

Orange County Dept. of Health

124 Main St., Goshen 294-2332
130 Broadway, Newburgh 568-5280

Early Intervention Program - Screening, evaluation, and service coordination for children with special needs, birth to 3 years.

Children with Special Health Care Needs (568-5280) - Information and referral for children ages birth to 21 years with special physical, social, emotional, developmental and health care needs.

United Way Telephone Help Line - Dial 211

Provides information and referral for health and human services, 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Winslow Therapeutic Center

328 Route 17A, Warwick 986-6686

Hippotherapy and therapeutic riding center for children with special needs. Offers programs for autism and communication disorders, equine assisted therapy and horseback riding lessons.

Asperger, Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorder Groups - Support, education and information in group settings.

Mental Health Association 294-7411 ext. 253

Family Ties - Support group for parents/caregivers with children and/or adolescents who have emotional, behavioral or social difficulties.

Mental Health Association 294-7411

HUGS - Help, understanding, guidance and support for parents considering or experiencing psychiatric hospital admission for their child.

Orange County Network 866-629-4829

Inclusion Information Network - Meets to share ideas, information and experiences relating to inclusive education for students with disabilities.

Mental Health Association 294-7411

Shadows - A family support group for parents/caregivers of students with disabilities.

Independent Living Inc. 565-1162

Support Group for Families with BiPolar Children - Support and information.

Mental Health Association 294-7411 ext. 246

Super Siblings - Group for siblings of children with developmental disabilities.

Mental Health Association 294-7411

Websites of Interest:

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

www.aacap.org 202-966-7300

Information on mental health topics.

Children, Youth and Families Education and Research Network (CYFERnet)

www.cyfernet.org 612-624-8181

Comprehensive information on children, youth and families.

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY)

www.nichcy.org www.kidsource.com/nichcy
202-884-8200 800-695-0285

Information and referral center that provides free information on disabilities and disability related issues.

Children's Defense Fund

www.childrensdefense.org 202-628-8787

Information and resources on children's well being and issues facing grandparents and caregivers. Has excellent publication: *The Grandparent's and Other Relative Caregivers Guide to Raising Children with Disabilities.*

NYS Developmental Disabilities Council

www.ddpc.state.ny.us 800-395-3372

Basic information for adults and children who have developmental disabilities and their families.

National Center for Learning Disabilities

www.nclld.org 212-545-7510

Online resource for parents, educators and individuals with learning disabilities. Helps to ensure that children, adolescents and adults with learning disabilities have every opportunity to succeed.

For more information regarding this guide or for other relative caregiver issues contact:

Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP)

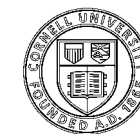
Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County
1 Ashley Ave., Middletown, NY 10940
www.cce.cornell.edu/orange 845-344-1234

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Community Resources

for caregivers providing care for

Children with Disabilities



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Orange County

845-344-1234 www.cce.cornell.edu/orange

Raising a child with disabilities can be a challenging as well as joyful experience. Caregivers enter into a world of unfamiliar terms, systems, laws and policies that can be confusing, difficult to understand, frustrating and at times hard to navigate. All children need a good start in life including those with special needs. These "exceptional" children need quality services and treatments to realize their full potential. The goal of this guide is to help caregivers take the first steps in navigating this process and help their children to achieve their full potential.

Orange County Resources for Information and Advocacy

Action Towards Independence

130 Dolson Avenue, Middletown. 343-4284
Information, referral and advocacy for people with disabilities and their families.

Committee on Special Education (CSE) Committee on Pre-School Education (CPSE)

Contact your local school district for children age 3 and older.

Contact Orange County Dept. of Health for children under 3 years.

Assessment and identification of students in need of educational assistance; develops individual education programs(IEP); identifies modifications and accommodations to help students achieve goals.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County

1 Ashley Ave., Middletown 344-1234
Telephone support, resources, referral and educational programs for grandparents and relative caregivers including the workshop, *Help for Grandparents Raising Children with Developmental Disabilities* (in cooperation with NYS Office for the Aging).

Early Childhood Direction Center

5 Washington Terrace, Newburgh
565-1162 ext. 209
Information, education, training, resource and referrals for children with developmental delays or disabilities ages 0 - 5 years.

Epilepsy Society of Southern New York, Inc.

928-1126
Advocacy, information, referral, education and training, support groups and counseling for individuals with seizure disorders and their families.

Family Empowerment Council, Inc.

225 Dolson Ave. Suite 403, Middletown
1-888-343-8181 343-8100
www.familyempowerment.org
Information, support, referrals and advocacy for people with developmental disabilities and their families. Includes Youth Educational School Services (YESS) which offers information on the educational system and educational advocacy and NETWORK which can provide coordinated service plans for children with emotional and behavioral needs. Has publication: *Parenting Without Directions*.

Footings, Inc.

PO Box 2038, Monroe 783-7505
Educational advocacy, resource development and referral for children, teens and young adults with developmental disabilities.

Independent Living, Inc.

5 Washington Terrace, Newburgh 565-1162
An information, referral and advocacy agency for persons with disabilities; their mission is to assist the individual and their family obtain information and services to live an independent life.

Mental Health Assoc. in Orange County, Inc.

20 Walker Street, Goshen 294-7411
24 hour helpline 294-9355 or 1-800-832-9355
www.mhaorangeny.com
Resources, referrals, information and support for people with developmental and psychiatric disabilities and their families. Programs and services include access to money reimbursement, social skill building, crisis intervention, advocacy, and education.

Inspire

2 Fletcher Street, Goshen 294-8806
Child development evaluations and therapy services: aquatic therapy, audiology, dentistry, speech and language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychology, social work supports and service coordination. Inspire Kids Early Intervention Program provides screening and services for children birth to 3 years and Inspire Pre-School for children 2½ to 5 years.

Occupations, Inc.

15 Fortune Rd. West, Middletown
888-750-2266
Counselors, family support therapists and caseworkers are available to provide services to support families in strengthening skills and creating positive outcomes for children and families.

Orange-Ulster BOCES - SETRC

163 Harriman Heights Rd., Monroe
781-4363 ext. 10787
The Special Education Training and Resource Center provides information on special education topics to all adults involved in the care and/or education of students with disabilities. Trainings, handouts and web-access for researching NYS Education Department information is available through the office and parent library.

Orange County Dept. of Mental Health

30 Harriman Drive, Goshen 291-2600
Developmental Disabilities Division: Provides single point of entry (service coordination) for children and adults; education and training for families of children with disabilities.
Children's Mental Health Division. Provides single point of entry (service coordination) and mental health clinic services.