

Resources for Adults with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families

Counseling and Support Groups

Agua Classic

AGUA Classic is a social group created by people on the autism spectrum for people on the autism spectrum to come together in an unstructured social setting. The group meets monthly, usually on the first Saturday or Sunday between 1:00 – 4:00 in the afternoon. The meetings are held at different locations throughout Los Angeles County. Email: aguaclassic@earthlink.net; <https://sites.google.com/site/aguaclassic/>

Autism Society of Los Angeles

To empower individuals with autism and their families, the society has various partnerships and programs in Government Relations, training, and conferences. They have a monthly speaker series and “warm line” for questions regarding diagnoses and navigation of the healthcare system. Pacific Center, 21250 Hawthorne Blvd., Ste. 500, Torrance, CA 90503; (562) 804-5556; Email: info@autismla.org; <http://www.autismla.org>

Autism Speaks

Adult Services initiatives focus on resources that impact all facets of adult life including employment, housing, community life and post-secondary education. 6330 San Vicente Blvd., Ste. 401, Los Angeles, CA 90048; (323) 549-0500; familyservices@autismspeaks.org; www.autismspeaks.org

Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles

In-person and online parent support groups. 16461 Sherman Way, Suite 180, Van Nuys, CA 91406; (818) 786-0001; info@dsla.org; www.dsala.org

Foothill Autism Alliance

An all-volunteer organization that hosts a variety of events including monthly Family Resource Meetings, workshops, lectures, and social functions. Each month, noted professionals in the field of autism speak at the Family Resource Meetings. Events location: Westmoreland Academy, 6 Westmoreland Pl, Pasadena, CA 91103 (Off N. Orange Grove Blvd); (818) 662-8876; <http://www.foothillautism.org>

Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles

Resource Center with programs and events, including counseling, case management, social recreation and information for people with a wide range of disabilities. They offer support groups, transportation, monthly information and referral, education and activities throughout the City of Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. (877)275-4537; info@jfsla.org; www.jfsla.org

Los Angeles Caregiver Resource Center

An organization whose mission is to help families and communities master the challenges of caring for older adults with brain impairing conditions and/or adults with multiple health concerns. Qualifications include: live in LA county and help a relative or friend (age 60 and older) with one or more of the following tasks: physical care

(getting in and out of bed), making health care decisions, cooking, cleaning, yard work, managing medications and going to doctor visits, making important decisions, shopping for groceries and other items, legal issues, helping with bill paying, bathing and dressing, providing transportation, long-distance, caregiving. Funded in part by LA Community and Senior Services and the USC Davis School of Gerontology. Services are low or no-cost to family caregivers and friends who help someone over the age of 60. USC Davis School of Gerontology, 3715 McClintock Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90089; (855) USC-6060 or (855) 872-6060;

lacrc@usc.edu; www.losangelescrc.org

OurSpace

Offers a full spectrum of Jewish experiences that enable participants (children, teen and adults with special needs and special abilities) to actively embrace Judaism as a meaningful way of life. Participants learn about Shabbat, Jewish holidays, customs, traditions, prayer and values. They celebrate holidays, life-cycle events, and other important milestones. The variety of program opportunities offered enables participants to create lifelong friendships and together they are empowered to become active and contributing members of the larger Jewish community. Valley Beth Shalom, 15739 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA 91436; Temple Aliyah, 6025 Valley Circle Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91367; (818) 530-4069; sngilboa@ourspacela.org; www.ourspacela.org

Education

Exceptional Minds Studio

Exceptional Minds (EM) is a nonprofit vocational school and working studio that prepares young adults on the autism spectrum for careers in digital animation and visual effects. 13400 Riverside Drive, Ste. 211, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 (818) 387-8811; info@exceptionalmindsstudio.org; www.ExceptionalMindsStudio.org

F.A.C.T. Families

Provides affordable and quality care to adults, couples and families managing a large range of developmental disabilities through therapeutic support, tailored services, Supported Living Services (SLS), customized employment and microenterprise. 10642 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 202, Los Angeles, CA 90025; (310) 475-9620; www.factfamily.org

Advance LA (The HELP Group)

Advance LA is dedicated to providing resources, support, and training to teens and young adults with a wide range of needs including learning disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Asperger's Syndrome, executive functioning difficulties, ADHD, and other social, emotional and behavioral challenges including substance abuse recovery. 13130 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91401; (818) 779-5198; advancela@thehelpgroup.org; <http://www.advancela.org>

Los Angeles Mission College, Disabled Studies Program and Services

Committed to developing strategies that promote success for students with disabilities. Students with disability related educational limitations receive accommodation and educational planning to ensure that they have equal opportunity for access to, and full participation in, the curricular and related activities of the College. 13356 Eldridge Avenue, Sylmar, 91342 Instructional Building 1018; (818) 364-7732 TDD: 818/364-7861; <http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/>

Los Angeles Valley College, Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD)

The SSD program provides support services, specialized instruction, and educational accommodations to students with disabilities so that they can participate as fully and benefit as equitably from the college experience as their non-disabled peers. 5800 Fulton Avenue, Valley Glen, CA 91401, Rm. Student Services Annex (SSA) -- Room 175; (818) 947-2681 TTY: (818) 947-2680; SSD@lavc.edu; <http://www.lavc.edu/ssd>

Pathway at UCLA Extension

Pathway at UCLA Extension is a two-year, certificated educational program for young adults with developmental disabilities. Through a combination of educational, vocational, social, and residential experiences, the program will help participants develop the skills required for personal success at work, at home, and in the community, while providing opportunities for continuing educational growth. Pathway's goal is to prepare young adults with developmental disabilities for independent living, employment, and lifelong learning. 10995 Le Conte Avenue Suite 413; Los Angeles, CA 90024-1333; (310) 794-1235; elatham@uclaextension.edu; <https://www.uclaextension.edu/Pathway/>

Santa Monica College, Disability Resources

Offers guidance and counseling on admissions requirements and procedures, as well as a number of special programs to help students with their academic, vocational, and career planning goals. In addition, the Center offers services such as tutoring, specialized equipment, and test proctoring, among many other accommodations for students who are eligible. Services and staff for students with disabilities are available in three locations on SMC's Main Campus, including The Center for Students with Disabilities, located in the north side of campus, next to Admissions, 1900 Pico Boulevard Santa Monica, CA 90405, (310) 434-4265; <http://www.smc.edu/StudentServices/DisabilityResources>

West Los Angeles College, Disabled Students Programs and Services

Students who have special needs because of physical, communication, or learning challenges can visit the DSPS program intake office, and speak to a program representative about program eligibility and services. 9000 Overland Avenue · Culver City, CA 90230, Student Services Building, 3rd Floor (SSB 320); (310) 287-4450; dsp@wlaac.edu; <http://www.wlaac.edu/dsp>

West Valley Occupational Center, Disability Support Services

Disability Support Services provides assistance to adult students with documented disabilities. Support services may include: program information, registration assistance, adaptive equipment and software, classroom accommodations, sign language interpreters, and agency referral and liaison. 6200 Winnetka Ave. Woodland Hills CA 91367, Rm. 102; (818) 346-3540, Ext. 253. Video Relay for Users of American Sign Language: (818) 348-8231; <http://www.wvoc.net>

Financial Assistance

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

Local governmental and nonprofit organizations can provide financial assistance to low-income persons to offset the costs of heating and/or cooling dwellings, and/or to weatherize dwellings to make them more energy efficient. A person who receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits may be automatically eligible if their annual

household income is 60% below the State Median Income (chart available online). (818) 891-4148; cesmna@aol.com; www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/

Food Assistance

CalFresh Program (Food Stamps)

The CalFresh Program, federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), can add to someone's food budget to put healthy and nutritious food on the table. The program issues monthly electronic benefits that can be used to buy most foods at many markets and food stores. To find out how to apply for benefits in a particular county, call (877) 847-3663 (FOOD). To Apply Online: www.benefitscal.org.

Global Kindness

Through the charitable donations of its community, this organization distributes the following to those who cannot help themselves: clothes, food, money for rent, bills, moving costs, day school tuition, car, clothing, furniture, toys, health and beauty supplies, and any other needed services. It receives and picks up donations from individuals and organizations such as caterers and restaurants. It also connects individuals with services -- doctors, lawyers, dentists, etc., who donate their time and experience pro-bono. 8568 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035; (310) 286-0800; globalkindness@yahoo.com; www.myglobalkindness.org

JFS SOVA Community Food and Resource Program

The JFS SOVA Community Food & Resource Program provides individuals and families with the resources they need to regain self-sufficiency and independence, including free groceries, case management, counseling, and other supportive services, such as legal counseling and job search assistance. Main Office: 16439 Vanowen Street Van Nuys, CA 91406; (818) 988-7682; Westside Pantry: 8846 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035; San Fernando Valley Pantry: 16439 Vanowen St., Van Nuys, CA 91406; communications@jfsla.org; www.jfsla.org/sova

Saint Joseph's Center – Food Bank

Low income families and individuals can sign up to receive supplemental groceries a maximum of once a week. Bags consist of staples and an assortment of other foods that help stretch their food budgets. Bags usually contain fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables as well. Perishable foods such as eggs and cheese donated by local markets fill out the bags when available. 204 Hampton Dr., Venice, CA 90291; (310)396-6468; www.stjosephctr.org

Government & Government Funded Services (Not Listed Elsewhere)

California Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)

- **Adult Protective Services (APS)**

Adult Protective Services (APS) responds to reports of neglect or abuse of elderly and/or disabled adults. Neglect may include neglect by another, and/or self-neglect. Abuse may include financial, physical, sexual or psychological abuse by another. APS social workers are on call 24 hours a day to assist those suffering from neglect or abuse.

Los Angeles County Community & Senior Services; 3333 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 400; Los Angeles, CA 90010; 24-Hour Abuse Hotline: (877) 477-3646; APS Mandated Reporter Hotline: M-F, 8:30-5:00 (888) 202-4248 <http://css.lacounty.gov>

- **In Home Support Services (IHSS)**

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program provides support services so that low-income elderly, blind, and disabled people can remain safely in their own homes and avoid costly nursing home care. In-home caregivers provide services that can include bathing and dressing, meal preparation, and household chores.

IHSS Application: (888) 944-IHSS (4477) or (213) 744-4477;

http://dpss.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dpss/main/programs-and-services/in-home-supportive-services/!ut/p/b1/04_SjzS0tDSzNDMzN7LQj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfGjzOLdDAwM3P2dgo3cfyBMR_8AJ2-vsEADeZMT0JJZAUgvmFuBp5Bhsa-Tu5A88IMCen30o9Kz8IPAl0Vrh-FqhiLWWAFBjiAo4G-n0d-bqp-bISORXaWiSIAhoLWtw!!/dl4/d5/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS80SmtFL1o2X0YwMDBHT0JTMjBFNkEwQU9TSjFVOEsxU1Y2/

- **Medi-Cal**

Medi-Cal is California's public health insurance program that provides needed health care services for low income individuals, including persons with disabilities. Search for the nearest district office to apply; Toll Free: (877) 597-4777; Customer Service Center: (866) 613-3777; <http://dpss.lacounty.gov/dpss/health/default.cfm>

The California Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)

The California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) is an employment and independent living resource for people with disabilities. Main website: <http://www.rehab.cahwnet.gov>

For district and branch office locations and telephone numbers: <http://www.dor.ca.gov/DOR-Locations/>

- **Independent Living Centers of California**

The Independent Living Section of the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) is one part of California's independent living network, which includes 28 independent living centers (ILCs) and the State Independent Living Council (SILC). The network is dedicated to the ideal that communities become fully accessible and integrated so that all persons with disabilities can live, work, shop and play where they choose, without barriers. DOR administers the program in California and provides technical assistance and financial support for the independent living centers. (916) 558-5775 (Voice), or (844) 729-2800 (TTY), or email ILInfo@dor.ca.gov; <http://www.dor.ca.gov/ILS/index.html>; <http://www.dor.ca.gov/ILS/ILC-Los-Angeles.aspx>

Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) (See listing also under "Technology Assistance")

The Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) is a public program mandated by the California State Legislature and administered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The DDTP has two components - the California Relay Service (CRS), which includes Speech to Speech, and the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) which provides assistive telecommunications equipment. The mission of the program is to provide access to basic telephone service for Californians who have difficulty using the telephone. Programs are funded by a nominal surcharge on all telephone bills in the state. Main Office 1333 Broadway, Suite 500 Oakland, California 94612; Local Office: 425 West Broadway Suite 105, Glendale, CA 91204; (800) 806-1191; <http://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov>

Disability Rights California

The Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (OCRA) is part of Disability Rights California. OCRA has a Clients' Rights Advocate (CRA) at each regional center. The CRA helps protect regional center consumer's rights. Your CRA can help with these types of issues: Abuse/Neglect, Conservatorship and Alternatives Criminal Matters, Discrimination,

Guardianship, In-Home Support Services (IHSS), Medi-Cal, Mental Health, Privacy, Private Insurance, Regional Center Services, School Services, Social Security, Voting; OCRA is funded by the state Department of Developmental Services. (213)213-8000; 350 South Bixel Street, Suite 290 Los Angeles CA 90017; www.disabilityrightsca.org

Los Angeles County Regional Centers

Private, nonprofit corporations funded by contracts with the State Department of Developmental Services that offer assessment, case management, support, and community services. Some but not all of the many regional center providers might be listed elsewhere in this directory by what services they offer. Providers might also be listed at individual regional center websites.

- **East Los Angeles Regional Center** (Alhambra, Boyle Heights, Commerce, Highland Park, Lincoln Heights, Pico Rivera, San Gabriel, and South Pasadena) 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91802; (626) 299-4700; www.elarc.org
- **Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center** (Central Los Angeles County, including Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena) 3303 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010; (213) 383-1300; www.lanterman.org
- **Harbor Regional Center** (Torrance, Harbor, Long Beach, and Bellflower) 21231 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503; (310) 540-1711; www.harborrc.org
- **North Los Angeles County Regional Center** (Northern Los Angeles County, including San Fernando and Antelope Valleys); 15400 Sherman Way, Suite 170, Van Nuys, CA 91406; (818) 778-1900; www.nlacrc.org
- **South Central Regional Center** (Southern LA County, including Compton, Gardena, and San Antonio); (213) 744-7000; www.slarc.org
- **Westside Regional Center** (West Los Angeles County, including Culver City, Inglewood, and Santa Monica); 5901 Green Valley Cir. #320, Culver City, CA 90230; (310) 258-4000; www.westsiderc.org

Social Security Administration

The Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs are the largest of several Federal programs that provide assistance to people with disabilities. While these two programs are different in many ways, both are administered by the Social Security Administration and only individuals who have a disability and meet medical criteria may qualify for benefits under either program. Social Security Disability (SSD or SSDI) pays benefits to someone who worked and certain members of the worker's family (including adult children and grandchildren, etc. who acquired a disability before the age of 22) if they are "insured," meaning that the person worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (see below for more information) pays benefits based on financial need. SSA Website: <https://www.ssa.gov>.

- **Medicare**

Medicare is our country's health insurance program for people age 65 or older. Certain people younger than age 65 can qualify for Medicare, too, including those with disabilities and those who have permanent kidney failure. Medicare is managed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Social Security works with CMS by enrolling people in Medicare. SSA Office Locator:

<https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>; Toll-free number: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227); TTY number: 1-877-486-2048; www.ssa.gov/medicare

- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a Federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues (rather than Social Security taxes). It is designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income; and it provides cash to meet these individuals' basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter. (800) 772-1213 (TTY 800-325-0778); 4000 Wilshire Blvd Wilshire Center, Los Angeles, California 90010; <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/agedblinddisabled/pg1422.htm>; <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityssi/ssi.html>

State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Formerly known as Area Board 10, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Los Angeles Office exists to advocate for persons with development disabilities in Los Angeles County by ensuring that legal, civil, and service rights are guaranteed. (818) 543-4631; 411 N. Central Ave. Suite 620; Glendale, CA 91203-2020; losangeles@scdd.ca.gov; <http://www.scdd.ca.gov>

Legal Services and Advocacy

Adult Protective Services (See California Department of Public Social services under "Government Services")

Bet Tzedek (The House of Justice) Legal Services

An affiliated agency of The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. For the past 40 years, Bet Tzedek has provided free, comprehensive legal services for low-income individuals and families in Los Angeles, proving that access to justice makes a difference in people's lives. Practice area expertise in Elder/Caregiver Law, Employment Rights, Guardianships, Human Trafficking, Health, Holocaust Reparations, Housing, Public Benefits, Conservatorship and more. Serve more than 20,000 people every year with the help of hundreds of pro bono attorneys and volunteers 3250 Wilshire Blvd., 13th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010; (323) 939-0506; <http://www.bettzedek.org>

Communities Actively Living Independent and Free

Communities Actively Living Independent & Free (CALIF) is an independent living center, a non-profit 501c3 organization that provides advocacy programs and services for people with disabilities primarily residing within the 50 ZIP Codes of Los Angeles County covering south and central Los Angeles and neighboring communities. CALIF's advocacy work ranges from but is not limited to Systems Change Advocacy, Housing Advocacy & Olmstead Housing Development, Individual & Benefits advocacy, Personal Services, Information & Referral Services, Peer Counseling and Independent Living Skills Training, Assistive Technology, Deinstitutionalization/Transition Program, community outreach and networking among the diverse communities of Los Angeles, government and private agencies and grassroots organizations within the community. 634 S. Spring Street, 2nd Floor, Los Angeles, CA. 90014; (213) 627-0477, TD: (213) 623-9502; info@calif-ilc.org; www.calif-ilc.org

Disability Rights California (see under “Government and Government Funded Services”)

Disability Rights Legal Center

Disability Rights Advocacy Center (DRAC) is the oldest program of the Disability Rights Legal Center (DRLC), a 501C-3 non-profit, public interest advocacy organization that champions the civil rights of people with disabilities as well as those affected by cancer and other serious illness. DRLC’s Advocacy program accomplishes this mission by bringing to court individual and class action cases that challenge discriminatory practices by government, business and educational institutions. It simultaneously educates disability, business, government, education and legal communities on how to avoid discrimination. DRAC promotes, maintains and cultivates new and existing working relationships with disability commissions, professionals and advocates, grassroots organizations, post-secondary schools, public interest law offices and private law firms to facilitate its work. The latter two assist in ongoing litigation of systemic issues. LA location Disability Rights Legal Center: (213) 736-1031; DRLC@drcenter.org

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Since 1929, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles has provided civil legal aid to poor and low-income people in Los Angeles County. Now with five neighborhood offices, three Domestic Violence Clinics and four Self-Help Legal Access Centers, LAFLA serves communities as diverse as East Los Angeles, the Westside, South Los Angeles, Koreatown and Long Beach. LAFLA is the first place thousands of poor people turn to when they need legal assistance for a crisis that threatens their shelter, health and livelihood. Locations: <https://lafla.org/about-us/locations/>; (800) 399-4529; <https://lafla.org>

JFS Protective Services Program

Jewish Family Service can act as conservator of a person when that individual cannot take care of his/her daily needs, or has significantly impaired judgment. These individuals, whether they are frail, cognitively impaired elders, or younger people with disabilities, are often the most vulnerable and isolated in our community. A JFS conservatorship assures dignity and quality of life for those who can no longer take care of themselves and who have no existing relatives to assume their care. 4311 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 209, Los Angeles, CA 90010; (323) 932-0316; <http://www.jfsla.org>

State Council on Developmental Disabilities (formerly Area Board 10) - (See “Government Services” section)

Medical Services

Achievable Clinic – Culver City

Federally Qualified Health Center providers are specialized in caring for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. One of the unique aspects of The Achievable Health Center is its close relationship and co-location with the Westside Regional Center. Appointments, Patients and Health Center Inquiries: (424) 266-7474; General Organizational Information: (424) 266-74805901; Green Valley Circle, Suite 405 Culver City, CA 90230; info@achievable.org; <https://achievable.org>

Los Angeles Care

L.A. Care Health Plan is an independent public agency created by the state of California to provide health coverage to low-income Los Angeles County residents.

UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute

The Child and Adult Neurodevelopmental (CAN) Clinic is a multi-disciplinary clinic providing evaluation and treatment services for individuals with suspected disorders of social, cognitive, language, and motor development, including Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), learning disorders, social skill delays, and neuro-genetic disorders. 760 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024; (310) 794-4008; clinic@autism.ucla.edu; <http://www.semel.ucla.edu/autism/clinic>

Residential Facilities

Exceptional Children's Foundation

The Residential Services Program offers adults with developmental disabilities a variety of living arrangements combined with in-home living skills training and support services. In addition to providing safe and comfortable housing, the primary goal of the program is to foster the highest level of independence through full and proactive home and community involvement to the extent each client is capable. The Residential Services program has facilities located in Los Angeles, Culver City, Whittier, and Reseda. ECF partners with Regional Centers in Los Angeles County for client referrals. The primary referring Regional Centers for the Residential program are: South Central Los Angeles Regional Center, Westside Regional Center, North Los Angeles County Regional Center, Lanterman Regional Center. 5350 Machado Road, Culver City, CA 90230; (310) 204-3300; info@ecf.net; <http://www.ecf.net/adults/residential/>

Jay Nolan Community Services

Independent and supported living and family support services. There are several choices to consider when choosing the right service for the people Jay Nolan Community Services supports with Autism and other developmental disabilities. Depending on eligibility requirements of the Department of Developmental Services (CA) and Department of Rehabilitation (CA) there may be several options that are the right choice. Jay Nolan Community Services now offers a Private Pay option when Government funding is not desired or an option. Jay Nolan is a regional center provider. Main Office: 15501 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Suite 200, Mission Hills, CA 91345; (818) 361-6400; info@jaynolan.org; <http://jaynolan.org>

Los Angeles County Independent Living Centers (See "Government and Government Funded Services/Department of Rehabilitation" section for Independent Living Centers information.)

United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles

The largest nonprofit direct care provider of services in Southern California for persons with cerebral palsy, autism, Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. Programs include adult day activity and learning centers; affordable, accessible apartments, accompanied by supported living counselors; group homes with full activities and nursing staff; and more. 6430 Independence Avenue, Woodland Hills, CA 91367; 818.782.2211; mail@ucpla.org; <http://www.ucpla.org>.

Respite and Resources for Families/Caregivers

Bright Star

Provides comprehensive case management, special needs and disability care (i.e., homecare; personal care; medical staffing, and more) in Woodland Hills, Sherman Oaks, and Studio City and throughout Los Angeles County, CA; 5900 Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 515, Van Nuys, CA 91411; (818) 761-4700; www.brightstarcare.com

California Respite Care

A family orientated agency specializing in Autism respite care that is a provider to some regional centers or privately funded. Claremont, CA; (909) 910-1522; www.calrespitcare.com

LivHOME

Employs licensed nurses, social workers, and counselors who care for client. Also employs care managers who oversee caregivers and work with families. Associated with some regional centers. 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90036; (323) 489-3187; <http://www.livhome.com>

Social and Recreational Activities

Broadway Gymnastic School, Inc.

Programs for individuals with special needs that has been recognized by the Governors Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and its former Chairman, Arnold Schwarzenegger, for outstanding leadership in improving the health and fitness of physically and mentally challenged Californians; training center for the Westside Special Olympics; 5433 Beethoven Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066; (310) 302-0035; info@BroadwayGym.com; <http://broadwaygym.com>

Culver City Pool

“The Plunge” is operated by the City of Culver City’s Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department. The 40,000 square-foot facility includes a 50-meter x 25-yard Olympic size competition pool that may be set up as an eight-lane long course or a 19-lane short course venue. The facility also has a 25-yard by 52-foot diving well with one-meter and three-meter springboards. The Plunge is fully equipped to accommodate guests with special needs. 4175 Overland Avenue, Culver City; (310) 253-6680; sergio.gonzalez@culvercity.org; <http://www.culvercity.org/enjoy/recreation/culver-city-pool>

JFS Chaverim

Chaverim is a non-profit, non-sectarian affiliated program of Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles... committed to providing activities that enhance the quality of life for adults with developmental and other disabilities such as autism, mild retardation, cerebral palsy, and learning disabilities. 12821 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601; (818) 464-3360 ; www.chaverimjfsla.org

Leaps N' Boundz

Adaptive sports, recreation and social programming for individuals with special needs. 5301 Beethoven St. Ste. 155, Los Angeles, CA 90066; (310) 821-0963; <http://leapsnboundz.com>

Our Space

A collaborative program of Temple Aliyah and Valley Beth Shalom in the San Fernando Valley that offers Jewish learning, social, and art programs for children, teens and adults with special needs and abilities. Synagogue membership is not required for participation. (818) 530 – 4069; sngilboa@ourspacela.org; <http://www.ourspacela.org/our-programs>

Rose Bowl Aquatics Center

Offers aquatic therapy and adaptive swimming to a population that includes young adults with special needs. 360 N Arroyo Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91103; (626) 564-0330; www.rosebowlaquatics.com

Special Olympics of Southern California

Provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. 1600 Forbes Way, Suite 200, Long Beach, CA 90810; (562) 502-1100; <http://www.sosc.org>

Technology Assistance

Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) *(also listed in "Government and Government Funded Services" Section)*

The Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (DDTP) is a public program mandated by the California State Legislature and administered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The DDTP has two components - the California Relay Service (CRS), which includes Speech to Speech, and the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) which provides assistive telecommunications equipment. The mission of the program is to provide access to basic telephone service for Californians who have difficulty using the telephone. Programs are funded by a nominal surcharge on all telephone bills in the state. Main Office 1333 Broadway, Suite 500 Oakland, California 94612; Local Office: 425 West Broadway Suite 105, Glendale, CA 91204; (800) 806-1191; <http://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov>

EmpowerTech

Los Angeles County's only non-profit organization devoted to bringing the latest in assistive technology to children and adults living with disabilities. The mission of EmpowerTech is to educate, train, support, and empower people with physical and developmental disabilities through assistive technology (AT). 9100 S. Sepulveda Suite 204 Los Angeles, CA 90045; (310) 338-1597; info@empowertech.org; <http://www.empowertech.org>

Transportation

Access Services

Access Services is the ADA Complementary Paratransit service for functionally disabled individuals in Los Angeles County. It is a shared ride service that operates curb-to-curb and utilizes a fleet of small buses, mini-vans and taxis. It operates seven days a week, 24 hours a day in most areas of Los Angeles County. Complementary ADA paratransit is a federally mandated civil right for persons with disabilities who cannot ride the accessible public fixed route buses and trains. (800) 827-0829; TDD: 800-827-1359; cserv@asila.org; www.asila.org

City Ride

The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation offers qualified seniors and individuals with disabilities living in the City of Los Angeles and designated areas of Los Angeles County low-cost access to Metro bus, taxi and /or Dial-a-Ride service (also listed in "Transportation" Section) through membership with the City Ride Program. (808) – 7433; TDD: (800) 559-1950; <http://ladottransit.com/other/cityride/>

Culver City Senior Center and Senior and Disabled Transportation Services

The City of Culver City Transportation Division offers several transportation options to residents of Culver City and designated areas of Los Angeles County. Paratransit Service is a curb-to-curb public transportation service for people with disabilities who are unable to use "fixed route" forms of public transportation. Paratransit is a shared-ride service operated with modern, accessible vehicles, and taxi cabs. 4095 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232. (310) 253-6729; darren.uhl@culvercity.org; <http://www.culvercity.org>

Dial-A-Ride (Culver City residents)

Dial-A-Ride is a shared curb-to-curb transportation service for Culver City residents that have a physician-certified disability, which prevents the use of regular public transportation. Residents can go anywhere curb-to-curb within the boundaries of Culver City as well as the Kaiser-Permanente medical facilities located at 6041 Cadillac Ave. and 5620 Mesmer Ave. Common destinations include doctors' offices, grocery stores, recreational facilities, and beauty salons, with priority given to trips for medical appointments. Door-to-door service is available upon request. Suggested donations of 50 cents each way help support and maintain the Dial-A-Ride Program. Dial-A-Ride passes may be purchased at the Culver City Senior Center. 4095 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232. Information: (310) 253-6729. Current Dial-A-Ride and Taxi Coupon Program participants: (310) 253-6580 to schedule a ride or for comments, questions, recommendations, and/or complaints.

Taxi Coupons (Culver City residents)

The Taxi Coupon program supplements the Culver City Dial-A-Ride program for approved participants. By working with local taxicab companies, the program allows participants to book trips at a subsidized rate, allowing for lower costs and more flexibility. Participants can travel on trips originating or ending in Culver City, or the following Los Angeles County areas: View Park, Windsor Hills, or Ladera Heights. To purchase coupons at a discount, participants must be approved by the Disability Services Specialist located at the Senior Center. 4095 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232. Information: (310) 253-6729. darren.uhl@culvercity.org; <http://www.culvercity.org>

Vocational Training/Skill Building

California Department of Rehabilitation - (See "Government and Government Funded Services" Section)

Easter Seals

Adult Day Services offer individuals the opportunity to become active members of the community. Individuals learn work-related skills by engaging in regularly scheduled volunteer work, community service projects and other ventures. If needed, support is provided to better manage behavioral challenges. Each person's independence, social status and quality of life are greatly enhanced. Many of its Adult Services meet the needs of people with autism and similar disabilities. WorkFirst assists individuals to get and keep paid work. This service also helps individuals to develop and operate their own businesses. 6076 Bristol Parkway, Suite 106, Culver City, CA 90230; (310)645-0642; www.easterseals.com

Exceptional Children's Foundation

One of the oldest and most comprehensive organizations in Southern California serving adults with developmental disabilities. ECF partners with Regional Centers in Los Angeles County for client referrals. Developmental Activity Center Day programs including recreation, socialization, cooking and personal grooming activities help adults learn self-help and develop daily living skills. Art Centers / DAC Gallery - Fine art mentoring from trained artists helps ECF Artists develop their creative self-expression and a sense of accomplishment. Work Activity / PAR Services - Clients build work skills and earn a paycheck by performing assembly, packaging, shrink wrapping, and other work assignments. Supported Employment - Adults are placed in community jobs while receiving training and on-site support and case management. Placements include grocery stores, car dealerships, restaurants, government offices, and veterinary offices. Residential Services (*not mentioned elsewhere*) - A variety of housing options and support services are offered available, depending on individual client needs, including two apartment complexes, 24-hour care facilities, and independent living support for clients in their own homes. 5350 Machado Road, Culver City, CA 90230; (310) 204-3300; info@ecf.net; www.ecf.net

F.A.C.T. Families

Adult Services - FACT offers a range of therapeutic supports and programs that focus on improving well-being, daily functioning, and overall life-satisfaction through a holistic and person centered approach. Whether it's one on one therapy, or getting out into the community to reach one's goals, FACT offers clients a robust variety of services that best fit the client's needs. Therapeutic Support focuses on the client's unique needs such as gaining tools to manage anxiety, overcome depression and/or manage a life changing event. FACT welcomes individuals, couples and families.

Tailored Services is for young adults/adults who want to choose and customize day services to meet their individualized needs for their vocational, educational and integrated life goals. Support Living Services is intended for young adults/adults with disabilities who need help with daily living activities, becoming a participating member in community life and managing independent living. FACT Administrative Offices & Clinic - 1401 Westwood Blvd. Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90024; (310) 475-9620; FACT Valley Office - 15760 Ventura Blvd., 7th Floor Encino, CA 91436; (818) 340-9620; www.factfamily.org

Goodwill Industries of Southern California

Goodwill Southern California offers a variety of work and skills training opportunities to individuals with a diagnosed disability referred by sources like the Department of Rehabilitation and Regional Center. Staff fluent in English, Spanish and American Sign Language. Have rewarding work opportunities in Electronic Waste Recycling, Food Services, Assembly and more. Goodwill Southern California - 342 San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90031; (323) 223-1211; 8120 Palm Lane, San Bernardino, CA 92402; (909) 885-3831; 14565 Lanark St., Panorama City, CA 91402 (818) 782-2520 (323) 539-2057; www.goodwillsocial.org

Independent Living Center of Southern California, Inc. (ILCSC)

A non-profit 501 (c) (3) consumer-based, non-residential agency providing a wide range of services to a growing population of people with all types of disabilities, all ages, and veterans; including people with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Stroke, Cancer, Autism, Visual Impairments, Arthritis, Loss of Hearing, Mental Illness, and Physical Impairments. ILCSC services include Independent Living Skills Training, Job Placement/Coaching, California Community Transitions (CCT), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Services, Horticulture Program Classes, Vocational Training, Transportation, Emergency Services, Housing Assistance, Advocacy, Information & Referral, Peer Support, Systems Advocacy, Assistive Technology, and Benefits Assistance. Partial Office Listing: Training House and Job Placement - 14151 Haynes Street, Van Nuys, CA 91401; (818) 908-1199; (TTY) (818) 908-9574; Administration Office - 14407 Gilmore Street, #101, Van Nuys, CA 91401; (818) 785-6934; (TTY) (818) 785-7097 (Toll Free) (800) 524-5272; ilcsc@ilcsc.org; www.ilcsc.org

Jewish Vocational Service Los Angeles (JVSLA)

The Disability & Assessment division serves over 100 clients each year from the California Department of Rehabilitation and over 1,000 clients from the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) and Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), performing vocational evaluations and offering expert career counseling. 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90048; (323) 761-8888; ASKUS@JVSLA.ORG; www.jvsla.org

Modern Support Services, LLC

Provides individualized community and home based services such as Supported Living Services (SLS) and Independent Living Skills (ILS). within Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The agency is also a regional center provider. Its culturally diverse staff are fluent in Spanish, Farsi, Armenian, Tagalog and Sign Language. Main address: 427 W Colorado St #102, Glendale, CA 91204; Toll free: (855) 853-2300; Los Angeles / Glendale: (818) 244-2677; info@modernsupportservices.org; <http://modernsupportservices.org>

New Horizons

Creates opportunities to maximize personal and vocational growth for individuals with developmental and other disabilities. Programs in areas of work, residential, and learning. 15725 Parthenia St. North Hills, Ca 91343; (818) 894-9301; info@newhorizons-sfv.org; <http://newhorizons-sfv.org>

Tierra Del Sol

Helps more than 675 people each day across Los Angeles County overcome cognitive, physical, emotional or behavioral challenges resulting from developmental disabilities. It offers a wide variety of educational opportunities for individuals to discover and share their talents and abilities with the community and their family. People are supported to become gainfully employed, volunteer and pursue post-secondary education, enabling them to fulfill their hopes and dreams and build the life that they want. 9919 Sunland Boulevard, Sunland, CA 91040; (818) 352-1419; Info@tierradelsol.org; www.tierradelsol.org