact: 713-522-8561.** **http://www.mda.org/**

Texas Children's Hospital. Nationally recognized nonprofit comprehensive children's hospital located in the Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. Special needs departments include:

- ***Autism Center.*** Offers a multi-disciplinary approach to evaluation, planning, therapy. **Contact: 832-822-1900.** **http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Autism-Center/**
- ***Pediatric Neurology Clinic.*** Offers diagnosis, evaluation and treatment for a wide range of neurological disorders. **Contact:** **http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Neurology/Pediatric-Neurology-Clinics/**
- ***Psychiatry Clinic.*** Offers psychiatric evaluations and pharmacological management of neuropsychiatric symptomatology, **Contact: 832-822-3750**
http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychiatry/
- ***Psychology Center.*** Children and teens are evaluated and treated for a wide-range of conditions, from learning disorders and ADHD to behavioral and anxiety disorders.
Contact: 832-822-3700. **http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychology/**
- ***Speech, Language and Learning Clinic.*** Offering evaluation, management and consultation for infants, children, adolescents and adults with oral and/or written language difficulties: communication, learning, feeding and/or swallowing problems related to a broad range of physical and neurological conditions. Collaborative of various Texas Children's Hospital departments and clinics; affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. Family referrals accepted. Fees. **Contact: 832-822-3280.**

http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Ear,-Nose-and-Throat/Speech-Language-and-Learning/

TIRR - The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research. Continuum of care for patients with needs resulting from congenital and neurological disorders or from catastrophic illness or injury. Multiple locations in the Gulf Coast Region. Inpatient and outpatient services. Requires a prescription of referral from a physician. A division of Memorial Hermann Hospital system. Insurance required. **Contact: 713-799-5000.** http://www.tirr.org/rehab/index.php

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston - Harris County Psychiatric Center. Outpatient and in-patient diagnostic assessment and treatment for children, adolescents & adults. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. Fees, Insurance. **Contact: 713-741-5000** http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/

West Oaks Hospital. Fully accredited private psychiatric hospital providing inpatient and out-patient services for children, adolescents and adults. Assessment, 24-hours-a-day admission, crisis intervention. Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and Texas Department of Health. **Contact: 713-995-0909.** http://www.westoakshospital.com/contact-us/index.html

CAMPS

Inclusion in this list does not imply verification or endorsement. Although some camp websites refer to accommodations or programs for people with special needs, it is prudent to check directly with the camp about the range of services, any limitations or restrictions and fees.

The Arc of Greater Houston. Comprehensive nonprofit agency providing information, referrals, resources and services to children and adults with cognitive, intellectual and developmental disabilities. Summer Camp programs help individuals with disabilities of all ages learn new skills, strengthen physical and mental well-being, and build self-esteem.
Day Camps. Theme-based, age appropriate activities in one-week sessions for individuals (ages 4-14). Sports and Life Skills Camp. One-week sessions of team sports, swimming, bowling and arts & crafts for individuals (ages 15-25).
Residential Inclusion Camp for individuals (ages 10-30) with and without developmental disabilities held at Camp for All, Burton, Texas.
Overnight Summer Vacations. Offers five-day, four-night vacations for individuals, (ages 18 +). **Contact: 713-957-1600.** http://www.aogh.org/ http://www.aogh.org/SocialLeisureRespitePrograms.html

Brain Injury Association of Texas. Nonprofit organization for brain injury survivors, family members and advocates. Offers day and residential camps and retreats, advocacy, support group, referrals and educational resources for children and adults who have suffered traumatic brain injury. **Contact: 800-392-0040 (toll-free).** http://www.texasbia.org/

Camp Acorn. Summer camp sponsored by The Parish School; program focuses on children with language/learning differences. Activities focus on language development and social skills in a literature-rich, multi-sensory environment. **Contact: 713-467-4696.** http://www.parishschool.org

Camp Ailihpomeh. (Hemophilia spelled backward) For children (ages 7-17) with hemophilia. Sponsored by Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. **Contact: 713-500-8360.** **http://www.camp-ailihpomeh.org/about.htm**

Camp Broncho. Week-long residential camps for children (ages 7-14) with asthma. Dallas and San Antonio area camp sites. Sponsored by Texas Lung Organization. **Contact: 682-885-4813.** **http://www.campbroncho.com/Pages/default.aspx**

Camp Buckaroo. Day camp for children (ages 3-14) with disabilities, and their siblings (ages 3-10). Sponsored by Easter Seals of Greater Houston. **Contact: 713-838-9050.** **http://www.eastersealshouston.org/Children/camps.html**

Camp C.A.M.P. (**C**hildren's **A**ssociation for **M**aximum **P**otential) Summer camp sessions for children with special needs (ages 5-21). Activities also provided for siblings without disabilities. Private nonprofit agency funded by United Way of Bexar County, TX; accredited by American Camp Association. Also offers a Respite Club. Sliding fee scale. **Contact. (210) 671-5411.** **http://www.campcamp.org/**

Camp Chazak. A program of URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Camps, provides a camping experience for participants 9 to 13 years old whose social delays impair their ability to function in a typical camp environment. **Contact: 201-722-0400.** **http://eisnercranelake.urjcamps.org/chazak/**

Camp for All. A barrier-free, completely accessible camping and retreat facility, working in partnership with special needs groups to enrich the lives of people with chronic illnesses and disabilities. Many different programs are offered to campers of all ages and abilities. Located between Houston and Austin near Burton, TX. **Contact: 713-686-1242.** **http://campforall.org**

Camp HASC. Seven-week residential camp in the Catskill Mountains (NY) for children and adults with mental and physical handicaps. Program offers blend of recreational and learning experiences. Sponsored by the Hebrew Academy for Special Children, a nonprofit organization.
Contact: 718-686-5930. **http://www.hasc.net/camp/**

Camp Hope. Only Texas camp specifically for children (ages 6-15) with HIV/AIDS. One week session. Located at *Camp for All* facility. Sponsored by AIDS Foundation Houston. **Contact: 713-623-6796.** **http://www.aidshelp.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=cms.page&id=1027**

Camp Janus. Annual weekend camping adventure for children (ages 5 – 18) who have sustained a burn injury. Held at *Camp for All* in Burton, Texas. Free: including local transportation to and from the camp. Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital. **Contact: 281-947-2154** **http://www.campjanus.org/**

Camp Kutz. Residential camp in Warwick, NY, sponsored by Union for Reform Judaism. Two one-week sessions for Jewish children with autism. Limited enrollment. **Contact: 845-987-6300.** **http://kutz.urjcamps.org/**

Camp Mak-A-Dream. A one-week camp program in Montana for children, young adults and families affected by cancer. **Contact: 406-549-5987.** **http://campdream.org/**

Camp MOST. Camp for teen "graduates" of Camp Smiles. Sponsored by Easter Seals of Greater Houston. Contact: 713-838-9050. http://www.eastersealshouston.org/Children/camps.html

Camp Rainbow. Day camp for children with diabetes (ages 4 – 13) and their families to promote self-confidence, independence, and peer support. Sponsored by American Diabetes Association, Houston Chapter. **Contact: 713-977-7706 x6091.** **http://www.diabetes.org/in-my-community/local-offices/houston-texas/**

Camp Ramah. The camping arm of Conservative Judaism, offers residential camp programs that serve Jewish children with intellectual or developmental delays, autism/Asperger's syndrome, Down syndrome and other disabilities. Various locations. **Contact: 212-678-8881.** **http://www.campramah.org/**

Camp Ramah Darom. Tikvah is an engaging, fun filled, four-week camping experience led by experience, professionally educated and trained counselors that develops interaction, social skills and problem solcing abilities. It enables campers to build sense of autonomy and independence while nurturing their Jewish identity within an inclusive, Jewish environment. Jewish overnight camp specifically for children 12 though 17 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Contact Geoffrey Menkowitz 404-503-2132 http://campramahdaron.org/programs/tikvah-progaram

CampResource.com. Online listing of camps throughout North America serving children with different challenges. Options include sorting by state, type of camp and type of disability. **Contact: (970) 524-2706** **http://www.campresource.com/summer-camps/special-needs**

Camp Reynal. A camp for children with renal and urology disease, providing a full range of camping experiences. Provides on-site dialysis. Sponsored by the National Kidney Foundation **Contact: 214-351-23932393.** **http://www.campreynal.org**

Camp Sign. A camp for boys and girls (ages 8 – 17) who are deaf or hard of hearing in a communication barrier-free environment held at Camp Misty Meadows in Conroe, TX. A C.I.T. program is also available. Camp operates under Division for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS). Fees, sliding scale. **Contact: Phone: 512-407-3250 TTY: 512-407-3251** **http://ncpad.org/15/Programs/9848**

Camp Smiles. Week-long residential summer camp for children (ages 6 – 14) with cerebral palsy. Held at *Camp for All*. Sponsored by Easter Seals of Greater Houston. **Contact: 713-838-9050.** **http://www.eastersealshouston.org/Children/camps.html**

Camp Spike 'n' Wave. Week-long residential camp for children (ages 8-14) with a primary diagnosis of epilepsy. Held at *Camp for All* in Burton, Texas. Free of charge. Sponsored by the Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Texas. **Contact: 713-789-6295.** **http://www.eftx.org/camp.htm**

Camp Summit. Independent nonprofit United Way agency offering residential barrier-free camp in Argyle, TX for individuals (ages 6–adult) who are physically challenged, developmentally delayed, dual-sensory impaired or who have multiple disabilities. Accredited by the American Camping Association; licensed by the State of Texas. **Contact: 972-484-8900.** **http://www.campsummittx.org/**

Camp Sweeney. Week-long residential camp in Gainesville, TX for children (ages 5-18) with Type 1 Diabetes. Sponsored by Southwest Diabetes Foundation. Financial assistance available. **Contact: 940-665-2011.** **http://www.campsweeney.org**

American Camp Association Online camp resource for parents and families, sponsored by the American Camp Association (ACA). Camp-related resources and an extensive database of over 2400 ACA accredited

camps - searchable by various criteria including special needs, affiliation, cultural focus, age, location. **Contact: 800-428-2267**http://acacamps.org

Down Home Ranch Camp. Week-long residential camp in Elgin, TX for children (ages 13+) and adults with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities. Campers must be physically and emotionally well. Also offers respite week-ends. Licensed by Texas Dept. of Health. **Contact: 512-856-0128 or 888-926-2253 (toll-free).** http://www.downhomeranch.org/prgsummercamp.shtml

Epilepsy Foundation of Texas. Nonprofit organization sponsors several residential camps and retreats for children and teens with a primary diagnosis of epilepsy. Also offers week-end retreats for adults and families.
Camp Spike 'n' Wave: for children with epilepsy (ages 8-14).
Kamp Kaleidoscope: for teens with epilepsy (ages 15-19).
Camp Neuron: for children with epilepsy (ages 8-14).
Contact: 713-789-6295. 888-548-9716 (Toll free) http://www.eftx.org/camp.htm

Foundation for Jewish Camping. Provides information about 130+ nonprofit Jewish overnight camps as well as financial and programming resources to camps, campers and their families across North America. "Find a Jewish Camp" search tool can be customized for Special Needs programs. Offers a *Directory of Camp Scholarships*. **Contact: 888-888-4819** http://www.jewishcamp.org/

Hope Village. Private nonprofit organization providing residential, day, respite and summer programs in Friendswood, TX. Summer day program designed for school-aged children (12+). Daily activities include crafts, swimming, field trips, and other activities. Enrollment limited. **Contact: 281-482-7926.** http://www.hope-village.com

Kamp Kaleidoscope. Week-long residential summer camp for teenagers (ages 15-19) with a primary diagnosis of epilepsy. Held at Camp Cho-Yeh in Livingston, TX. Free of charge. Sponsored by the Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Texas. **Contact: 713-789-6295.** http://www.epilepsyfoundation.org/local/setexas/Kaleidoscope.cfm

Kehilla Camps. Camp Kehilla/Kehilla Vocation Experience/Kehilla Kayf. Co-ed residential camps in Wayne County, PA serving children, teens and young adults with special needs, including: high functioning Autism Spectrum disorders, ADD, learning disabilities, speech and language delays and emotional/behavioral disorders. Sponsored by the Sid Jacobson Jewish Community Center (East Hills, New York). **Contact: 516-484-1545.** http://www.sjjcc.org/summercamps/kehillacamps/

The Lighthouse of Houston. A private, nonprofit United Way agency. Offers summer day camp program for visually impaired and blind children. **Contact 713-527-9561.** http://www.houstonlighthouse.org

Marbridge Summer Camp. Residential summer camp for young adults (ages 16-30) with cognitive challenges. One week sessions. Manchaca, TX. **Contact: 512-282-1144.** http://www.marbridge.org/summer-camp

Muscular Dystrophy Association. Offers one week residential summer camp for children (ages 6-21) with neuromuscular diseases at *Camp for All*, Burton, TX. **Contact: 713-522-8561** http://www.mdausa.org/clinics/camp/

Mysummercamps.com. Online listing of summer day and residential camps throughout North America with links to individual camp websites; large section for special needs camps. Its inclusion in this list implies neither verification of its listings nor an endorsement. **Contact:**
http://www.mysummercamps.com/camps/Special_Needs_Camps/index.html

Pasadena Parks and Recreation. The Verne Cox Multipurpose Recreation Center is a facility specifically dedicated to recreational activities, programs, and events for youth and adults with disabilities. Programs include: wheelchair sports, Special Olympics, after-school, support groups, fitness, aquatics and summer day. Fees. Pasadena TX.
Contact: 713-475-7048. **http://www.ci.pasadena.tx.us/default.aspx?name=prk.fac-v_cox**

Pathfinders Camp. Therapeutic camp for emotionally disturbed and/or learning disabled boys (ages 11 to 17). Accredited academics provided at the campsite by certified special education teachers under the supervision of the Charter School of the University of Texas at Austin. Licensed by the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services. **Contact: 512-471-4864**
http://www.utexas.edu/ce/ucs/our-campuses/detail/pathfinders-camp/

River Oaks Academy . Offers summer day camp for children and adolescents (ages 5 to 15) with ADD/ADHD or conduct disorder. **Contact**: **713-783–7200.**
http://www.riveroaksacademy.com/summer-camp-home.html

SHMA Camps. Offers several residential camps in New York for Jewish Orthodox boys and girls:
Camp Mogen Avraham offers:
- *Chaverim*, a 6-week camp for boys (ages 8+) with Developmental Disabilities.

Camp Sternberg offers:
- *Kesher*, a program for girls with special needs who are integrated into the daily program;
- *Mishkan*, a program for girls with serious developmental challenges; separate program and facilities.

Contact:516-992-6131 **http://shmacamps.org/main.html**

Texas Asthma Camp for Kids. Week-long residential camp for children with asthma. Organized and sponsored by the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler.
Contact: 903-877-7075. **http://www.texasasthmacamp.com/index.htm**

Texas Children's Hospital Cancer & Hematology Centers. Offers several camp opportunities at no charge for children with cancer: Camp Periwinkle for children; Camp YOLO for teens. Full medical staff.
Contact: 1-800-CANCER9 **http://txch.org/for-parents/patient-resources/camps/**

Texas Elks Camp. Residential camp in Gonzales, TX for children (ages 7-15) with physical, mental and learning disabilities. Sponsored by Texas Elks Association; accredited by American Camping Association. No Fee; first come, first served basis. **Contact: 830-875-2425.** **http://www.texaselkscamp.org/**

Texas Lions Camp. Residential camp in Kerrville, TX for children (ages 7-16) with physical disabilities, cancer, Type 1 diabetes, visual or hearing impairment. Transportation may be available through local Lions Clubs. **Contact: 830-896-8500.** **http://www.lionscamp.com**

COUNSELING, CLINICS, PSYCHOTHERAPY, PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL SERVICES

Baylor Psychiatry Clinic (See Menninger Clinic below). Adult outpatient clinic. Comprehensive assessment and treatment for psychiatric, psychological and relationship difficulties; evaluation, treatment and counseling. Affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. Fees: some insurance accepted; sliding scale is available. **Contact: 713-798-4857.** http://www.bcm.edu/psychiatry/?PMID=2029

The Center for Success and Independence. Independent nonprofit community-based psychiatric residential treatment facility for adolescents with behavioral, emotional and substance abuse problems. Houston, TX. Fees. **Contact: 713-426-4545.** http://www.tcsi.org/index.html

Children's Assessment Center. Houston nonprofit organization providing a coordinated approach to the treatment of sexually abused children and their families. Psychological evaluations. **Contact: 713-986-3300.** http://www.cachouston.org/ **To report abuse: 1-800-252-5400.**

Crisis Intervention of Houston. Nonprofit United Way Agency providing 24-hour telephone and web-based counseling, suicide prevention and intervention, links to community resources, and community education. **Contact: 713-HOTLINE (713-468-5463). 713-529-TEEN (713-529-8336). 713-526-8088 (Spanish)** http://www.crisishotline.org/

Cypress Creek Hospital. Psychiatric hospital: inpatient and outpatient services. 24-hour crisis intervention, assessment, referral and admission service. Adolescents (13–17) and adults. Fully accredited by Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Texas Department of Health. **Contact: 281-586-7600.** http://www.cypresscreekhospital.com/http://www.cypresscreekhospital.com/

DePelchin Children's Center. Nonprofit United Way Agency providing individual, family and group therapy; psychiatric consultation, assessment, parenting skills. Outpatient and inpatient services. . **Contact: 713-730-2335 or 1-888-730-2335 (toll-free).**
http://www.depelchin.org/

Family Services of Greater Houston. Nonprofit United Way Agency offering individual and family counseling, parenting, school–based services. English and Spanish. Fee: Sliding scale; accepts Medicaid. United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-861-4849.** http://www.familyservices.org/

Harris County Department of Education (Therapy Services). Assessment, intervention, consultation, training, and direct service (ages 0 – 21). Services provided in schools, homes and daycare centers. Fees: call for information. Referrals by special education director. **Contact: 713-696-8232.**
http://www.hcde-texas.org/default.aspx?name=SpecEdHome

Harris County Hospital District. Provides access to cost-effective, quality health care to all residents of Harris County, regardless of ability to pay. **Emergency** inpatient and outpatient psychiatric and counseling services at Ben Taub and Lyndon Baines Johnson (LBJ) Hospitals. English and Spanish. **Contact: Ben Taub: 713-873-2000; LBJ: 713-566-5000.** http://www.hchdonline.com

Harris County Psychiatric Center. Outpatient and in-patient diagnostic assessment and treatment for children, adolescents & adults. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. Fees, Insurance. Part of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Outpatient Services provided by the University of Texas

Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. **Contact: 713-741-5000.** http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/

Houston Independent School District (HISD). The largest independent school district in Texas, HISD offers a wide range of ancillary educational and supportive services to its students and parents. **Contact: 713-556-7121.** http://www.houstonisd.org/domain/7888

- ***HISD Psychological Services.*** Counselor or nurse will help find psychological services. In an emergency, a psychologist from HISD will visit the child at school and refer the child to an agency. English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic. **Contact: 713-696-6430.** http://www.houstonisd.org//Domain/8052

Innovative Alternatives, Inc. Nonprofit United Way organization offering counseling, parenting skills, anger management and mediation for individuals and families. Fees: sliding scale. **Contact: 832-864-6000 or 713-222-2525.** www.innovativealternatives.org/

Jewish Family Service. Nonprofit United Way agency offering assessment and a broad range of counseling, supportive, life-skills, employment and educational services. Disability Services Department offers employment services, support groups, *Special Needs On-line Resource Guide. Alexander Institute* actively supports inclusion initiatives throughout Houston & Harris County. English, Hebrew and Russian. Fee: Sliding scale. Some insurance. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** http://www.jfshouston.org

Menninger Clinic. Affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine and The Methodist Hospital in the Texas Medical Center. Offers both inpatient and outpatient assessments and therapy.

- *Adolescent Treatment Program.* Adolescents (ages 12-17) with behavior or substance abuse issues or psychiatric disorders.
- *Compass Young Adult Treatment Program.* Ages: 18-30 with psychiatric disorders.
- *Hope Adult Program.* Individualized treatment for adults (ages 18+).

All programs contact: 713-275-5000 or 800-351-9058 (toll-free).
http://www.menningerclinic.com/

The following services are also affiliated with The Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences: **Contact: 713-798-4857.** www.bcm.edu/psychiatry/?PMID=1800

Ben Taub General Hospital. Psychiatric emergency center and non-emergency services for children and adults - inpatient and outpatient. Fees: Insurance, Medicaid.
Contact: 713-873-2000.

- ***Methodist Hospital Psychiatric Care.*** Psychiatric inpatient care. **Contact: 713-790-3599.** http://www.bcm.edu/psychiatry/?PMID=1820
- ***Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center.*** Mental health services for veterans; inpatient and outpatient services. **Contact: 713-791-1414 or 1-800-553-2278 (toll-free).** http://www.houston.med.va.gov/index.asp
- ***Texas Children's Hospital.*** Psychiatry Service provides consultation, liaison and outpatient services. Fees. **Contact: 832-822-3750** http://www.bcm.edu/psychiatry/?PMID=1821

MHMRA (Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County) Dedicated to providing or ensuring provision of services and supports to people with mental disabilities and their families. Fee: Medicaid, CHIP, private insurance, adjustable fees. **Contact: 24-hour Help Line: 713-970-7000 or 866-970-4770 (toll-free). 800-735-2988 (Hearing impaired) http://www.mhmraharris.org/index.asp**

- *Adult Mental Health.* http://www.mhmraharris.org/Adult-Mental-Health-Services.asp
- *Children and Adolescent Services.* http://www.mhmraharris.org/Child-And-Adolescent-Services.asp
- *Intellectual and Autism Services (IDD).* http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/IDD.html

• *Crisis and Emergency Services.* http://www.mhmraharris.org/Crisis-And-Emergency-Services.asp
Contact: 713-970-7070 Helpline 24 hours a day for questions or support.

The Montrose Center. Independent nonprofit agency providing individual, couples/family and group psychotherapy and case management services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (GLBT) persons. United Way Agency. Fee: sliding scale; accepts private insurance, Medicare and Medicaid.
Contact: 713-529-0037. http://www.montrosecounselingcenter.org
713-529-3211 24-Hour Crisis Line / Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston
832.413.6192 Videophone (hearing impaired)
866.327.7477 Voice for Hearing (hearing impaired; toll-free)

Project Shalom. Counseling, family therapy, medication management and socializing for adults with chronic mental illness. A program of Jewish Family Service, a United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-667-9336.**
http://www.jfshouston.org/projectshalom.php

Texas Children's Hospital. Nationally recognized nonprofit comprehensive children's hospital located in the Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. Special needs departments include:
• ***Autism Center.*** Offers a multi-disciplinary approach to evaluation, planning, therapy. **Contact: 832-822-1900. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Autism-Center/**
• ***Pediatric Neurology Clinic.*** Offers diagnosis, evaluation and treatment for a wide range of neurological disorders. **Contact:** http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Neurology/Pediatric-Neurology-Clinics/
• ***Psychiatry Clinic.*** Offers psychiatric evaluations and pharmacological management of neuropsychiatric symptomatology, **Contact: 832-822-3750**
http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychiatry/
• ***Psychology Center.*** Children and teens are evaluated and treated for a wide-range of conditions, from learning disorders and ADHD to behavioral and anxiety disorders. **Contact: 832-822-3700.**
http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychology/
• ***Speech, Language and Learning Clinic.*** Offering **evaluation, management and consultation** for infants, children, adolescents and adults with oral and/or written language difficulties: communication, learning, feeding and/or swallowing problems related to a broad range of physical and neurological conditions. Collaborative of various Texas Children's Hospital Departments and Clinics; affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. Family referrals accepted. Fees. **Contact: 832-822-3280.**
http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/speechlanguage/default.aspx

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston - Harris County Psychiatric Center.
Outpatient and in-patient diagnostic assessment and treatment for children, adolescents & adults. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. Fees: Sliding scale, Medicare, Medicaid. **Contact: 713-741-5000**
http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/

West Oaks Hospital. Inpatient and outpatient psychiatric services for children, adolescents and adults. 24-hour admission, crisis intervention, assessment. Fully accredited by Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and Texas Department of Health. **Contact:**
713-995-0909. http://www.westoakshospital.com/index-2.html

CRISIS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES. 9-1-1

Call "911" for crisis or emergency services.

There are several crisis and emergency services available through Harris County.
The Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA) provides outpatient services and operates the NeuroPsychiatric Center providing 24-hour crisis evaluation and treatment.
Ben Taub General Hospital operates emergency, inpatient, and outpatient services for persons eligible for Harris County Hospital District (HCHD) services.

Ben Taub General Hospital. 24-hour emergency services. Psychiatry Department services individuals in Harris County without regard to financial or insurance status. Inpatient and outpatient services. Spanish and English. **Contact: 713-873-2000.**

City of Houston Office of emergency Management 713-884-4500 www.houstonome.org

Crisis Intervention of Houston. 24-hour confidential telephone crisis counseling and information. United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-HOTLINE (713-468-5463). Teen Hotline 713-529-TEEN (713-529-8336) http://www.crisishotline.org/**

Houston Area Women's Center. Crisis intervention, emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence, counseling, preventive programming, advocacy. United Way agency. English and Spanish. **Contact:**
Domestic Violence Hotline: 713-528-2121; TDD – 713-528-3625; 800-256-0551
Sexual Assault Hotline: 713-528-7273; TDD 713-528-3691; 800-256-0661
http://www.hawc.org/site/

Heal Well Medical Supply 281-645-6568 www.healwellmedicalsupply.com

Kinder Emergency Shelter. Temporary emergency shelter for youth (ages 12-17) who need to be separated from threatening home situations. Works with Child Protective Services. **Contact CPS: 713-295-2700**

MHMRA (Mental Health/Mental Retardation). Multiple psychiatric emergency services for Harris County residents. (For further information, see *NeuroPsychiatric Center* below) **Contact: 713-970-7000**

Nation Organization on Disability/ Emergency Preparedness Initiative 202-293-5960
www.nod.org/emergency epi@nod.org

Neuro-Psychiatric Center. (NPC) (MHMRA). Crisis and emergency center.
Location: Ben Taub Hospital, 1502 Taub Loop, Houston, TX. (Texas Medical Center). Open 24 hours a day. Ring doorbell left of sliding glass doors for entry between midnight and 7 a.m. Parking – Ben Taub Visitor Parking (fee) **Contact: 713-970-7000** (HelpLine 24-hours-a-day). http://www.mhmraharris.org/Neuro-Psychiatric-Center.asp

Emergency Mental Health Help Outside of Harris County, Texas. Call 9-1-1

EDUCATION RESOURCES AND SCHOOLS
The following schools, organizations and institutions provide a wide range of services and assistance to individuals, families, advocates and educators seeking educational information about a particular diagnosis, approaches, treatment options, training, workshops, help in locating appropriate schools and/or facilities, etc. Individuals are strongly encouraged to research in depth any school or organization for its appropriateness for particular circumstances.

American Council of the Blind. National membership organization of blind and visually impaired people providing advocacy, information, publications and a daily listing of employment opportunities under its ACB job bank and connection. **Contact: 202-467-5081 or 800-424-8666.** **http://www.acb.org/**

The Arbor School. Independent, non-profit co-educational school for children with primary diagnoses of mental retardation, developmental delays or multiple disabilities. Pre-school (ages 0-5), Arbor School (K-12), Rehabilitation. Three levels of care and tuition; limited financial aid. Accredited by NPSAA. **Contact: 713-827-8830.** **http://www.arbor.org/index.php**

The Arc of Greater Houston. Nonprofit organization committed to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Advocacy, support groups, programs for individuals with disabilities, resources, research, referral, respite services, camps, social. Affiliated with The Arc of Texas and The Arc of the United States. **English & Spanish. Contact: 713-957-1600.** **http://www.aogh.org**

Attention Deficit Disorder Association (ADDA). Nonprofit membership organization providing information, support, networking and workshops for parents of children or teenagers with ADD/ADHD. **Houston Chapter Contact: 281-897-0982.** **http://www.adda-sr.org/**

Avondale House. Houston, Texas non-profit United Way agency providing year-round education services to children (ages 3-22), a day habilitation program for young adults and residential services for children and young adults (ages 4-40) with autism. The school is accredited by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. **Contact: 713-993-9544.** **http://www.avondalehouse.org/**

Bendwood Elementary School. Offers preschool program for children with disabilities (ages 3-5); family referrals accepted. C.U.B.S. (Communication Upholding Behavior/Social skills) for children (pre-K) with diagnosed Autism spectrum disorders. Spring Branch Independent School District, Houston, TX. **Contact: 713-251-5200.** **http://bwe.springbranchisd.com/**

Brain Injury Alliance of Texas. Nonprofit organization for brain injury survivors, family members and advocates. Affiliated with U.S. Brain Injury Alliance (USBIA). Advocacy, support group, referrals and educational resources. **Contact: 800-392-0040.** **http://www.texasbia.org/**

Briarwood School. Independent, non-profit, co-educational day school for children with learning differences and/or developmental challenges. Also sponsors summer camps. Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Houston, TX. **Contact: 281-493-1070.** **http://www.briarwoodschool.org/**

Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE). Part of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, the BJE offers: *Kesher* (linking children with learning differences to Jewish educational opportunities), information and referral, advocacy for children with special needs in the Jewish community, parent support groups and workshops, monthly Sunday School classes for children who are unable to function in a regular program. **Contact: 713-729-7000.** **http://www.houstonjewish.org/**

Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. Houston-based private nonprofit United Way agency offers employment-related services to a diverse challenged population including job-readiness training, placement assistance, job retention training, placement, coaching, support services, computer literacy training, benefits counseling. Career Counseling services offer educational and vocational guidance. Links to other sites. **Contact: 713-754-7000.** **http://www.careerandrecovery.org/**

The Center for Hearing and Speech (CHS). Nonprofit United Way Agency. Serves children (Ages 0 -18) with mild to profound hearing loss using auditory/oral method. Sliding scale. **Contact: 713-523-3633.** **http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/**

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD). National nonprofit membership organization provides advocacy, resources, vocational and group support for individuals with AD/HD. English & Spanish. **Contact: 800-233-4050.** **http://www.chadd.org**

Collaborative for Children. Houston nonprofit organization works in partnership with agencies and organizations to provide information, referrals and resources to children and parents. English & Spanish. **Contact: 713-600-1100.** **http://www.collabforchildren.org/**

Congregation Emanu El. Both the *Becker Early Childhood Center* and the *Helfman Religious School* welcome and accommodate children who learn differently. Special classes for pre- B'nai Mitzvah students, with a variety of learning challenges and special needs, blend together tailored and enhanced curriculum and objectives. Houston, Texas. **Contact: 713-529-5771.** **http://www.emanuelhouston.org/**

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). International professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities: students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. Advocacy, education, support services, resources. **Contact: 888-232-7733 (Voice); 866-915-5000 (TTY).** **http://www.cec.sped.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home**

Crossroads School. Private non-profit school (K-10) Prepares students with learning differences to transition to a conventional school. **Contact: 713-977-1221.** **http://www.crossroads choolhouston.org/**

Disability.gov. On-line connection to the federal government's disability-related information, programs and resources on numerous subjects, including benefits, civil rights, community life, education, employment, housing, health, technology and transportation. Includes Federal job listings, links to employment opportunities and to state and local resources. Managed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). **Contact:** **https://www.disability.gov/**

Easter Seals of Greater Houston. Nonprofit United Way agency works to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through advocacy, assistance, camps, education, respite care and opportunities. **Direct service** education programs include:
The Caroline School. A day program for children with disabilities. Tuition. *High School/High Tech.* Community-based partnership of parents, educators, rehabilitation professionals and business representatives working together to encourage students with disabilities to explore the fields of science, engineering and technology
Contact: 713-838-9050. **http://www.eastersealshouston.org/Children/services-for-children.html**

Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT). Independent nonprofit organization providing advocacy, information, resources and support for families of children with autism. Special emphasis is on early diagnosis and ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis). **Houston Chapter Contact: (281) 361-3328** **http://www.feathouston.org/**

The Family Center on Technology and Disabilities. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs; offers a wide range of information and resources about assistive technology. **Contact: (202) 884-8588 http://www.ctdinstitute.org**

Family Services of Greater Houston. Nonprofit United Way agency offering individual and family counseling, parenting, school–based services. English and Spanish. Fee: Sliding scale; accepts Medicaid. **Contact: 713-861-4849.** http://www.familyservices.org/

Family to Family Network. Independent nonprofit grassroots organization providing advocacy, support, information & referrals, education and training for families of people with disabilities. Extensive links to resources, agencies and organizations. **Contact: 713-466-6304.** http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org/

Foundation for the School for Young Children (SYC). Private non-profit foundation. Diagnostic, remediation and educational services are provided through:

• *School for Young Children.* Serves children who have language/learning disabilities to such an extent that they do not profit from instruction in a more traditional environment. The cause of these learning problems is usually an inability to process information/instruction. Affiliated with the University of St. Thomas. **Contact: 713-520-8310.** http://www.foundationsyc.org/school.html

• *Robert J. Strudler Diagnostic and Remediation Center.* Offers quality and affordable psycho-educational evaluation of children and adults to determine if there is a learning disability, and to provide recommendations for remedial or compensatory programs. **Contact: 713-520-8002.** http://www.foundationsyc.org/diagnostic.html

Harper Alternative School. An HISD alternative school which seeks to prepare students to achieve success both within and outside the academic environment. **Contact: 713-802-4760.** http://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/2123

Harris County [TX] Department of Education (Special Education). Assessment, intervention, consultation, training, and direct services to children (birth to 21); maximum education - grade 12. **Contact: 713-696-8237.** http://www.hcde-texas.org/default.aspx?name=Divisions3

The Harris School. Private school (pre-school through grade 8) for children who are not functioning at their full potential in a traditional setting, due to underlying social or emotional difficulties. Accredited by SACS CASI. **Contact 713-526-2046.** http://www.theharrisschool.com/

HISD Connect. On-line portal to Houston Independent School District Department of Special Education services. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. **Contact: 713-556-6000.** http://www.houstonisd.org//Domain/15681

The Horizons School. Birmingham. AL residential program offering a non-degree post-secondary transitions program designed to facilitate personal, social and career independence for students with mild learning disabilities and other mild challenges. **Contact: 800-822-6242 (toll-free).** http://horizonsschool.org/about_horizons/welcome.html

Houston Independent School District (HISD). The largest independent school district in Texas, HISD offers a wide range of ancillary educational and supportive services to its students and parents. **Contact: 713-556-7121.** http://www.houstonisd.org/domain/7888

• *Special Education.* Instructional and related services are available in all HISD schools. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. **Contact: 713-556-7025.** http://www.houstonisd.org//Domain/15681

HUB Houston. A relationship –centered educational program for young adults with neurological differences. We are bringing to life in a community where members are Heard, Understood and Belived in. contact http://www.thehubhouston.org/#!approach/.cjzi

International Dyslexia Association. Nonprofit organization providing advocacy, referrals, education, support to persons with dyslexia and related learning disorders. English & Spanish. **Houston Contact: 832-282-7154.** http://www.houstonida.org

Jewish Family Service. Nonprofit United Way agency offering assessment and a broad range of counseling, supportive, life-skills, employment and educational services. Disability Services Department offers employment services, support groups, *Special Needs On-line Resource Guide. Alexander Institute* actively supports inclusion initiatives throughout Houston & Harris County. English, Hebrew & Russian. Fee: Sliding scale. Some insurance. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** http://www.jfshouston.org

Jewish Federation of Greater Houston. Sponsors *Kesher* (linking children with learning differences to Jewish educational opportunities), information and referral, advocacy for children with special needs in the Jewish community, parent support groups and workshops, monthly Sunday School classes for children who are unable to function in a regular program. Jewish Network of Special Education Professionals. Part-time Special Education Consultant. **Contact: 713-729-7000.** http://www.houstonjewish.org/index.aspx

Kesher. A project of the Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston. Advocates for children with special needs, offers family support, monthly meetings, referrals, resources. Also sponsors Sunday School classes for children who are learn differently.
Contact: 713-729-7000. http://www.houstonjewish.org/

Learning Ally. National nonprofit organization (formerly National Recording for the Blind). Provides audiobooks and textbooks to students with learning disabilities and visual impairments. Membership fee. **Contact: 800-221-4792.** http://www.learningally.org/

Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA). National nonprofit membership organization works on behalf of people with learning disabilities. Advocacy, information, resources, referrals. **Contact:** http://www.ldanatl.org/aboutld/parents/index.asp. **Texas:** http://www.ldatx.org/
Texas Association Contact: http://www.ldaemerica.org

LD Online. Seeks to help children, teens and adults reach their full potential by providing information and advice about learning disabilities and ADHD. Information, referral lists, resources, forums. Sponsored by Washington D.C. PBS station WETA. **Contact:** http://www.ldonline.org/

Lighthouse of Houston. Private, nonprofit United Way agency offering a wide variety of educational programs, community services, and outpatient rehabilitation for the blind and visually impaired. **Contact: 713-527-9561.** http://www.houstonlighthouse.org

Melinda Webb School. Part of The Center for Hearing and Speech. Offers Oral Deaf Education for children (ages 18 months - 6 years) who are deaf or have a profound hearing loss, with the goal of transitioning each child into mainstream traditional school programs. Multiple accreditations. **Contact: 713-523-3633.** http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/melinda-webb-school

Mental Health America of Greater Houston. Houston nonprofit agency working to promote mental health and to improve the care and treatment of persons living with mental illness through education and

advocacy. Advocacy, education, information & referral, resources. Also: *Children's Mental Health Action Network Resource Guide.* **Contact: 713-523-8963, Therapist Referral Line: 713-255-2048.** **http://www.mhahouston.org/**

MHMRA (Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County) Dedicated to providing or ensuring provision of services and supports to people with mental disabilities and their families. Fee: Medicaid, CHIP, private insurance, adjustable fees. **Contact: 24-hour Help Line: 713-970-7000 or 866-970-4770 (toll-free). 800-735-2988 (Hearing impaired) http://www.mhmraharris.org/index.asp**

- *Adult Mental Health.* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/Adult-Mental-Health-Services.asp**
- *Children and Adolescent Services.* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/Child-And-Adolescent-Services.asp**
- *Intellectual and Autism Services (IDD).* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/IDD.html**
- *Crisis and Emergency Services.* **http://www.mhmraharris.org/Crisis-And-Emergency-Services.asp**

Contact: 713-970-7000 HelpLine 24 hours a day for questions or support.

The Monarch School. Private non-profit accredited school (pre-K through 12th grade) for children with neurological differences and special learning needs. Day Program: academics and skills; Summer Program: subject and skill strengthening; Learning Center: speakers and workshops; Life Academy: life skills, workforce skills and development, internships. **Contact: 713-479-0800.** **http://www.monarchschool.org/**

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Nonprofit membership organization offering advocacy, peer support groups, information, referral and education. **Contact: http://www.nami.org** **Houston Contact: 713-970-4419.** **http://namigreaterhouston.org/**

National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD). National nonprofit organization providing advocacy, information, resources, educational tools, support and multiple links for families and professionals **Contact: 718-245-2212 or 888-575-7373 (toll-free). http://www.udlcenter.org**

National Down Syndrome Society. Nonprofit organization works to benefit people with Down syndrome and their families through national leadership in education, research and advocacy, information and resources. Local affiliates. English and Spanish.: **800-221-4602.** **http://www.ndss.org/**

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). A component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the U.S. government. Information and resources about mental health, learning and developmental disorders. **Contact: 1-866-615-6464.** **http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml**

National Center on Universal Design for Learning www.Udlcenter.org 718-245-2212

National Organization on Disability (NOD). National nonprofit organization that raises disability awareness through programs, publications and its website. Working with business, corporate, government and community leaders, it partners with a range of organizations and governments to remove barriers and change attitudes for people with disabilities. Extensive links to housing, employment, education and other resources. **Contact: 646-505-1191.** **http://www.nod.org/**

Neuhaus Education Center. Houston nonprofit organization providing resources for teachers and parents of children with dyslexia and other reading disabilities. **Contact: 713-664-7676.** **http://www.neuhaus.org**

OASIS @ MAAP. Services for Autism and Asperger Syndrome for families, individuals, and medica professionals. Provides articles, educational resources, links to local, national and international support groups, sources of professional help, lists of camps and schools, conference information, recommended reading, and moderated support message boards. **Contact:** http://www.aspergersyndrome.org/

The Parish School. Accredited, private, non-profit, non-denominational school for children (18 months - 5th grade) whose mission is to identify, educate and empower children with language and learning differences and average or above average learning potential. **Contact: 713-467-4696.** http://www.parishschool.org/

Partners Resource Network. Operates three regional federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI) serving Texas parents of children and youth (ages 0-22) with disabilities. Advocacy, information and referral, extensive links to resources, information. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. **Contact: Houston 713-524-2147 or 877-832-8945 (toll-free).** http://www.partnerstx.org/

Reach Unlimited. Nonprofit organization serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through education, vocational training, supported employment, and residential services. Clients also volunteer in the community. Northwest Harris County, TX. **Contact: 281-469-8058.** http://www.reachunlimited.org/index.html

The Rise School of Houston. Private non-profit school providing early childhood education services to children (ages 6 months- 6 years) born with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. Affiliated with Texas Children's Hospital. Tuition. **Contact: 713-532-7473.** http://www.riseschool.org/houston/

River Oaks Academy. Accredited private school (K-12). Offers individualized educational programs to students with learning differences, learning disabilities, unique learning styles, social skills needs, ADHD, autism and behavioral and emotional issues. Business, vocational, college-bound and life skills tracks. Supplemental services. **Contact: 713-783-7200.** http://www.riveroaksacademy.com/

The School for Young Children. Private special education elementary school serves children (ages 5-12) who have language/learning disabilities to such an extent that they do not profit from instruction in a more traditional environment. Affiliated with the University of St. Thomas. **Contact: 713-520-8310.** http://www.foundationsyc.org/school.html

Sight into Sound. Independent non-profit organization (formerly Taping for the Blind). Provides Radio Reading, Custom Recording and Audio Description services for blind and others who, through various causes, cannot read normal printed material. **Contact: 713-622-2767.** http://www.tapingfortheblind.org/

STARS. Pre-school intervention program for children (ages 2-5) with language, social pragmatic and sensory motor challenges. Individual therapeutic plans. A program of the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center Houston, a United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-551-7200.** http://www.jcchouston.org/index.php?submenu=EarlyChildhood&src=gendocs&link=Stars&category=Programs

Texas Children's Hospital. Nationally recognized nonprofit comprehensive children's hospital located in the Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. Special needs departments include:

• ***Autism Center.*** Offers a multi-disciplinary approach to evaluation, planning, therapy. **Contact: 832-822-1900. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Autism-Center/**

• ***Pediatric Neurology Clinic.*** Offers diagnosis, evaluation and treatment for a wide range of neurological disorders. **Contact: http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Neurology/Pediatric-Neurology-Clinics/**

• ***Psychiatry Clinic.*** Offers psychiatric evaluations and pharmacological management of neuropsychiatric symptomatology. **Contact: 832-822-3750 http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychiatry/**

• ***Psychology Center.*** Children and teens are evaluated and treated for a wide-range of conditions, from learning disorders and ADHD to behavioral and anxiety disorders. **Contact: 832-822-3700. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychology/**

• ***Speech, Language and Learning Clinic.*** Offering **evaluation, management and consultation** for infants, children, adolescents and adults with oral and/or written language difficulties: communication, learning, feeding and/or swallowing problems related to a broad range of physical and neurological conditions. Collaborative of various Texas Children's Hospital Departments and Clinics; affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. Family referrals accepted. Fees. **Contact: 832-822-3280. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/speechlanguage/default.aspx**

Texas Education Agency (TEA). Texas state agency whose mission is to provide leadership, guidance, and resources to help schools meet the educational needs of all students. Resource for and information about special education resources and requirements. English and Spanish. **Contact: 512-463-9734. http://www.tea.state.tx.us/**

Texas Parent to Parent. Independent nonprofit organization providing support, information, resources, parent-parent peer support for families of children with disabilities. Extensive links to local and national resources. **Contact: 866-896-6001. http://www.txp2p.org/**

Tourette Syndrome Association. National nonprofit organization provides advocacy, information, referral, educational resources, teacher guides, strategies and support. Newsletters for youth and young adults. Local and state chapters. **Contact: 718-224-2999. http://www.tsa-usa.org/**

The Westview School. Accredited, independent non-profit school for children (pre-school – middle school) with Autism Spectrum disorders. Houston. Tuition; financial aid available. **Contact: 713-973-1900. http://www.westviewschool.org/**

Yachad, the National Jewish Council for Disabilities. Nonprofit membership organization dedicated to addressing the needs of all individuals with disabilities and including them in the Jewish community. A department of the Orthodox Union. Offers advocacy, education, resources, support and programs. **Contact: 561-504-1033 or houstonyachad@ou.org**

EMPLOYMENT, JOB TRAINING, LIFE SKILLS.

The following agencies and/or organizations offer supportive resources and services in the areas of life skills, job/vocational training, job-readiness, retention and vocational training; some offer employment counseling, placement, supported employment and job coaching.

Ability Connection. Provide a full range of services for people with physical and intellectual disabilities as the strive to achieve their highest level of independence. 214-351-2500/ 800-999-1898 Houston 713-826-5851

www.abilityconnectiontexas

American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). National nonprofit cross-disability member organization dedicated to ensuring economic and political empowerment of people with disabilities. Works in coalition with other disability organizations and advocates for the implementation and enforcement of laws for people with disabilities. Advocacy, information & referral, resources. Complaint pages link to various government agencies and other organizations. **Contact: 800-840-8844 (V/TTY) or 202-457-0046 (Voice/TTY).** **http://www.aapd.com**

American Council of the Blind. National nonprofit membership organization of blind, visually impaired and sighted individuals, strives to increase the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and quality of life, for all blind and visually-impaired people. Advocacy, information, publications and a daily listing of employment opportunities under its ACB "Job Connection." **Contact: 800-424-8666 or 202-467-5081.** **http://www.acb.org/**

The Arc of Greater Houston. Nonprofit membership organization committed to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Advocacy, support groups, programs for individuals with disabilities, resources, research, referral, respite services, camps, social. Affiliated with The Arc of Texas and The Arc of the United States. English & Spanish
Contact: 713-957-1600. **http://www.aogh.org/**

Autism Treatment Centers of Texas. Nonprofit organization provides assessment, information, life skills training and residential services in Dallas and San Antonio, Texas. Also provides services to individuals who are blind and/or deaf. Residential facilities are single family homes and duplexes, located in neighborhoods; programming, activities, living skills. Associated with the Autism Society of America and National Association of Residential Providers for Adults with Autism. Licensed by TEA, Texas Department of MHMR, Home and Community based Services. **Contact: 972-644-2076 (Dallas). 210-590-2107 (San Antonio).** **http://www.atcoftexas.org**

The Brookwood Community. A private nonprofit residential, educational and entrepreneurial village for adults with functional disabilities. Horticulture, crafts, gift shop and café provide activities and employment for residents. Also offers a day program. Brookshire, Texas. Private pay. **Contact: 281-375-2100.** **http://brookwoodcommunity.org/**

Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. Houston-based private nonprofit United Way agency offers employment-related services to a diverse challenged population including job-readiness training, placement assistance, job retention training, placement, coaching, support services, computer literacy training, benefits counseling. Career Counseling services offer educational and vocational guidance. Links to other sites. **Contact: 713-754-7000.** **http://www.careerandrecovery.org/**

Celebration Company. An entrepreneurial business site developed by JFS Disability Services to provide Jewish adults with disabilities an entry into the workplace. Life skills and wellness components built into the program. Participants create marketable products which are sold by agencies, other vendors and online. A program of Jewish Family Service, a United Way Agency. Fee. **Contact: 713-667-4727.** **http://www.jfshouston.org/celebrationco/aboutus.php**

The Center. Nonprofit United Way agency offers training, employment and employment support to adults with intellectual and other developmental disabilities: work habits, day habilitation services, work-center training, supervised off-site crews and supported employment. Houston, TX. **Contact: 713-525-8400.**

http://thecenterhouston.org

Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services help people with disabilities prepare for, find, and keep jobs. Division for Rehabilitation Services (DRS). English and Spanish. Texas. **Contact toll-free: 800-628-5115 (toll-free) or 866-581-9328 (TTY toll-free).** http://www.dars.state.tx.us/

Disability.gov. On-line connection to the federal government's disability-related information, programs and resources on numerous subjects, including benefits, civil rights, community life, education, employment, housing, health, technology and transportation. Includes Federal job listings, links to employment opportunities and to state and local resources. Managed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). **Contact:** https://www.disability.gov/

Employer Assistance & Recruiting Network. (EARN). Source for disability employment information including: recruitment, tools and resources, success stories for federal and private employers, employment service providers and job seekers. It is NOT an employment or job placement service. **Contact 855-275-3276 (toll-free).** http://askearn.org/

The Gathering Place. A program of the Menninger Clinic. Provides a supportive environment and daytime programs for adults (age 18+) with severe and persistent mental illness who are under the care of a psychiatrist. Offers vocational development, supported employment, social and recreational activities. No fee. **Contact: 713-729-3799.** http://www.menningerclinic.com/patient-care/outpatient-services/the-gathering-place

Goodwill Industries of Houston. Nonprofit organization, part of Goodwill International, provides multiple services including training, skills development, work opportunities, placement services and mentoring for veterans and people with disabilities and other barriers to employment. Multiple locations throughout Greater Houston.
Contact: 713-692-6221. http://www.goodwillhouston.org

Hope Village. Private nonprofit organization, the Foundation for Hope Village provides residential, day, respite and summer programs in Friendswood, TX. Developmental Center includes a structured work program licensed by the U.S. Dept. of Labor. Participant employees are paid for their work.
Contact: 281-482-7926. http://www.hope-village.com/

Houston Center for Independent Living. Brazoria County, Houston and Ft. Bend Centers for Independent Living promote the full inclusion, equal opportunity and participation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of community life. Services include: advocacy, information & referral, peer support, independent living skills training, links to other resources. Part of Texans for Independent Living.
Contact: Voice/TTY: (713) 974-4621 http://www.hcil.cc/index.html

Jewish Family Service. Nonprofit United Way agency offering assessment and a broad range of counseling, supportive, life-skills, employment, educational and information and referral services. Disability Services Department offers:

- *Alexander Institute for Inclusion*: actively supports inclusion initiatives throughout Houston and Harris County;
- *Celebration Company*: structured employment and life, social and wellness skills.
- *MainStreet Opportunities*: supported employment services.

• *Disability Services On-line Resource Guide.*
• *Project Shalom.* Counseling, activities and socializing for people with long-term mental illness.
• Counseling, social groups, support groups. , English, Hebrew and Russian. Fee: Sliding scale. Some insurance. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** **http://www.jfshouston.org**

Job Accommodation Network (JAN). A service of the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) of the U. S. Department of Labor. Provides information about job accommodations and the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), as well as links to sites regarding employment, training and accommodation. It is not a placement service. **Contact: 800-526-7234 (Voice); 877-781-9403 (TTY)** **http://askjan.org/index.html**

Lighthouse of Houston. Private, nonprofit United Way agency offering a wide variety of educational programs, community services, and outpatient rehabilitation for the blind and visually impaired. **Contact: 713-527-9561.** **http://www.houstonlighthouse.org**

MainStreet Opportunities. Vocational rehabilitation program for individuals, developing and implementing a personalized plan for successful transition into the competitive work force. A program of Jewish Family Service, a United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** **http://www.jfshouston.org/**

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth. Information and resources for youth with disabilities and their families; assists state and local workforce development systems to better serve youth with disabilities. **Contact: 877-871-0744; 877-871-0665 (TTY).** **http://www.ncwd-youth.info/**

National Federation of the Blind. National nonprofit organization serving and advocating for the blind and visually impaired. Offers *Jobline*, an audio version of America's Job Bank, on the telephone. **Contact: 410-659-9314.** **http://www.nfb.org**

National Organization on Disability (NOD). National nonprofit organization that seeks to expand the participation and contribution of Americans with disabilities in all aspects of life. Provides links to housing, employment, education and other resources. **Contact: 646-505-1191 ext# 122.** **http://www.nod.org/**

Reach Unlimited. Nonprofit organization serving intellectually challenged adults through education, vocational training, supported employment, and residential services. Clients also volunteer in the community. Northwest Harris County, TX. **Contact: 281-469-8058.** **http://www.reachunlimited.org/index.html**

VAST Academy (Vocational Advancement and Social Skills Training). A program of the Houston Community College System designed to provide educational opportunities to individuals with learning, developmental and/or physical disabilities. Courses are offered in the following areas: Academic, Personal/Social Development, Career & Vocational, Enrichment and Basic Computer Training. Office skills training and job readiness. Application, testing, and interview. Fee. **Contact: 713-718-6832**http://vast.hccs.edu/

Yachad, National Jewish Council for Disabilities. Nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of all individuals with disabilities and including them in the Jewish community. A department of the Orthodox Union. Offers summer programs, advocacy, education, resources, support and programs. Membership. **Contact: 561-504-1033 or** **houstonyachad@ou.org**

INFORMATION, REFERRAL, SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES.

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. (AACAP). National nonprofit professional medical association dedicated to treating and improving the quality of life for children, adolescents, and families affected by mental, behavioral or developmental disorders. Advocacy, information. **Contact: 202-966-7300** http://www.aacap.org/

American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). National nonprofit cross-disability member organization dedicated to ensuring economic and political empowerment of people with disabilities. Works in coalition with other disability organizations and advocates for the implementation and enforcement of laws for people with disabilities. Advocacy, information & referral, resources. Complaint pages link to various government agencies and other organizations. **Contact: 800-840-8844 (V/TTY) or 202-457-0046 (Voice/TTY).** http://www.aapd.com

American Council of the Blind. National nonprofit membership organization of blind, visually impaired and sighted individuals, strives to increase the independence, security, equality of opportunity, and quality of life, for all blind and visually-impaired people. Advocacy, information, publications and a daily listing of employment opportunities under its ACB "Job Connection." **Contact: 800-424-8666 or 202-467-5081.** http://www.acb.org/

American Foundation for the Blind. National nonprofit advocating for blind and visually impaired individuals. Advocacy, information, technology evaluation. **Contact: 800-232-5463.** http://www.afb.org/default.aspx

The Arc of Greater Houston. Nonprofit membership organization committed to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Advocacy, support groups, programs for individuals with disabilities, resources, research, referral, respite services, camps, social. Affiliated with The Arc of Texas and The Arc of the United States. English & Spanish
Contact: 713-957-1600. http://www.aogh.org/

ASPIE Asperger's Syndrome. **A**sperger's **S**yndrome **P**arent-**P**rofessional **I**nformation **E**xchange. Nonprofit membership organization providing information and support groups for adults and children with Asperger's syndrome. **Contact: (281) 404-9976** www.aspieinfo.com

Attention Deficit Disorder Association (ADDA). Nonprofit membership organization providing information, resources and networking opportunities to help adults with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder lead better lives and advocate for community resources.
Contact: http://www.add.org/. **Southern Region Chapter Contact: 281-897-0982.** http://adda-sr.org/

Autism Society. National nonprofit membership organization works to improve the lives of all affected by autism. Advocacy, information and referral. **Contact: 301-657-0881 or 800-328-8476.** http://www.autism-society.org/ **, Houston Chapter:**

Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Nonprofit organization organized by and for individuals with autism spectrum conditions. Advocacy, information. English & Spanish. **Contact: 202-596-1056.** http://autisticadvocacy.org/

Autism Source. Autism Society's on-line resource. Related services and supports by location or service type. **Contact: (800-328-8476).** **http://autismsource.org/**

Autism Treatment Centers of Texas. Nonprofit organization provides assessment, information, life skills training and residential services in Dallas and San Antonio, Texas. Also provides services to individuals who are blind and/or deaf. Residential facilities are single family homes and duplexes, located in neighborhoods; programming, activities, living skills. Associated with the Autism Society of America and National Association of Residential Providers for Adults with Autism. Licensed by TEA, Texas Department of MHMR, Home and Community based Services. **Contact: 972-644-2076 (Dallas). 210-590-2107 (San Antonio).** **http://www.atcoftexas.org**

Brain Injury Association of Texas. Nonprofit organization for brain injury survivors and family members. Affiliated with Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA). Advocacy, support group, referrals and educational resources. **Contact: 800-392-0040.** **http://www.texasbia.org/**

Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE). A division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, the BJE offers: *Kesher* (linking children with learning differences to Jewish educational opportunities), information and referral, advocacy for children with special needs in the Jewish community, parent support groups and workshops, monthly Sunday School classes for children who are unable to function in a traditional program. Jewish Network of Special Education Professionals. **Contact: 713-729-7000.**
http://www.houstonjewish.org/

Candlelighters: CCFA. (Childhood Cancer Family Alliance.) Support group of families with children who have cancer. Resources, newsletters, parent consultants. **Contact: 713-270-4700**
http://www.candle.org/about_us.html

Center for Hearing and Speech. Nonprofit United Way agency providing a range of resources and services for children (ages 0-18) with hearing impairment and their families. Assessment, audiology and speech clinics, play therapy, individual and family counseling, parent support groups and auditory-oral school (ages 18 mos. – 6 yrs.). Houston, TX. **Contact: 713-523-3633.**
http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD). National nonprofit membership organization provides advocacy, resources, vocational and group support for individuals with AD/HD. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-233-4050.** **http://www.chadd.org**

Coalition for Barrier Free Living. Brazoria County, Houston and Ft. Bend Centers for Independent Living promote the full inclusion, equal opportunity and participation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of community life. Services include: advocacy, information & referral, peer support, independent living skills training, links to other resources. Part of Texans for Independent Living.
Contact: **http://coalitionforbarrierfreeliving.com/index.html**

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD). Nonprofit disability advocacy organization controlled by individuals with disabilities. Offers legal information, market research and training. Seeks to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, inclusion and integration into all aspects of society. Fee-based disability consulting services to businesses, corporations, governmental entities and nonprofit organizations. **Contact: 512-478-3366.**
http://www.txdisabilities.org/

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). International professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. Advocacy, special education, support services, resources. **Contact: 888-232-7733 (toll-free); 866-915-5000 (TTY).** http://www.cec.sped.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home

Crisis Intervention of Houston. Nonprofit United Way Agency providing 24-hour telephone and web-based counseling, suicide prevention and intervention, links to community resources, and community education. **Contact: 713-HOTLINE (713-468-5463). 713-529-TEEN (713-529-8336). 713-526-8088 (Spanish)** http://www.crisishotline.org/

DePelchin Children's Center. Nonprofit United Way agency provides services designed to prevent and resolve social and emotional crises for children and their families. Assessment, parenting skills, residential treatment services, therapy, psychological services. Several locations in the Greater Houston Area. **Contact: 713-730-2335 or 888-730-2335 (toll-free).** http://www.depelchin.org/

Disability.gov. On-line connection to the federal government's disability-related information, programs and resources on numerous subjects, including benefits, civil rights, community life, education, employment, housing, health, technology and transportation. Includes Federal job listings, links to employment opportunities and to state and local resources. Managed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). **Contact:** https://www.disability.gov/

Disability Rights Texas. Federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency for Texans with disabilities. Seeks to help people with disabilities understand and exercise their rights under the law. Advocacy, monitoring, information & referral materials and services, training, legal representation for low income persons with disabilities and extensive resources. English, Spanish, ASL videos. Affiliated with National Disability Rights Organization **Contact: 1-800-252-9108.** . http://www.napas.org/ **East Texas Regional Office: 713-974-7691, 866-362-2851 (Video Phone)** http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/

Down Syndrome Association of Houston. Non-profit organization providing information, resources, activities and support. English and Spanish. **Contact: 713-682-7237.** http://www.dsah.org/

Easter Seals of Greater Houston. Nonprofit organization works to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through advocacy, assistance, camps, education, respite care and opportunities.. Links to other helpful sites. **Contact: 713-838-9050.** http://www.eastersealshouston.org/

Echidnas. Independent nonprofit membership self-help organization for adolescents (ages 13+) with Asperger's Syndrome, and their parents. **Contact:** http://www.echidnasgroup.org/

Families Can. Part of the University of Houston's Learning & Assessment Services Parent Education Project (PEP). Parent-to-parent services for families of children with special needs: information, links, resource guide, support groups, newsletter. **Contact: (713) 743-5498** http://www.las.uh.edu/pep/families-can.aspx

Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT). Independent nonprofit organization providing advocacy, information, resources and support for families of children with autism. Special emphasis on early diagnosis and ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis). **Houston Contact: (281) 361-3328.** http://www.feathouston.org/

The Family Center on Technology and Disabilities. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs; offers a wide range of information and resources about assistive technology. **Contact: (202) 884-8068. http://www.fctd.info/**

Family to Family Network. Independent nonprofit grassroots organization providing advocacy, support, information & referrals, education and training for families of people with disabilities. Extensive links to resources, agencies and organizations. **Contact: 713-466-6304. http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org/**

Guide to Disability Rights Laws. Brief descriptions and information about the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, the Fair Housing Act, and others. Prepared by the U. S. Department of Justice. **Contact: http://www.ada.gov/cguide.html**

Harris County [TX] Department of Education (Therapy Services). Assessment, intervention, consultation, training, and direct services to children (birth to 21); maximum education grade 12. **Contact: 713-696-8232. http://www.hcde-texas.org/default.aspx?name=SpecEdHome**

Healthfinder.gov A service of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Resources. Links to information about health issues and services. **Contact: http://www.healthfinder.gov**

Houston Bar Association. Offers several services to the public, including *LegalLine, Saturday Legal Advice Clinics, Houston Volunteer Lawyers and Public Information Brochure.* **Contact: (713) 759-1133 http://www.hba.org/folder-services/services.htm**

Houston Center for Independent Living. See ***Coalition for Barrier Free Living.*** **http://www.hcil.cc/index.html**

Houston Jewish Special Needs. Independent, parent-driven advocacy group promoting social activities, information and networking for Jewish families with children and young adults with special needs. A local forum is available at: **http://groups.yahoo.com/group/houstonjewishspecialneeds/**
Website: www.HoustonJewishSpecialNeeds.org.
Contact: houstonjewishspecialneeds@yahoo.com

ILRU (Independent Living Research Utilization). A national center for information, training, research, and technical assistance in independent living. Its goal is to expand the body of knowledge in independent living and to improve utilization of results of research programs and demonstration projects in this field. It is a program of TIRR (The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research) Memorial Hermann, a nationally recognized medical rehabilitation facility for persons with disabilities. **Contact: 713-520-0232. http://www.ilru.org/**

***I'm Too Young for This!* Foundation (I2Y).** Independent nonprofit provides support to young adults (under40) with cancer through online communities and social networks. **Contact: http://stupidcancer.com/about/index.shtml**

International Dyslexia Association. Non-profit organization providing advocacy, referrals, education and support to persons with dyslexia and related learning disorders. **Contact: http://www.interdys.org/index.htm# Houston Contact: 832-282-7154. http://www.houstonida.org**

Jason's Connection. Jason's Connection seeks to connect people to resouces, and to each other, with listings, referrals, and recommendations from peers who have found quality caregivers, services and experiences that meet the needs of people with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. **http://www.jasonsconnection.org/**

Jewish Family Service. Nonprofit United Way agency offering assessment and a broad range of counseling, supportive, life-skills, employment, educational and information and referral services. Disability Services Department offers:

- *Alexander Institute for Inclusion*: actively supports inclusion initiatives throughout Houston and Harris County;
- *Celebration Company*: structured employment day program.
- *MainStreet Opportunities*: supported employment services.
- *Ma NishMa* (What's Happening?): weekly social group for high functioning young adults with disabilities.
- *Disability Services On-line Resource Guide.*
- *Project Shalom.* Counseling, activities and socializing for people with chronic mental illness.
- Counseling, social groups, support groups. , English, Hebrew and Russian. Fee: Sliding scale. Some insurance. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** **http://www.jfshouston.org**

Jewish Funders Network. ***A Guide to Funding Disabilities and Special Needs.*** 12-chapter e-book, commissioned by the JFN's peer network on disabilities and special needs, has important information for funders, with sections on: employment, synagogue inclusion, recreation, community living, and more. Each chapter is written by an expert in the field specifically for the funding community. **http://www.jfunders.org/disabilityguide**

LawHelp. Non-profit online organization helps low and moderate income people find free legal aid programs in their communities, answers to questions about their legal rights, and forms to help with their legal problems. Also lists services by state. English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese. **Contact:** **http://www.lawhelp.org/** **Texas:** **http://www.texaslawhelp.org**

LD Online. Learning Disabilities Online seeks to help children, teens and adults reach their full potential by providing information and advice about learning disabilities and ADHD. Information, referral lists, resources, forums. Sponsor: Washington D.C. PBS station WETA. **Contact:** **http://www.ldonline.org/**

Learning Ally. National non-profit organization serving Americans who are blind, have low vision or learning disabilities through recorded materials, including textbooks, fiction, non-fiction, publications. Membership. **Contact: 800-221-4792** **https://www.learningally.org**

Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA). National nonprofit membership organization works on behalf of people with learning disabilities. Advocacy, information, resources, referrals. **Contact:** **http://ldaamerica.org/** **Texas:** **http://www.ldat.org/**

Legal Line. Twice-monthly free legal advice hotline sponsored by Houston Bar Association. Licensed volunteer attorneys provide telephone-only answers to legal questions, simple legal advice and referrals to agencies and organizations. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. **Contact: 713-759-1133.** **http://www.hba.org/folder-services/services.htm**

Lighthouse of Houston. Private, nonprofit United Way agency offering a wide variety of educational programs, community services, and outpatient rehabilitation for the blind and visually impaired. **Contact: 713-527-9561.** **http://www.houstonlighthouse.org**

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Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (Houston). Advocacy, information and referrals for City of Houston residents with disabilities; assists clients in the investigation and resolution of complaints. Deals with emergency services, including free visual fire alarms for members of deaf community. Facilitates the delivery of city services to individuals with disabilities; referrals to free legal services. **Contact: 832-394-0814.** http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/index.html

MedlinePlus. A service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine – National Institutes of Health. Offers free, on-line, up-to-date health information about diseases, conditions, and wellness issues. Contact: **Contact:** http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

MHMRA (Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County) Dedicated to providing or ensuring provision of services and supports to people with mental disabilities and their families. Fee: Medicaid, CHIP, private insurance, adjustable fees. **Contact: 24-hour Help Line: 713-970-7000 or 866-970-4770 (toll-free). 800-735-2988 (Hearing impaired) http://www.mhmraharris.org/index.asp**

- *Adult Mental Health.* http://www.mhmraharris.org/Adult-Mental-Health-Services.asp
- *Children and Adolescent Services.* http://www.mhmraharris.org/Child-And-Adolescent-Services.asp
- *Intellectual and Autism Services (IDD).* http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/IDD.html
- *Crisis and Emergency Services.* http://www.mhmraharris.org/Crisis-And-Emergency-Services.asp

Contact: 713-970-7070 HelpLine 24 hours a day for questions or support.

Mental Health America of Greater Houston. Houston nonprofit agency working to promote mental health and to improve the care and treatment of persons living with mental illness through education and advocacy. Advocacy, education, information & referral, resources. Also: *Children's Mental Health Action Network Resource Guide.* **Contact: 713-523-8963.** http://www.mhahouston.org/

METROLift. Accessible shared ride: curb-to-curb transportation for persons with disabilities who cannot access fixed-route bus service. By appointment only. A service of the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County. For eligibility requirements, hours, fares, subscriptions and other information, **Contact: 713-225-0119 or 713-652-8969 (TDD).** http://www.ridemetro.org/Services/Lift.aspx

The Montrose Center. Independent United Way nonprofit agency providing individual, couples/family and group psychotherapy and case management services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (GLBT) persons. Fee: sliding scale; accepts private insurance, Medicare and Medicaid.
Contact: 713-529-0037. http://www.montrosecounselingcenter.org
24-Hour Crisis Line / Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston 713-529-3211
832.413.6192 Videophone (hearing impaired)
866.327.7477 *Voice for Hearing* (hearing impaired; toll-free)

Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). National voluntary non-profit organization addressing neuromuscular diseases. Provides assessment, clinics, camps, information, research, resources and support. **Contact: 713-522-8561.** http://www.mda.org/

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Nonprofit membership organization offering advocacy, peer support groups, information, referral and education. **Contact:** http://www.nami.org **Houston Contact: 713-970-4419.** http://www.namigreaterhouston.org

National Center for Learning Disabilities. National nonprofit organization providing advocacy, information, resources, educational tools, support and multiple links for families and professionals. English

& Spanish. **Contact:** http://www.ncld.org/

National Center on Workforce and Disability/Adult (NCWD). Resource for training, technical assistance, policy analysis and information to improve access for all in the workforce. Part of the Institute for Community Inclusion, UMass, Boston. **Contact:** http://www.onestops.info/

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth. Information and resources for youth with disabilities and their families; assists state and local workforce development systems to better serve youth with disabilities. **Contact: 877-871-0744; 877-871-0665 (TTY).** http://www.ncwd-youth.info/

National Disability Rights Network. National nonprofit membership organization for the Protection & Advocacy Systems (P&A) and Client Assistance Programs (CAP) for individuals with disabilities. Provides training and technical assistance, legal support and legislative advocacy working to ensure equal opportunity and full participation in society for people with disabilities. **Contact: 202-408-9514, 220-408-9521 (TTY).** http://www.ndrn.org/

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY). Offers extensive on-line information on disabilities in youth and children (ages 0-22), research, educational practices, programs and services. **Contact: 800-695-0285 (Voice & TTY).** http://www.parentcenterhub.org

National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC). Nonprofit membership organization providing advocacy, information and support services for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, communities and professionals. **English & Spanish. Contact: 800-232-6372.** http://ndsccenter.org/ **Houston affiliate contact: 713-682-7237**

National Down Syndrome Society. Nonprofit organization works to benefit people with Down syndrome and their families through national leadership in education, research and advocacy, information and resources. Local affiliates. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-221-4602.** http://www.ndss.org/ **Houston Contact: 713-682-7237.** http://wordpress.dsah.org/

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). A component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the U.S. government. Information and resources about mental health, learning and developmental disorders. **Contact: 1-301-443-4535 or 1-301-443-4536 (local), 1-866-615-6464 (toll-free), 1-301-443-8431 (TTY)**
1-866-415-8051 (TTY toll-free). http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml

National Multiple Sclerosis Society. National nonprofit organization and its network of chapters promote research, education, advocacy on critical issues and organize a wide range of programs to serve those with MS and their families. Advocacy, information, resources, support, services. English and Spanish. **Contact: 800-344-4867.** http://www.nationalmssociety.org/ **Lone Star Chapter (Houston) Contact: 713-526-8967.** http://www.nationalmssociety.org/txh

National Organization on Disability (NOD). National nonprofit organization that raises disability awareness through programs, publications and its website. Working with business, corporate, government dand community leaders, it partners with a range of organizations and governments to remove barriers and change attitudes for people with disabilities. Extensive links to housing, employment, education and other resources. **Contact: 646-505-1191 ext#122.** http://www.nod.org/

Nurture Family Navigate Life. The website is designed for families and parents of children with disabilities with special health-care needs and is designed to offer support, inspiration, resources, and links to services available. https://www.navigatelifetexas.org/en

OASIS @ MAAP. Online Autism and Asperger Syndrome resource for families, individuals, and medical professionals. Provides articles, educational resources, links to local, national and international support groups, sources of professional help, lists of camps and schools, conference information, recommended reading, and moderated support message boards. **Contact:219-662-1311**
http://www.aspergersyndrome.org/

Partners Resource Network. Operates three regional federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI) serving Texas parents of children and youth (ages 0-22) with disabilities. Advocacy, information and referral, extensive links to resources, information. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. **Contact Houston: 713-524-2147 or 877-832-8945 (toll-free)http://www.partnerstx.org/**

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. (See **Learning Ally)**

Service Dogs.* Hearing Dogs,*Obedience Training *CGC Test Promotes independence and socilalization Allie Keaton 713-703-6924 **www.myservicedog.com** **allie@myservicedog.com**

Types of Assistance Dogs- Service Dog Express. Therapy dogs, Services dogs, and Emmotional Support dogs 855-778-2364 www.servicedogexpress.com/types-assistance-dogs

SpeakUpTexas (Relay Texas). Telephone interpreting service helps Texans with speech-related disabilities use the telephone. Sponsored by the Public Utility Commission of Texas. **Contact: 877-325-8789 (PUC) http://www.speakuptexas.com/index.html**

Special Needs Library. Independent nonprofit organization founded by parents in the Greater Houston area. Online lists and links of resources for parents and caregivers regarding children with special needs.
http://specialneedslibrary.org/index.php

Texas Children's Hospital. Nationally recognized nonprofit comprehensive children's hospital located in the Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. Special needs departments include:

- ***Autism Center.*** Offers a multi-disciplinary approach to evaluation, planning, therapy. **Contact: 832-822-1900. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Autism-Center/**
- ***Pediatric Neurology Clinic.*** Offers diagnosis, evaluation and treatment for a wide range of neurological disorders. **Contact: http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Neurology/Pediatric-Neurology-Clinics/**
- ***Psychiatry Clinic.*** Offers psychiatric evaluations and pharmacological management of neuropsychiatric symptomatology. **Contact: 832-822-3750**
http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychiatry/
- ***Psychology Center.*** Children and teens are evaluated and treated for a wide-range of conditions, from learning disorders and ADHD to behavioral and anxiety disorders.
Contact: 832-822-3700. http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychology/
- ***Speech, Language and Learning Clinic.*** Offering evaluation, management and consultation for infants, children, adolescents and adults with oral and/or written language difficulties: communication, learning, feeding and/or swallowing problems related to a broad range of physical and neurological conditions.

Collaborative of various Texas Children's Hospital departments and clinics; affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. Family referrals accepted. Fees. **Contact: 832-822-3280.** http://www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/speechlanguage/default.aspx

Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). Texas state agency responsible for providing and overseeing services for and to the aged and to children and adults with disabilities. Information about direct and supportive services. An agency of the Texas Health & Human Services System. English and Spanish. **Contact:** http://www.dads.state.tx.us/

Texas Education Agency (TEA). Texas state agency whose mission is to provide leadership, guidance, and resources to help schools meet the educational needs of all students. Resource for and information about special education resources and requirements. English and Spanish. **Contact: 512-463-9734.** http://www.tea.texas.gov

Texas Information and Referral Network. 2-1-1. Texas Health and Human Services Commission program responsible for the statewide information and referral network. A portal to finding services in Texas. **Contact: 2-1-1.** http://www.211texas.org

Texas Parent to Parent. Independent nonprofit organization providing support, information, resources, parent-parent peer support for families of children with disabilities. Extensive links to local and national resources. **Contact: 866-896-6001.** http://www.txp2p.org/

Texas Project First. Part of Texas Education Agency. Information, resources, support and training. **Contact: 1-800-252—9668 1-800-866-4726.** http://texasprojectfirst.org/index.html

TIRR - The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research. Continuum of care for patients with needs resulting from congenital and neurological disorders or from catastrophic illness or injury. Multiple locations in the Gulf Coast Region. Inpatient and outpatient services. Requires a prescription of referral from a physician. A division of Memorial Hermann Hospital system. Insurance required. **Contact: 713-799-5000.** http://www.tirr.org/rehab/index.php

Tourette Syndrome Association. National nonprofit organization provides advocacy, information, referral, educational resources, teacher guides, strategies and support. Newsletters for youth and young adults. Local and state chapters. English & Spanish. **Contact: 718-224-2999.** http://www.tsa-usa.org/ **Texas: 281-238-8096.** http://www.tourettetexas.org/default.html

United Cerebral Palsy. National nonprofit organization working to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through advocacy, assistance, camps, respite care and opportunities nation-wide. Links to other helpful sites. **Contact: 800-872-5827 or 202-776-0406.** http://www.ucp.org/ **Houston: Easter Seals Houston. 713-838-9050.** http://www.eastersealshouston.org/

VOR (Voice of the Retarded). Independent non-profit membership organization that advocates for residential choice, rights and adequate funding, including a full range of quality residences and services for the retarded, medically fragile and behaviorally challenged: homes, community residences, congregate and large facilities. **Contact: 877-399-4867** http://www.vor.net/

Wrightslaw. Independent on-line resource seeking to provide parents, advocates, educators, and attorneys with accurate, up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy. Seminars, extensive links, Yellow Pages for Kids with Disabilities, free e-newsletter. **Contact: http://www.wrightslaw.com/**

JEWISH RESOURCES.

The following list, by no means exhaustive, is an attempt to identify resources that, in a Jewish framework, serve children and adults with disabilities and their families. Many cities with substantial Jewish populations provide services. For information about Jewish disability services in a particular locale, begin with a search of that city's Jewish Family Service or Federation website. It should be noted that many synagogues and religious schools provide services to and make accommodations for people with disabilities. Agencies and services in the Greater Houston area are designated by an asterisk (*).

***Bureau of Jewish Education.** A division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, the BJE offers: *Kesher* (linking children with learning differences to Jewish educational opportunities), information and referral, advocacy for children with special needs in the Jewish community, parent support groups and workshops, monthly Sunday School classes for children who learn differently, Jewish Network of Special Education Professionals. Part-time Special Education Consultant. **Contact: 713-729-7000.**
http://www.houstonjewish.org

Camps. See the **Camps** section of this Guide.

***Chabad Outreach.** Nonprofit organization offering educational, social, religious and respite services to people with disabilities and their families. *Friendship Circle*. Trained volunteers meet with children and adults with disabilities, involving them in a full range of Jewish and social experiences, providing friendship, socialization and respite care.
Yad Chaverim. Provides religious programming and social services to the Jewish residents of the Richmond and Brenham State Supported Living Centers and Jewish residents of Assisted Living centers for adults with special needs.
All programs contact: 713-774-0300. http://www.chabadoutreach.org

Community Homes for Adults, Inc. (CHAI). Non-sectarian, nonprofit corporation under Jewish auspices that provides programs and services so adults with cognitive disabilities in the Dallas area may live full, rich lives in a safe environment and meaningfully participate in the community. Operates three community-integrated kosher group homes. Wolens Learning Center offers socializing, life skills training and supported employment. Licensed by Texas Dept. of Aging & Disability Services. **Contact: 214-373-8600.**
http://www.chaidallas.org/index.html

***Congregation Beth Yeshurun.** Conservative Congregation has an active Inclusion Committee. Offers live streaming of services, podcasts of sermons, Inclusion Shabbat, Gathering Place and *Voices in Prayer*, a monthly Shabbat service at Richmond State Supported Living Center. **Contact: 713-666-1881.**
http://www.bethyeshurun.org/

***Congregation Beth Israel.** Reform Houston congregation hosts a "Gathering Place" program providing respite for caregivers. **Contact: 713-771-6221. http://www.beth-israel.org**

***Congregation Emanu El.** Reform Congregation. Has an active Inclusion Committee.

• Schools: Both the *Becker Early Childhood Center* and the *Helfman Religious School* welcome and accommodate children who learn differently. Special classes for pre- B'nai Mitzvah students.
• Large Print Prayer Books are available at the Barish Sanctuary and the Proler Chapel.
• *Gathering Place* program provides respite for caregivers.
• Services for the hearing impaired include:
Induction Loop System transmits audio signals directly to one's T-coil-equipped hearing aid. *CART* (Communication Access Realtime Translation) captioning on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. (Proler Chapel).
ASL (American Sign Language) translation on the second Friday of each month (Barish Sanctuary.)
Contact: 713-529-5771. **http://www.emanuelhouston.org/**

Disability Inclusion Project. Minneapolis based on-line Resource guide (local, national, Jewish, general).
Contact: **http://www.jfcsmpls.org/inclusionresources.html**

***Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center (ERJCC).** United Way agency offers a wide range of social, physical, artistic and learning activities and opportunities for people of all ages. JCC membership required for some programs.
Adapted Aquatics. Designed for individuals with special needs who require individualized swim instruction and/or adaptive equipment to be successful in the water. Youth, teens, adults.
Gymnastics Superstars. Introduction to physical play for children (3+), using state-of-the-art-gymnastics facility and equipment.
Nite Owls. Social group for adults with disabilities; meets weekly for activities, holiday celebrations, field trips, etc. Families also meet for sharing and support.
STARS. Pre-school intervention program for children (ages 2-5) with language, social, pragmatic and sensory motor challenges. Individual therapeutic plans. Fees. **Contact: 713-551-7200**
Top Soccer. Community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with disabilities (ages 4 – 19).
All Programs (unless otherwise noted) Contact: 713-729-3200. **http://www.erjcchouston.org/**

Foundation for Jewish Camping. Provides information about 130+ nonprofit Jewish overnight camps as well as financial and programming resources to camps, campers and their families across North America. "Find a Jewish Camp" search tool can be customized for Special Needs programs. Offers a *Directory of Camp Scholarships*. **Contact: 888-888-4819.** **http://www.jewishcamp.org/**

***Friendship Circle**. A project of Chabad Outreach. Introduces volunteers to people with special needs, involving them in a range of Jewish and social experiences. No fee.
• *Youth Division*. Trained teen volunteers visit children with special needs every week, involving them in a full range of Jewish and social experiences, providing friendship, socialization and respite care.
• *Adult Division*. Extends a helping hand to adults with special needs, involving them in a full range of social and Judaic experiences. Provides religious programming and social services to the Jewish residents of the Richmond and Brenham Supported Living Centers and Jewish residents of Assisted Living centers for adults with special needs.
• *Golden Circle*. Matches local volunteers with local seniors for a weekly visit, bringing joy and a sense of caring to many. Organizes holiday celebrations at several senior facilities in Greater Houston.
Contact: 713-774-0300. **http://www.friendshiphouston.com/**

***Goldberg B'nai B'rith Towers.** Subsidized housing for the elderly (62+) and adults (18+) with disabilities. Houston, Texas. Funded by U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development.

Contact: 713-771-2417. 800-735-2989 (toll-free) http://www.gbbt.org/

Israel 4 All. Specializes in customized accessible travel in Israel for people with physical disabilities and special needs. **Contact:** http://www.israel4all.com

JBI International (formerly Jewish Braille Institute). Offers magazine, large print, Braille and audio books, at no charge, in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, Hungarian and Polish for the visually impaired. Resource list of links to sites accessible to the visually impaired. A nonprofit affiliated library of the Library of Congress. **Contact: 212-889-2525.** http://www.jbilibrary.org/index.php?sub=0

***Jewish Children's Regional Service.** Social work agency and charitable fund serving Jewish children and youth in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. Offers scholarships based on financial need for camp, special needs, summer programs and college. *Special Friends Club* recognizes Jewish youth with disabilities for special achievements and life cycle events. **Contact: 800-729-5277 (Toll free); Houston office: 832-767-9097.** http://www.jcrs.org/

The Jewish Deaf Resource Center (JDRC). Advocacy and initiatives to include Jewish Deaf into the full range of activities in the Jewish community. **Contact: 917-705-8941 (Voice) or 614-476-9221 (TTY/fax/videophone).** http://www.jdrc.org/index.html

***Jewish Family Service.** Nonprofit United Way agency offering assessment and a broad range of counseling, supportive, life-skills, employment and educational services. Disability Services Department offers:

- *Alexander Institute for Inclusion*: actively supports inclusion initiatives throughout Houston and Harris County;
- *Celebration Company*: structured employment day program;
- *MainStreet Opportunities*: supported employment services,
- *On-line Resource Guide.*
- Counseling, social groups, support groups. , English, Hebrew and Russian. Fee: Sliding scale. Some insurance. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** http://www.jfshouston.org

***Jewish Federation of Greater Houston.** Sponsors educational programs and initiatives through its Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE)

- *Jewish Network of Special Education Professionals (JNSE).* Houston Jewish Special Educators meet, share and disseminate information concerning the implementation of modifications in the school settings.
- *Kesher.* Advocates for children with special needs, offers family support, monthly meetings, referrals, resources. Also sponsors Sunday School classes for children who are learn differently.
- *Yom Limmud.* Annual Day of Learning for the entire community. Classes, speakers, activities, concert.

Contact: 713-729-7000. http://www.houstonjewish.org/

Jewish Funders Network. ***A Guide to Funding Disabilities and Special Needs.*** 12-chapter e-book, commissioned by the JFN's peer network on disabilities and special needs, has important information for funders, with sections on: employment, synagogue inclusion, recreation, community living, and more. Each chapter is written by an expert in the field specifically for the funding community.
http://www.jfunders.org/disabilityguide

Parents for Torah for All Children (P'TACH). Advocacy and model programs for including special needs students in Yeshivas and Jewish Day Schools. Most in the New York area; chapters in some cities. **Contact: 718-854-8600.** http://www.ptach.org

***Project Shalom.** Counseling, activities and socializing for people with long-term mental illness. A program of Jewish Family Services' Department of Disability Services, Houston, TX. United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** http://www.jfshouston.org/projectshalom.php

Residential Resources. See **Residential Resources** section of this Guide.

***Seven Acres Jewish Senior Care Services.** A Houston geriatric service organization providing social, medical, clinical, transportation, hearing devices and other services relative to the resident geriatric (65+) population at Seven Acres and The Medallion. Fees. Accepts private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, V.A. **Contact: 713-778-5700.** http://www.sevenacres.org/

Union for Reform Judaism. Umbrella organization for Reform Congregations. Initiatives for Inclusion of people with disabilities, resources. **Contact: 212.650.4000.** http://urj.org/life/family/disabilities/

- *URJ Camps & Israel Experiences* for children with special needs. **Contact: 212.650.4070** http://www.urjcamps.org/programs/specialneeds/

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Umbrella organization for Conservative Congregations. *Information about programs, services, and access that welcomes people with disabilities.* **Contact:** http://www.uscj.org/JewishLivingandLearning/SocialAction/Accessibility/default.aspx

Yachad, the National Jewish Council for Disabilities. Nonprofit membership organization dedicated to addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities and including them in the Jewish community. A department of the Orthodox Union. Offers advocacy, education, resources, support and programs. **Contact: (212)-613-8229** www.njcd.org **8**houstonyachad@ou.org

LEGAL RESOURCES.

Advocacy, Inc. (See Disability Rights Texas**).**

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD). Nonprofit disability advocacy organization controlled by individuals with disabilities. Offers legal information, market research and training. Seeks to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, inclusion and integration into all aspects of society. Fee-based disability consulting services to businesses, corporations, governmental entities and nonprofit organizations. **Contact: 512-478-3366.** http://www.txdisabilities.org/

Disability Rights Texas. Federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency for Texans with disabilities. Seeks to help people with disabilities understand and exercise their rights under the law. Advocacy, monitoring, information & referral materials and services, training, legal representation for low income persons with disabilities and extensive resources. English, Spanish, ASL videos. Affiliated with National Disability Rights Organization **Contact: 1-800-252-9108.** http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/ **East Texas Regional Office: 713-974-7691, 866-362-2851 (Video Phone)** http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/

The Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities – Key Laws. Summary of key Texas laws protecting the rights of Texans with disabilities. Covers guardianship, health care directives, housing, reasonable accommodations, worker's compensation and more. **Contact: 512-463-5739.** **http://governor.state.tx.us/disabilities/**

Guide to Disability Rights Laws. Brief descriptions and information about the *Americans with Disabilities Act*, the *Rehabilitation Act*, the *Fair Housing Act*, and others. Prepared by the U. S. Department of Justice. **Contact: 202-514-2000**. **http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/cguide.htm**

Houston Bar Association. Offers several services to the public, including *LegalLine, Saturday Legal Advice Clinics, Houston Volunteer Lawyers and Public Information Brochure.* **Contact: (713) 759-1133.** **http://www.hba.org/folder-services/services.htm**

48Houston Lawyer Referral Service (HLRS). Nonprofit organization certified by the State Bar of Texas and sponsored by several Bar Associations. Matches a client with an attorney specializing in a specific area. No charge for initial referral; attorney fees assessed for consultations and cases. Harris, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, and Montgomery Counties. English and Spanish. **Contact: 713-237-9429 or 800-289-4577 (toll-free).** **http://www.hlrs.org.**

Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program. Affiliated with the Houston Bar Association, HVLP helps low-income citizens that other programs often cannot serve, such as those who may not meet the financial criteria of other legal assistance programs or non-US citizens. **Contact: (713) 228-0735.** **http://www.makejusticehappen.org/**

LawHelp. Non-profit online organization helps low and moderate income people find free legal aid programs in their communities, answers to questions about their legal rights, and forms to help with their legal problems. Also lists services by state. English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese. **Contact:** **http://www.lawhelp.org/** **Texas:** **http://www.texaslawhelp.org**

Legal Line. Twice-monthly free legal advice hotline sponsored by Houston Bar Association. Licensed volunteer attorneys provide telephone-only answers to legal questions, simple legal advice and referrals to agencies and organizations. English, Spanish, Vietnamese. **Contact: 713-759-1133.** **http://www.hba.org/folder-services/services.htm**

Lone Star Legal Aid (LSLA). Texas nonprofit organization providing legal services to low-income clients for cases on civil rights, housing, employment, health, consumer rights, family rights, and federal entitlement No fee. Funded by the Legal Services Corporation, Texas Equal Justice Foundation and United Way. **Contact: 713-652-0077 or 800-733-8394 (toll-free).** **http://www.lonestarlegal.org**

Saturday Legal Advice Clinics. Sponsored by the Houston Bar Association and Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program, clinics are held each month at various community centers. Dates and locations are posted on-line. Free. **Contact: 713-759-1133.** **http://www.hba.org/folder-services/services.htm**

Wrightslaw. Independent on-line resource seeking to provide parents, advocates, educators, and attorneys with accurate, up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy. Links, **Yellow Pages for Kids with Disabilities**, free e-newsletter. **Contact:** **http://www.wrightslaw.com/**

PARENTING.

Programs and opportunities listed here are designed for parents to enhance and strengthen coping, communication and discipline skills, helping families to live together safely and supportively.

Center for Hearing and Speech. Nonprofit United Way agency providing a range of resources and services for children (ages 0-18) with hearing impairment and their families. Assessment, audiology & speech clinics, play therapy, individual and family counseling, parent support groups and auditory-oral school (ages 18 mos. – 7 yrs.). Houston, TX. **Contact: 713-523-3633.**
http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/

ChildBuilders. Independent nonprofit organization. Programs and publications teach parents and children important skills to help them lead healthier lives. Parents learn how to raise emotionally healthy children. **Contact: 713-481-6555** **http://www.childbuilders.org/**

DePelchin Children's Center. Nonprofit United Way agency provides services designed to prevent and resolve social and emotional crises for children and their families. Assessment, parenting skills, residential treatment services, therapy, psychological services. Several locations in the Greater Houston Area. **Contact: 713-730-2335 or 888-730-2335 (toll-free).** **http://www.depelchin.org/**

ESCAPE Family Resource Center. Houston independent nonprofit organization provides families with cutting-edge parenting techniques, including effective alternatives to corporal punishment. Classes on a variety of parenting subjects are held in various locations and are available in English, Spanish and Chinese. On-line resources. Fee. . **Contact: 713-942-9500.** **http://www.learntoparent.org/**

Family Services of Greater Houston. Nonprofit United Way agency offering parenting, individual and family counseling, school–based services. English and Spanish. Fee: Sliding scale; accepts Medicaid. **Contact: 713-861-4849.** **http://www.familyservices.org/**

Family to Family Network. Independent nonprofit grassroots organization providing advocacy, support, information & referrals, education and training for families of people with disabilities. Extensive links to resources, agencies and organizations. **Contact: 713-466-6304.** **http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org/**

Innovative Alternatives, Inc. Nonprofit United Way organization offering counseling, parenting skills, anger management and mediation for individuals and families. Fees: sliding scale. **Contact: 832-864-6000 or 713-222-2525.** **www.innovativealternatives.org/**

Texas Project First. Families, Information, Support and training. A website created by parents for parents of students of students receiving special education services. IF seeking information and resources to students with disabilities and their family, then the Texas Project First website
www.texasprojectfirst.org

RECREATION, SOCIAL, SPORTS, TRAVEL & OTHER ACTIVITIES

Opportunities for greater participation in recreational, social, sports and travel activities by people with disabilities are enhanced by agencies and organizations which offer programs and adaptive facilities.

Adaptive Athletics. Center for Students with disabilities at the University of Houston 713-743-9065
www.hhp.uh.edu

The Arc of Greater Houston . Non-profit organization committed to creating opportunities for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Organizes and offers:
• *Saturday Fun Days* (ages vary by location), Adventure Club (15+), and a Monthly Dance (15+).
• *Adult Week-end Respite* (21+)
• *Day Camps.* Theme-based, age appropriate activities one-week sessions for individuals (ages 4-14).
• *Sports and Life Skills Camp*. One-week sessions of team sports, swimming, bowling and arts & crafts for individuals (ages 15-25).
• *Residential Inclusion Camp* for individuals (ages 10-30) with and without developmental disabilities.
• *Overnight Summer Vacations*. (age 18+)
Contact: 713-957-1600. **http://www.aogh.org/**
http://www.aogh.org/SocialLeisureRespitePrograms.html

Access-Able Travel Source. Information for travelers with disabilities and mature travelers. Extensive database of accessible accommodations, attractions, cruises, resources, guides, equipment rental and travel resources. **Contact: 303-232-2979. http://access-able.com/graphical_index.html**

Best Buddies. International non-profit organization seeking to enhance the lives of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships and integrated employment. Middle and High School, College and E-buddies. **Contact: Texas Chapter: 713-525-8478. http://www.bestbuddies.org/best-buddies**

Chabad Outreach. Non-profit organization, part of Chabad Lubavitch, offers educational, social, religious and respite services to people with disabilities and their families.
Friendship Circle.
• Youth Division. Trained teen volunteers meet with special needs children involving them in a full range of Jewish and social experiences, providing friendship, socialization and respite care.
• Adult Division. Extends a helping hand to adults with special needs, involving them in a full range of social and Judaic experiences. Provides religious programming and social services to the Jewish residents of the Richmond and Brenham State Schools and Jewish residents of Assisted Living centers for adults with special needs.
• Golden Circle. Matches volunteers with seniors for a weekly visit, bringing joy and a sense of caring to many. Organizes holiday celebrations at several senior facilities in Greater Houston. **Contact: 713-774-0300. http://www.friendshiphouston.com/ http://www.chabadoutreach.org/**

City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department/Metropolitan Multi-Service Center.
Adaptive Recreation Section offers a variety of recreational, sporting and quality of life programming for people with disabilities: structured classes, fitness room, full court gym, indoor heated pool for use by people with disabilities, beep baseball field, tennis court, quarter-mile outdoor trail, and an urban garden. Offers several sports and recreation programs for children and adults with physical disabilities through the Paralympic Sports Club Houston. *Vale-Asche Foundation Playground Without Limits* provides children of various abilities a place where they can be together and play. **Contact: 832-395-7333.**
http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/adaptivesports.html

Creating Arts-Inspired, Inclusive Communities 866-489-8412 www.vsatx.org

Dionysus Theatre. Independent non-profit organization operates out of the Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center Joe Frank Theatre, Houston, TX. Brings theater experience, theater arts classes and performances to teens and young adults with and without disabilities, seeking to "change lives...one act at a time." **Contact: 713-728-0041.** **http://www.dionysustheatre.org/**

Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center (Houston). Non-profit United Way agency offers a wide range of social, physical, artistic and learning activities and opportunities for people of all ages. JCC membership required for some programs.

- *Adapted Aquatics*. Designed for individuals with special needs who require individualized swim instruction and/or adaptive equipment to be successful in the water. Youth, teens, adults.
- *Gymnastics Superstars*. Introduction to physical play for children (3+), using state-of-the-art gymnastics facility and equipment.
- *Nite Owls*. Social group for adults with disabilities; meets weekly for activities, holiday celebrations, field trips, etc. Families also meet for sharing and support.
- *STARS*. Pre-school intervention program for children (ages 2-5) with language, social, pragmatic and sensory motor challenges. Individual therapeutic plans. Fees. **Contact: 713-551-7200**
- *Top Soccer*. Community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with disabilities (ages 4 – 19). **Contact: All Programs (unless otherwise noted) 713-729-3200.**

http://www.erjcchouston.org/

Friendship Circle. A project of Chabad Outreach. Offers educational, social, religious and respite services to people with disabilities and their families.

- *Youth Division*. Trained teen volunteers meet with special needs children involving them in a full range of Jewish and social experiences, providing friendship, socialization and respite care.
- *Adult Division*. Extends a helping hand to adults with special needs, involving them in a full range of social and Judaic experiences. Provides religious programming and social services to the Jewish residents of the Richmond and Brenham Supported Living Centers and Jewish residents of Assisted Living centers for adults with special needs.
- *Golden Circle*. Matches volunteers with seniors for a weekly visit, bringing joy and a sense of caring to many. Organizes holiday celebrations at several senior facilities in Greater Houston.

Contact: 832-857-0770 **http://www.chabadoutreach.org**

Fun Fair Positive Soccer (FFPS). Non-profit organization creating youth soccer leagues committed to fun, fairness, inclusion and positive growth. Includes children with special needs. Houston Metropolitan Area. Fees. **Contact: 800-828-PLAY; 800-828-7529.** **www.ffps.org/Welcome.aspx**
http://www.ffps.org/Special_Needs.aspx

The Gathering Place. Independent non-profit organization provides a safe place for adults (18+) with mental illness to find the support they need through support groups, job skills building, employment assistance, and recreational activities. Membership at The Gathering Place is free, voluntary, and unlimited. **Contact: 713-729-3799.** **http://www.Gplace.org/**

Greater Houston Athletic Association for the Physically Disabled (GHAAPD). Non-profit organization working to provide people with physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in recreational and competitive sports. Participants must be independently mobile. Links to other sports organizations. **Contact: 713-521-3737.** **http://www.ghaapd.org/**

Hope Village. Private nonprofit organization providing residential, day, respite and summer programs in Friendswood, TX. Summer day program designed for school-aged children (12+). Daily activities include crafts, swimming, field trips, and other activities. Enrollment limited. **Contact: 281-482-7926.** **http://www.hope-village.com**

Israel 4 All. Specializes in customized accessible travel in Israel for people with physical disabilities and special needs. **Contact:** **http://www.israel4all.com** e-mail: **info@israel4all.com**

JBI International. Provides audio books and books in Braille in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, Hungarian and Polish for the visually impaired and physically or reading disabled. A non-profit affiliated library of the Library of Congress. **Contact: 212-889-2525.** **http://www.jbilibrary.org**

Jewish Family Service. Nonprofit United Way social service agency offering a broad range of counseling, educational and supportive services.
• *Project Shalom* offers socializing, activities, counseling and medication management for people with chronic mental illness.
• *Ma Nishma (What's Happening?)* A bi-weekly group for high functioning young Jewish adults with disabilities. The program provides opportunities for people to connect in a safe and supportive environment and offers emotional support and encouragement to the participants and their families.
Contact: 713-667-9336. **http://www.jfshouston.org**

National Center on Accessibility. Training, technical assistance and research on access to parks, recreation, and tourism. **Contact: (812) 856-4422.** **www.indiana.edu/~nca**

National Center on Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD). Information and resources concerned with physical activity and disability. Search by location to find programs, activities available in specific areas.
Contact: 800-900-8086 (toll-free voice and TTY). **http://www.nchpad.org/**
Houston Programs: **http://www.nchpad.org/15/Programs/USA/Texas/Houston**

Pasadena Parks and Recreation. The Verne Cox Multipurpose Recreation Center is a facility specifically dedicated to recreational activities, programs, and events for youth and adults with disabilities. Programs include: wheelchair sports, Special Olympics, after-school, support groups, fitness, aquatics and summer day programs. Fees. Pasadena TX.
Contact: 281-487-1755. **http://www.ci.pasadena.tx.us/default.aspx?name=prk.fac-v_cox**

Project Shalom. Socializing, activities, counseling and medication management for people with chronic mental health problems. Part of Jewish Family Service Houston, a United Way Agency. **Contact: 713-667-9336.** **http://www.jfshouston.org/projectshalom.php**

The River Performing and Visual Arts Center. Accessible fine arts education and experiences for children (ages 2-19) who have disabilities, chronic illnesses, or are economically disadvantaged. Siblings are welcome. Dance, Music, Visual Arts, Theatre, Mime, Storytelling, Music Therapy, Costuming & Props and Photography. Fees; some financial aid available. **Contact: 713-520-1220** **http://www.theriver.org/public/pag1.aspx**

SIRE (Self Improvement through Riding Education). Therapeutic equestrian center providing horseback riding, and related therapeutic activities for children and adults with special needs. NARHA Premiere accredited center. Three locations in the greater Houston area. Tuition. **Contact: 281-356-7588.** **http://sire-htec.org/**

The Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality (SATH). Educational non-profit membership organization whose mission is to raise awareness of the needs of travelers with disabilities, remove physical and attitudinal barriers to free access and expand travel opportunities in the United States and abroad. Information, advocacy, travel resources and links. **Contact: 212-447-7284. http://www.sath.org**

Southern Breeze Equestrian Center. Therapeutic riding program available. Fees. **Contact: 281-431-4868. 1-888-429-1918. http://www.sbreeze.com**

Special Olympics of Texas. Provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for people (ages 8 and older) with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Texas affiliate of international nonprofit organization. **Contact: 713-290-0049. www.sotx.org. Greater Houston: http://www.sotx.org/about/areas/area04/**

Star Skaters. Skating for Therapy and Recreation. 713-446-6902 www.starskaters.org

Sight Into Sound. Independent non-profit organization. Enriches the lives of individuals with visual, physical and learning disabilities through radio reading, custom reading and audio description services. (formerly, Taping for the Blind) **Contact: 713 -622-2767. http://www.sightintosound.org**

Texas Adaptive Aquatic Sports. (T.A.A.) Non-profit organization providing water sports training programs for children and adults with disabilities. Water skiing, sailing and kayaking. Sites throughout Texas. **Contact: 281-324-4653. http://www.taasports.org**

Theater Under The Stars (TUTS)/The River. - The River, a program of TUTS Education, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide an accessible, affordable, fine arts education for special children, ages 2-19, who have disabilities, chronic illnesses, or are economically disadvantaged. **Contact: 713.520.1220 http://www.theriver.org/**

VSA Texas The state organization on art and disability 512-454-9912 or 866-489-8412 **eric@nod.org**

West University Little League Challenger Division. Baseball program for boys and girls (ages 5- 18, or until completion of high school) with disabilities. Open to children throughout the greater Houston area. Other Challenger Division Houston locations may be accessed through the website. **Contact: http://www.westull.org/page/show/305890-challenger**

Yachad, the National Jewish Council for Disabilities. A department of the Orthodox Union (OU), dedicated to addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities and including them in the Jewish community. Offers summer programs, advocacy, education, resources, support and programs. TAGLIT: Birthright Israel and tours to Israel. Membership. **Contact: 561-504-1033 or houstonyachad@ou.org**

RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES.

The process of locating, assessing and selecting a residential facility for a loved one is very difficult. This section includes resources as well as residential facilities.

Autism Treatment Centers of Texas. Non-profit organization provides assessment, information, education, life skills training and residential services in Dallas and San Antonio for children with autism or other related disorders. Residential facilities are single family homes and duplexes, located in

neighborhoods; programming, activities, living skills. Associated with Autism Society of America and National Association of Residential Providers for Adults with Autism. Funded and Licensed by Texas Department of Family and Protective services, Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Service (DARS), TEA, **Contact: http://www.atcoftexas.org. Dallas: 972-644-2076. http://www.atcoftexas.org/dallas.html**
San Antonio: 210-590-2107. http://www.atcoftexas.org/sanantonio.html

Avondale House. Houston, Texas non-profit United Way agency providing year-round education services to children (ages 3-22), a day habilitation program for young adults and residential services for children and young adults (ages 4-40) with autism. The school is accredited by the Texas Alliance of Accredited Private Schools. Residential facilities are licensed by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. **Contact: 713-993-9544. http://www.avondalehouse.org/**

Beverly Farm and Training Center. Non-profit residential facility for adults 18+ with developmental problems. Offers residential cottages, group homes and 38 independent living apartments. Activities, sports, field trips, Special Olympics, horticulture, aquatics, developmental and vocational training. Judah Senior Center serves the older, retired population. Godfrey, Illinois. Fees: accepts Medicaid. **Contact: 618-466-0367. http://www.beverlyfarm.org/**

Brenham State Supported Living Center. Barrier-free residential facility for people who have mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities. Also provides respite and emergency services. Serves 10 counties in Southeast Texas. Life skills, vocational training and employment opportunities. **Contact: 979-836-4511. http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/SSLC/brenham.html**

The Brookwood Community. An independent nonprofit organization offering an educational, residential and entrepreneurial village for adults with functional disabilities. Horticulture, crafts, gift shop and café provide activities and employment for residents. Also offers a day program. Brookshire, Texas. **Contact: 281-375-2100. http://www.brookwoodcommunity.org/**

The Center. Houston-based non-profit United Way agency offering a range of services to and for persons with intellectual and developmental disorders. Two residential facilities: Cullen Residence Hall and Willow River Farms. [See details under specific listings.] Also offers Home & Community Based Services (HCS), Supported Living Services and Respite care. **Contact: 713-525-8400. http://www.TheCenterHouston.org**

The Center for Success and Independence. Independent non-profit community-based psychiatric residential treatment facility for adolescents with behavioral, emotional and substance abuse problems. Houston, TX. Fees. **Contact: 713-426-4545. http://www.tcsi.org/index.html**

Community Homes for Adults, Inc. (CHAI). Non-sectarian, non-profit corporation under Jewish auspices that operates several residential group homes and provides programs and services for adults with cognitive disabilities. Applicants must be a resident of Dallas or of North Texas. Wolens Learning Center offers socializing, life skills training and supported employment. Licensed by Texas Dept. of Aging & Disability Services. **Contact: 214-373-8600.**
http://www.chaidallas.org/index.html

Cullen Residence Hall. A residential service of The Center offering supported living, respite care, social events and life-skills to adults with developmental disorders. Houston, Texas. Licensed by the Texas Department of Human Services. **Contact: 713-525-8318. http://www.TheCenterHouston.org**

Devereux Texas. Part of a nationwide non-profit network of programs treating individuals of all ages who have a wide range of emotional, behavioral, developmental, chemical dependency and psychiatric disorders. Services, including acute hospitalization, partial hospitalization, residential, outpatient & children's' services, are offered on two campuses:
• *League City*. Hospitalization, residential and outpatient services for children, adolescents and adults. **Contact: 281-335-1000 or 800-373-0011 (toll-free).**
• *Victoria.* Hospitalization, residential and outpatient services for children, adolescents and adults. **Contact: 361-575-8271 or 800-383-5000** http://www.devereuxtx.org/

Hope Village. Private non-profit organization providing residential, day, respite and summer programs (ages: 12 and up) in Friendswood, TX. Full-time residential services for individuals (ages 6 – adult) with developmental and intellectual disorders. **Contact: 281-482-7926.** http://www.hope-village.com

The Horizons School. Birmingham. AL residential program offering a non-degree post-secondary transition program designed to facilitate personal, social and career independence for students with mild learning disabilities and other mild challenges. **Contact: 800-822-6242 (toll-free).** http://horizonsschool.org/about_horizons/welcome.html

Houston Center for Independent Living. Advocacy, information and referral, independent living skills training, and peer counseling. Part of the Texas State Independent Living Council. **Contact: 713-974-4621 (Voice/TTY),** http://www.coalitionforbarrierfreeliving.com/

The Lighthouse of Houston. Private, non-profit United Way agency serving the blind, visually impaired and others with disabilities through education, training, supportive services, summer day camp program, its Center for Education and Adaptive Technology and two barrier-free residential facilities for adults. **Contact: 281-530-1236** (Lighthouse Living Center I) or **713-988-4236** (Lighthouse Living Center II). http://www.houstonlighthouse.org/residential-services/

Marbridge. Private non-profit 170 acre facility in Manchaca, TX, offers 3 residential communities for adults (18+) who have mild to moderate intellectual disabilities or other cognitive challenges. Individualized programs, vocational and life-skills training, employment, socializing. Also offers summer camp for transitioning young adults (ages 16-30). Licensed by Department of Aging and Disability Services (DAD). **Contact: 512-282-1144.** http://www.marbridge.org/index.html

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD). Provides information and referrals to individuals with disabilities, and assists clients in the investigation and resolution of complaints; deals with emergency services. Offers 3 programs: accessibility, transportation, and housing. Facilitates the delivery of city services to individuals with disabilities. Will refer to free legal services. **Contact 832.394.0814.** http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/

Melvin J. & Claire Levine Jewish Residential Family Services. Palm Beach, FL nonprofit organization. Residential program provides a continuum of services for those who may be developmentally disabled, significantly learning disabled, and/or chronically mentally ill. **Contact: 561-684-1991.** http://www.ljrfs.com/

The Mental Health Co-op. A residential program for adults with mental illness, including diseases of the brain which can be successfully managed with medication. Provides skilled training to improve social skills that assist residents in their adjustment to community living. Different levels of treatment. Fee: private

pay only. **Contact: 713-524-8705 or info@mentalhealthco-op.com.** http://www.thementalhealthco-op.com

Mission Road Development Center. Christian non-profit agency serves children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Children's residential services (3-17) Adult group home, supported and extended employment, adult day activities. Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio and United Way. Texas. Licensed by the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services. **Contact: 210–924-9265.** www.mrmsat.org/

New Horizons. Private non-profit organization offering residential treatment for boys and girls (ages 5-17) with emotional and behavioral problems. Emergency shelter and other programs. Licensed by the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services. **Contact: 325-437-1852.** http://www.newhorizonsinc.com/

Reach Unlimited. Non-profit organization serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Provides individualized supportive services to clients. Also offers education services, vocational training, supported employment, and residential services. Clients also volunteer in the community. Northwest Harris County, TX. **Contact: 281-469-8058.** http://www.reachunlimited.org/index.html

Reaching Maximum Independence (RMI). Independent non-profit organization providing residential and vocational alternatives in San Antonio for persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Group homes, supported apartment living and foster care services. Certified and licensed by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. **Contact: 210-656-6674.** http://www.rmihomes.org/

Richmond State Supported Living Center. Barrier-free, 241-acre, residential facility for people who are medically fragile and/or have a dual diagnosis of mental retardation and mental illness. Individualized programs, variety of residential modalities. Life skills, vocational training, and employment opportunities, therapeutic horseback riding, natatorium, chapel. Also provides respite and emergency services. Serves 13 counties in Southeast Texas. **Contact: 281-232-2075.** http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/SSLC/richmond.html

Sean Ashley House. Houston nonprofit organization providing a range of residential services to and for children and adults with disabilities. Among these are case management, residential support, supervised living and supported home living services. **Contact: 713-667-6460.** http://www.seanashleyhouse.org/Services.html

Seven Acres Jewish Senior Care Services. A Houston geriatric service organization providing social, medical, clinical, transportation, hearing devices and other services relative to the resident geriatric (65+), dementia and severe behavioral population at Seven Acres and The Medallion. Fees. Accepts private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, V.A. **Contact: 713-778-5700.** http://www.sevenacres.org/

Village Learning and Achievement Center. Independent nonprofit organization offers residential and short-term respite services for adults with disabilities. Offers two options for residential services: *Village at Stoney Glen* provides independent living opportunities for adults with disabilities; *Village Home & Community Services* facilitates group home living in apartments and private homes throughout the local area. Appropriate residential assistance and supports are available to HCS clients. Village Learning & Achievement Center is certified by the TDMHMR Waiver Survey and Certification Office as an HCS

program provider. Also offers respite care. **Contact: 281-358-6172**
http://www.villagelac.org/programs/residential/

Virtual CIL. National listing of Centers of Independent Living (CIL), with contact information. **Contact:**
http://www.virtualcil.net

VitaLiving. Private non-profit agency providing long -term comprehensive care and support services for adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
ICF/IDD (Intermediate Care Facilities for persons with Intellectual Developmental Disorders). CLASS (Community Living and Support Services) provides case management services.
HCS (Home and Community-based Services) serves clients in their family homes or in their own residences.
TIC TAC (Training in the Community Through the Activity Center) addresses the special needs of adults who have intellectual disabilities and severe behavioral challenges and have been unable to successfully participate in other day programs. **Contact: 713-271-5795.** **http://www.vitaliving.org/**

Volunteers of America – Texas. Offers Home & Community-based Services to individuals who are deaf, blind or with multiple disabilities. Funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
Contact: 713-460-0781. **http://www.voatx.org/splash.php**

Willow River Farms. Rural, family-style residential facility for adults with developmental disabilities. Offers vocational training, meaningful employment opportunities and day programs. Located in San Felipe, Texas. Operated by The Center, a nonprofit, United Way agency.
Licensed by the Texas Department of Human Services. **Contact: 713-525-8318.**
http://www.cri-usa.org/en/cms/?69

RESPITE SERVICES.

Caregiving is a demanding and difficult job; the work is never done. Caring for a loved one with special needs, child or adult, can be physically and emotionally exhausting. Recognizing this, some agencies offer support groups and respite programs for caregivers.

The Arc of Greater Houston. Provides extensive services for individuals with disabilities, including advocacy, information, referral, support groups, programs, resources, research, and respite services for caregivers.
• *Adult Respite.* Twice monthly out-of-home, overnight, weekend program for individuals, (ages 21+) with intellectual or pervasive developmental disorder.
Sporting and musical events, visits to restaurants, theme parks, shopping, movies, educational tours
• *Saturday Fun Day.* Out-of-home program for individuals (ages 4-25) with a diagnosis of intellectual or developmental disorders.
Contact: 713-957-1600. **http://www.aogh.org/SocialLeisureRespitePrograms.html**

C.A.M.P. (**C**hildren's **A**ssociation for **M**aximum **P**otential). Offers Respite Club for families, invitations to events and access to In-Home Provider Referral. Club membership fee; additional fees for events.
• *Respite Weekends* at Camp C.A.M.P. in Kerrville, TX.
• *Parents Night Out.* Childcare service and enrichment activity program for children (ages 6 mos.–13 yrs.) with developmental disabilities and their siblings. No charge.
• *Teens Night Out.* Supervised social program for teens and young adults (ages 14+) with developmental disabilities. All programs: **Contact: 210-671-5411.** **http://www.campcamp.org/**

The Center. Nonprofit United Way agency offering day and overnight respite services, supported living, social events, life-skills for adults with intellectual and other developmental disorders. Houston, Texas. Licensed by the Texas Department of Human Services. **Contact: 713-525-8318.**
http://www.TheCenterHouston.org

Easter Seals of Greater Houston (formerly UCP). Nonprofit United Way agency works to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through advocacy, assistance, camps, education, respite care and opportunities. Respite programs include In-home Care, Family Day Out, Parents Night Out and *Respitality Week-ends.* **Contact: 713-838-9050.**
http://www.eastersealshouston.org/General/our-services.html

Epilepsy Foundation of Texas. Nonprofit organization sponsors several week-end retreats for teens and adults with epilepsy and their families.
• *Wacky Winter Weekend* . For youth (ages 6 – 14) with epilepsy and their siblings. Designed for *Spike* 'n' Wave® campers to reunite with friends, to give first time campers a glimpse of summer camp, and siblings the opportunity to experience camp.
• *Almost Paradise Weekend.* Provides families the opportunity to get away from everyday stresses and meet other families who share similar experiences.
• *Adventure Get-A-Way & Great Escape Adult Retreat Weekends.* Offers adults the opportunity to spend a weekend away from daily life and meet others who share similar experiences.
Contact: 713-789-6295. 888-548-9716 (Toll free) **http://www.eftx.org/camp.htm**

Friendship Circle. Introduces trained teenage volunteers to children (to age 15) with special needs, offering friendship, sharing activities, involving them in a range of Jewish and social experiences and providing caregiver respite . Every week, pairs of teenage volunteers visit participating children in their homes. No fee. Sponsor: Chabad Outreach of Houston. **Contact: 713-774-0300.**
http://www.friendshiphouston.com/

Harris County Area Agency on Aging. Provides lists of services for caregivers through City of Houston Health and Human Services Department. **Contact: 832-393-4301.**
http://www.houstontx.gov/health/Aging/caregiver-main.html

Hope Village. Private nonprofit organization providing residential, day, respite and summer programs in Friendswood, TX. Summer day program designed for school-aged children (12+). Daily activities include crafts, swimming, field trips, and other activities. Respite care offered through the Work Activity Center. Enrollment limited. **Contact: 281-482-7926.** **http://www.hope-village.com**

Interfaith CarePartners. Non-profit, nonsectarian organization works through congregations to offer a Care Team model of in-home and group support for families with special needs. Caregiver support groups, *Kids Pals* Care Team, *Second Family* Care Team, *and Gathering Places.*
Contact: 713-682-5995. **http://www.interfaithcarepartners.org/index.php/home/c/home/**

MHMRA (Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County) Dedicated to providing or ensuring provision of services and supports to people with mental disabilities and their families. Short term temporary or intermittent direct care of a child or adult, either in-home or out-of-home. **Contact: 713-970-7070.** **http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/iddservices.htm**

Take Time Texas. List and description of Texas respite services generated by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). **Contact: 512-438-5555**
http://www.dads.state.tx.us/taketimetexas/about/index.html

Village Learning & Achievement Center.
After-school care for children (age 14+) with disabilities so family members can continue to work. Also offers day habilitation and residential facilities. **Contact: 281-358-6172.**
http://www.villagelac.org/programs/respite-care/

ADDENDUM

ACRONYMS

Every field has a language and acronyms that are sometimes mystifying to the newcomer. Below are many of the acronyms of organizations and terminology used in the field of disability services.

AIDD	**American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**
AAPD	**American Association of People with Disabilities**
ABA	**Applied Behavior Analysis**
ABA	**Adaptive Behavior Approach**
ABI	**Acquired Brain Injury**
ACB	**American Council of the Blind**
ADA	**Americans with Disabilities Act**
ADAPT	**Adult Developmental and Psychiatric Treatment**
ADD	**Attention Deficit Disorder**
ADDA	**Attention Deficit Disorder Association**
ADHD	**Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder**
AFB	**American Foundation for the Blind**
AFC	**Adult Foster Care**
AIT	**Auditory Integration Therapy**
APA	**American Psychological Association**
APS	**Adult Protective Services**
ARI	**Autism Research Institute**
ASA	**Autism Society of America**
ASAT	**Association of Autism Treatment**
ASD	**Autism Spectrum Disorder**
ASESA	**Association for Specialized Elementary School Accreditation**
ASL	**American Sign Language**
ASPIE	**Asperger's Syndrome Parent & Professional Information Exchange**
BCLS	**Basic Civil Legal Services**
BHO	**Behavioral Health Organization**
BJE	**Bureau of Jewish Education** (Jewish Federation of Greater Houston)
CAP	**Client Assistance Program**
CART	**Communication Access Realtime Translation**
CEC	**Council for Exceptional Children**
CDC	**Center for Disease Control**
CDS	**Consumer Directed Services**
CFR	**Code of Federal Regulations**
CHADD	**Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder**

CHIP	Children's Health Insurance Program
CHS	Center for Hearing and Speech
CIL	Center for Independent Living
COTWD	Coalition for Texans With Disabilities
CP	Cerebral Palsy
CPAC	Citizens Planning Advisory Council
CPS	Children's Protective Services
CTD	Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
DD	Developmentally Delayed
DDA	Developmental Disabilities Assistance & Bill of Rights Act of 1975
DADS	Department of Aging & Disability Services
DARS	Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
DFPS	Department of Family & Protective Services
DHS	Department of Human Services
DHHS	Division for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
DIR	Developmental-Individual Differences-Relationship
DLRP	Disability Law Resource Project
DOE	Department of Education
DOL	Department of Labor
DPC	Disability Policy Consortium
DSA	Down's Syndrome Association
DSAH	Down's Syndrome Association of Houston
DSHS	Department of State Health Services
EARN	Employer Assistance & Recruiting Network
ECI	Early Childhood Intervention
EEOC	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
ESC	Education Service Center
FACES	Functional Academic Curriculum for Exceptional Students
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education
FASD	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder
FEAT	Families for Early Autism Treatment
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
FFPS	Fun, Fair, Positive Soccer
FIE	Full and Individual Evaluation
GHAAPD	Greater Houston Athletic Association for the Physically Disabled
HAVA	Help America Vote Act
HBA	Houston Bar Association
HCDE	Harris County [TX] Department of Education
HCIL	Houston Center for Independent Living
HCPC	Harris County [TX] Psychiatric Center
HCPS	Harris County [TX] Protective Services
HCS	Home and Community-based Services
HD	Hyperactivity Disorder
HFA	High Functioning Autism
HHS	Health and Human Services [Federal/State]
HHSC	Health and Human Services Commission
HISD	Houston Independent School District
HLRS	Houston Lawyer Referral Service
I & R	Information and Referral

ICF	Intermediate Care Facility
IDD	Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEE	Independent Educational Evaluation
IEP	Individualized Education Plan
IHCS	In Home Crisis Support
IHFS	In Home & Family Support
ILRU	Independent Living Research Utilization
IRA	Individualized Residential Alternative
ITP	Individualized Transition Plan
JAN	Job Accommodation Network
JCRS	Jewish Children's Regional Services
JDRC	The Jewish Deaf Research Center
JFA	Justice for All
JFS	Jewish Family Service
LDAA	Learning Disabilities Association of America
LDAT	Learning Disabilities Association of Texas
LEA	Local Education Agency
LSLA	Lone Star Legal Aid
MOPD	Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
MHA	Mental Health America
MHMRA	Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County
NAMI	National Alliance on Mental Illness
NCD	National Council on Disability
NCLB	No Child Left Behind
NCLD	National Center for Learning Disabilities
NCWD	National Council on Workforce Disability/Adult
NDS	National Down Syndrome Society
NDRN	National Disability Rights Network
NDSS	National Down Syndrome Society
NICHCY	National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NIMH	National Institute of Mental Health
NJCD	National Jewish Council for Disabilities
NOD	National Organization on Disability
NPSAA	National Private School Accreditation Alliance
OCD	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
OCR	Office of Civil Rights
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
ODEP	Office of Disability Employment Policy
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs
OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
PAAT	Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology
PABSS	Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security Act
PADD	Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Developmental Disabilities
PAIMI	Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act
PAIR	Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights
PART	Parents Association for the Retarded of Texas
PATBI	Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury

PAVA	**Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access**
PDD	**Pervasive Developmental Disorder**
PDD-NOS	**Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified**
PECS	**Picture Exchange Communication Systems**
PRN	**Partners Resource Network**
PTACH	**Parents for Torah for all Children**
PTI	**Parent Training & Information (Centers/Programs)**
SACS	**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**
SATH	**Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality**
SEPAC	**Special Education Parent Advisory Council**
SES	**Supplemental Educational Services**
SHL	**Supported Home Living**
SIB	**Self Injurious Behavior**
SID	**Sensory Integration Dysfunction**
SIRE	**Self Improvement through Riding Education**
SSA	**Social Security Administration**
SSDI	**Social Security Disability Income**
SSI	**Supplemental [Social] Security Income**
STARS	**Specialized Treatment and Rehabilitation Services**
TBI	**Traumatic Brain Injury**
TCB	**Texas Commission for the Blind**
TCDD	**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities**
TCEC	**Texas Council for Exceptional Children**
TDD	**Telecommunication Device for the Deaf**
TDH	**Texas Department of Health**
TDHS	**Texas Department of Human Services**
TDPRS	**Texas Department of Protective & Regulatory Services**
TEA	**Texas Education Agency**
TIRR	**Texas Institute of Rehabilitation and Research**
TTY	**Telephone Typewriter**
TWWIIA	**Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act**
TXHML	**Texas Home Living Waiver**
UCP	**United Cerebral Palsy**
UTHCPS	**University of Texas Harris County Psychiatric Center**
VAST	**Vocational Advancement & Social Skills Training**
VOR	**Voice of the Retarded**

ADDITIONAL LINKS

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. http://aaidd.org/
Autism-Resources/Glossary. http://www.autism-resources.com/autismfaq-glos.html
Autism Society of America. http://www.autism-society.org/
City of Houston: Playgrounds Without Limits.
http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/playgroundswithoutlimits/index.html
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC).
http://www.cec.sped.org/am/template.cfm?section=Home
Council for Jews with Special Needs. http://www.cjsn.org/home0.aspx
Council of Canadians with Disabilities http://www.ccdonline.ca/en

Disability Inclusion Project. http://www.jfcsmpls.org/inclusionresources.html
Disability-Specific Organizations http://www.makoa.org/org.htm
Easter Seals – Greater Houston (formerly UCP). http://www.eastersealshouston.org/
Dysautonomia Foundation. http://www.familialdysautonomia.org/
Epilepsy Foundation. http://www.Epilepsy.com/
Epilepsy Foundation Texas http://www.eftx.org

ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities & Gifted Education.
http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/eric/index.html
Families and Advocates Partnership for Education (FAPE). http://www.fape.org/ Great Schools – Special Education.
http://www.greatschools.org/special-education.topic?content=1541

Houston Area Community Services http://www.hacstxs.org/housing_services.html

Lekotek: Toys & Play for Children with Special Needs. http://www.lekotek.org/

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/
MetroLift http://www.ridemetro.org/Services/Lift.aspx

National Center on Accessibility. http://ncaonline.org/
National Federation of the Blind of Texas. http://nfbtx.org
National Institutes of Mental Health http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml
National Multiple Sclerosis Society Lone Star Chapter.
http://www.nationalmssociety.org/TXH/home/
Shiners Hospitals for Children, Houston.
http://www.shrinershq.org/Hospitals/Houston/
Texas 211 https://www.211texas.org/211/
Texas Association of the Deaf. http://www.deaftexas.org
Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. http://www.dads-state-tx.us
Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Service. http://www.dars.state.tx.us
Texas: Governor's Committee on Disabilities. http://governor.state.tx.us/disabilities/about/
Texas Information and Referral Network. (Dial: 211) https://www.211texas.org/211/
Texas Parent Teacher Association (Texas PTA). http://www.txpta.org
Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association. http://www.txsha.org
That All May Worship: An Interfaith Welcome to People with Disabilities.
http://www.aapd.com/what-we-do/interfaith/interfaith-initiative.html

Through the Looking Glass: Serving Families with Disabilities. http://www.lookingglass.org .
United Cerebral Palsy. http://www.ucp.org/
U .S. Dept. of Education, Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services.
http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html
Yellow Pages for Kids. http://www.yellowpagesforkids.com/

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA*

ALDINE ISD	281-985-6600	http://www.aldine.k12.tx.us/
ALIEF ISD.	281-498-8110	http://www.aliefisd.net/

ALVIN ISD	281-388-1130	http://www.alvinisd.net/
CHANNELVIEW ISD.	281-452-8002	http://www.cvisd.org
CLEAR CREEK ISD	281-284-0000	http://www.ccisd.net/
CONROE ISD	936-709-7751	http://www.conroeisd.net/
CROSBY ISD	281-328-9200	http://www.crosbyisd.org/
CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS ISD	281-897-4000	http://www.cfisd.net/
DAYTON ISD	936-258-2667	http://www.daytonisd.net/
DEER PARK ISD	832-668-7000	http://www.dpisd.org/
DICKENSON ISD	281-229-6000	http://www.dickinsonisd.org/
FORT BEND ISD	281-634-1000	http://www.fortbendisd.com
FRIENDSWOOD ISD	281-482-1267	http://www.myfisd.com
GALENA PARK ISD	832-386-1000	http://www.galenaparkisd.com/
GALVESTON ISD	409-766-5100	http://www.gisd.org/education/school/school.php?sectionid=920
GOOSE CREEK ISD	281-420-4840	http://www.gccisd.net/
HITCHCOCK ISD	409-316-6545	http://www.hitchcockisd.org/
HOUSTON ISD	713-556-6000	http://www.houstonisd.org/
HUFFMAN ISD	281-324-1871	http://www.huffmanisd.net/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectionid=1
HUMBLE ISD	281-641-1000	http://www.humbleisd.net
KATY ISD	281-396-6000	http://www.katyisd.org/
KLEIN ISD	832-249-4000	http://www.kleinisd.net/
LA MARQUE ISD	409-938-4251	http://www.lmisd.net/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectionid=1
LA PORTE ISD	281-604-7000	http://sc.lpisd.org/education/district/district.php?sectionid=1
NEW CANEY ISD	281-577-8600	http://www.newcaneyisd.org/
PASADENA ISD	713-740-0000	http://www.pasadenaisd.org/
PEARLAND ISD	281-485-3203	http://www.pearlandisd.org/pisd/default.htm
SANTA FE ISD	409-925-3526	http://www.sfisd.org/education/district/district.php?sectionid=1
SHELDON ISD	281-727-2000	http://www.sheldonisd.com/
SPRING BRANCH ISD	713-464-1511	http://www.springbranchisd.com/
SPRING ISD	281-891-6000	http://www.springisd.org/
STAFFORD ISD	281-261-9200	http://www.stafford.org
TEXAS CITY ISD	409-942-2713	http://www.tcisd.org/
TOMBALL ISD	281-357-3100	http://www.tomballisd.net/
WALLER ISD	936-931-3685	http://www.wallerisd.net/

* For other Texas School Districts, visit the Texas Education Agency District Locator Page at (512) 463-9734 http://wgisprd.tea.state.tx.us/SDL/

LEARNING DIFFERENCES: INFORMATION & RESOURCES.

American Academy of Pediatrics	http://www.aap.org
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	http://www.aacap.org
American Association of School Administrators	http://www.aasa.org

American Institutes for Research http://www.air.org
American Psychological Association http://www.apa.org
Attention Deficit Disorder Association (ADDA) http://www.add.org
ADHD Resources http://www.addresources.org
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry http://www.aacap.org/index.ww
The Arc Master Trust http://www.thearctrust.org/resources/
Autism and Addiction: Coping with and Treating Your Dual Diagnosis http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2329-6488.1000170
Children & Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (CHADD) http://www.chadd.org/
Council for Exceptional Children http://www.cec.sped.org/
Education Development Center http://www.edc.org/
Educational Resources Education Center http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/eric/index.html
8 Steps for Learning Disabled Students who want to go to College //www.usnews.com/educatiion
The Guide to Securing Life-long Accommodation for Adult Children With Special Needs Redfin Blogger April 10,2016
Great Schools http://www.greatschools.org/
International Dyslexia Association http://www.interdys.org/
Kidsource Online http://www.kidsource.com
Learning Ally https://www.learningally.org/
Learning Disabilities Association of Texas (LDAT) http://www.ldatx.org
Learning Disabilities Online http://www.ldonline.org/
Learning Disabilities Resources http://www.ldresources.com/
Ability Center http://www.discovernac.org
National Association of School Psychologists http://www.nasponline.org/
National Center for Learning Disabilities http://www.ncld.org/
National Dissemination Center for Children & Youth with Disabilities http://parentcenter.org/nichcy-resources
National Institutes of Health http://www.nih.gov/
National Institute of Mental Health http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml
Neuhaus Education Center http:www.neuhaus.org/
Personal Finance Guide for People with Disabilites htt://www.medicaresupplementalinsurance.com/disabilities.hmt
Special Globe http:www.specialglobe.com
Special Needs Library http://specialneedslibrary.org/index.php
Texas Education Agency http://www.tea.state.tx.us/
Tourette Syndrome Association http://www.tsa-usa.org/
Thirty four Great Jobs for People with Disabilities www.gettinghired.com
www.trade-schools.net.articles
Travel Tips for Workers with Disabilities https://monster.com
U.S. Department of Education http://www.ed.gov/