

# **CVASA FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE**



Prepared by the  
Coachella Valley Autism Society of America  
[www.cochellavalleyautism.org](http://www.cochellavalleyautism.org)

Revised Fall 2005

## CVASA Family Resource Guide

To better serve families who have children within the autism spectrum and individuals working with these children, we have developed the following list of autism resources. It is by no means complete, but hopefully it may help you in your search for information and assistance.

Reference to any treatment, therapy, program, and service or treatment provider in this resource guide is not an endorsement by CVASA of such treatment, therapy, program, service or provider. References are not intended to be comprehensive statements of all available options, programs, services or providers. You should investigate all options and alternatives to determine which may be appropriate for a specific individual. CVASA assumes no responsibility for the use made of any information provided by CVASA in this guide.

We realize that information is constantly changing. As soon as this guide is printed, someone will have changed a phone number or address. If that happens, please contact us so that we can make the appropriate change.

If you know of a resource not listed and would like us to consider it for our next resource guide, please send the name, address, and phone number with a brief explanation to:

Coachella Valley Autism Society of America  
PO Box 11052  
Palm Desert, CA 92255-1052  
(760) 779-0012

We sincerely hope this CVASA Family Resource Guide will be of help to you!

"Knowledge Is Power"

# Autism-General Resources

## **Adult Gathering, United and Autistic (AGUA)**

P.O. Box 1755, Glendora, CA 91740  
909-392-0559

## **Autism Online Information**

Autism Network International (ANI)  
P.O. Box 448, Syracuse, New York 13210  
[www.ani.autistics.org](http://www.ani.autistics.org)

ANI is an autistic-run self-help and advocacy organization for autistic people. Membership in ANI includes a subscription to the newsletter, Our Voice (\$15 annually) and a pen pal directory for autistic people and people with related developmental neurological abnormalities (for example, hydrocephalus, Tourette syndrome, Williams syndrome).

## **Autism Research Institute (ARI)**

Dr. Bernard Rimland  
4182 Adams Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116  
619-281-7165

[www.autism.com/autism.net](http://www.autism.com/autism.net)

Research Center publishes quarterly journal, information packets on Autism and many treatment options. Request their list of resources. ARI publishes a quarterly newsletter, Autism Research Review International. The newsletter presents current developments in biomedical and education research. Also has a list of publications including information packets, a bibliography of books, and videotapes for rent or purchase.

## **Autism Society of America, Inc. (ASA)**

7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite #300, Bethesda, MD 20814  
1-800-3-AUTISM

[www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

Publishes bi-monthly newsletter, "The Advocate." Distributes information packets on autism topics. Fax on Demand Service - fast and easy way to receive autism information via FAX. Call fax# and follow the directions. Also, check out ASA resource database, which lists resources by city. [www.autismsource.org](http://www.autismsource.org)

## **Autism Tissue Project**

99 Wall Street, Princeton, NJ 08540  
877-333-0999

[www.brainbank.org](http://www.brainbank.org)

Offers information in Spanish and English. The ATP is a joint effort of ASA Foundation, NAAR and The M.I.N.D. Institute. Our organizations are determined to understand autism spectrum disorders by providing approved scientists access to the most fundamental, rare, precious and most necessary of resources; human brain tissue.

## **Center for the Study of Autism**

P.O. Box 4538, Salem, OR 97302  
[www.autism.org/contents.html](http://www.autism.org/contents.html)

The Center provides information about autism to parents and professionals, and conducts research on the effectiveness of various therapeutic interventions. Much of their research is in collaboration with the Autism Research Institute.

**Cure Autism Now (CAN)**

5225 Wilshire Blvd, #715, Los Angeles, CA 90036-4234  
213-549-0500 or 888-8AUTISM

[www.canfoundation.org](http://www.canfoundation.org)

The CAN Foundation is an organization of parents, clinicians and scientists dedicated to finding effective biological treatments, prevention and a cure for autism and related disorders.

**Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**

1110 North Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22201-5704  
800-328-0272

**Defeat Autism Now (DAN)**

Autism Research Institute  
4182 Adams Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116  
619-281-7165

[www.autism.com/air](http://www.autism.com/air)

Through The ARI, selected physicians and scientists meet for the express purpose of sharing information and ideas toward defeating autism as quickly as possible. The participants, from the US and Europe, represent the most advanced thinking by some of the best minds in the autism world. The participants continue to work together toward the goal of finding effective treatments.

**Families & Autistic Children Together Succeed (FACTS)**

43525 Corte Barbaste, Temecula, CA 92592  
951-440-2335

[www.factsfamilies.org](http://www.factsfamilies.org)

Support group offering activities, meetings, etc. for families in the Temecula area. Check website for current autism info.

**Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT)**

P.O. Box 255722, Sacramento, CA 95865  
916-843-1536

[www.feat.org](http://www.feat.org)

LA FEAT  
5120 West 190<sup>th</sup> Street #10, Torrance, CA 90503  
310-796-2252

Email: [LAFEAT1@cs.com](mailto:LAFEAT1@cs.com)

A non-profit organization of parents and professionals, designed to help families with children who have received the diagnosis of autism or PDD NOS.

**Family Resource Network**

1855 South Business Center Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408-3426  
800-974-5553 or Secretary 909-890-4788

Provides information and support to families of children with disabilities. Parent representatives are available to help families access services and resources within their communities.

**Foundation for California State University, San Bernardino University Center for Developmental Disabilities**

909-880-5495

A program for children with autism and their families. Services include direct instruction to children to increase socialization, communication and appropriate behaviors and support activities for parents and siblings.

**Inland Counties Regional Center for Developmental Disabilities (IRC)**

P.O. Box 6127, San Bernardino, CA 92412

909-890-3000

A non-profit corporation that receives governmental funding, IRC is responsible for providing services to developmentally disabled individuals and their families. Services include: diagnosis and assessment; coordination of services and case management; program planning, monitoring and evaluation; advocacy.

**M.I.N.D. Institute**

Medical Investigation of Neurological Disorders

UC Davis Medical Center

4860 Y Street, Room 3020, Sacramento, CA 95817

888-883-0961

**National Alliance For Autism Research (NAAR)**

Research Park

99 Wall Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

888-777-NAAR

NAAR is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to finding the causes, prevention, effective treatment and ultimately, the cure of the autism spectrum disorder.

**National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)**

P.O. Box 1492, Washington, D.C. 20013-1492

800-695-0285

[nichcy@aed](mailto:nichcy@aed) or [www.nichcy.org](http://www.nichcy.org)

A clearinghouse of information on children and young people with special needs. Request their publications catalog. Many materials also available in Spanish.

**Parents Helping Parents (PHP)**

3041 Olcott Street, Santa Clara, CA 95054

408-727-5775 x160

[www.php.com](http://www.php.com)

Request PDD/Autism information packet and to be placed on the mailing list for PDD/Autism and FEAT (Families for Early Autism Treatment).

**Parental Stress Hotline**

CHILD HELP USA HOTLINE- 24 HR.

800-422-4453

Counseling and referrals available in 140 languages. 24-hour crisis telephone assistance for persons under stress. Telephone counseling primarily, but can also provide home visiting programs and respite care.

**Research Excellence in Autism & Communication at Hopkins (REACH)**

Baltimore, MD  
410-614-4948

[www.med.jhu.edu/reach/](http://www.med.jhu.edu/reach/)

Program of several federally and privately funded projects designed to examine and understand the evolution of autism and communication. REACH employs techniques designed to better understand underlying genetics, neuro-biologic, attentional, executive function, language, social interaction and cognitive factors in individuals with autism and related disorders.

**The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH)**

20 West Susquehanna Avenue # 210, Baltimore, MD 21204  
410-828-8274

[www.tash.orh](http://www.tash.orh)

TASH is an international association of people with disabilities, their family members, other advocates, and professionals fighting for a society in which inclusion of all people in all aspects of society is the norm. TASH is concerned with human dignity, civil rights, education, and independence for all individuals with disabilities. They actively promote the full inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of life.

**TACA (Talk About Curing Autism Now)**

Southern California Support Group

[www.talkaboutcuringautism.org](http://www.talkaboutcuringautism.org) or [www.curingjeff.org](http://www.curingjeff.org) or [www.tacanow.org](http://www.tacanow.org)

Three times a month email updates, lectures, and information. They have guest lectures, workshops, and articles. A resource for cutting edge information and other links in Southern California.

**Unlocking Autism**

P.O. Box 237, Walker, Louisiana 70785  
225-665-7270

[www.unlockingautism.org](http://www.unlockingautism.org)

News and links. Online chats, message boards, database and more.

## **Autism-General Websites**

[www.autism-pdd.net](http://www.autism-pdd.net)

An information and resource site for parents of children and caregivers coping with autism. Includes message board.

[www.autism-resources.com](http://www.autism-resources.com)

Offers information and links regarding autism and Asperger's syndrome. Created by John Wobus, parent of an adult son with autism.

[www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)

Devoted to educating the public about autism; facilitating and funding research; motivating private and governmental resources and helping find a cure for autism.

[www.danasview.net/index.htm](http://www.danasview.net/index.htm)

Site created by an attorney mom with a child with autism; mom has Asperger's syndrome. Site includes links, message boards, lots of information on autism and Asperger's syndrome.

<http://Home.sprynet.com/~schafer>

Schafer Autism Report: Online updates on the latest on autism. Non-profit mission is to promote autism awareness and education towards finding the best treatments, preventions and cures for A.S.D.

<http://kidshealth.org>

Provides families with general health information about children from birth through adolescence. Search under "autism" for specific information.

[www.stanswartz.com](http://www.stanswartz.com)

Autism Research Group-Stanley Swartz, Ph.D., Professor of Education, Special Education Department, CSU, San Bernardino. Autism Research Group is a partnership of parents of children with autism and professionals from a wide variety of disciplines involved in research and program development in special education. Site includes a message board.

[www.togetherforautism.org](http://www.togetherforautism.org)

Community site / message board for autism.

[www.wrongplanet.net](http://www.wrongplanet.net)

Online site created by teens with autism and Asperger's syndrome. A forum where members can communicate with each other; an article section where members may read and submit essays on how-to guides.

## Asperger's Syndrome

**ASPEN of America, Inc.**

PO Box 2577, Jacksonville, FL 32203-2577

904-745-6741

[www.asperger.org](http://www.asperger.org)

A national non-profit organization formed to increase the awareness of, and provide support for individuals affected with the following neurological disorders: Asperger's syndrome (AS); High Functioning Autism (HFA); Hyperlexia; Nonverbal Learning Disorder (NLD); Pervasive Developmental Disorder- Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS); and Semantic-Pragmatic Disorder.

**More Advanced Autistic People (MAAP)**

PO Box 524, Crown Point, IN 46307

219-662-1311

Email: [chart@netnitco.net](mailto:chart@netnitco.net)

Dedicated to assisting family members of advanced individuals with autism by offering information and advice on autism and by providing the opportunity to network with others in

similar circumstances. MAAP distributes print material relevant to high functioning autism including a quarterly newsletter, *The MAAP*.

***ASLearningAtHome***

[www.onelist.com/community/ASLearningAtHome](http://www.onelist.com/community/ASLearningAtHome)

A list for parents who currently home school or are SERIOUSLY considering home schooling their child with Asperger's syndrome.

***Asperger Intervention and Program List (AIPL)***

[www.onelist.com/community/AIPL](http://www.onelist.com/community/AIPL)

For professional and support workers to discuss the topic of interventions and programs for people with Asperger's syndrome.

***AS- and-Proud-of-it***

[AS-and-proud-of-it-subscribe@onelist.com](mailto:AS-and-proud-of-it-subscribe@onelist.com)

A list for those with Asperger's syndrome or their families. This list is to encourage us to look for the positives in our situations, learn as much as we can & above all SUPPORT one another through difficult times.

***Online Asperger's Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS)***

[www.udel.edu/bkirby/asperger/](http://www.udel.edu/bkirby/asperger/)

This site provides a wealth of information on Asperger's syndrome, high functioning autism and related disorders.

***ShadowSyndromeKids***

[www.onelist.com/community/ShadowSyndromeKids](http://www.onelist.com/community/ShadowSyndromeKids)

This list is intended for parents of mildly affected children of varying syndromes/disorders who feel that many of the other email lists are too strong or do not give you the right support.

## ***Assistive Technology***

***California Assistive Technology System (CATS)***

California Department of Rehabilitation  
830 K Street, Room 102, Sacramento, CA 94244  
800-390-2699

[www.catsca.com](http://www.catsca.com)

Obtain free information and/or referrals for your specified need. The hotline operates only 16 hours a week so you will probably have to leave a message and someone will call you back.

***Center for Applied Rehabilitation Technology***

Rancho Los Amigos, National Rehabilitation Center  
11601 East Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242  
562-401-6800

[www.rancho.org](http://www.rancho.org)

Provides assistive technology assessments.



**Closing the Gap**

[www.closingthegap.com](http://www.closingthegap.com)

Closing the Gap, Inc. is an organization that focuses on computer technology for people with special needs through its bi-monthly newspaper, annual international conference and extensive website.

**Dynavox**

2100 Wharton Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

888-697-7332

[www.dynavoxsys.com](http://www.dynavoxsys.com)

The worldwide leader in augmentative and alternative communication. Offers state-of-the-art communication devices and software that helps individuals with disabilities to express themselves more fully.

**Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK)**

100 W. Cerritos Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92805

714- 533-TASK

[www.taskca.org](http://www.taskca.org)

Offers information and consultation on computer technology. Tech gives individuals the opportunity to explore computer hardware and software to determine what is most effective in achieving accessibility and independence.

## ***Legal Rights/Advocates/Attorneys***

**ADA Home Page**

[www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm)

Information on the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**Behavior Intervention Developmental Services (BIDS)**

1425 West Foothill # 240, Upland, CA 91786

909-981-4433

Primarily provides support of in-home programs, but also assists parents at IEP meetings.

**California Dept. of Education, Press Division**

P.O. Box 721, Sacramento, CA 95812

[www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/sed/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/sed/)

800-995-4099

This publication updated annually. Web site contains a database of special education laws as well as a database from the Special Education Programs Hearing Office. Request free copy of "California Special Education Programs - A Composite of Laws" revised annually.

**California Dept. of Education, Special Education Division**

721 Capital Mall

P.O. Box 944272, Sacramento, CA 94244-2720

800-926-0648

[www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/sed](http://www.cde.ca.gov/spbranch/sed)

"Procedural Safeguard Referral Service" unit assists parents and other individuals in resolving disputes regarding the education of pupils with disabilities. Also answers questions about special education laws with referrals to appropriate agencies.

**California State government legislative update site :**

[www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

**Coalition of Advocates for Special Learners**

Email: [Hmroby@aol.com](mailto:Hmroby@aol.com)

A group of parents in the Temecula Valley supporting each other in advocacy efforts for their children with special needs. Happy to share ideas and strategies with parents in other locations. Ask to be added to the CASL email list.

**Community Access Center (ACCESS)**

81-730 Hwy 111, Suite 2, Indio, CA 92201

760-347-4888 Voice 760-347-6802 TTY

Atemisa ("Artie") Gutierrez, Project Coordinator

The mission of Community Access Center is to empower persons with disabilities to control their own lives, create an accessible community, and advocate and achieve complete social, economic, political integration.

**Dawn Bush**

909-515-0907

Email: [dawnlbush@aol.com](mailto:dawnlbush@aol.com)

Advocate with experience in special education and Lanterman Act.

**Developmental Disabilities Area Board #12**

13800 Heacock Street, Suite 130, Moreno Valley, CA 92553

800-962-8073 or 909-782-3226

One of thirteen boards set up under the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act to protect and advocate the rights of persons with developmental disabilities.

**Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Inc. (DREDF)**

2212 Sixth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

510-644-2555

[www.dredf.org](http://www.dredf.org)

A national law and policy center dedicated to protecting and advancing the civil rights of people with disabilities through legislation, litigation, advocacy, technical assistance, and education and training of attorneys, advocates, persons with disabilities, and parents of children with disabilities.

**EDLAW**

P.O. Box 81-7327, Hollywood, FL 33081

954-966-4489

[www.edlaw.net](http://www.edlaw.net)

The EDLAW site has legal information and is an excellent resource for parents and other advocates. Includes EDLAW Briefing papers, a monthly newsletter analyzing legal developments, different publications, an electronic library that contains education law texts of special education

statutes, regulations, interpretation of decisions, and an online parents advocacy consulting service, a fee based online answers to questions from parents.

**Deborah Wright, Attorney**

4322 St. Andrews Drive, Stockton, CA 95219

209-473-3419

[fairdbr@comcast.net](mailto:fairdbr@comcast.net)

Specializes in special education law.

**Findlaw California**

<http://california.findlaw.com>

California legal resources; laws, statutes, codes; case law and opinions; links to other legal sites;

California and U.S. Government sites; California legal forms; attorneys by name and specialty;

California law schools and libraries.

**Inland Counties Regional Center for Developmental Disabilities (IRC)**

674 Brier Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408

P.O. Box 6127, San Bernardino, CA 62412-6127

909-890-3000

Responsible for providing services to developmentally disabled individuals and their families. Your consumer service coordinator should help with advocacy. Also ask for the list of the parent advocates in your area.

**Steve Hermanson, Attorney**

325 West Hospitality Lane, Suite 104, San Bernardino, CA 92408

909-890-2253

Attorney with special education law experience who provides free advice to Inland Regional Center clients, or on a private basis.

**Maureen Graves, Attorney**

34 Schubert Court, Irvine, CA 92612

[maureengraves@cox.net](mailto:maureengraves@cox.net)

Attorney with special education law experience.

**National Organization of Social Security Claimants Representatives (NOSSCR)**

6 Prospect Street, Midland Park, NJ 07432

800-431-2804

[www.nosscr.org](http://www.nosscr.org)

The NOSSCR advocates on behalf of persons who are seeking Social Security and Supplemental Security Income.

**Office for Civil Rights, San Francisco Office**

U.S. Department of Education

Old Federal Building, 09-8010

50 United Nations Plaza, Room 239, San Francisco, CA 94102-4102

415-556-4275

The Office for Civil Rights enforces five statutes that prohibit discrimination in education programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Included is discrimination on the basis of Disability is prohibited by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

**Office of Clients Rights' Advocacy (OCRA)**

3602 Inland Empire Blvd C-100, Ontario, CA 91764-4924  
(800-390-7032 emergency)

Statewide office run by Protection & Advocacy, Inc. through a contract with the California Dept. of Developmental Services. OCRA employs a Clients Rights' Advocate who is trained to help protect the rights of people with developmental disabilities.

**PASS- Garry Finn, Attorney**

82632 Hwy 111, Suite A-3, Indio, CA 92201  
760-347-5779

Attorney who will represent families at due process.

**Protection & Advocacy, Inc. (PAI)**

So. Calif. Office  
3580 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 902, Los Angeles, CA 90010  
800-776-5746

Federally funded non-profit agency responsible for protecting the legal, civil and service rights of Californians with developmental or mental disabilities. PAI provides a variety of advocacy services including information and referral, technical assistance, and direct representation. Many helpful publications are available for ordering in several different languages. Recommend ordering *Special Education: Rights and Responsibilities*.

**Ralph Lewis, Attorney**

1101 California Avenue, Suite 100, Corona, CA 92881  
909-734-4631

Attorney with special education law experience.

**Reed Martin, Attorney.**

Resident of West Virginia  
[www.reedmartin.com](http://www.reedmartin.com)

Special education informational resource for parents, advocates, attorneys and school personnel advocating for children with a variety of issues including autism. Mr. Martin, who has specialized in special education rights for over thirty years in all 50 states, is a well-known speaker at conferences nationwide and has published several books on special education laws.

**Sarit Ariam, Attorney**

20301 Ventura Blvd #126, Woodland Hills, CA 91364  
818-992-5770

Consultation and representation in IEPs, Due Process Mediation and Hearing, includes Regional Centers.

**Shelli Lewis, Attorney**

9880 Indiana Avenue, Suite 32, Riverside, CA 92503  
or 800-775-3503

Attorney with special education law experience.

**Special Needs Advocate for Parents**

1801 Avenue of the Stars #401, Los Angeles, CA 90067

888-310-9889

[www.snapinfo.org](http://www.snapinfo.org)

SNAP provides information, education, advocacy and referrals for children with special needs of all ages and disabilities.

**TASH**

29 West Susquehanna Avenue, Suite 210, Baltimore, MD 21204

410-828-8274

Advocates for the rights of people with disabilities worldwide.

**Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK)**

100 West Cerritos Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92805

714-533-8275

Non-profit parent training and information center. Provides advocacy training workshops & information on children's educational rights, IEPs, consultations, advocacy services in several languages.

**United Advocates for the Children of California**

Riverside County Mental Health, Indio, CA 92201

760-863-8601

Assists families with children who have or are at risk of having severe emotional or behavioral problems.

**Western Law Center for Disability Rights**

PO Box 19026

San Bernardino, CA 92423-9026

Main info: (213) 736-1334

Local area: (909) 890-2933

Office serves both Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The center specializes in Civil Rights litigation; learning rights; education and outreach. The San Bernardino office will be able to assist with Civil Rights litigation, ADA Compliance issues, Education/outreach; all other duties will be referred to the LA office until more staff is added.

**Wrightslaw**

Pete and Pam Wright

c/o The Special Ed Advocate

[www.wrightslaw.com](http://www.wrightslaw.com)

804-257-0857

Current information for parents, educators, experts, and attorneys regarding effective advocacy for children with disabilities. Hundreds of articles, cases, newsletters, and other information about special education law and advocacy are available in the Wrightslaw Libraries.

## Diagnosis/Healthcare

### Diagnosis/Medical

**The Amen Clinic- Newport Beach**

4019 Westerly Place, Suite 100, Newport Beach, CA 92260  
949-266-3700

[www.amenclinic.com](http://www.amenclinic.com)

Specialize in innovative diagnosis and treatment for a wide variety of Neuropsychiatric, behavioral and learning problems for children, teenagers and adults.

**B.J. Freeman, Ph.D.**

**Professor, Medical Psychology**

UCLA School of Medicine and former Director of UCLA Evaluation Clinic  
3940 Mandeville Canyon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049  
310-440-8543

Dr. Freeman is world-renown for her expertise in diagnosing autism. She now has a private practice doing assessments, recommendations, and referrals for treatment.

**California Children Services (CCS)**

10769 Hole Avenue, Suite 220, Riverside, CA 92505  
909-358-5401

Provides diagnostic services, specialized medical care, rehabilitation, equipment, supplies, case management and medically necessary physical, occupational and speech/language therapy for medically and financially eligible children from 0-21.

**Casa Colina Autism Treatment Center**

Dr. Margaret Bauman  
2850 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91769  
800-926-5462

Offers assessments, treatment, speech and motor therapy. Dr. Bauman is a world-renown Pediatric neurologist who also practices at Massachusetts General and teaches at Harvard. An author of autism books, Dr. Bauman works at Casa Colina bi-monthly.

**Center for Child Development & Developmental USC/Children's Hospital**

Los Angeles, CA  
323-669-4656

Comprehensive diagnostic evaluations using interdisciplinary team approaches.

**Descanso Medical Center for Development and Learning**

Dr. Ricki Robinson, pediatrician with extensive experience in autism.  
Dr. Marilyn Lange, Pediatrician  
1346 Foothill Blvd, Suite 301, La Canada, CA 91011  
818-790-1587

**Diagnostic Center Southern California**

4339 State University Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90032  
323-222-8090

There are three Diagnostic Centers in California serving special education students ages 2.9 through 22 years. A branch of the California Department of Education, the Diagnostic Center provides assessments at the school or at the Diagnostic Center; consults with the parents and local staff regarding the findings and recommended interventions; provides technical assistance and does training programs. **REFERRALS MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE SCHOOL.**

**Educational Resource and Services (ERAS)**

10101 West Jefferson Blvd, Culver City, CA 90232

310-838-1200

Comprehensive diagnostic evaluations: Psycho/Educational, Behavioral, Social/Emotional, Speech and Language, and low cost screenings for Vision, speech and learning strengths and weaknesses.

**Great Plains Laboratory**

9335 West 75<sup>th</sup> Street, Overland, Park, KS 66204

913-341-8949

Provides parents and physicians with metabolic testing. Test includes 60+ compounds, the most important is yeast or fungal metabolites which have been found to be high in 80%+ of people with autism. Dr. Shaw will make recommendations about lab report with the physician or parent. He is not an MD and can't prescribe.

**Inland Counties Regional Center for Developmental Disabilities (IRC)**

674 Brier Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408

P.O. Box 6127, San Bernardino, CA 62412-6127

909-890-3000

Services include diagnosis and assessment. See listing under General Resources for more information.

**Interagency Assessment & Training Center (IATC)**

Faustina Mancilla, Coordinator

2221 South A Street, Suite 107, Perris, CA 92570

909-826-4600

Funded by First 5 Riverside. Provides full scope assessments for children without diagnoses utilizing an interactive team approach. Provides recommendations for home and classroom settings.

**Loma Linda University, Division of Child Neurology, Department of Pediatrics**

Loma Linda, CA

909-799-3383

Pediatric neurologists: Dr. Stephen Ashwal, Dr. Sarah Roddy, Dr. Standord Shu, Dr. McClure and an autism specialist- Dr. Hurwitz. Provide assessments and treatment. Dr. Murdoch, a psychiatrist, also has experience with autism: call (909) 558-6080.

**Dr. Susan Schmidt-Lackner (DAN Doctor)**

Assistant Clinical Professor at UCLA

Neuro-psychiatric Institute and Medical Director of the Early Childhood Autism Program.

760 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1759

310-825-0706

Also: Vista del Mar, 3200 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90034

310-836-1223 ext. 379

Dr. Schmidt-Lackner is a psychiatrist specializing in diagnosis and treatment of autism.

**Dr. Bob Sears (DAN doctor)**

655 Camino De Los Mares, San Clemente, CA 92673

949-493-5437

Autism Network Resources for Physicians.

<http://home.san.rr.com/autism.net>

**UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute Infant & Preschool Evaluation Service**

760 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024  
310-206-2210

Evaluates children 6 yrs and younger with developmental delays, not just autism. Services include: developmental and intellectual assessments, behavioral evaluations, treatment recommendations & referrals.

**UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute Autism Evaluation Clinic**

300 UCLA Medical Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024  
310-794-4008

The clinic will provide a thorough assessment to identify deficits and areas requiring clinical attention. Evaluations include developmental and intellectual assessments, play and behavioral evaluations, emotional and adaptive functioning assessments, diagnosis and treatment recommendations, and medical referrals.

**UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization Program**

300 Medical Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095  
310-206-2695

Short-term (approximately 12 weeks) intensive diagnostic program where the child attends daily 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. and different treatment approaches are tried. A thorough diagnostic report is given at end of program.

**Local Dentists**

*Please note: The dentists listed below are included in this guide because they were recommended by local parents with children with autism; however, they do not necessarily specialize in working with children with autism and will see patients with special needs on a case by case basis. You should contact the office and discuss your child's individual needs with the dentist. Try also contacting your own family dentist.*

**Dr. Gary U. Okamoto**

General Pediatric Dentist  
77-564 Country Club Drive #190A, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
760-360-0622

**Dr. Perri Putrasahan**

Dentist & General Anesthesiologist  
160 Luring, Suite F, Palm Springs, CA 92262  
760-325-2503

**Redlands Dental Surgery Center**

Dr. Russell O. Seheult, DDS, FADSA (Director)  
1180 Nevada Street, Suite 100, Redlands, CA 92374  
760-335-0474

**Dr. Robert Karl**

42-500 Bob Hope Drive, Suite A, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270



760-568-2797

Treats special needs patients ages 15 and older.

## **Local Doctors**

*Please note: As with the local dentists, the doctors listed here are known for having some experience with children with autism; however, what works for one family may not work for another.*

### **Dr. Alan Alexander**

Pediatrician

74075 El Paseo, Suite A-7, Palm Desert, CA 92260

760-340-5437

### **Dr. Alan S. Coit**

Pediatrician

39300 Bob Hope Drive # B1108, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

760-340-4621

### **Dr. Christopher Russell**

Adult & Adolescent Psychiatrist

760-568-1799

71650 Sahara Road, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

### **Dr. Daniel J. Fitzgerald III**

Psychiatrist

760-341-8878 ext. 115

72624 El Paseo # C1, Palm Desert, CA 92260

### **Dr. Edith Gonzalez**

Family Practice

47250 Washington Street Suite A, La Quinta, CA 922

760-771-9437

### **Dr. Edwin I. Roth**

Psychiatrist

74333 Hwy 111, Palm Desert, CA 92260

760-341-4642

### **Dr. Ernesto Millan**

Pediatrician

39000 Bob Hope Drive # K211, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

760-776-5620

### **Dr. Geller**

Psychiatrist

555 Tachevah, Palm Springs, CA 92262

760-325-4478

**Dr. Gina Davis (DAN Doctor)**

Chiropractor  
4050 Airport Center Drive Suite G, Palm Springs, CA  
760-320-1956

**Dr. Ihor A. Galarnyk**

Psychiatrist  
42700 Bob Hope Drive # 308, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270  
760-341-8341

**Dr. Michael Galanis**

Psychiatrist  
Morongo Basin Counseling & Recovery Center  
55475 Santa Fe Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284  
760-365-3022

**Dr. Priscilla Slagle (DAN doctor)**

Holistic Physician  
946 Avenida Palos Verdes, Palm Springs, CA 92262  
760-323-4259  
[www.thewayup.com](http://www.thewayup.com)

**Dr. Richard Torban**

Psychiatrist  
72624 El Paseo # C1, Palm Desert, CA 92260  
760-341-8878

## ***Infant & Toddler Programs***

**Casa Colina Early Intervention Program**

2850 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91769  
800-926-5462  
Offers early intervention program, speech therapy, occupational therapy and more.

**Early Start Family Resource Network**

Inland Counties Regional Center  
674 Brier Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92412  
800-974-5553  
Services provided for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or at risk of having developmental delays.

**Early Start Infant Circle Program**

Riverside County Office of Education  
Attention: Infant Circle

P.O. Box 868, Riverside, CA 92502

951-683-0112

Assessment and services for children with disabilities or at risk from birth to 36 months.

# Learning/Speech/Sensory Materials

## **Autism Coach**

[www.autismcoach.com](http://www.autismcoach.com)

Autism Coach offers an extensive selection of software to address all areas of need for children with autism.

## **Autism Teaching Tools**

[www.autismteachingtools.com](http://www.autismteachingtools.com)

A resource to help parents and professionals working with children on the autism spectrum. Site also includes links.

## **Baby BumbleBee**

P.O. Box 117, Crystal Beach, FL 34681

888-984-5500

[www.babybumblebee.com](http://www.babybumblebee.com)

The Vocabulary Builder Video Series was designed to enhance the growth of receptive and spoken language in infants and toddlers using approaches recommended by early learning specialists and speech therapists.

## **Beyond Play**

1-877-428-1244

[www.beyondplay.com](http://www.beyondplay.com)

Early intervention products for sensory and communication needs and motor skills, and other general resources.

## **Childswork / Childsplay Center for Applied Psychology, Inc.**

P.O. Box 61586, King of Prussia, PA 19406

800-962-1141

[www.childswork.com](http://www.childswork.com)

Childswork / Childsplay creates materials, books and games that encourage children to meet their developmental tasks, learn to deal with their feelings, and find ways to cope with their emotional, behavioral or learning disorders.

## **CM School Supplies**

800-625-4336

[www.cmschoolsupplies.com](http://www.cmschoolsupplies.com)

Learning materials.

## **Creative Communicating**

P.O. Box 3358, Park City, UT 84060

435-645-7737

[www.creative-comm.com](http://www.creative-comm.com)

Creative Communicating is dedicated to creating practical and affordable materials for children with disabilities, and educational resources for parents and /or service providers.

**Different Roads to Learning**

12 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10011  
800-853-1057

**[www.difflern.com](http://www.difflern.com)**

An on-line catalog specializing in learning and speech materials and playthings for children ages 2 to 10 with developmental delays and challenges.

**Dis-Abilities Online**

**[www.dis-abilities.com/](http://www.dis-abilities.com/)**

An online directory with hundreds of listings of products.

**Discount School Supply**

800-627-2829

**[www.discountchoolsupply.com](http://www.discountchoolsupply.com)**

Learning materials.

**Don Johnston, Inc.**

P.O. Box 639, Wauconda, IL 60084  
800-999-4660

**[www.donjohnston.com](http://www.donjohnston.com)**

They provide intervention products to help students achieve literacy. They offer reading, writing, word-study and computer access products, as well as professional development services for educating teachers on using technology in the classroom to teach reading and writing.

**Do2Learn**

**[www.do2learn.com](http://www.do2learn.com)**

Sells toys, books, software and other supplies for creative, imaginative, and novel approaches to develop student's academic, sensory, motor or social skills and abilities.

**Early Childhood & Primary Catalog Educational Activities, Inc.**

P.O. Box 87, Baldwin, NY 11510  
800-645-3739

Call and request catalog for a list of their products.

**Earobics- Cognitive Concepts**

1123 Emerson St., Evanston, IL 60201  
888-328-8199

**[www.cogcon.com](http://www.cogcon.com)**

An interactive computer program that teaches essential listening, phonological awareness and phonic skills and language comprehensive skills. For ages 4-10; professional and home programs available.

**Edmark**

P.O. Box 97021, Redmont, WA 98073  
800-691-2986

**[www.edmark.com/](http://www.edmark.com/)**

A developer and publisher of children's educational software.

**Elliecards- Early Learning Images**

380 Stevens Avenue, Suite 310, Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858-509-9003

**[www.elliecards.com/](http://www.elliecards.com/)**

Designed to be used for young children with autism, speech disorders, and various learning disabilities. The master binder contains 192 photos that are affixed to the pages of a binder with Velcro.

**Fast ForWord- Scientific Learning Corp.**

300 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 500, Oakland, CA 94612  
888-665-9707

**[www.scientificlearning.com](http://www.scientificlearning.com)**

Intensive 4-8 week programs using scientifically validated CD-ROM software and the internet to develop oral language comprehension, listening and reading skills. Available in home and professional versions.

**Greenhouse Publications**

P.O. Box 802742, Santa Clarita, CA 91380  
661-263-7661

Interactive reading books using the power of visual strategies the children learn to associate pictures with words.

**Harcourt Assessments**

800-211-8378  
[www.HarcourtAssessments.com](http://www.HarcourtAssessments.com)  
Assessment products.

**IntelliTools, Inc.**

55 Leveroni Court, Suite 9, Novato, CA 94949  
800-899-6687

**[www.intellitools.com](http://www.intellitools.com)**

Adaptive hardware and software for all levels of abilities.

**Kaplan**

1310 Lewisville-Clemmons Road, Lewisville, NC 27023  
800-334-2014

**[www.kaplanco.com](http://www.kaplanco.com)**

Provides developmental resources and materials. Provides catalogs on developmentally appropriate learning materials for early childhood and The Catalog for Special Education.

**Lakeshore Learning Materials**

2695 East Dominguez Street, Carson, CA 90810  
800-421-5354

**[www.lakeshorelearning.com](http://www.lakeshorelearning.com)**

Lakeshore offers a wide variety of educational products, from furniture and art materials to puzzles and hands-on learning.

**Laureate Learning Systems**

110 East Spring Street, Winooski, VT 05404  
800-562-6801

[www.llsys.com](http://www.llsys.com)

Publishes computer software for children and adults with disabilities. Laureate's programs are appropriate for a wide range of people from those with severe-profound developmental disabilities to mild language-learning disabilities.

**Lingui Systems**

3100 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, East Moline, IL 61244-9700  
800-776-4332

[www.linguisystems.com](http://www.linguisystems.com)

They have books and games for phonological awareness, language development, oral-motor, autism, articulation, nonverbal learning disorders, and more.

**Mayer-Johnson Co.**

P.O. Box 1579, Solana Beach, CA 92075  
800-588-4548

[www.mayerjohnson.com](http://www.mayerjohnson.com)

The Mayer-Johnson Company is the originator of the Picture Communication Symbols (PCS), which is a set of 3200 picture symbols used for communication by nonverbal individuals.

**Mobile Thinking, LLC**

619-293-7451

[www.mobilethinking.com](http://www.mobilethinking.com)

Mobile Thinking sells software that lets schools, agencies and parents inexpensively record, store, and report Discrete Trial and Behavior data. Agencies and schools can email to parents easy-to-read graphs, charts, and time-on-task summaries.

**NASCO Special Education Instructional Supplies**

4825 Stoddard Road, Modesto, CA 95356-9318  
209-545-1600

[www.enasco.com](http://www.enasco.com)

**PCI Educational Publishing, Inc.**

[www.pcicatalog.com](http://www.pcicatalog.com)

Publisher of comprehensive instructional materials for early learning, elementary regular education, elementary special education, secondary special education, and at-risk academics. PCI's instructional materials take a "hands-on," peer-based approach to education by creating interactive learning experiences. Games and group activities make the learning process immediate, fun, and natural, leading to improved individual skill development.

**Play with a purpose**

888-330-1826

Developmentally appropriate products for young children (birth thru pre-k). Many physical learning products for outdoor/indoor use, e.g. scooters, balls, mats, bean bags, art supplies.

**Pocket Full of Therapy**

800-PFOT-124

[www.pfot.com](http://www.pfot.com)

Pediatric and school-based products. The owners of this company are Occupational Therapists. Products target many areas, i.e. sensory, visual, motor planning.

**Pyramid Educational Consultants**

226 West Park Place, Suite 1, Newark, DE 19711

888-732-7462

[www.pecs.com](http://www.pecs.com)

Pyramid offers a wide range of consulting services and products for educators and parents of children and adults with autism and related disabilities using applied behavioral analysis and communication skills. It is the source of Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) - an augmentative communication method using pictures. PECS and other Pyramid products are ordered through a separate division:

Pyramid Education Products, Inc.

302-894-9155

[www.pyramidproducts.com](http://www.pyramidproducts.com)

**Sensory Comfort**

888-436-2622

[www.sensorycomfort.com](http://www.sensorycomfort.com)

Items for children who are under or over responsive to sensory stimuli. Provides equipment, multi-sensory toys, and written materials.

**Southpaw Enterprises**

P.O. Box 1047, Dayton, OH 45401

800-228-1698

[www.southpawenterprises.com/](http://www.southpawenterprises.com/)

Southpaw manufactures over 200 innovative products, including S.I. equipment, for therapeutic professionals. Although the focus is primarily on clinic-based therapy, they also develop products for teachers in the classroom and for parents for use at home under a therapist's guidance.

**Special Kids, Inc.**

P.O. Box 462, Muskego, WI 53150

800-KIDS-153

[www.specialkids1.com](http://www.specialkids1.com)

Founded by parents of a child with autism, they have learning videotapes, books, and more.

**SporTime-Abilitations and Integrations**

800-850-8602

[www.abilitations.com](http://www.abilitations.com)

[www.integrationscatalog.com](http://www.integrationscatalog.com)

SporTime has many divisions providing a wide assortment of products for children of all ages and abilities, including a wide range of sensory-based equipment. Abilitations has a bigger variety of equipment including positioning equipment for children with physical limitations. Integrations focuses on calming and organizing materials and strategies for school and home.



### **Super Duper Publications**

800-277-8737

[www.superduperink.com](http://www.superduperink.com)

They publish and distribute fun, colorful, materials for speech-language pathologists, special educators, teachers, parents, and care givers in educational, home and health care settings.

### **The Disability Link Barn**

[www.accessunlimited.com/links.html](http://www.accessunlimited.com/links.html)

Provides many links, information and products.

### **The Reading Program**

[www.thereadingprogram.com](http://www.thereadingprogram.com)

The Reading Program, using processes developed by Lindamood-Bell, has had success treating reading problems stemming from Dyslexia, ADD, Brain Trauma, Tourette's Syndrome, and other disabilities.

### **Thinking Publications**

800-225-4769

[www.thinkingpublications.com](http://www.thinkingpublications.com)

On-line catalog contains speech, language and social skills products for all ages for use by teachers, therapists, and parents.

### **Train Time- Learning Fundamentals**

800-777-3166

[www.learningfundamentals.com](http://www.learningfundamentals.com)

Sells the software - Train Time; which includes eight exercises for speech production, auditory comprehension, conversation stimulation, and auditory/visual attention and memory. The exercises are built around a train theme and structures to be especially appealing to persons with autism, PDD, or Asperger's Syndrome.

### **UCLA**

1000 Veteran Ave.

23-10 Rehab Center, Los Angeles, CA 90095

310-825-4821

Computer Programs for persons with special needs.

## ***Publications/Booklists/Newsletters***

### **"Autism-Asperger's Digest"**

[www.autismdigest.com](http://www.autismdigest.com)

721 West Abram Street, Arlington, TX 76013

800-489-0727

Bi-monthly magazine published by Future Horizons containing strategies, products, programs, websites and current developments in autism/Asperger's.

### **Autism Society of North Carolina Bookstore**

919-743-0204

[www.autism-nc.org](http://www.autism-nc.org)

One of the largest bookstores in the United States specializing in autism titles, with over 180 active titles. Online ordering is available.

**"Autism Spectrum Quarterly"**

(formerly the Morning News and Jennison Autism Journal)

(860) 635-2906

[www.asquarterly.com](http://www.asquarterly.com)

A Starfish Specialty Press Publication.

Quarterly publication that shares down-to-earth, practical information among families, professionals and persons with autism. Articles deal with common concerns (i.e. bullying) and expands use of social stories, comic strip conversations and related techniques.

**"Exceptional Parent"**

605 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215

800-247-8080

Monthly publication. Contains medical and educational articles, current issues and antidotal information. Targets professionals and parents of children with special needs.

**Focus on Autism and other Developmental Disabilities**

8700 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78757

800-897-3202

Quarterly publication by Pro-Ed Inc. Contains medical and education research-technical.

**Future Horizons, Inc.**

422 East Lamar #106, Arlington, TX 76011

800-489-0727 or 817-277-0727

[www.futurehorizons-autism.com](http://www.futurehorizons-autism.com)

Autism books, videos, information about conferences. Go to CVASA.org for a 40% discount for Future Horizons orders.

**Jessica Kingsley Publishers**

Taylor & Francis Inc.

325 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

215-625-8900

[www.jkp.com](http://www.jkp.com)

Based in England with a US distributor, publishes a variety of books on autism and other disabilities.

**"Journal of Autism & Developmental Disorders" (JADD)**

233 Spring Street, New York, NY 10013

212-620-8468

Bi-monthly publication by Plenum Publishing Corp. Contains technical medical and educational research on autism.

**Pro-Ed**

8700 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78757

800-897-3202

[www.proedinc.com/idex.html](http://www.proedinc.com/idex.html)

Pro-Ed publishes and distributes books, materials, tests and journals in psychology, speech, special education, etc. for use by professionals, parents and students.

**"The Special Edge"**

916-492-9990 or 1-800-869-4337

Bi-monthly publication by Resources in Special Education funded by the California Department of Education.

**Resources in Special Education ("RISE")**

429 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

916-492-9990 or 800-869-4337

The RISE Lending Library offers a variety of library materials and resource assistance. Items are available on loan to any California resident.

**The Special Needs Project - Worldwide Booklist**

3463 State Street, Suite 282, Santa Barbara, CA 93105

800-333-6867

[www.specialneeds.com](http://www.specialneeds.com)

Extensive list of materials on autism. Also has online catalog.

**Starfish Speciality Press**

PO Box 799

Higganum, CT 06441-0799

877-782-7347

[www.starfishpress.com](http://www.starfishpress.com)

Publishes books and materials designed to address the complex learning needs of children and youth with autism, Asperger's and related disabilities. Targets the needs of caregivers and provides direct educational support and materials to students.

**Woodbine House**

800-843-7323

[www.woodbinehouse.com](http://www.woodbinehouse.com)

A publisher that specializes in books about children with special needs.

## ***Recreation/Respite/Camps***

**Camp Able**

Jenelle Nettles

858-627-9498

[campable@yahoo.com](mailto:campable@yahoo.com)

Aquatic summer day camp for individuals of all ages and disabilities located in Coronado. Program runs 8 weeks, but most campers attend one week. Sailing, canoeing, boogey boarding, arts & crafts, obstacle course. Goal is for the camper to have a great time at the beach.

**Camp Paivika- Ability First**

Crestline

Wendy Feldman

323-874-3300

[www.ccsoc.org](http://www.ccsoc.org)

For children 7 yrs and older and adults with physical and/or developmental disabilities. Camp open mid-June through August. Program designed to make friends, build skills and explore new interests in a safe camping environment. Vendorized by IRC.

**Camp Joan Mier- Ability First**

Malibu

Wendy Feldman

323-874-3300

[www.ccsoc.org](http://www.ccsoc.org)

For children 7 yrs and older and adults with physical and/or developmental disabilities. Camp open mid-June through August. Program designed to make friends, build skills and explore new interests in a safe camping environment. Vendorized by IRC.

**Camp Metoche- Exceptional Children's Foundation**

San Bernardino Mountains

310-204-3300

For adults 18 yrs or older, self-sufficient in toiletries, dressing, feeding and showering and non-abusive to self or others. Camp open mid-June through August. Provides a wide variety of programs and services. Vendorized by IRC.

**Cuyammaca- Camp-A-Lot/ Camp-A-Little and Leisure Express**

San Diego, CA

858-587-3243

Designed for individuals with developmental disabilities 6 yrs and older. Adults in July, kids and teens in August. Vendorized.

**Foundation for the Retarded**

73-255 Country Club Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260

760-346-1611

Vendorized by Inland Counties Regional Center to provide Social Recreation and Respite services.

**Gymboree**

791 East Foothill Blvd, Upland, CA 91786

909-981-8227

A developmental play program that is therapeutically beneficial. They work on tactile issues, social issues, body awareness, and gross motor issues. For children: birth through 5 years.

**JAF Ministries Camp**

Murrieta, CA

818-707-5664

A camp for the entire family. Camp activities include fishing, beach area, swimming pool, tennis court, spa, coffeehouse and a 50's style malt shop and religious worship.

**KidsCamps.com**

561-989-9330 ext. 2

[www.kidscamps.com](http://www.kidscamps.com)

The Internet's most comprehensive directory of camps that take children with developmental disabilities.

**Kris' Camp**

P.O. Box 3715, Idyllwild, CA 92549

850-386-2765

[kriscamp@earthlink.net](mailto:kriscamp@earthlink.net)

Camp for children with autism and their families. Provides intensive therapy and respite. Opportunities available for siblings. Vendorized through Regional Center. Limited space.

**My Gym**

44425 Towne Center Way, Palm Desert, CA 92260

760-346-6307

Local structured gymnastics/play classes for children of all ages and abilities.

**Pegasus Riding Academy for the Handicapped**

760-772-3057

Local horseback riding program for children with special needs.

**Pure Vibes Special Needs Therapeutic Surf Instructor**

[www.purevibessurfing.com](http://www.purevibessurfing.com)

Surf Camp meets once a week for three hours where children engage in age-appropriate gross motor/fine motor/sensory activities, small group crafts, games and discussion relating to beach and ocean themes. One-on-one surf instruction is customized for children of all ages and disabilities to promote coordination, strength, balance, gross/fine motor control, and sensory integration.

**Pure Vibes**

[www.purevibestutoring.com](http://www.purevibestutoring.com)

Hands-on therapeutic surf instruction and other water-related activities teach skills in attention and concentration, language and communication, balance and coordination, in a fun and safe yet challenging environment. Check website for a description of the various types of surf camps and other services offered.

**Rapture Marine Expeditions**

Robert Montez

949-429-5100

[www.rapture.cc](http://www.rapture.cc)

Live-aboard vessel marine education program in existence 15 years. Developing program for children with autism and other special needs at least 13 years old; parent chaperones required. 3 days, 2 nights stay on a ship leaving out of Long Beach to Catalina.

**So. California Parks**

Disneyland, Legoland, Knott's Berry Farm, Sea World and Universal Studios all have policies accommodating special needs and accompanying family members for pre-boarding. Some offer reduced rates. Call individual parks for more information.

**Surfers Healing Foundation**

200 South Corte Cardelina, San Clemente, CA 92673

949-492-1398

[www.surfershealing.com](http://www.surfershealing.com)

A non-profit organization which gives children with autism free surf camps during the summer.

### **United Cerebral Palsy of the Inland Empire**

760-340-2282

Offers Skill Builders After School Recreational Program and "Little Bridges," a social recreation child development program for children with special needs ages 3 to 6. Also provides respite services.

### **YMCA**

43930 San Pablo Avenue, Palm Desert, CA 92260

760-341-9622

Provides a variety of programs at several locations throughout the desert community. At certain locations, staff has been specially trained to include children with autism in the program. *Check out YMCA summer camps in San Diego County: Raintree Ranch and Camp Marston.*

*Note: Also check with local AYSO (American Youth Soccer Organization) regarding VIP team; Little League regarding Challenger Baseball; and city parks and recreation departments for additional programs for children with special needs.*

## ***Schools/Education Assistance***

*Note: The schools listed below have had experience with children with autism, but what works for one family may not work for another. Visit the school and explain your child's specific needs with the director to determine if it's an appropriate placement for your child.*

### **Academic Associates Learning Center**

Cliff Ponder, Founder and President

760-345-1334

[www.academic-associates.com](http://www.academic-associates.com)

Specializes in teaching reading to learning disabled students and training teachers to teach reading. The Center has experience teaching reading to students with autism.

### **ASLearningAtHome**

This is a list for mom's who home school their children who have been diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome (AS) (mild autism). This list is for support and encouragement- sharing joys and frustrations of home schooling our "special children."

[www.onelist.com/community/ASLearningAtHome](http://www.onelist.com/community/ASLearningAtHome)

### **AUT-2B-HOME Mailing List**

<http://maelstrom.stjohns.edu/archives.aut-2b-home.html>

List for home schooling children with autism.

### **Bermuda Dunes Learning Center**

78-245 Avenue 42, Bermuda Dunes, CA 92201

760-772-7127

**California Confederation of Inclusive Education (CCIE)**

[www.interwork.sdsu.edu/projects/ccie](http://www.interwork.sdsu.edu/projects/ccie)

Works with multiple school districts and dozens of schools toward inclusion.

**Californians for Inclusive Schools (CIS)**

[www.pai-ca.org/CIS/Index.htm](http://www.pai-ca.org/CIS/Index.htm)

A coalition of advocacy, family, and professional organizations and individuals committed to ensuring that all students are provided with the opportunity for an effective inclusive education.

**Circle of Inclusion**

[www.circleofinclusion.org](http://www.circleofinclusion.org)

This website is for early childhood service providers and families of young children. It offers demonstrations of and information about the effective practices of inclusive educational programs for children from birth through age eight. Information is also available in Spanish and in Asian languages.

**Coachella Valley Unified School District**

87225 Church, Thermal, CA 92274

760-399-5137 ext. 227

**Desert Sands Unified School District**

47-950 Dune Palms Road, La Quinta, CA 92253

760-777-4200 ext. 8652

**Homeschooling Kids with Disabilities**

6291 Vegas Drive, San Jose, CA 95120

<http://members.tripod.com/~Maaja/>

Offers information and support to people who have chosen to home-school their children with special educational needs.

**Julian Charter School**

P.O. Box 1780, Julian, CA 92036

Riverside County Contact: Laura Badillo PH: 951-304-3051

[www.juliancharterschool.org](http://www.juliancharterschool.org)

**Kings Schools**

67675 Bolero, Palm Springs, CA 92262

(Preschool): 760-324-7381

(K-8): 760-324-5464

**Palm Springs Unified School District**

980 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262

760-416-6029

**Riverside County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)**

3380 14th Street, P.O. Box 2800, Riverside, CA 92516-2800

951-788-7142

Provides local program information and referral information on the local educational agencies (LEAs).

**Riverside County Office of Education SELPA, Community Advisory Committee (CAC)**

951-826-6551

[www.rcoe/divisions/selpa](http://www.rcoe/divisions/selpa)

Mandated by State of California law, CAD is a team of parents of children enrolled in special education, and individuals with an interest in securing appropriate services for students with disabilities. CAC membership represents each of the 20 SELPA member districts and the RCOE. Meetings take place bi-monthly. Publishes a quarterly newsletter and a Parent/Guardian Reference Guide.

**Riverside County Office of Education**

Early Start Infant Circle Program

(Designed for Birth to 3 years)

951-352-8484

Coordinator/Principal of Special Education

Indio / Coachella 760-342-8093

Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage 760-325-2774

**Riverside County Office of Education**

Resource & Referral: 800-442-4927

Subsidized childcare: 888-296-5437

**Tot Stop**

77970 Delaware, Palm Desert, CA 92260

760-360-6445

**Village Glen School**

13130 Burbank Blvd, Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

877-994-3580

[www.villageglen.org](http://www.villageglen.org)

Village Glen School is an innovative, multidisciplinary and unique therapeutic day school specifically designed for children with challenges in the areas of socialization, communicative and pragmatic language development and peer relations. Many of the students served at Village Glen experience special needs associated with Asperger's syndrome, high-functioning autism, anxiety-related disorders and non-verbal learning disabilities. Various programs are offered, including a therapeutic preschool program, early intervention center, Beacon program for school-age children, and after-school social skills groups.

## **Treatment Resources**

*Note: We highly recommend you obtain the book "Autism Treatment Guide" by Elizabeth K. Gerlach, which is a comprehensive listing of autism treatment resources. Copies may be checked out from the CVASA Resource Center or may be purchased through ARI (619) 281-7165 or ASA (800) 3AUTISM.*



## **Auditory Integration Therapy**

### **American Speech-Language Hearing Association**

10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852

800-638-8255

[www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

ASHA can provide a listing of AIT professionals in your area.

### **Giant Steps Therapy**

8739 Mt. Hope Road, Hornson, OH 45030

800-952-0288

[www.giant-steps.com](http://www.giant-steps.com)

Will travel to Inland Empire. Offers AIT (the Berard approach), Hemisphere Specific Auditory Stimulation, Samonas Therapeutic Listening Program, Fast ForWord One and Fast ForWord Two, Interactive Metronome Irlen Screening for light sensitivity and reading problems, EEG Biofeedback / Neurofeedback and Mannatech Nutraceutical Products.

### **Sound Listening and Learning Center Tomatis Center**

200 East Del Mar Blvd, Suite 208, Pasadena, CA 91105

626-405-2386

[www.soundlistening.com](http://www.soundlistening.com)

Auditory integration training using the Tomatis Method; information, brochures and books. Assessments and consultations.

## **Behavioral Therapy**

### **Applied Behavioral Consultants, Inc.**

1217 Buena Vista, Suite 101, Duarte, CA 91010

626-305-5678

Four offices: Duarte, Sacramento, Central Valley, Valencia. May be expanding to Inland Empire and eastward. Provides intensive behavior training programs.

### **The Autism Center**

Claremont McKenna College

850 Columbia Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711

909-621-8598

A behavior management treatment and research program for children with autism and their families. Vendorized through Regional Center.

### **Autism Partnership**

200 Marina Drive, Suite C, Seal Beach, CA 90740-6057

562-431-9293 ext. 144

[www.autismpartnership.com](http://www.autismpartnership.com)

The Autism Partnership was formed in 1994 to meet the tremendous need for comprehensive services to families with autistic children. Based upon the founders' extensive and unique experiences in providing behavioral treatment to children, adolescents and adults they have developed a comprehensive program that offers a variety of treatment options.

**B.E.S.T. Services, Inc.**

1150 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon, CA 92021

619-442-1271

Jennifer Cox, Case Supervisor PH: 858-335-5160

Provides in-home intensive behavioral and educational services to children based on discrete trial methodology. Services also include: parent training, workshops and consultation with school district, school shadow services, IEP goal writing. Vendorized service provider through Inland Counties Regional Center.

**Behavior Intervention Developmental Services**

1425 West Foothill # 240, Upland, CA 91786

909-981-4433

Provides support of in-home programs and can assist parents at IEP meetings.

**Center for Autism and Related Disorders**

23300 Ventura Blvd, Woodland Hills, CA 91354

818-223-0123

[www.centerforautism.com](http://www.centerforautism.com)

CARD is among the world's largest and most experienced organizations treating children with autism and related disorders. Following the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), CARD develops individualized treatment plans so that the child's specific strengths and weaknesses can be taken into account. CARD was established 15 years ago and has several offices throughout the world. Services also include: parent training, workshops and consultation with school district, school shadow services, IEP goal writing.

**Interact Program**

P.O. Box 10545, San Bernardino, CA 92423

909-796-9300

[www.jfuentes.info](http://www.jfuentes.info)

Behavioral services provided at Loma Linda location. Families from the Coachella Valley can go there for assessment and consultation.

**Lovaas Institute for Early Intervention (LIFE)**

11500 West Olympic Blvd, Suite 318, Los Angeles, CA 90064

310-914-5433

[www.lovaas.com](http://www.lovaas.com)

Dr. O. Ivar Lovaas, Director. Institute provides behavioral treatment and comprehensive parent consultations to families who have children with autism. Home and clinic based services.

**University Center for Developmental Disabilities (U.C.D.D.)**

5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407

909-880-5495

[soe.csusb.edu/dsweeney/devcenter.html](http://soe.csusb.edu/dsweeney/devcenter.html)

Services include direct instruction to children to increase socialization, communication and appropriate behaviors, support activities for parents and siblings, instruction for improved parenting, and activities to enhance the cooperation of schools and agencies that serve children in Center programs. Families are referred by their Regional Center case manager. Satellite programs offered in Palm Desert, with Spanish classes available.

**Working With Autism, Inc.**

16530 Ventura Blvd, Suite 310, Encino, CA 91436

818-501-4240

[www.workingwithautism.com](http://www.workingwithautism.com)

Provides training workshops for in-home programs and supervision of in-home programs.

## **Diet & Allergy Interventions**

**Autism Network for Dietary Intervention**

P.O. Box 17711, Rochester, NY 17711

[www.autismndi.com](http://www.autismndi.com)

Provides help and support for families using a gluten and casein free diet in the treatment of autism and related developmental disabilities.

**GFCF Diet**

<http://gfcfdiet.com>

Website provides a central location for parents to find other parents who are also using Dietary Therapy. It provides lists of products to help you through the grocery stores. Has an online forum and community bulletin board.

**Internet Chat for Parents of Children of Autism**

<http://hometown.aol.com/parentschat/myhomepage/index.html>

An internet chat for parents who have their children on the Gluten Free/ Casein Free dietary intervention.

**Kirkman Laboratories, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1009, Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

800-245-8282 or 503-694-1600

[www.kirkmanlabs.com](http://www.kirkmanlabs.com)

Manufacturer of vitamins/dietary supplements.

**The Feingold Association of the United States**

554 E. Main Street, Ste. 301, Riverhead, NY 11901

800-321-3287

[www.feingold.org](http://www.feingold.org)

Supports members in the implementation of the Feingold Program and to generate public awareness of the potential role of food and synthetic additives in the treatment of behavior, learning, and health problems.

## **Developmental Optometrists/Vision Therapy**

**Dr. Anne Simpson**

1131 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 150, Ontario, CA 91762

909-986-0918

Provides evaluation and treatment of pediatric visual problems requiring glasses and/or visual therapy; specializing in helping children with visually related learning problems.

**Dr. Bescoby, Dr. Simonis, Sara Wayland**

1420 North Claremont Blvd, Suite 209B, Claremont, CA 91711  
909-621-0057

Provides pediatric vision examinations, diagnosis, management and treatment of strabismus (eye turn) and amblyopia (lazy eye) and visually related learning difficulties, using the latest technology for pediatric optometry including vision therapy.

**Dr. Stanley Kaseno and Dr. Leanna Parisi- Eye Care Center**

164 West Hospitality Lane, Suite 7, San Bernardino, CA 92408  
909-885-2774

Developmental optometrists who will perform eye examinations and vision therapy.

**Dr. Janet Kohtz**

5300 Arlington, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92504  
951-689-9180

Developmental optometrist who will perform eye examinations and vision therapy: NPA.

**Irlen Institute**

5380 Village Road, Long Beach, CA 90808  
562-496-2550

[www.irlen.com](http://www.irlen.com)

The Irlen Institute and 84 affiliate clinics throughout the world offer therapy services for individuals suffering from sensory overload. The Irlen Method, a patented treatment, utilizes colored filters worn as glasses to reduce or eliminate perception difficulties and sensory overload. Can be a treatment used in vision therapy.

## **Social Skills**

**Best Buddies**

909-307-6512

[www.bestbuddies.org](http://www.bestbuddies.org)

Best Buddies matches individuals in High School with developmental disabilities to one-to-one friendships with student volunteers. Friends are encouraged to spend time together primarily during lunch and sometimes after school. They are both members of a Best Buddies club at school, which is coordinated by faculty sponsors, and student leaders who plan events for the members.

**Carol Gray**

The Gray Center for Social Learning and Understanding  
4123 Embassy Dr. SE, Kentwood, MI 49546  
616-954-9747

[www.thegraycentr.org](http://www.thegraycentr.org)

Carol Gray developed techniques called Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversations to help individuals with autism understand social situations. Presents at conferences worldwide; has written several books and articles which can be purchased via the website. Co-editor of the [Autism Spectrum Quarterly](#) (formerly [The Morning News](#)).

**Cynthia La Brie Norall, PhD.**

CASE "Comprehensive Autism Services and Education"

580 Beech Avenue, Suite B, Carlsbad, CA 92008  
760-720-4964

In addition to providing behavioral services and training in various methodologies (DTT, PRT, FloorTime, Social Facilitation, TEACCH), CASE is well known for various social skills training groups, including after-school groups, friends' camps, summer friends' camps and "Gender Talk". CASE uses various strategies for teaching social understanding to children, teens and young adults with autism and Asperger's.

**Let's Communicate, Inc.**

Marcey Utter, Speech/language Pathologist  
79-440 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 113, La Quinta, CA 92253  
760-574-6157  
Pediatric speech, language and social skills therapy practice.

**SODAS – Social Skills WebQuest**

<http://tpoz.k12.sd.us/sodas.webquest.html>

Site to develop social skills for elementary children needing social skills assistance.

**Speech Pathology Professionals**

16960 East Bactanchery Road, Suite C, Yorba Linda  
714-993-3233

Social Training Classes typically once a week using a mixture of techniques from Tony Attwood, Michelle Garcia-Winner, Carol Gray, and Lauren Franke.

**Michelle Garcia Winner**

Speech & Language Pathologist  
3550 Stevens Creek Blvd., Ste. 200  
San Jose, CA 95117  
408-557-8595

[www.socialthinking.com](http://www.socialthinking.com)

Specialist for persons with social cognitive deficits. Gives presentations on teaching social cognition. Author of Inside Out: What Makes A Person with Social Cognitive Deficits Tick?

**Speech & Occupational Therapy/Sensory Integration**

**Beth Aune-Nelson**

Local Pediatric Occupational Therapist  
77564 Country Club Dr. Suite 365, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
760-861-7070

Provides therapies for children with autism and sensory integration dysfunction emphasizing the child within the context of the family.

**Nancy Bucher**

Local speech/Language/Hearing Specialist  
760-771-8741

**California Hawaii Elks Project**

Provides services to children with disabilities at no cost to families.

Charlene Brown, South Regional Supervisor  
24070 Crowned Partridge Lane, Murietta, CA 92526  
951-677-2778

Mavis Johnson, O.T.  
30137 Mira Loma Drive, Temecula, CA 92592  
951-693-4787

Nancy Higbee, S.L.P. (birth to 3 only)  
21230 Oaknoll Drive, Perris, CA 92570  
951-780-9237

**Casa Colina**

255 East Bonita Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767  
909-596-7733

Services include occupational therapy and speech therapy. Most insurance accepted including Medi-Cal.

**Let's Communicate, Inc.**

Marcey Utter, Speech/language Pathologist  
79-440 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 113, La Quinta, CA 92253  
760-574-6157

Pediatric speech, language and social skills therapy practice.

**Loma Linda University Medical Center Outpatient Rehabilitation Department**

11406 Loma Linda Drive, Loma Linda, CA 92354  
909-558-6144

Provides physical, occupational (including sensory), and speech and language therapy for all ages.

**Judy Morgan**

Local Speech Therapist  
43875 Washington, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
760-772-7545

**Tamara Pattison**

760-880-0889  
77564 Country Club Dr. Suite 265, Palm Desert, CA 92211  
Local Speech/language Pathologist.

**Sensory Integration International**

The Ayres Clinic  
1514 Cabrillo Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501  
310-320-2335

<http://home.earthlink.net/~sensoryint/>

SII promotes education about the impact of inadequate sensory processing and its relationship to health and one's occupation.

**Sensory Integration Resource Center**

[www.sinetwork.org/index.htm](http://www.sinetwork.org/index.htm)

A comprehensive list of links to Online resources for parents, educators, and occupational therapists.

**Speech and Language Development Center**

8699 Holder Street, Buena Park, CA 90620

714-821-3620

SLDC provides programs for infants, children and young adults (through 21 years of age) with speech, language and learning disabilities.

**University of Redlands- Truesdail Speech Center**

1200 East Colton Avenue, Redlands, CA 92373-0999

909-335-4061

Speech and language assessments, and speech therapy.

**Resources N.O.S. (not otherwise specified)**

**Autism Treatment Center (Son-Rise)**

THE SON-RISE PROGRAM at The Option Institute

2080 South Undermountain Road, Sheffield, MA 01257

800-714-2779

[www.son-rise.org](http://www.son-rise.org)

The total acceptance of the child or challenged person, in all his or her uniqueness, is what brings the power to this process. They teach parents concrete educational and attitudinal tools and techniques to help them be the most effective teachers and trainers that their children can have, enabling their children to dramatically improve in all areas of learning, development.

**Brain Gym International**

1575 Spinnaker Dr., Ste. 2048, Ventura, CA 93001

800-356-2109

[www.braingym.org](http://www.braingym.org)

International resource for the Brain Gym Foundation.

**EEG Spectrum Institute (Neurofeedback)**

16500 Ventura Blvd, Suite 418, Encino, CA 91436

818-789-3456

[www.eegspectrum.com](http://www.eegspectrum.com)

Neuro-feedback, also known as EEG Biofeedback, is a learning procedure that enables participants to improve mental performance, normalize behavior, and stabilize mood.

**Dr. Stanley Greenspan (FloorTime and DIR)**

4938 Hampden Lane, Ste. 229, Bethesda, MD 20814

301-657-2348

[www.stanleygreenspan.com](http://www.stanleygreenspan.com)

World-distinguished child psychiatrist who has developed a strategy for working with children with autism spectrum disorders called Developmental-Individual Difference-Relation Based (DIR) model and FloorTime. Published many books and training videos.

**Handle Institute**

Casey Family Building

1300 Dexter Avenue North, Ste. 110, Seattle, WWA 98109

206-204-6000

[www.handle.org](http://www.handle.org)

Provides non-drug diagnosis and treatment for neurodevelopmental disorders across the lifespan.

**Pediatric Developmental Associates (Floor Time and DIR)**

P.O. Box 2134, Redlands, Ca 92373

909-244-1481

Speech and language assessments and therapy, developmental assessments, and Dr. Stanley Greenspan's FloorTime intervention.

**The Music Therapy Center of California**

Julie Guy, MT-BC & Angela Neve, MT-BC, Directors

PO Box 710772

San Diego, CA 92171-0772

877-620-7688

Email: [info@themusictherapycenter.com](mailto:info@themusictherapycenter.com)

[www.themusictherapycenter.com](http://www.themusictherapycenter.com)

Promotes, empowers and serves families, professionals and children with special needs utilizing music therapy strategies. MTCCA offers a variety of services including music therapy, school-based programs, adapted lessons, home-based consultations and group sessions. In addition, experiential and educational services such as workshops, in-services, and presentations are also offered.

**TEACCH (Structured Teaching)**

The University of NC at Chapel Hill

310 Medical School Wing E CB # 7180, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-718

919-966-2174

The Division for Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children. Education based program training. Dr. Eric Schopler at the University of North Carolina developed TEACCH. It provides adaptive techniques to help children learn, such as schedules, color-coding, transitional objects or places, picture cards or boards.