

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

Note: This list is not comprehensive. It is in no particular order and is not necessarily endorsed by Step by Step. This list has been compiled by Lisa Cobey and Ashley Louderback with input from Step by Step parents. Contact Lisa Coby lisacobey@gmail.com. Many of these professionals are regional center providers or also take private health insurance. Please ask them directly.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Regional Centers/Community Services

Westside Regional Center (WRC)

Center Coordinator: Liz Spencer

Child Advocate & SBS Contact: Barbara Marbach

5901 Green Valley Circle, Suite 320, Culver City, CA 90230

T: 310.258.4000

Email: info@westsiderc.org

Website: www.wfrec.org

Hours of Operation: Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 AM-5 PM or by appointment

The WRC is a Family Resource and Empowerment Center. It is WRC's mission to empower people with developmental disabilities and their families to choose and access community services that facilitate a quality of life comparable to persons without disabilities. WRC serves children and students birth to 22 years old. WRC serves ALL families with special learning needs regardless of regional center qualification. WRC also offers classes for parents in Behavioral Intervention, Potty Training, IEP Preparation and support groups in English/Spanish.

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

3303 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 700

Los Angeles, CA 90010

213-383-1300

www.lanterman.org

Koch Young Resource Center: Enabling People to Help Themselves and Others

Helpline to link to community resources related to developmental disabilities:

213-252-5600 or 1-800-546-3676, kyrc@lanterman.org

Jay Nolan Community Services, Inc. (JNCS)

Supported Family Services, Employment, Family Support Services, & Consultations

[4 locations: Corporate Office | Mission Hills, LA, Antelope Valley, & San Jose]

Contact: Cindy Strully, Los Angeles Director/Family Support Services

Los Angeles Office: 4607 Prospect Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027

T: 323.805.0207 (Los Angeles/Primary)

T: 818.361.6400 x 126 (Cindy Strully)

T: 818.361.6400 (Corporate Office)

Email: cindy@jaynolan.org

Email: Info@jaynolan.org

Website: jaynolan.org

JNCS is a nonprofit 5019(c) organization and their mission is to enable individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other developmental disabilities to live fulfilling lives as members of the community by providing support services customized to their individual needs. Services include: supported living services to people with all types of disabilities, employment services, family support services, and consultation services, which includes the JNCS Training Institute. Employment services assists by providing coaching, mentoring, financial planning, benefits management, and access to

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public and private resources. The family support services include a Community Facilitator Program, which is a program where a staff person, using a relationship based approach, establishes patterns of supervision for the individual with a disability to provide support; Saturday programs for social skills and enrichment; the Jay Nolan Camp, which is an inclusive residential camp for children (8 -15) with and without disabilities; and lastly, the Foster Family Program, which is used as an alternative to institutional placement for children with special needs, including those that are medically fragile. The consultation services include support to people with Autism and their families to identify what type of assistance is needed and how to implement it; furthermore, the JNCS Training Institute is an educational gateway to advance professional and individual development.

St. Joseph Center

Family, Homeless, & Money Management Services

Contact: Dr. Va Lecia Adams, Ph.D., Executive Director

Contact: Julie DeRose, LMFT, Director of Intervention & Prevention Services

St. Joseph Center, 204 Hampton Dr., Venice, CA 90291-8633

T: 310.396.6468

Website: www.stjosephctr.org

St. Joseph Center's mission is to provide working poor families, as well as homeless men, women and children of all ages, with the inner resources and tools to become productive, stable and self-supporting members of society. St. Joseph Center meets the needs of low-income and homeless individuals and families in Venice, Santa Monica, Mar Vista, and surrounding areas. Multifaceted intervention, prevention, and education services are carried out at 5 sites on the Westside of Los Angeles. St. Joseph Center's integrated programs provide clients with concentrated and coordinated access to services according to the nature of their needs. Prevention and Education Services include: the Early Learning Center, which provides enriched childcare and parent education that nurtures children's healthy development while promoting stability and self-sufficiency for their families; the Family Center and Food Pantry, which serves working poor families and individuals with case management, groceries, emergency services, educational workshops, recreational opportunities that build family cohesion, and enrichment activities for youth ages 6-17; and, the Culinary Training Program, which educates unemployed adults in food service and life skills and helps them obtain jobs. Intervention services include: the Homeless Service Center, the Based at our Homeless Service Center, the Bread and Roses Café, the Affordable Housing, the Senior Services, the Monetary Advisory Program, and lastly, the Veterans Representative Payee Program.

UCLA Center for Autism & Research (CART)

Research Study for Children with Autism

[2 locations, both on UCLA's campus]

Semel Institute for Neuroscience & Human Behavior, 760 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095

Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, 150 Medical Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Contact: Dr. Daniel Geschwind, Director

UCLA CART Principal Investigators: Dr. James McCracken, M.D., Dr. Bhavik Shah, M.D., Dr. Susan Bookheimer, Ph.D., Dr. Pegeen Cronin, Ph.D., Dr. Marian Sigman

T: 310.825.6170

T: 310.267.CART (2278)

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Email: info@autism.ucla.edu

Website: www.autism.ucla.edu

UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART) provides families an opportunity to receive complimentary treatment and payment as they help international researchers discover more about Autism. One of the fundamental goals of the UCLA CART is to provide a strong, collaborative environment for both basic and applied autism research. The UCLA CART fosters integration of the clinical, imaging, genetic, and basic science research into autism for which UCLA is renowned. Scientists at the UCLA CART include leading experts in autism genetics, brain imaging, psychophysiology, psychopharmacology, developmental psychology, clinical assessment, intervention and epidemiology. Currently there are a variety of studies being conducted for clients age 6 months to 17 years old. Visit their website for a full catalogue of their research projects, affiliated projects, and Pilot grants. Furthermore, UCLA also offers the following programs and services: The Autism Evaluation Clinic, The ABC Partial Program, the Parenting and Children's Friendship Program, and the Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization Program.

****Cross-referenced as working in conjunction with The HELP Group – UCLA Autism Research Alliance in the Regional Center/Community Services Section.**

The Help Group – UCLA Autism Research Alliance

Applied Research and Intervention

[6 locations and multiple schools throughout Southern California]

Sherman Oaks Campus, The Help Group's Administrative Offices, 13130 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91401

Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson, Director

T: 310.206.8139

Email: elaugeson@thehelpgroup.org

Website: www.thehelpgroup.org

The Help Group – UCLA Autism Research Alliance, where the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior has partnered with the Help Group in order to enhance and expand the clinical research in the education and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and to contribute to the development, greater understanding, and use of best practice models by researchers, educators, and clinicians. Current areas of research under The Help Group – UCLA Autism Research Alliance include: interventionists using joint attention to improve language development, decreasing social anxiety through cognitive behavior treatment methods, improving friendship quality and social skills, understanding the neural circuitry involved in processing emotions, examining the powerful impact of music education, parent education in treatment of autism, and understanding auditory processing.

****Cross-referenced under [The Help Group](#) in the [Center Based Programs](#)' section where there are additional details and as working in conjunction with UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior in the Regional Center/Community Services Section.**

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Pediatricians, Psychologists, & Specialists

Dr. Anshu Batra, M.D.

Developmental Pediatrician

Autism & Childhood Development Issues

Assistant & On-site Contact: Barbie

Our Special Kids, 11835 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste., 1200 E, Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.996.8990

F: 310.996.8991

Email: anshubatra@gmail.com

Email: bv8995@gmail.com (Barbie)

Website: www.ourspecialkidz.com/

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM

Dr. Batra M.D., FAAP, is a private practice, developmental pediatrician specializing in Autism and Early Childhood Development Disorders.

Dr. Audrey Griesbach, MD

Developmental Pediatrician

Assistant & On-Site Contact: Abbey

11835 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste., 1200 E, Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.996.8990

F: 310.996.8991

Email: mamadoc10@gmail.com

Email: Ak8996@gmail.com (Abbey)

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM

Santa Monica–UCLA Medical Center

Internal Medicine – Pediatrics

Onsite Doctors: Emery Chang, M.D., Eric Curcio, M.D., Alice Kuo, M.D., Kellie Ernzen Kruger, M.D.

1245 16th St, Suite 303, Santa Monica, CA 90404

T: 310.315.8900

Internal Medicine | Pediatrics UCLA in Santa Monica provides a new approach to caring for the whole family, including children, adolescents, and adults, with an emphasis on patient-centered care. They specialize in: breastfeeding support for new moms, developmental-behavioral issues in toddlers and young children, addressing academic difficulties in school-aged children, adolescent health issues, women's issues such as pre-conception care, men's issues such as preventative care, chronic disease management (including asthma, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and more).

Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopedic Hospital

Dr. Marshall Sachs, M.D.

Pediatrics

2825 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite #104, Santa Monica, CA 90404

T: 310.829.9935

Website: www.uclahealth.org/body.cfm?xyzpdqabc=0&id=479&action=detail&ref=1431

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Dr. Sachs has been practicing in medicine and specializing in pediatrics since 1967. In 2009-2010, Dr. Sachs was awarded the Best Doctors honor, an award where only 5% of the doctors in any country are actually selected to become Best Doctors.

Dr. Diane M. Danis, M.D., M.P.H.

Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

130 South Euclid Avenue, Suite 5, Pasadena, CA 91101

T: 626.792.2711

F: 626.792.2505

Website: www.danismd.com

Dr. Danis is a medical doctor with additional specialty training and experience in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, and has devoted the last ten years of her practice to working with children with a variety of special needs. She provides diagnostic evaluations, counseling and treatment for children and their families with a range of developmental and behavioral difficulties. Dr. Danis' mission is to help children achieve their full potential physically, socially, emotionally, and intellectually.

Dr. Alessia de Paola Gottlieb, MD

Adolescent Psychiatry & Pediatric Psychiatry

901 Montana Ave., Suite C, Santa Monica, CA 90403

T: 310.451.0300

F: 310.393.0187

Dr. Alessia Gottlieb specializes in adolescent psychiatry & pediatric psychiatry as well as practices general psychiatry in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Gottlieb graduated with an MD 17 years ago.

Dr. Kearney N. Visser, Ph.D.

Therapy, Evaluations, & Assessments

Step by Step EDU-Play Programs, 1814 14th Street, CA, 90404

T: 310.409.5463

Email: drkearneyvisser@hotmail.com

Dr. Kearney Visser's area of specialty is working with children, adolescents and their families. Her services include child and adolescent therapy, family therapy, groups, learning disorder evaluations, developmental assessments and Autism/ Pervasive Developmental Disorder assessments. She conducts learning disability assessments and Autism assessments for both children and adults. Although she specializes in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, she uses an integrative approach depending

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on the needs of her clients. Her experience is diverse and includes working in school districts, preschools, family clinics, crisis centers, hospitals, and in-home settings with children, adolescents and adults. She has extensive experience working with children with disabilities has been the director of a preschool/pre-k for children who are typically developing as well as children with disabilities. She is located in the Step by Step building which affords her clients access to a “sensory gym,” and to play and socialize with other children while working on skills such as social skills, play skills, fine and gross motor skills, language and speech development.

** Cross-referenced under [Mental Health Professionals](#) as well as cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with [Step by Step EDU-Play Programs](#) in the [Center Based Programs'](#) section.

Dr. Allison Kawa, Psy.D.

Child Psychologist

12381 Wilshire Boulevard Suite 205, Los Angeles, CA 90025

T: 310.387.2888

Email: drkawa@childpsychtesting.com Website: www.ChildPsychTesting.com

Dr. Kawa is a licensed, UCLA trained child psychologist who specializes in diagnosis and treatment planning for children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism, ADHD, and learning disabilities. She also provides program evaluations for children already identified with a disorder to help guide decisions about school placement, intervention changes, medication, etc.

Dr. Stephanie Mihalas, Ph.D., NCSP

Licensed Psychologist & Nationally Certified School Psychologist

The Center for Well-Being: Psychological Services for Children, Youth, and Families

12016 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 4, Los Angeles, CA 90025

T: 310.442.1500

Email: drstephaniemihalas@gmail.com

Website: www.askdrstephanie.com

Dr. Stephanie Mihalas has had extensive training in pediatric behavioral and emotional problems since 2003 and is a licensed psychologist and a nationally certified school psychologist (NCSP). She also has a Masters as an Educational Specialist, and Doctorate, where her primary focus was on child and adolescent mental health issues. Dr. Stephanie Mihalas works with children ranging in age from 2-18, with a primary focus on early intervention for 2 to 10 year olds. Dr. Stephanie utilizes “evidence-based” interventions, which employs treatment that is expected to be short-term, show results, and have a long-term impact on the patient and the family. Services include: individual interventions with children and adolescents, parent training for your children, family therapy, developmental and psychoeducational assessments, school consultation and IEP (Individual Education Plan) or 504 Plan support, organizational change projects for school, expert testimony for school placement and personal injury, and, lastly, infant/child and parent yoga.

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** Cross-referenced under [Mental Health Professionals](#).

Dr. Beth Levy, Ph.D. Clinical Pediatric Psychologist

T: 310.487.2206

*Home based office; therefore, her address is provided upon appointment confirmation.

Dr. Beth Levy runs her own private practice where she provides psychological assessments and all developmental testing for varying diagnosis, including: autism, aspergers disorder, pervasive developmental disorder (PDD), PDHD, and learning disorders. As a part of testing process she also provides educational planning and consulting. Dr. Levy also works in association with the Westside Regional Center (WRC).

Dr. Mudita Bahadur, Ph.D. Licensed Clinical Psychologist Therapy, Assessments, and Consultation

1137 2nd Street, Suite 213, Santa Monica, CA 90403

T: 310.463.7913

Email: mudita.bahadur@gmail.com

Dr. Bahadur specializes in working with children with special needs and their families. Dr. Bahadur can conduct assessments to aide with diagnosis and follow progress, as well as advocate for educational services to meet the needs of the child. Dr. Bahadur also provides individual therapy and parenting support. Dr. Bahadur has been working in Santa Monica for the past 11 years and is very familiar with the schools and programs in the area, and can assist in planning for a child's education. Dr. Bahadur also works with adults on issues of anxiety, depression, and eating disorders.

** Cross-referenced under [Mental Health Professionals](#).

Neurodirectives Dr. Erica Krisztal Felsenthal, Ph.D. Clinical Psychology | Neuropsychology

2001 South Barrington Avenue, Suite 320, Los Angeles, CA 90025

T: 310.995.9432

Email: info@neurodirectives.com

Email: drericafels@neurodirectives.com

Website: www.neurodirectives.com

At Neurodirectives, Dr. Erica Felsenthal, a licensed Ph.D., is committed providing the highest quality of care, and to helping individuals reach their full potential. She offers guidance and support for children, adolescents and adults who may be struggling with issues around attention, learning, memory, academic performance, behavior problems, social difficulties, and emotional functioning. Services include comprehensive psychological, psychoeducational and neuropsychological assessments, the FastForward program, and psychotherapy for individuals, couples and families.

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The Reiss Davis Child Study Center's P.E.D.S. Program Psychological/Educational Diagnostic Testing for School-Age Children, Adolescents, & Young Adults

3200 Motor Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90034

T: 310.204.1666 x 307

F: 310.838.2791

Email: geninfo@vistadelmar.org

Website: <http://www.vistadelmar.org/centers.php?recordID=1>

Their goal is to provide comprehensive, quality educational and psychological assessments to children, adolescents, and young adults in the community and to offer private –practice quality evaluations at a moderate sliding scale fee. Reiss-Davis, a division of Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services, is a non-profit, non-sectarian out-patient educational and mental health center devote to helping children and adolescents with their academic, social, and emotional well-being. Their center has been offering psychological and psychoeducational diagnostic services and psychotherapy to children and their families since the 1950s. The P.E.D.S. Program provides services addressing: learning disability assessments, attention deficit evaluations, psychological testing, accommodation assessments, career testing and planning, kindergarten readiness evaluations, autism spectrum evaluations, and neurofeedback.

** Cross-referenced as a division of [Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services](#) in the [Mental Health Professionals'](#) section.

Dr. Diana Zschaschel, DDS Angels' Smiles [In Association with LA Dental Day Spa]

Assistant & On-Site Contact: Ed or Cindy

Angels Smiles, 8920 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 610, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

T: 310.854.6102

F: 310.854.6161

Email: ed@ladentaldayspa.org

Email: cindy@ladentaldayspa.org

Email: zedi217@yahoo.com

Website: www.angelssmiles.net or www.ladentaldayspa.org

Dr. Diana Zshaschel feels that her patients are “angels” and feels that every person, despite their circumstances, deserves compassion and quality dental care. Dr. Zshaschel has worked with people with special needs since her time in the Psychology undergraduate program at UCLA. Since then, she began serving as the first dental consultant to the regional center and opened her own practice in 1999. She has continued her work with individuals with special needs and has taken many complex cases.

The Tooth Club Pediatric Dentistry

Contact: Dr. Robert Smith, DDS, FAAPD

Contact: Dr. Lily H. Ghafouri, DMD, MS

9201 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 200

West Hollywood, CA 90069

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T: 310.273.5776
Email: info@toothclub.com
Website: www.toothclub.com

Dr. Smith was board certified in 1989 by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and continues to challenge himself in every area of pediatric dental care, but focuses on infant dental preventive care, laser applications, and esthetic dentistry for children. Dr. Ghafouri is a board certified pediatric dentist and is active in public health and spends much of her free time performing oral health presentations at various schools in the community. She is fluent in both English and Farsi. A pediatric dentist has an extra two years of specialized training and is dedicated to the oral health of children from infancy through the teenage years.

Tower

Ear, Nose, & Throat (ENT)

Contact: Dr. Anita Newman, MD, FACS
8631 W. 3rd St. Suite #440E, Los Angeles, CA 90048 (located within the Cedars Sinai Medical Towers)
T: 310.657.7704
Website: <http://towerent.com>

Tower ENT is the premier ear, nose, throat and facial plastic surgery group in Beverly Hills and the greater Los Angeles area. They have 5 doctors who have pioneered the latest techniques in this field; however, Dr. Anita Newman was specifically parent recommended and has been described as brilliant and incredibly kind and patient by Step by Step parents. Her areas of interest include Pediatric ENT, balance and vestibular disorders, sinusitis and head and neck cancer. She is currently director of Pediatric ENT at Cedars Sinai, a member of the Cedars Sinai Sinus Center of Excellence and the Cedars Sinai Head and Neck Surgery Center of Excellence.

Dr. Fleum, MD

Ear, Nose, & Throat (ENT)

8670 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 201, Beverly Hills, CA 90211
T: 310.657.6420

Dr. Fleum has been practicing in this field for over 45 years. He works with children and adults providing consultations, assessments, as well as does surgical procedures. Dr. Fleum has been described by parents as a sweet gentle doctor, who is interested in your kids well being. He is highly recommended by parents.

Dr. Gene C. Liu, MD

Ear, Nose, & Throat (ENT)

8631 W. 3rd St., 3640e, Los Angeles, CA 90048
T: 310.652.5700

Dr. Gene C. Liu, MD is board certified in Otolaryngology and has 10 years of experience. He practices with the Cedars-Sinai Medical Group –ENT where the following insurance is accepted: Health, Net, WellCare, Blue Cross & Blue Shield, United Healthcare, Humana, Aetna, and more. He comes highly recommended by families as well as Speech-Language Pathologists.

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Dr. Trang Nguyen, O.D., F.A.A.O.

Pediatric & Adult Optometry and Vision Therapy

2901 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100, Santa Monica, CA 90403 (Corner of Wilshire & Yale)

T: 310.449.0066

Email: drtrang03@gmail.com

Website: drtrang.com

Dr. Trang Nguyen has over 15 years of experience providing optometric care for adults and children. Dr. Nguyen Specializes in pediatrics; working with children with developmental delays, Autism, Down's Syndrome, Asberger's, and ADD/ADHD. Specialized services include: Functional Vision, Assessments, Perception Evaluations, and Vision Therapy.

Dr. Bill Takeshita, O.D., F.A.A.O., F.C.O.V.D.,

Dr. Tu Doan, O.D.

Developmental Optometrists

[3 locations: Santa Monica, Tarzana, Los Angeles]

Santa Monica: 2901 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100, Santa Monica, CA 90403

Tarzana: 18425 Burbank Blvd., Suite 706, Tarzana, CA 91356

Los Angeles: 7462 North Figueroa St., # 103, Los Angeles, CA 90041

T: 310.597.2549

Email: LADevelopmentalvision@gmail.com

Dr. Takeshita and Dr. Doan are developmental optometrists who specialize in children's vision. They utilize specialized techniques to examine the vision of children with special needs, autism, learning disabilities, and vision related learning disorders. Dr. Doan and Takeshita incorporate a holistic and developmental approach to vision with the intent of improving the vision of children without the dependency on glasses. After performing a functional vision assessment, Drs. Doan and Takeshita design a program of activities to help develop the child's vision and they also provide teachers and therapists with recommendations. Dr. Bill Takeshita is a fellow of both the American Academy of Optometry and the College of Optometrists in Vision Development. He is an adjunct professor at the Southern California College of Optometry where he teaches interns and residents about developmental optometry. He is also an instructor at California State University, Los Angeles and he lectures throughout the country on vision development, vision and learning, and pediatric vision.

Center Based Programs

Step By Step EDU-Play Programs

Contact: Shelley Cox, M.A., Owner, Executive Director

Contact: Lisa Cobey, M.A., MFT, Clinical/Early Childhood Program Director

Step by Step EDU-Play Programs, 1814 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404

1814 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404

T: 310.581.0590

F: 310.581.0589

Email: info@stepbystepeduplay.com

Website: www.stepbystepeduplay.com

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Step by Step EDU-Play Programs Inc. embraces the vision that, through collaborative partnerships, facilitation of intrinsic motivation and specialized creative programming, children with disabilities will have the opportunity to expand their abilities for education, fun and positive inclusion opportunities within society. The goal of Step by Step is to provide comprehensive language based infant, toddler and preschool development program for young children and their families. The environment is designed to maximize community resources and provide opportunities to learn and play with typically developing children. Step by Step believes intervention programs and services are not a means to an end, but a positive addition to the larger picture of which appropriate treatment programs, community activities and family involvement must be seamlessly integrated. Step by Step also believes their programs and support services can provide each individual child and family with the opportunity to reach their full potential.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with [Dr. Kearney Visser, PhD](#) under the [Pediatricians, Psychologists, and Specialists](#) section and the [Mental Health Professionals'](#) section. Also, cross-referenced as sharing the Step by Step EDU-Play Programs facility space and working in conjunction with [Allan Wittert](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section and [Karen Carrey](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) section.

Child Success Center (CSC)

Contact: Melissa Idelson, OTR/L, Founder & Director
Child Success Center, 828 Pico Blvd., Suite 7, Santa Monica, CA 90405-1350
T: 310.899.9597
F: 310.943.2258
Email: Melissa.idelson@childdiscoverycenter.com
Website: www.childdiscoverycenter.com

The Child Success Center® (CSC) Team, through a Whole Child Approach enhances learning and development for children 1-16 years. Through a thorough assessment process, our team of highly skilled therapists matches the appropriate level of support to each child. The CSC® provides a unique assortment of occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, educational therapy, and enrichment programs that meet your child's needs at every stage – from gross motor development for the pre-school playground to memory, attention and organization for high school homework. CSC teachers and occupational, speech, and educational therapists will either recommend or design a program to enhance your child's growth and development. Parents have noted that they provide exceptional communication with all of your child's service providers.

** Cross-referenced under [Speech Therapy](#), [Occupational Therapy](#), and [Educational Therapy](#).

The Help Group

[6 locations and multiple schools throughout Southern California]

Sherman Oaks Campus, The Help Group's Administrative Offices, 13130 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91401
T: 877.994.3588
F: 818.779.5295

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Email: Info@thehelpgroup.com

Website: www.thehelpgroup.org

**Visit website to find other additional locations and contact information.

The Help Group is a nonprofit organization that serves children with special needs related to autism, Asperger's disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, mental retardation, abuse and emotional problems. Services are provided for pre-K through high school.

** Cross-referenced as working in conjunction with The Help Group – UCLA Autism Research Alliance in the Regional Center/Community Services section where there are additional details.

Integrated Therapy Solutions (ITS)

Integrated Therapy Solutions, 8885 Venice Blvd. Ste. 105, Los Angeles, CA 90034

T: 310.838.1552

F: 310.838.1553

Email: itssca@earthlink.net

Website: www.itssca.com, itssca@earthlink.net

Hours of Operation: Monday – Saturday, 9 AM to 6 PM

ITS Integrated Therapy Solutions specializes in Awaken Listening, which combines all types of therapies in conjunction with Dr. Alfred Tomatis' protocol of Auditory Development and Training delivered through a Dynamic Listening System. Their programs vary depending on the individual's needs and goals. They also offer a variety of other therapies separately or combined in order to provide the most comprehensive individualized program to fit every need and every budget. ITS helps their clients achieve their potential using Awaken Listening, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Early Intervention Programs, Educational Programs, Fast ForWord Programs, Social Skills Programs, Speech and Language Therapy, and The Listening Program.

KidSkills

Contact: Abby Yolles, OTR/L

2990 South Sepulveda Blvd. #308, Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.393.2121

F: 310.395.0898

Email: ayotr@aol.com

KidSkills provides Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Psychology, floor time, nutritional services, speech therapy, social skill groups, educational therapy and vision therapy.

Progressive Steps

[2 locations: Valencia and Santa Clarita]

Progressive Steps, Inc., 28093 Smyth Dr., Valencia, CA 91355

Or new 2nd location: 28516 Constellation Rd. E-32, Santa Clarita, CA 91355

T: 661.295.0181

F: 661.295.9776

Email: progressivestepsca@sbcglobal.net

Website: <http://progressivestepsca.com/>

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

Note: This list is not comprehensive. It is in no particular order and is not necessarily endorsed by Step by Step. This list has been compiled by Lisa Cobey and Ashley Louderback with input from Step by Step parents. Contact Lisa Coby lisacobey@gmail.com. Many of these professionals are regional center providers or also take private health insurance. Please ask them directly.

Progressive Steps is an Early Childhood Development Program providing transdisciplinary assessment and services to the Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valley. Services include: Behavioral Specialist Services, Child Development Specialist Services, Development Evaluation, Occupational Therapy, Parent Education and Advocacy, Physical Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Social Skills Play Groups, Toddler Development Groups, and a Center-Based Mommy & Me Program.

** Cross-referenced under [Speech Therapy](#), [Occupational Therapy](#), and [Physical Therapy](#).

Cheerful Helpers Child and Family Study Center

Contact: Ellen Reinstein, LCSW, Director
3300 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010
T: 213.387.7252
F: 213.387.7312
Email: info@cheerfulhelpers.org
Website: <http://www.cheerfulhelpers.org/>

The Cheerful Helpers Child and Family Study Center offers services to families with young children, ages 2-6, who are having difficulties with language development, motor planning, self-regulation and socialization, in family oriented intervention programs. Their relationship-based programs are for children with high-functioning autism, aspergers, attachment disorders, developmental delays, and processing, learning and emotional difficulties. There are a variety of programs including: a preschool-kindergarten program, for children ages 3 to 6; the B.E.I.G program (Brief Evaluation & Intervention Group) for parents and their children ages 2 to 5; Family Counseling Services for families struggling with the emotional and behavior difficulties of a child with significant special needs (Regional Center vendor); and The Socialization Group, focusing on children ages 3 to 6 (Regional Center Vendor). The Cheerful Helpers Child and Family Study Center is a Regional Center vendor and is also recognized by the school districts as a fully certified non-public school.

Therapy West Inc. and Play Studios [2 locations, both in Los Angeles]

Therapy West Inc. and Play Studio, 315-A Arizona Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90045
Or 2nd location: 8717 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034
T: 310.337.7115
Website: <http://www.therapywest.org>

Therapy West's mission is to provide the highest quality, community-based therapeutic services for children and their families. Their professional services are designed to enhance skills in areas of gross motor, fine motor, sensory motor, feeding, speech and language, personal-social, perceptual and self-help skills. Services are provided in a variety of environments. Therapeutic techniques are integrated within a play focus and in environment. Occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech therapists design the space and activities to promote active participation by the child. They encourage and actively promote family involvement through with support groups, open communication and educational information.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Speech Therapy

Alan Wittert, M.S., CCC-SLP Speech-Language Pathologist

Step by Step EDU-Play Programs, 1814 14th St., Santa Monica, CA 90404
T: 310.995.4916
Email: levoxbox@aol.com

Alan Wittert has worked with children with special needs for the past 18 years. Alan currently works at Step by Step spending time as the onsite Speech-Language Pathologist. In this role he visits each of the classrooms working with the children as well as consulting with the staff and families. Alan also has his own practice and primarily does in-home speech therapy.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with [Step by Step EDU-Play Programs](#) in the [Center Based Programs](#)' section.

Speech by the Beach LeeAnn Roca, M.Ed., CCC, Owner Pediatric Speech & Language Services

Speech by the Beach, 1218 6th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401
T: 310.874.8148
Email: speechbythebeach@yahoo.com
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 9AM to 5 PM; every other Saturday

LeeAnn Roca, of Speech by the Beach, provides in-home and clinic-based speech and language services in the West Los Angeles Area. Currently, Speech by the Beach is a vendor with Westside Regional Center (WRC) and a state certified non-public agency. Speech by the Beach does not hold a contract with any school district at this time. LeeAnn Roca has been affiliated with UCLA's Early Childcare and Education for six years providing speech and language screenings and guest lectures. Speech by the Beach also provides screening and therapeutic services for surrounding private schools.

** Cross-referenced with [Minds In Motion/Nicole Archambault Besson](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section as sharing facility space.

Minds In Motion Nicole Archambault Besson, EdS, MS, CCC-SLP, CLEC, CIMI, Owner Pediatric Speech-Language Pathology Clinic

1218 Sixth St. Suite #2, Santa Monica, CA 90401
T: 310.936.3020
F: 310.496.0522
Email: nicole@mindsinmotiontherapy.com
Website: <http://mindsinmotiontherapy.com>
Hours of Operation: Monday - Saturday

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Minds In Motion is a private, pediatric, child and family-centered clinic in Santa Monica, specializing in speech-language pathology, orofacial myology, and brain research in education. Assessment, treatment, and consultation services are provided by highly trained state licensed and ASHA (American Speech-Language Hearing Association) board certified speech-language pathologists; additionally, Nicole Archambault Besson is a Certified Educationalist in Brain Research, Certified Lactation Educator-Counselor, and an Orofacial Myofunctional Therapist. Collaboration with families, caregivers, other disciplines, and educators is provided. Minds In Motion is committed to providing exceptional and compassionate care to families and children with a wide array of speech, language, and communication needs. Comprehensive assessments and therapeutic programs are designed to meet the unique needs of each child and his or her family, and are implemented within a child-friendly, language-enriched learning environment. The setting is designed with unique details to facilitate children's interaction and a motivation to learn.

**Cross-referenced with [Speech by the Beach/LeeAnn Roca](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section as sharing facility space.

[Pathways Speech & Language](#)

[Gayle Keefer, M.A., Clinical Director](#)

[Pediatric Speech and Language Clinic](#)

Office Manager: Andrea

Onsite Speech Therapists: Angie Thudium, M.A., C.C.C.; Amy Lutz Parsons, M.S., C.C.C.; Uma Kadkodi, M.S., C.C.C.; Robin Kushner, M.A.; Erin McDonough; Gopika Kamdar

3205 Ocean Park Blvd., Suite 120, Santa Monica, CA 90405

T: 310.581.6430

F: 310.581.6433

Email: gayle@pathwaysssl.com

Website: www.pathwaysssl.com

Pathways Speech & Language specializes in evaluating and treating children with: Apraxia of Speech, Articulation disorders, Auditory and language processing disorders, autism, expressive language delays or disorders, phonological processing disorder, receptive language delays or disorders, and social and pragmatic language challenges. They have modern facilities that accommodate therapy in a variety of settings and feature a specialized sensory gym and computer resource room. In addition to individualized therapy, they offer group programs and parent education classes. The group programs offered include: It Takes Two to Talk, The Hanen Program for Parents; Toddler Tunes, in collaboration with Joseph A. Rothstein; Story Detectives; Reading Explorers; and Pathways Pals. Parents have expressly Pathways Speech & Language noting their focus and exceptional communication with your child's whole team.

**Cross-referenced as in collaboration with [Joseph A. Rothstein Speech Pathology](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section and cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Judith S. Daniels](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

Note: This list is not comprehensive. It is in no particular order and is not necessarily endorsed by Step by Step. This list has been compiled by Lisa Cobey and Ashley Louderback with input from Step by Step parents. Contact Lisa Coby lisacobey@gmail.com. Many of these professionals are regional center providers or also take private health insurance. Please ask them directly.

Joseph A. Rothstein Speech Pathology

Contact: Joe Rothstein, MS, CCC-SLP
158 26th St. #173, Santa Monica, CA 90403
T: 310.487.5142
Email: joe@rothsteinspeech.com
Website: rothsteinspeech.com
Website: www.powertunesmusic.com

Joe Rothstein focuses on providing services for children who have autism and/or other pervasive developmental disorders, childhood apraxia of speech, developmental delays, and articulation/phonological disorders. He provides one-on-one speech therapy in the child's home to facilitate learning in a natural environment. Joe predominantly works in the West Los Angeles area. Joe is also a musician with specialized training in music education for young children. With this background he developed Toddler Tunes, a parent and me music and movement class. He currently runs the Toddler Tunes music class in collaboration with Pathways Speech and Language for children 18-36 months. In collaboration with KidAbilities Pediatric Therapy, he runs SPOT, which is a small group combination speech therapy and occupational therapy class for children 2 to 3.5 years. Joe has also released his own children's music CD, Power Tunes. The music gets their bodies and brainwaves moving together while empowering them with important language tools. Power Tunes has been honored with a 2009 iParenting Media Award and National Parenting Center Seal of Approval.

** Cross-referenced as in collaboration with [Pathways Speech and Language](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) sections and [KidAbilities](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) and [Physical Therapy](#) section.

Julia Hobbs Speech Pathology, Inc.

Contact: Julia Hobbs, M.A., C.C.C., Executive Director
Office Manager: Mimi Holiday
Onsite Speech Therapists: Suzanne Erdelyi, M.A., C.C.C.; Ann Gates M.A., C.C.C.; Nicole Halmini, M.S. C.C.C.; Megan McCormick, M.S., C.C.C.; Mary Beth Oubre, M.A., C.C.C.; Rebecca Simmons, M.S., C.C.C.; Julie Seiders, M.S., C.C.C.; Julia Hobbs, M.A., C.C.C
11835 Olympic Blvd., # 300, Los Angeles, CA 90064
T: 310.996.8909
Email: jhspinc@gmail.com
Website: juliahobbs.com
Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday, 9 AM to 6 PM; Friday 8 AM to 5 PM

Julia Hobbs Speech Pathology, Inc., is dedicated to providing the highest quality of services with the most positive results for children and their families as they go through the process of speech and language therapy. JHSP Inc. believes every child deserves the opportunity of developing the best communication skills possible and utilizes the most comprehensive approach, current treatment methods and personalized programs in order to achieve this goal. They provide assessment, including diagnosis and treatment recommendations, and develop an individualized speech therapy program for each child. Julia Hobbs has affiliations with UCLA School of Dentistry and St. John's hospital and believes in the importance of coordinating with other specialists working with the child. They work with articulation disorders, language disorders, autism spectrum disorders, cleft palate, craniofacial anomalies, learning disabilities, stuttering, hearing loss, auditory processing disorders, voice disorders, tongue thrust, and myofunctional disorders.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Katherine Cordova, MA, CCC Speech-Language Pathologist

270 26th St., Suite 201, Santa Monica, CA 90402
T: 310.576.1014

Katherine Cordova provides clinic-based services. She predominantly uses a floor-time approach emphasizing the importance of relation-based interventions. Depending on the needs of the child, Katherine will work independently or incorporate parents into sessions. She finds that parent involvement provides an opportunity for learning various techniques in order to maximize their child's success. Katherine is a Westside Regional Center (WRC) vendor and she is licensed by the States of California and Arizona. There is free parking underneath her building.

Splash for Speech, SLP Inc. Amy Wilhelm, M.S., CCC-SLP Speech-Language Pathologist

3637 Motor Avenue, Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90034
T: 310.876.1110 (Office)
C: 310.895.3489
F: 310.876.1114
Email: amywilhelm@hotmail.com
Hours of Operation: M-F 8:30-6

Splash for Speech, Inc. is currently owned and operated by Amy Wilhelm, M.S. CCC-SLP. Amy Wilhelm has been a CA licensed, ASHA credentialed speech-language pathologist since May of 2002 and has extensive experience with the early start, preschool, and elementary school population. Splash for Speech, Inc. offers speech and language assessments and therapy to the pediatric population in a clinic-based environment. The purpose of therapy is to increase receptive/expressive language skills, pragmatic language skills, and functional communication using a total-communication approach (i.e. sign-language, pictures, songs, gestures, words, pacing-boards, etc.). In addition, for those clients with oral-motor weakness, both oral-motor exercises and use of P.R.O.M.P.T. (PROMPTS for Restructuring Oral Muscular Phonetic Targets) are implemented to increase muscle strength, mobility, and co-articulation of sounds. They specialize in a myriad of disorders and delays, including: Autism/Asperger's/PDD-NOS, Apraxia of Speech, William's Syndrome, Down Syndrome, Sensory Processing Disorder, Hearing Impairment, Specific Language Impairment, Auditory Processing Disorder, ADD/ADHD, and Receptive/Expressive Delays, among others. They have a large variety of age-appropriate toys and materials, in addition to a "sensory room" complete with ball pit, spinning chair, rocking chair, large bouncing ball, and water/sand table. In November, 2010, Splash for Speech, Inc. will be launching a social pragmatic language group for children with difficulty using language in social situations. Splash for Speech, Inc. is a vendor of the Westside Regional Center.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Heather Marenda/Speech Me in the Speech Therapy](#) section.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Speech Me, LLC

Heather A. Marena, M.S., CCC-SLP

Speech-Language Pathologist

3637 Motor Avenue, Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90034

T: 310.876.1110

F: 310.876.1114

Email: hmarendaspeech@gmail.com

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [AmyWilhelm/Splash for Speech, Inc.](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section.

Speech 4 Kids

Andree James, M.S., CCC-SLP, Owner/Director

Pediatric Speech Language Pathologist

Additional Onsite Therapists: Jennifer Farley MS, SLP; Nicole Barish, MA, CCC-SLP; Amira Hanna MA, CCC-SLP

1932 14th Street, Suite B, Santa Monica, CA 90404

T: 310.839.1974

C: 310.998.7156

Email: Andree.James@mac.com

Hours of Operation: Monday –Friday, 8AM to 6 PM

Andree James is a licensed board certified pediatric speech language pathologist and the owner / director of Speech 4 Kids. She evaluates and treats children with receptive and expressive language disorders, articulation disorders, apraxia of speech, auditory processing disorders, pragmatic language disorders and oral motor muscle based disorders. She has extensive experience working with children with Autism and trained at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute (NPI). She is Hanen Certified (It Takes Two to Talk and More Than Words), trained in PROMPT (Prompts for Restructuring Oral Musculature Phonetic Targets) and has completed Nancy Kaufman's Early Intervention Program working with children with apraxia of speech. Speech 4 Kids is a vendor of the Westside Regional Center (WRC). Andree James and her team provide family-based treatment for childhood communication disorders.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Kari Thompson/OT 4 Kids & the Therapeutic Learning Center](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) section and [Evelina Ricci/PT n Play](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

Barbara Olson, M.S., CCC-SLP

4233 Jasmine Ave., Culver City, CA 90272

T: 562.412.8353

Barbara Olson has been practicing for 7 years. She has a variety of experience and works with an array of delays. She is currently working in the school district and provides in-home services for clients during after-school hours in the Culver City area. She primarily works with children at the preschool and elementary school level.

Los Angeles Speech and Language Therapy Center, Inc.

[4 Locations: Culver City|Main Office, L.A. Site, Lawndale Site, South Gate Site]

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Culver City | Main Office: Los Angeles Speech and Language Therapy Center, Inc., 5761 Buckingham Parkway, Culver City, CA. 90230

T: 310.649.6199

Email: info@speakla.com

Website: www.speakla.com

The Los Angeles Speech and Language Therapy Center provides comprehensive family focused services. They provide the following: individual and small group speech/language therapy; in-home speech/language stimulation services; Early Intervention center based programs; Social Skills training for children and adolescents; Annual Say N' Play Summer Speech Camp; and a literacy program. Services are provided in a culturally competent manner by their bilingual staff in the following languages: English, Spanish, Japanese, Taiwanese, Signed Exact English, and American Sign Language. The L.A. site is a vendor of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center and also used by Westside Regional Center families. The Lawndale site is a vendor of Westside Regional Center and also used by South Central Los Angeles Regional Center families. Lastly, the South Gate site is a vendor of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center.

Child Success Center (CSC)

Contact: Melissa Idelson, OTR/L, Founder & Director

T: 310.899.9597

Website: www.childsuccesscenter.com

****See Center Based Programs section for specifics. Also cross-referenced under Occupational Therapy and Educational Therapy.**

Can Do Kids, Inc.

Speech Therapy Contact: Chris Hernandez

Physical & Occupational Therapy Contact: Leslie Lobel X 116

3638 Motor Avenue Los Angeles CA 90034

T: 310.204.8999

T: 310.204.8999 x 116 (Leslie Lobel)

Email: chris@cdkmail.com

Email: leslie@cdkmail.com

Website: www.candokidstherapy.com

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 8AM to 5PM, extended hours on certain days until 6 PM.

Can Do Kids, Inc. staff is highly experienced in the areas of Neurodevelopmental Treatment, Sensory Integration (Sensory Processing disorders) and has expertise working with infants and children with both neuromotor and /or sensory based feeding challenges. Can Do Kids, Inc. has many years of experience as a contracted provider for many third party healthcare insurance companies including Blue Cross of CA and Blue Shield of CA. Can Do Kids has provided outstanding advocacy for private insurance coverage. Furthermore, they have been a vendor for Westside Regional Center (WRC) for 32 years.

****Cross-referenced under Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy.**

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Innovative Speech and Language Pathology

Odelia Mirzadeh, MS, CCC-SLP

Innovative SLP, 9171 Wilshire Blvd., #P12, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

T: 310.486.1717

Email: odelia@innovativeslp.com

Website: www.innovativeSLP.com

Odelia Mirzadeh provides services to both children as well as adults. In terms of the pediatric population, she evaluates and treats: autism spectrum disorders (ASD), cleft palate and craniofacial anomalies, auditory processing disorder, oral motor speech disorders, voice disorders, apraxia of speech, stuttering, social communication disorders (pragmatics), expressive and receptive difficulties, articulation disorders/distortions, language disorders, memory and listening skill difficulties, as well as reading and writing comprehension deficits. Odelia has conducted numerous professional development in-services for parents, teachers and staff. Her extended training through her continuing education courses include: PROMPT, Talk-Tools, Kaufman's Apraxia of Speech, Floor-Time, SCERTs Model, SOS, PECs, Linda Mood-Bell (Seeing Stars) and Fast-Forward (FFW).

Julie Behrstock

Speech and Language Pathology

T: 310.995.4901

Provides treatment in the West Los Angeles and Beverly Hills area, including in-home and school-site visits.

Bezdeny Speech Pathology Clinic

Pediatric Speech, Language, & Feeding Intervention

Contact: Suzanne Bezdeny, M.S., SLP

22048 Sherman Way Ste. 206, Canoga Park, CA 91303

T: 818.884.5103

Email: bezdenyspeech@gmail.com

Bezdeny Speech Pathology Clinic offers pediatric speech, language and feeding intervention for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school-age children. They treat a variety of pediatric communication disorders including, but not limited to, motor speech disorders, language processing disorders, articulation disorders, and voice disorders. There are four experienced speech pathologists on site, each with a minimum of 15 years of experience. They also have an experienced therapy dog, Rudy, who is usually on the premises. Health insurance is accepted. There is easy access to free parking at the rear of the building by entering off of Glade Avenue, south of Sherman Way and 1 block west of Topanga Canyon Blvd.

Linda Diamond & Associates

[An affiliate of Partners in Communication]

Contact: Linda F. Diamond, M.S., C.C.C.

Contact: Patti Wade, M.S., therapist

2211 Corinth Ave., Suite 207, Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.445.2171

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Email: canwetalk2@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.lindadiamondspeechpathologist.com/index.htm>

In addition to Linda Diamond, there are two other licensed and ASHA certified speech pathologists.

Based in West Los Angeles, they specialize in toddlers through school-aged children with speech and language delays, as well as those children with behavior and regulatory disorders, such as Autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorders, and Asperger's Syndrome. Services include: evaluation; Articulation Therapy for Apraxia and Phonological Disorders; Myofunctional Therapy for tongue thrust; Language Therapy for syntax, semantics, word finding, and auditory processing; Stuttering Therapy, Voice Therapy, and Social Skills to facilitate social language; consultations; and parent classes/teaching, including The Hanen course, *IT TAKES TWO TO TALK*.

Deborah Fleiger, M.S., CCC-SLP Speech and Language Pathologist

10935 Culver Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230

T: 310.245.4859

Deborah Fleiger is a Westside Regional Center Vendor.

Rebecca Luce James Speech Therapist

2730 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 660, Santa Monica, CA 90403

T: 310.776.1144

SMALL TALK Speech & Language Therapy Dineen Kaber, Clinic Director Pediatric Speech Therapy Clinic

415 N. Crescent Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210-6815

T: 310.248.2888

Westside Speech Pathology Lisa Kannof

12304 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 216, Santa Monica, CA 90025

T: 310.429.9221

T: 310.828.9450

Email: lakannof@aol.com

Progressive Steps

T: 661.295.0181

Website: <http://progressivestepsca.com/>

** See **Center Based Programs** section for specifics. Also cross-referenced under, **Occupational Therapy**, and **Physical Therapy** sections.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Occupational Therapy (OT)

Karen Carrey, MA, OTR/L Pediatric Occupational Therapist

Step by Step EDU-Play Programs, 1814 14th St., Santa Monica, CA 90404
AND 616 23rd Street, Santa Monica, CA 90402

T: 310.650.8065

F: 310.394.8476

Email: karenarrey@verizon.net

Karen Carrey currently works at Step by Step spending time as the onsite pediatric Occupational Therapist. In this role she visits each of the classrooms working with the children as well as consulting with the staff and families. She also has her own practice where she provides both in-home and clinic-based services depending on the needs of the family and child. She has completed post-graduate work in sensory integration therapy and is currently working to obtain specialty certification in feeding and swallowing. Karen also works for an early intervention program serving children with visual impairments and developmental delays in the northern region of LA County.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with [Step by Step EDU-Play Programs](#) in the [Center Based Programs](#)' section.

Sari Ockner, OTR/L Pediatric Occupational Therapist

T: 917.747.8529

Email: Sari.ockner@gmail.com

Sari Ockner has been practicing for 13 years with school, clinic, and home based experience. Sari Ockner is certified in Sensory Integration and is a handwriting and child development specialist.

Emily Levine, OTR/L, C/NDT, SWC Advance Pediatric Therapy Center Pediatric Occupational Therapy Office

11340 Olympic Blvd., Suite 205, Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.268.7880

T: 818.385.1628

Email: emilyot@sbcglobal.net

Emily Levine, OTR/L is certified in Neuro-Developmental Treatment (NDT) and also has Advanced Practice Certification in Swallowing and Feeding. She is also certified in Sensory Integration.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Footprints](#) and [Debby Bohn, MPT](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

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KidAbilities, LLC Ellen Lenok, MA, OTR/L, Director Pediatric Therapy Center

Additional Onsite Therapists: Elisa Seidner, MA, OTR/L; Heather Hire, MOT, OTR/L
11110 Ohio Ave., Suite 206, Los Angeles, CA 90025
T: 310.444.8812 (primary)
Email: LN5@aol.com (Ellen Lenok)
Email: elisaseidner@gmail.com (Elisa Seidner)
Email: hhire8@gmail.com (Heather Hire)

KidAbilities provides full-service pediatric occupational therapy and physical therapy in the West Los Angeles area. Occupational Therapy assessments and consultations include: fine and gross motor training, Sensory Integration Therapy, visual motor and visual perception training, handwriting training, auditory processing, attention and focus, self care and functional skill building, social skills training (individual and group), kinesiotaping, splinting, and play skills. Occupational therapy services are provided in the school, home, and community settings. KidAbilities provides services for children with the following: autism, developmental delay, attention issues, fine motor delays, oral motor and feeding issues, learning disabilities, immature play skills, behavioral challenges, motor coordination dysfunction, chromosomal disorders, and neurological disorders. KidAbilities, in collaboration with Joseph Rothstein a speech-language pathologist, runs SPOT. SPOT is a program that utilizes the advantage of an integrated approach with multi-sensory activities designed round a language theme. Classes include music, arts and crafts, obstacle courses, language activities, imaginative play, sensory play, and yoga!

Cross-referenced under the **Physical Therapy section, in collaboration with **Joseph A. Rothstein Speech Pathology** in the **Speech Therapy** section, and also as sharing facility space with **Sara Cassone** in the **Occupational Therapy** section and **Debra Kray** in the **Physical Therapy** section.

Liz Finnerty, M.A. Ed., OTR/L Pediatric Occupational Therapist

Facility Use at Child Success Center, 828 Pico Blvd., Suite 7, Santa Monica, CA 90405
T: 310.899.9597x103 (Child Success Center)
C: 310.625.6226
Email: Elisabeth.finnerty@gmail.com
Hours of Operation: 9AM – 6PM

Liz Finnerty uses the facilities at Child Success Center; however, parents also have the opportunity of in-home services and work with her directly in a private setting from the onset of therapy until graduation. Liz Finnerty is trained in the following listening programs: Advanced Therapeutic Listening, The Listening Program (bone conduction), and Samonas. She uses other programs such as Handwriting Without Tears, Zoo-phonics, and Processing and Cognitive Enhancement (PACE). Liz Finnerty also has a Master's degree in Special Education with a concentration in educational therapy. She blends these techniques into my occupational therapy session for kindergarten/school readiness.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Yael Forman Occupational Therapist

T: 310.614.3402

Email: OTsuccess@yahoo.com

Yael Forman provides services in the Oak Park and Augora Hills area and are both home-based and community based.

Heidi Soussan & Associates Pediatric Occupational Therapist

Contact: Heidi Soussan, MS, OTR/L

14742 Hartsook Street, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

T: 310.980.1812

Email: heidi@soussan.com

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with **Sara Cassone** in the **Occupational Therapy** section.

Sara Cassone, M.A., OTR/L Pediatric Occupational Therapist [Services Provided in the Valley & the Westside]

Heidi Soussan & Associates, 14742 Hartsook Street, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 (Valley clinic)

KidAbilities, 11110 Ohio Ave #206 Los Angeles, CA 90025 (Westside clinic)

T: 310.444.8812 (KidAbilities/Westside)

T: 914.490.4126 (Home visits/School Collaboration on Westside or Valley)

Email: saracassone@gmail.com

Sara Cassone is a Pediatric Occupational Therapist and provides services in a variety of settings: clinic-based services (in collaboration with Heidi Soussan & Associates and KidAbilities), school collaborations, and in-home services. She is certified in therapeutic listening program. She provides services in the San Fernando Valley as well as in West Los Angeles.

Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with **Heidi Soussan & Associates in the **Occupational Therapy** section and **KidAbilities** in the **Occupational Therapy** section.

Malka Breitman, Occupational Therapist

512 N. Fuller Ave., Los Angeles CA, 90036

T: 323.938.8008

C: 323.518.1149

Email: malka.breitman@gmail.com

Malka Breitman provides in-home services to babies 0-3 within a 10 miles radius, including West Hollywood, Culver City, Beverly Hills, and the West Los Angeles area. Her focus is developmental facilitation via parental education, home program, and weekly follow-ups with the home visits. She looks at overall gross motor development, fine motor skills, perceptual-motor functioning, sensory processing, language, and self-help skills. Her goal in working with babies, 0-3, is to get them ready for

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participating in a playgroup or preschool. She believes in a collaborative approach where the parents and therapy team work together to get the child to as optimum a place they can reach so that they can then transition to the next stage, preschool. Currently she is an independent contractor and has been working in Early Intervention since 2001. She primarily works for the Lanterman Regional Center and is in the process of becoming a Westside Regional Center vendor.

Child Success Center (CSC)

Contact: Melissa Idelson, OTR/L, Founder & Director

T: 310.899.9597

Website: www.childsuccesscenter.com

See **Center Based Programs section for specifics. Also cross-referenced under **Speech Therapy** and **Educational Therapy**.

Can Do Kids, Inc.

Occupational Therapy Contact: Leslie Lobel X 116

T: 310.204.8999 x 116 (Leslie Lobel)

Email: leslie@cdkmail.com

Website: www.candokidstherapy.com

** See **Speech Therapy** section for specifics. Also cross-referenced under **Physical Therapy**.

Greco's World

A Sensory Integration Clinic

Roxie Fernandez, OT, Owner

Greco's World, 11821 Teale, Culver City, CA 90320

T: 310.390.8868

Email: roxie@grecosworld.com

The Starting Block

Clinic Contact: Amy Cress MA, OTR/L Clinical Services Director

Community Services Contact: Billy Stimson MA, OTR/L Community Services Director

The Starting Block, 150 Sierra St., El Segundo, CA 90245-4117

T: 310.426.9406 (Amy Cress)

T: 310.880.1174 (Billy Stimson)

T: 310.426.9406 (General)

F: 310.426.9429

Website: <http://thestartingblock.us/welcome.html>

The Starting Block offers family-centered programs that are available to all individuals in the community in order to assist with reaching their maximum potential. Their services include occupational therapy and infant development programs. Their occupational therapists use play to motivate a child while encouraging the development of new skills, which helps the child builds competency and a sense of achievement that leads to mastery that can be generalized to his/her other life occupations. The Infant Development Program's philosophy is to use play in order to promote development in the areas of physical, cognitive, communication, social-emotional, and adaptive skills. They are certified by the

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State of California as a Non Public Agency to provide occupational therapy services within the educational environment. They are also vendors for local Regional Centers to provide early intervention services for children from infancy up to age three.

**Cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with the [Lisa White-Urlich/One Step Ahead Pediatric @ PT](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

OT 4 Kids and The Therapeutic Learning Center Kari Thompson, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, SWC, CLE, CID , Owner

1932 14th St., Santa Monica, CA 90404

T: 310.344.2276

Email: ot_4_kids@yahoo.com

Website: ot4kidstlc.com

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 7:30AM to 7PM & Saturday–Sunday 8AM to 5:30PM

OT 4 Kids and the Therapeutic Learning Center provides occupational therapy and educational services to children birth to 21. They utilize a "wholistic" approach to treat the whole child to assure every child's utmost success. They specialize in developing strength and coordination to improve gross and fine motor skills needed for overall development, sensory integration, feeding and swallowing, behavioral intervention, and social skills. In addition, they provide an extensive array of whole brain, learning-based programs to improve reading, spelling, math, memory, processing skills, and attention. Service Locations: At the Sensory Integration Clinic address above, in the home, at school, and in community based settings. At the location above: Services offered include: Occupational Therapy, Social Skills Training, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Dance Classes, Enrichment Classes, Facilitated Playdates, Behavior Intervention, Educational Services / Programs to advance reading, writing, spelling, math, attention, etc. Their staff includes: 12 Board Certified Occupational Therapists with Sensory Integration and Feeding Training, 4 Related Professionals with Educational Backgrounds is Psychology, Education, and Speech and Language. They are currently Westside Regional Center Vendors.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Andree James/Speech 4 Kids](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section and [Evelina Ricci/PT n Play](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

Progressive Steps

T: 661.295.0181

Website: <http://progressivestepsca.com/>

** See [Center Based Programs](#) section for specifics. Also, cross-referenced under, [Speech Therapy](#) and [Physical Therapy](#).

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Physical Therapy (PT)

Judith S. Daniels, DPT

Doctor of Physical Therapy

3205 Ocean Park Blvd., Suite 120, Santa Monica, CA 90405

T: 424.835.0517

C: 818.321.9578

Email: judithdnls@gmail.com

Judith Daniels specializes and provides in home and clinic based Pediatric Physical Therapy from birth to adolescence. She treats a variety of diagnoses including but not limited to: Hypotonia, Motor Incoordination, Torticollis, Neurological Dysfunction, Genetic Syndromes, and Prematurity. She also runs a Therapeutic Yoga Program for children 3 years old and older in small groups (3 children maximum) or individual sessions. Therapeutic yoga sessions target: body awareness, sensory systems, motor planning, coordination, breath control and mechanisms of breathing, muscular strength & flexibility, social skills and self-regulation. The therapeutic program provides individualized attention for children on the autism spectrum, children with attention deficit/hyperactivity, anxiety, difficulty in sensory processing, compromised respiration, cancer, developmental delay and neurological disorders. Judith is a licensed physical therapist with extensive training in neurodevelopmental treatment (NDT) and sensory integration. She has been practicing yoga for over 10 years and is training as a certified yoga instructor, RYT200 (to be completed in March 2011) through Yoga Alliance. She has a holistic approach to physical therapy treatment. She strongly believes in the interplay between the nervous, musculoskeletal, sensory and cardiopulmonary systems, which has led to the development of her therapeutic yoga program for children.

**Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Pathways Speech and Language](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section.

Footprints

Nancy Dilger, M.A., P.T., P.C.S., C/ N.D.T., C.K.T.P.

Pediatric Physical Therapy

11340 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 205, Los Angeles CA 90064

T: 310.268.7880

T: 310.431.7250

Email: footprintspt@yahoo.com

Nancy J. Dilger is a Board Certified Pediatric Clinical Specialist (P.C.S.) through the American Physical Therapy Association, certified in Neurodevelopmental cTreatment and certified by Kinesio Tape USA. She specializes in adaptive equipment including but not limited to splinting of the upper and lower extremities, lower extremity orthotics, seating and positioning devices.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Emily Levine, OTR/L](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) section and [Debby Bohn, MPT](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Debby Bohn, MPT

Pediatric Physical Therapist

11340 Olympic Blvd., Suite 205, Los Angeles CA 90064

T: 310.268.7880

Cell: 310.739.4129

Email: edydeby@aol.com

Debby Bohn, MPT is certified in Neuro-Developmental Treatment.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Emily Levine, OTR/L](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) section and [Footprints](#) in the [Physical Therapy](#) section.

Stepping Stones Pediatric Therapy

Shelby Forn, MPT

3301 Tareco Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90068

T: 323.333.2915

Email: shelbyhicklin@sbcglobal.net

Website: steppingstonespt.com

They provide in-home pediatric physical therapy services and have over a decade of experience treating children with various developmental disabilities and who are at risk for delays.

Debra Kray

Physical Therapist

T: 310.908.9226

Email: ges-touch@ca.rr.com

Debra Kray works in the West Los Angeles area.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [KidAbilities](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) section.

Carrie McNitt

Pediatric Physical Therapist

T: 310.740.5080

Email: carriemcnitt@aol.com

Hours of Operation: Flexible based on client (child/family) schedule

Carrie McNitt is a pediatric physical therapist who provides Early Start homecare throughout the West Los Angeles Area and southward to the Gardena area. She is a vendor with Westside Regional Center (WRC). Carrie McNitt is also able to provide her services for preschool and elementary school children.

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KidAbilities, LLC Ellen Lenok, MA, OTR/L, Director Pediatric Therapy Center

Contact: Ellen Lenok, MA, OTR/L
T: 310.444.8812

Cross-referenced under **Occupational Therapy section where there are more specifics. Also cross-referenced in collaboration with **Joseph A. Rothstein Speech Pathology** in the **Speech Therapy** section and also as sharing facility space with **Sara Cassone** in the **Occupational Therapy** section and **Debra Kray** in the **Physical Therapy** section.

EARLYstart Pediatric Physical Therapy Dr. Sophi Tritasavit

T: 310.435.5550
F: 310.670.2340
Email: sophie@earlystartpt.com
Website: earlystartpt.com

EARLYstart provides nurturing care for infants and toddlers and specializes in the prevention, early detection, and treatment of infant torticollis, cranial deformities, and associated motor delay. EARLYstart provides either home based treatment or center-based treatment in their Westchester location.

One step Ahead Pediatric @PT Lisa Ulrich, PT & Owner

150 Sierra St., El Segundo, CA 90245
C: 310.890.7584
T: 310.426.9406 (Starting Block)
Email: akaredpt@hotmail.com
Hours of Operation: Varying Monday – Saturday

One Step Ahead is in the process of expanding and adding therapists in order to treat the whole child. The mission statement is to provide the family and child the skills needed to transition independently into the community. They provide both in-clinic and in-home visits, including the Westside area and in the areas serviced by the Harbor Regional Center and Lanterman Regional Center. They accept most PPO insurance and are in the process of taking some HMO. At this time, Lisa White-Ulrich also shares space with the Starting Block, which provides does infant stim and an infant development group. Lisa and the Starting Block work in conjunction, sharing referrals.

Cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with the **Starting Block in the **Occupational Therapy** section.

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Can Do Kids, Inc.

Physical Therapy Contact: Leslie Lobel X 116

T: 310. 204.8999 x 116 (Leslie Lobel)

Email: leslie@cdkmail.com

Website: www.candokidstherapy.com

** See [Speech Therapy](#) section for specifics. Also cross-referenced under [Occupational Therapy](#).

Progressive Steps

T: 661.295.0181

Website: <http://progressivestepsca.com/>

** See [Center Based Programs](#) section for specifics. Also, cross-referenced under, [Speech Therapy](#) and [Occupational Therapy](#).

Physical Therapy Solutions for Infants and Toddlers

Dr. Yvette Flores, DPT, CSCS

Administrative & Marketing Asst. Contact: Robyn, B.A., M.F.A.

2634 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90403 (located in Giaquinto Wellness Center)

T: 800.507.2634

Email: info@babytherapysolutions.com

Website: www.babytherapysolutions.com

PT Solutions for Infants & Toddlers have been known to be the 'baby boot camp' physical therapy center, where infants, toddlers and parents learn and participate in safe, effective and fun PT and exercise programs that have been proven to make a difference. Dr. Yvette Flores, owner of this practice, specializes in head and neck challenges and gross motor developmental delay. She is the only certified 830 cold laser provider in Santa Monica, enabling her to safely treat localized pain & swelling in injured tissues in the pediatric population. Specialized programs offered: Torticollis & Plagiocephaly program, Milestone achievement program, Pain reduction program, Baby Fitness classes, and complimentary assessments. PT Solutions also offers adolescent sports rehabilitation programs as well as Women's Empowerment programs, popular with new Moms. Dr. Flores offers both clinic and home visits as well as offers affordable payment programs for those without health insurance.

PT N' Play

Evelina Ricci, RPT (Registered Pediatric Physical Therapist)

10061 Riverside Drive, #271, Toluca Lake, CA, 91602

T: 323.394.3861

F: 818.752.7382

Email: pntnplay@sbcglobal.net

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Andree James/OT 4 Kids](#) in the [Speech Therapy](#) section and [Kari Thompson/OT 4 Kids & the Therapeutic Learning Center](#) in the [Occupational Therapy](#) section.

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Mental Health Professionals

Lisa Cobey, MA, LMFT

Children, Adolescents, Families, & Individuals from ages 3 to adulthood

11500 W. Olympic Boulevard, Suite 420, Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.743.2408

Email: Lwcobey@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.counselingcalifornia.com/Therapists/LisaWCobey>

Hours of Operation: Tuesday afternoon/evenings and every other Saturday

Lisa has over 14 years of experience doing clinical work with people from a variety of backgrounds and cultures. She has had success in: helping children build stronger friendships and family relationships, developing strategies with parents to increase their child's compliance and self-esteem, guiding teenagers to establish healthy independence and responsibility, and assisting adults with life transitions, self-growth, relationships, mood/anxiety issues, and time management skills. Lisa specializes in strength-based treatment, such as building one's "toolbox" or set of coping skills. Her expertise is in early intervention, social skills training, parent support groups, and grief/loss groups, teacher consultation, trainings, and assisting parents with school advocacy/appropriate placement. Sliding scale offered, as needed. Limited insurance accepted (e.g., PPO as an out of network provider); a billing summary is provided to clients to submit for re-imburement as well.

Dr. Kearney N. Visser, Ph.D.

Therapy, Evaluations, & Assessments

T: 310.409.5463

** Cross-referenced under **Pediatricians, Psychologists, and Specialists** section where there are more specifics as well as cross-referenced as sharing facility space and working in conjunction with **Step by Step EDU-Play Programs** in the **Center Based Programs'** section.

Mudita Bahadur, Ph.D.

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Therapy, Assessments, and Consultation

T: 310.463.7913

** Cross-referenced under **Pediatricians, Psychologists, and Specialists** section where there are more specifics.

Lyra Barrera, Psy.D., LMFT

Adult Individual and Couples Counseling

[Associated with Larchmont Associates]

Larchmont Associates, 252 N. Larchmont Blvd., Suite 202, Los Angeles CA 90004

T: 323.980.7960

F: 323.463.4489

Email: lyrabarrera@larchmontassociates.com

Website: www.larchmontassociates.com

Hours of Operation: Monday 9AM to 9PM, Wednesday 10 AM to 9PM, Saturday 11AM to 4PM.

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Lyra Barrera, Psy.D. specializes in Women's Studies; Marriage, Child, and Family Therapy; and Multicultural Community Clinical Psychology. Lyra Barrera, Psy.D. has been with Larchmont Associates since 1998. A sliding scale fee is available as needed; although she does not take insurance, she will provide statements that can be submitted to the insurance company for reimbursement.

Aaron Buckwalter, M.A., LMFT

Change Thru Therapy

Individuals, Adolescents, and Couples

[Also Associated with Larchmont Associates]

Larchmont Associates, 143 N. Larchmont Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90004

T: 323.799.4130

F: 323.799.4130

Email: aaron@changethrutherapy.com (primary)

Email: aaron@larchmontassociates.com

Website: www.changethrutherapy.com (primary)

Website: www.larchmontassociates.com

Aaron Buckwalter provides services addressing men and relationship issues (including work and/or fatherhood), couples disconnected in relationships, adolescents navigating the difficulties of becoming adults, depression, anxiety, trauma/PTSD, anger problems, low self-esteem, drug and/or alcohol use, grief/loss, individuals and couples experiencing fertility challenges, and more. Aaron works in both agency and private practice settings.

Dr. Erika Carpenter Rich, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist

Parenting and Social Skills for Children

2035 Westwood Blvd., Suite 207, Los Angeles, CA 90025

T: 310.709.6427

Email: Erika@socialskillsgroup.com

Website: www.socialskillsgroup.com

Dr. Rich, a licensed clinical psychologist, offers a variety of services to target behavioral or social emotional difficulties depending on your child's age and needs, including: social skills groups for 3-4 year olds, 4-6 year olds, and 6-9 year olds to encourage appropriate social-emotional responses with peers; key skill groups for 8-12 year olds on a variety of special topics, including social communication, coping skills, mindfulness, and "Girl Smarts"; school consultations to provide tailored recommendations for your child in the school setting; individual therapy to skill-build more closely with your child; parenting groups to give you the tools you need to help your child; family behavioral therapy to individually coach parents in how to use play to improve child behavior. The schedule, size of class, and specific curriculum for each group varies, please visit the website for more details. Dr. Rich is a Westside Regional Center (WRC) vendor.

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Family Resource Counseling Center

Contact: Dr. Sara Abbot Edrington, Psy.D., CIMI, & Associate Director
11500 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste. 420, Los Angeles, CA 90064
T: 310.479.9798 x 3
Website: www.frccla.com

Sara Abbot Edrington is the co-founder of a group private practice located in West Los Angeles. They offer individual, long-term counseling for children, teens and their families. In addition, they work with adults and couples, as well as offer the following groups: teen girls support, parenting, infant massage & healthy development, as well as seminars for teens. Their practice was developed to meet all of a family's needs at one location. Their approach to counseling is strength-based and they encourage a good therapeutic match between client and therapist. They offer a sliding scale fee and accept PPO insurances.

Cara Gardenswartz, Ph.D.

Adults, Couples and Group Therapy

9300 Wilshire Blvd Suite 320, Beverly Hills, CA 90212
T: 1.800.306.2773
Email: cara@caragardenswartz.com
Website: www.CaraGardenswartz.com

Dr. Gardenswartz has over 18 years of education, training, and experience in her field. Her expertise include: Depression & Anxiety; Relationships; Parenting; Transitions & Loss; Drug and Alcohol Abuse; Adult Children of Alcoholics; Physical & Sexual Abuse; Gay & Lesbian Issues; Co-Dependency; Trauma Histories. Her clientele ranges from college students, adults, young adults, couples, parents, to retirees. She received her BA from the University of Pennsylvania and went on to earn her Master's and Doctorate in Psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is a Certified Group Psychotherapist (CGP) and in addition to working with patients, Dr. Gardenswartz consults for publications, media, and entertainment. She is a script and technical consultant for television and film. She currently teaches undergraduate courses at UCLA.

Carol R. Hirshfield, Ph.d.

A Psychological Corporation

11340 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste. 265, Los Angeles, CA 90064
T: 310.473.3200
F: 310.479.4718
Email: drhirshfield@aol.com
Website: www.vnacolors.com/vnasites/drcarolhirshfield/index.html
Hours of Operation:

Social Skills Group: Monday, 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM (ages approx. 8-10yrs.)

Social Skills Group: Monday, 7 PM to 8:30 PM (ages approx. 12-14 yrs.)

Teen Psychotherapy Group: Tuesday, 7 PM to 8:30 PM (ages approx. 4-17 yrs.)

Co-Parenting with Your Ex (COPE) class: Thursday, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Co-Parenting with Your Ex (COPE) class: Saturday, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

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Dr. Carol Hirshfield's special expertise includes child development, populations who have special needs (such as learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders, developmental disabilities, and autism), and services for families who are engaged in high conflict divorce. Clinical Services include: Psychotherapy for children, adolescents, adult, Family Therapy and Couples Therapy, Parenting for individual parents and in workshops, Social Skills groups for children ages 7-14 who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Learning Disabilities, Shyness/Social Anxiety or other Social Skills deficits Teen Psychotherapy Group (for high school students), Custody Mediation, Collaborative divorce as a Child Development Specialist or Divorce Coach, Co-parenting counseling (Court ordered or private), Co-parenting courses called Co-parenting with your Ex (COPE),© Groups for Kids/ Teens whose parents divorce or are separated.

The Jeffrey Foundation

Contact: Alyce Morris Winston, CEO & Founder

Contact: Veronica Solano, Program Administrator & Family Resource Center Director

5470 W. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90016

T: 323.965.7536

T: 800.655.1917 (hotline)

Email: amorris@thejeffreyfoundation.com (Alyce Morris Winston)

Email: vsolano@thejeffreyfoundation.com (Veronia Solano)

Website: thejeffreyfoundation.com

The Jeffrey Foundation provides education and support for parents/care providers of families with children ages 0-5, who have special needs, and/or at risk for future developmental problems. Their services are designed to support special needs children of every age, from infants to young adults, and their entire families. They provide direct care to special needs children including educational, creative, and recreational activities that foster the children's academic, social, and behavioral development to prepare them for every stage of life. Time spent in these programs benefits the family as well. Parents are given the opportunity to tend to other children or pursue career opportunities that often improve the standard of living for the whole family. Siblings and other relatives are relieved of childcare duties that can be overwhelming at times. To strengthen families, the Jeffrey Foundation goes further, offering parenting classes, support groups and family counseling to relieve the stress and emotional side effects of living with a disability. The Jeffrey Foundation is fully-licensed as a child care center by the Department of Social Services and is an approved services provider for the State Regional Centers (including Westside Regional Center) for the Developmentally Disabled. The foundation is also recognized by the City Department of Disability, the Community Development Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District. Call the clinic prior to attending groups because the address for the support group is across the street. It is predominantly Spanish speaking.

Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS)

Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, Administrative Office, 3580 Wilshire Boulevard, 7th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010

T: 323.761.8800

F: 323.761.8801

Website: www.jfsla.org

*Visit website for all locations

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JFS provides professional counseling, care management, and referral services to families. They serve the community by providing affordable short or long term counseling, information, consultations, and referrals, senior services, support groups, and volunteer opportunities. JFS enriches the community and improves the lives of countless men, women and children of all religions, ethnicities and ages. JFS is made up of volunteers, partners, donors and friends. They form collaborative relationships with their clients that enhance their wellbeing and help them to thrive. JFS has a sliding scale based on income and ability to pay; however, they also accept insurance.

** Cross-referenced as working in conjunction with/division of [HaMercaz](#) in the [Mental Health](#) section.

HaMercaz: Your One Stop Special Needs Resource The Jewish Federation of Los Angeles

Contact: Amy Bryman, Sarah Blitzstein or Vera Gisis
The Jewish Federation, Goldsmith Center, 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048
HaMercaz, 12821 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood, CA, 91606
T: 866.287.8030
Email: hamercaz@jfsla.org (general)
Email: vgisis@jfsla.org (Vera Gisis)
Email: sblitzstein@jfsla.org (Sarah Blitzstein)
F: 818.760.8681
Website: www.hamercaz.org
Hours of Operation: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM – 5PM, Friday, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

HaMercaz, Hebrew for “the center,” connects families to special needs resources throughout the Los Angeles area. HaMercaz works with all families, regardless of race, religion or socio-economic status. It is a support group for anyone (you don’t need to be Jewish) who has a child with special needs can call. HaMercaz offers ongoing assistance, advocacy and support to all families. They provide a toll-free “warmline,” educational lectures, social and recreational programs for the whole family, including play days, sibling programs and Jewish holiday celebrations. They also have a great sibling program. HaMercaz connects parents to a world of support, including help for families with newly diagnosed children, on-going assistance for families with children from birth through age 22, information about a network of community agencies and resources, as well as special needs programming available at synagogues, schools and camps. Hamercaz also offers support groups and counseling for parents, siblings and grandparents of special needs children.

**Let them know that Lisa Cobey at Step by Step EDU-Play Programs referred you. Also, cross-referenced as working in conjunction with/division of [Health Jewish Family Services \(JFS\)](#) in the [Mental Health](#) section.

Dr. Hope W. Levin, M.D. Child and Adult Psychiatry

2730 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 325, Santa Monica, CA 90403
T: 310.494.0108
F: 310.943.9012
Website: www.hopelevinmd.com

Parent Resource List – Therapeutic & Consultation Services

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Dr. Levin is Board Certified in Child, Adolescent, and Adult Psychiatry. She provides psychotherapy and/or medication management. She runs a private practice but also is a staff psychiatrist for the University of California, Counseling and Psychological Services. She is a member of the American Psychiatric Association, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and the Academy for Eating Disorders. She works with alcoholism, anorexia nervosa, bipolar disorder, depression, grief, insomnia, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, smoking cessation, and suicide.

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Dr. David Taylor, M.D.](#) in the [Mental Health Professionals'](#) section.

Los Angeles Asperger's Syndrome Parents' Support Group

Contact/Group Organizer: Jim Devine

Contact/Group Organizer: Fran Goldfarb

Location for Meetings: Mark Taper Building at Vista del Mar, 200 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064

T: 310.543.5064 (Support Group)

T: 310.338.2948 (Jim Devine)

T: 323.361.3831 (Fran Goldfarb)

Email: jdevine@lmu.edu (Jim Devine)

Email: laasperger@gmail.com (General)

Email: beadsme@verizon.net (Fran Goldfarb)

Website: <http://myweb.lmu.edu/jdevine/as/>

Hours of Operation: Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month

This is a group specifically for the parents or guardians (of whatever age) with Asperger Syndrome or related disorders. People with AS themselves are encouraged to attend AGUA (Adult Gathering, United and Autistic). This group provides a place where parents can give information and support to each other. Everything said is held in the strictest of confidentialities.

The Maple Counseling Center (TMCC) a

9107 Wilshire Boulevard, Lower Level, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

T: 310.271.9999

T: 310.271.9999x1807 (Families, adolescents, & children seeking services)

T: 310.271.9999x1806 (Couples seeking services)

T: 310.271.9999x1236 (Parents seeking parenting classes)

F: 310.247.4910

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

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday, 8 AM to 9 PM; Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM; & Saturday, 9 AM to 1 PM

The Center's primary function is to provide low cost mental health counseling services for individuals, couples, families, adolescents, and groups in need. Our program and services include Counseling, School Based Programs, Support Groups, and Senior Peer Counseling. They offer adolescent and child counseling, couples therapy, group therapy, parenting class, and individual counseling. If you or someone you love is suffering from anxiety, depression, the loss of a parent, or a divorce or separation, psychotherapy services may help.

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Dr. Stephanie Mihalas, Ph.D., NCSP
Licensed Psychologist & Nationally Certified School Psychologist
The Center for Well-Being: Psychological Services for Children, Youth, & Families
T: 310.442.1500
Website: www.askdrstephanie.com

** Cross-referenced under the **Pediatricians, Psychologists, and Specialists'** section where there are more specifics.

Our House Grief Support Center
[Two locations: West Los Angeles & Woodland Hills]
West Los Angeles: 1663 Sawtelle Blvd., Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90025\Woodland Hills: 21860 Burbank Blvd., Suite 195, Woodland Hills, CA 91367
T: 310.473.1511 (West Los Angeles location)
F: 310.473.1515 (West Los Angeles location)
T: 818.222.3344 (Woodland Hills location)
F: 818.222.3392 (Woodland Hills location)
Website: <http://www.ourhouse-grief.org/>

OUR HOUSE is a nonprofit, nonsectarian Grief Support Center. We offer grief support groups that are age and relationship specific for children ages 4-18 and adults. OUR HOUSE also offers School-Based grief support groups, Medical and Professional Education programs, Continuing Education Workshops, Post-Crisis Grief Intervention for businesses and the community, grief support resources and referrals. – There are Spanish speaking groups available.

Rob Santos, MA, LMFT
Individual, Couple and Family Counseling
[Associated with Larchmont Associates]
Larchmont Associates, 252 N. Larchmont Blvd., Suite 202, Los Angeles CA 90004
T: 323.205.4188
Website: www.larchmontassociates.com

Rob Santos' work focuses on separating people from their problems, creating space for all participants' voices to be heard, and helping families to cope with difficult and confusing circumstances. His work is very interactive and driven by an understanding of clients' values, preferences, and hopes in life. He has expertise in complex communication problems and anger management issues, and is skilled in helping clients practice "fair fighting" and respectful relating. He works on a sliding scale but his full fee is \$140/hour. Although he does not accept any insurance, he can provide statements, which clients can use to seek medical insurance reimbursement.

Dr. Jason Stein, MFT, Psy.D., LMFT
Therapeutic Service for Children, Families, & Couples
179-A Barrington Place, Los Angeles, CA 90049
T: 310.476.2899
Email: info@drjasonstein.com
Website: www.drjasonstein.com (primary)
Website: www.iryze.com

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Dr. Jason Stein has worked in the field for over 15 years as a therapist and clinical supervisor. He works with children and adolescents between 3 and 19 years of age who are experiencing difficulty with: anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, ADHD, socialization, communication, peer/parent/sibling relations, respect, responsibility, attentiveness, and school-related behavior. He also provides couples and family therapy regarding: communication, separation, loss, trauma, illness, developmental change, conflict, parenting, drug abuse, premarital counseling, intimacy, career planning, and finances. His approach focuses on empowering clients to use their strengths and abilities to make choices. He developed a curriculum called iRYZE for tweens and teens to define their necessary life tools for study skills, organization, communication, relationships, and self-advocacy. He conducts seminars on teenage drug and alcohol issues, workshops on 'Pro-Active Parenting' and 'Family Communication.'

Stacey Tannenbaum, LMFT

Children, Adolescents, Adult & Couples Therapy

15165 Ventura Blvd, Suite 250, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
T: 818.754.8722

Stacy Tannenbaum works with children and adolescents and specializes in childhood depression/anxiety. Her practice has also expanded to working with adults/couples. She will implement a sliding scale when needed and is now accepting Value Option insurance.

Dr. David Taylor, M.D.

Board Certified Psychiatrist

2730 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 325, Santa Monica, CA 90403
T: 310.943.9223
F: 310.943.9012

Dr. Taylor provides psychotherapy and/or medication management

** Cross-referenced as sharing facility space with [Dr. Hope W. Levin, M.D.](#) in the [Mental Health Professionals'](#) section.

VIP (Vista Inspire Program)

Vista Del Mar

Contact: Naomi Salamon
Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services
3200 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90034
T: 310.836.1223
T: 310.836.1223 x 322
Email: naomisalamon@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.vistadelmar.org/services.php?recordID=6>

The VIP (Vista Inspire Program) is for children with Autism and other special needs. Opportunities include: cooking, music, dance, theatre, swimming, sports and recreation. VIP is an inclusive program for children and teens ages 9 and up of all abilities.

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** Cross-referenced with **The Reiss Davis Child Study Center's P.E.D.S. Program** in the **Pediatricians, Psychologists, and Specialists'** section as they are a division of Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services.

Jennifer Yates, LMFT

Teenagers, Adults, & Couples Therapy

865 Manhattan Beach Boulevard, Suite 103, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

T: 310.709.6630

Email: jyatesmft@gmail.com

Website: www.jenniferyatesmft.com

Jennifer Yates comes with over 10 years of experience in working with adults, couples, and teenagers with a variety of mental health issues. She provides services addressing: women's issues, relationship/couples counseling, self-esteem, personal growth, infertility issues, depression, anxiety, eating disorders/body image, wellness/healthy living, parenting skills, communication skills, trauma, and more.

Educational Therapy

Cyber Education Consultants (CEC)

Parent Resource Center

Contact: Lori Getz, M.A., Educational Technologist

Cyber Education Consultants, 22817 Ventura Blvd. #454, Woodland Hills, CA 91364

T: 818.804.08232

Email: lori@lorigetz.com

Website: lorigetz.com

Cyber Education Consultants (CEC) was founded in 2007 by Lori Getz. CEC speaks to students, parents, and educators about Internet safety, security and ethics. CEC has reached out to thousands of interested Internet users. Their mission is simple- to help bridge the gap between a young generation of digital natives and their parents and teachers.

Collaborative Learning

Contact: Kerry Connelly, CRS., Behavior/Education Specialist

12381 Wilshire Blvd. #205 Los Angeles, CA 90025

T: 310.826.1829

F: 310.571.4129

Website: http://collaborativelearning.me/Home_Page.html

Kerry Connelly is a CBT Specialist, Collaborative Problem Solving advisor, Home school Teacher, Educational Tutor, Educational Advocate, ADHD Adult/Adolescent Life Coach, and Certified Relationship Specialist. Kerry uses the Collaborative Learning Program underscores the importance of identifying the emotional and intellectual uniqueness of each child during treatment.

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Child Success Center (CSC)

Contact: Melissa Idelson, OTR/L, Founder & Director
T: 310.899.9597
Website: www.childsuccesscenter.com

See **Center Based Programs section for specifics. Also cross-referenced under **Speech Therapy** and **Occupational Therapy**.

Dr. Lois Provda, Ph.D., M.F.T., ET/P Educational Therapist

9911 W. Pico Blvd., St. 675, Los Angeles, CA 90035
T: 310.277.5551
F: 310.277.3068
Website: <http://loisprovda.com/>

Individualized attention, along with advocacy and school placement for certain clients, allows Dr. Provda to serve a population from 5 through adult. In her offices, psychoeducational testing and neurobehavioral status examinations help her continually expand her understanding of emotional and psychological triggers and to explore ever evolving methods of detection and correction.

Elizabeth Lutsky, MA, ET/P Educational Therapist

11980 San Vicente Blvd., #805, Los Angeles, CA 90049
T: 310.721.9672
Email: ealutsky@gmail.com

For the past 10 years Elizabeth has worked in private practice as an educational therapist helping children with language based learning disabilities to develop the skills and strategies needed to overcome their learning challenges. Throughout her career, Elizabeth has worked in various educational settings as a special education teacher, learning specialist, and reading coach. Elizabeth has a B.A. in psychology and an M.A. in learning disabilities.

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Nutritionist/Dietitian

Angie Latiolait, M.S, ACE Nutrition Consultant

T: 310.384.2960
E: alatch@mindspring.com

Breath. Angie Latiolait brings you a mindful way to a healthier lifestyle. Learn the why, how, and what to achieve your health goals. Through kitchen and diet analysis, Angela will create a personal health plan combining diet and fitness with one of her ACE-Certified exercise plans. As a nutrition consultant she helps with losing and maintaining weight, managing cholesterol/triglyceride/blood sugar levels, and counseling adult and adolescents. Angela will create and provide individualized meal plans, personalized fitness plans, kitchen audits, shopping tours, personal shopping & delivery, as well as health and wellness education.

Erin Naimi, R.D Nutrition Consultant

9171 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 670, Beverly Hills, CA 90210
T: 310.551.0233
Voicemail: 310-229-5290
Email: erin@heartofnutrition.com
Website: heartofnutrition.com

Erin Naimi, R.D. is a nutrition consultant, in private practice, in Beverly Hills, CA. She offers individual and group consultation for children and adults for a variety of conditions and her areas of expertise include: Gastrointestinal Diseases, including Irritable Bowel Disease (IBS), Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) -Crohn's / Colitis, Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) / heartburn, small intestinal bacterial overgrowth, and Celiac Disease; eating disorders/disordered eating; vegetarianism; sports nutrition; and, lastly, general nutrition, including weight loss, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS). Erin's Nutrition Philosophy is based on a non-dieting approach, which emphasizes balanced nutrition and mindfulness. Nutrition consultations with Erin are tailored for individual needs and transformation is facilitated with awareness and motivation, for a lifetime. She also lectures and provides training on Intuitive Eating & Mindfulness to health care professionals, corporate settings, universities, parents, and the community at large.

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Attorneys/Child Advocates

Westside Regional Center Educational Advocacy Program **for Regional Center clients only**

Educational Support Team:

Barbara Marbach
barbaram@westsiderc.org
310-258-4024

Candace Hein
candaceh@westsiderc.org
310-258-4183
Ron Lopez
ronl@westsiderc.org
310-258-4002

5901 Green Valley Circle, Suite 320, Culver City, CA 90230
Family Resource Center Website: www.wfrec.org

Child Advocates

Elissa Henkin, Advocate

Special Education Advocacy Service
7240 Shirley Avenue, Suite 402, Reseda, CA 91335
(818) 718-2216
Fax [\(805\) 523-8278](tel:8055238278); Cell [\(805\) 217-8169](tel:8052178169)

A2Z Educational Advocates

PAL - Parent Advocate Liaison
881 Alma Real Suite 309, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
Toll Free (888) IDEA-ADA
<http://a2zedad.com/>
E-mail: info@a2zedad.com

Attorneys

Lawyers RMKB

Ropers Majeski Kohn Bentley
Special Education Law

Contact: Kim Karelis, B.A., J.D., Partner – Los Angeles

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515 South Flower St., Suite 1100, Los Angeles, CA 90071 (Los Angeles Office)

T: 213.312.2012 (direct)

T: 213.312.2000 (main)

Email: kkarelis@rmbk.com

Website: www.rmkb.com

Mr. Karelis is a special education attorney who offers free consultation with no obligation. If he agrees to take your child's case, there will be no charge to you. Mr. Karelis has intensive experience in special education law, where he represents students in disputes with local school districts regarding classroom placement and support services that students with disabilities are entitled to receive under both federal and state law. This is a rapidly-expanding practice area because school districts often ignore or misrepresent their legal obligation to provide students with disabilities with a free and appropriate public education ("FAPE"). If you suspect that your special education child is being denied his or her legal rights by local school district administrators, Mr. Karelis can provide you with a free consultation to determine if a plan of action is necessary.

Law Offices of Sarit Ariam Special Education Law and Advocacy

Contact: Sarit Ariam

Additional Attorney: Nicole Vodnoy Johna, B.A., J.D.

On Site Contact: Michelle Biggs, Office Manager/Law Clerk & training Special
Education Advocate

20301 Ventura Blvd., Suite 338, Woodland Hills, CA 91364

T: 818.992.5770 (Woodland Hills)

Email: Sarit@saritlaw.com

Email: Nicole@saritlaw.com

Email: Michelle@saritlaw.com

Website: Saritlaw.com

The Law Offices of Sarit Ariam provide services for children and families requiring any of the following: special placement, one-on-one aide in school, educational therapy, behavior intervention, speech therapy, behavior intervention, speech therapy, occupational therapy, assessments, and more. They can assist you by discussing related services and alternative program or placement options, attending IEP's, representing families at Mediations and Hearings, consulting on Regional Center matters. For parents of special needs children, the special education process can be intimidating and confusing. Parents typically do not have the legal knowledge necessary to ensure that their school provides an appropriate education for their child. Often times, the district does not offer information about the services available to special needs children. School Districts failure to explain the right to special education services does not mean that your child is only entitled to placement in a special education class. Therefore, many parents are unaware of the benefits that their children are entitled to and of how to go about getting them.

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Woodsmall Law Group

Special Education Services

2600 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Marino, CA 91108

T: 626.440.0028

F: 626.440.0068

Website: www.woodsmalllawgroup.com

The Woodsmall Law believes that every individual contributes to the collective progress of our society. Through education they seek to empower children to reach their fullest potential and live rewarding and successful lives. Their firm is dedicated to ensuring that each child is afforded the educational supports needed to obtain that opportunity. Their firm provides experienced practical and sophisticated representation with a sole focus in the area of special education law. The firm was founded by Mark Woodsmall, a civil litigator by training and parent of a disabled child. They offer the services of attorneys and advocates to better assist families in navigating the special education system. Their services include working with school districts, including IEP (Individualized Education Program), informal resolution session, mediation, and due process; Consumer Rights under the Lanterman Act, including working with the Regional Center on IFSP (Individual Family Service Plans) and IPP (Individual Program Plan); Early Childhood Transition Planning, including individualized planning session aimed at providing families with information and strategies when moving from the regional center to the school district services and an explanation of the legal rights afforded to families during this transition period; community outreach projects; workshops for parents, teachers, and professionals; a Special Education Planning Kit, which helps parents prepare for IEPs and Early Childhood Transition Planning; and lastly, providing resources, including an online library showcasing articles related to special education matters.

Kathleen Jernigan, Attorney at Law

7816 Denrock Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045

(310) 670-6071

Warren Finn or Kathy Finn, Attorneys

Professional Advocates for Special Students

6200 Vista del Mar, Suite 101, Playa del Rey, CA 90293

(310) 301-0817; Fax (310) 301-0629

Bonnie Yates, Attorney

8559 Higuera Street, Culver City, CA 90232

(310) 204-6624; Fax (310) 204-6626