

Family Support Organizations

A national starting point for families seeking information, advocacy, education, health care guidance, and community support. Services and eligibility can vary by organization and location.

1. Autism Society | autism-society.org

- **Purpose:** Provides information, advocacy, and support for autistic people, their families, and professionals.

2. Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) | exceptionalchildren.org

- **Purpose:** Supports the success of children with disabilities through advocacy, professional learning, and resources for educators.

3. Easterseals | easterseals.com

- **Purpose:** Offers disability services and supports, which vary by location, including early intervention and therapy.

4. Family Voices | familyvoices.org

- **Purpose:** Works to ensure family-centered care for children and youth with special health care needs or disabilities.

5. Federation for Children with Special Needs (FCSN) | fcsn.org

- **Purpose:** Provides information, support, and assistance to families and professionals. Check its site for the services available in its region.

6. Parent to Parent USA | p2pusa.org

- **Purpose:** Connects families of children with disabilities or special health care needs with peer support.

7. National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) | ndss.org

- **Purpose:** Offers information, advocacy, and support for people with Down syndrome and their families.

8. PACER Center | pacer.org

- **Purpose:** Provides resources and support to improve the education and quality of life of children and young adults with disabilities.

9. The Arc | thearc.org

- **Purpose:** Advocates for and supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

10. United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) | ucp.org

- **Purpose:** Supports people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities through its national network and resources.

11. National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) | nclld.org

- **Purpose:** Works to improve outcomes and opportunities for people with learning disabilities.

12. Complex Child E-Magazine | complexchild.org

- **Purpose:** An online magazine offering family perspectives and resources related to complex medical needs.

13. Through the Looking Glass | lookingglass.org

- **Purpose:** Provides services, training, and research for families in which a child or parent has a disability.

14. Best Buddies International | bestbuddies.org

- **Purpose:** Creates opportunities for friendship, leadership, and inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

15. Friendship Circle | friendshipcircle.org

- **Purpose:** Connects individuals with disabilities and their families with friendship and community programs.

16. Center for Parent Information and Resources (CPIR) | parentcenterhub.org/find-your-center

- **Purpose:** Helps families find a Parent Training and Information Center or Community Parent Resource Center in their state or U.S. territory.

17. National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) | ndrn.org/about/ndrn-member-agencies

- **Purpose:** Directory for finding the Protection and Advocacy agency serving each state and U.S. territory.

18. Wrightslaw | wrightslaw.com

- **Purpose:** Provides practical information about special education law and advocacy for parents and educators.

19. Understood | understood.org

- **Purpose:** Offers information and resources for people and families navigating learning and attention differences.