



Resources for Children With Special Needs in Greater Danbury

Published by



www.danburychildrenfirst.org
203-797-8088

General Information and Referrals

2-1-1

Provides free, confidential referrals on child care, health services, disability services, counseling, crisis intervention, and more. [Offers information on services and support groups both inside and outside of the Greater Danbury area.](#) Available 24 hours a day, every day.

Phone: Dial 2-1-1
Website: www.211infoline.org

Help Me Grow

Free, confidential service. Connects families to community services related to health, behavior, development, and parenting. Provides child development information to families with children birth through age 8.

Phone: 1-800-505-7000

Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut, Inc.

Provides information for parents and caregivers on mental health treatment for children.

Website: www.KidsMentalHealthInfo.com

Early Intervention/ Preschools

Connecticut's Birth to Three System

If you have concerns about a child's ability to see, talk, hear, move, eat, or play. Serves children in Connecticut up to age 3 who have significant delays in development or certain medical conditions. Refers families to Danbury-area providers.

Phone: 1-800-505-7000
Website: www.birth23.org

Head Start of Northern Fairfield County

Free, high-quality program for 3- and 4-year-old children from income-eligible families. Serves children with special needs.

Kathy Brinckerhoff 203-743-3993 ext. 140

Danbury School Readiness Program

Offers high-quality, accessible, affordable early childhood programs. Serves children with special needs.

Eileen Costello 203-791-1904

Public School Preschools

Most Connecticut public schools offer pre-school programs for children with special needs. Call the numbers listed below to find out what your school district offers.

Information is provided for referral only. Danbury Children First does not endorse or recommend any provider or service.

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Public Schools

Danbury Public Schools

ESL Reception Center 203-790-2849

Danbury Public Schools Early Childhood Program

For children ages 3–5 who may have difficulty listening, talking, playing, thinking, moving, understanding, or learning.

Fran Tyluki or Deb Nolan 203-797-4832

Director of Special Education

Joyce Emmet 203-790-2613

Elementary Special Education Supervisor

Donna Warner 203-797-4775

Interim Secondary Special Ed. Supervisor

Debbie Maillouz-Petersen 203-797-4840

Bethel Public Schools

Director of Special Education

Linda Pica 203-794-8616

Supervisor of Special Education

Liz DiBiase 203-794-8091

Brookfield Public Schools

Director of Special Education

Charlie Manos 203-775-7748

New Fairfield Public Schools

Supervisor of Special Education

Laura Olson 203-312-5926

Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Aimee Turner 203-312-5774

Newtown Public Schools

Director of Pupil Services

Dr. Michael Regan 203-426-7626

Supervisor of Special Education

Janet Calabro 203-426-7626

Redding Public Schools

Director of Special Education

Brian Farrell 203-938-9026

Assistant Director of Special Education

Cheryl Freeston 203-938-9026

Ridgefield Public Schools

Director of Special Education

Karen Berasi 203-431-2800 ext. 2020

Special Education Supervisors

Kathy Murphy 203-431-2800 ext. 2041

Rhonda Pfeiffer 203-431-2800 ext. 2041

Local Parent Support and Advocacy

Danbury Area Autism Spectrum Parent Group

Support group for parents of children on the Autism Spectrum. Meets at Walnut Hill Community Church in Bethel.

Bruni Edwards 203-797-8116

Connecticut Family Support Network Northwest Region

Provides resources for families raising children

with disabilities. Offers parent networking, support groups, agency referrals, and help with advocating for local programs and services.

Phone: Trish Butler 203-826-9739

Danbury Down Syndrome Support Group

Organizes play groups, parties, and holiday events for families.

Phone: MaryAnn Flanagan at 203-778-4873

E-mail: littlelollie@sbcglobal.net

Greater Danbury Child & Family Network

A group of parents and professionals who advocate for children with special needs. A Local Interagency Coordinating Council of the Birth to Three program, it provides feedback to the State, offers workshops, and sponsors Family Fun Nights.

Phone: Trish Butler 203-739-9614

Familias Hispanas Unidas en el area de Danbury

Provides support and information to Spanish-speaking parents who have children with special needs.

Phone: Shirley Ricart 203-792-3540

Newtown Youth and Family Services

Offers support groups for parents and siblings (Sibshop) of children with special needs; also offers advocacy.

Phone: 203-270-4335

Website: www.newtownyouthandfamilyservices.org

Northwest Regional CT Medical Home Support Center for Children and Youth with Special Care Needs

Serves Danbury-area families. Provides care coordination, family support, advocacy, Title V Funds, benefits coordination.

Phone: Toll Free: 1-866-517-4388

E-mail: [Renaee Vitale at rvitale@stmh.org](mailto:Renaee.Vitale@stmh.org)

WeCAHR

Serves all disabilities and all ages. Helps people get the services and supports they need to attend school and live and work successfully in the community. Offers advocacy counseling, training, and support.

Phone: 203-792-3540

Website: www.wecahr.org

Oral Health Resources

Danbury Public School Oral Health Initiative Program

Provides two mobile school-based dental clinics and one fixed site clinic.

Phone: 203-790-2812

Please see reverse for more resource information...

Connecticut Oral Health Providers that Work with Children with Special Needs:

Yale Pediatric Dentistry Center

1-203-785-2697

UCONN Pediatric Dental Clinic

1-860-545-9030

Southbury Training School

1-203-586-2302

Danbury Hospital Dental Service,

no insurance needed

203-791-5000

Respite Resources

Connecticut Lifespan Respite Coalition

Works to establish quality, coordinated respite services in Connecticut. Offers the free book "Get Creative About Respite" as well as one-on-one counseling and workshops.

Phone: Toll Free: 1-877-737-1966

Website: www.ctrespice.org

Connecticut Department of Developmental Services (DDS) West Region

To apply for DDS supports and services, including respite funds:

Phone: 1-866-433-8192

E-Mail: DDS.eligibility@ct.gov

West Region DDS Helpline

Provide 24-hour, supervised respite care, support, and recreational activities. Contact your DDS case manager or:

Phone: 1-877-274-3888

Website: www.ct.gov/dds

For information on fee-based respite providers, contact www.ctrespice.org or dial 2-1-1.

Recreational Opportunities

Many municipal park and recreation programs have programs that accommodate or cater to children with special needs. Just ask!

Danbury Parks and Rec. 203-797-4632

Bethel Parks and Rec. 203-794-8531

Brookfield Parks and Rec. 203-775-7310

New Fairfield Parks and Rec. 203-312-5633

Newtown Parks and Rec. 203-270-4340

Redding Parks and Rec. 203-938-2551

Ridgefield Parks and Rec. 203-431-2775

Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut

Offers some programs for children with special needs and will adapt programs when possible.

Phone: 203-744-1000 or 203-775-4444

Special Olympics Connecticut

Provides year-round sports training and athletic competition for children with intellectual disabilities. Danbury Public Schools Special Olympics Team:

Phone: Michelle Kimmel 1-203-267-6566

Website: www.soct.org

Pegasus Therapeutic Riding

Therapeutic horseback riding for children with special needs, ages 4 and up. No one is turned away based on inability to pay.

Phone: Suzann Emmens 1-845-669-8235

Website: www.pegasustr.org

SuperKids

Provides fee-based social skills therapy and groups for children and teens. Sliding fee scale available.

Phone: 203-431-9150

Website: www.superkidsct.com

Mental/Behavioral Health Services

Catholic Family Services Offers counseling services for children and families. Accepts insurance; offers a sliding fee scale.

Phone: 203-743-4412

Crisis Hotline (EMPS) Emergency mobile pediatric/psychiatric services. 2-1-1

CT Department of Children and Families

Voluntary Services For children who are diagnosed with a mental health disorder.

Phone: Toll free 1-800-842-2288

Danbury Hospital Center for Child and Adolescent Treatment Services (CCATS)

Intensive mental health services for children, teens, and families.

Phone: 203-830-6082

Danbury Youth Services Offers a Youth and Family Counseling program. 203-748-2936

Family & Children's Aid Child Guidance Center

Offers a range of mental health and counseling services for children and parents.

Phone: 203-748-5689

Website: www.fcaweb.org

Family Focus Partnership of Danbury

Creates a partnership between families and providers to enhance services for families who have children with mental health needs.

Phone: Trish Butler at 203-826-9736

Email: trishbutler@comcast.net

Newtown Youth & Family Services

Individual, group, and family counseling for all ages. No one turned away because of inability to pay.

Phone: 203-426-8103

Wellpath Provides care coordination for children with behavioral health disorders.

Phone: Ana 203-756-7287 ext. 117

or Gladys 203-756-7287 ext. 128

Statewide Parent Support and Advocacy

African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities (AFCAMP)

Offers support groups, trainings on special education, disability law, and advocacy.

Phone: 1-860-297-4358

Website: www.afcamp.org

Arc of Connecticut Protects the rights of people with intellectual, cognitive, and developmental disabilities.

Phone: 1-860-246-6400

Website: www.arcct.com

Autism Society of Connecticut

Serves as a statewide autism resource, raises awareness, and provides grants to families.

Phone: 1-888-453-4975

Website: www.autismsocietyofct.org

Board of Education Services for the Blind

Provides services to people of all ages who experience significant vision loss.

Phone: 1-860-602-4000

Website: www.ct.gov/besb

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Connecticut Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities (CACLD)

Offers resources for those with Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit Disorders.

Phone: 1-203-838-5010

Website: www.caclld.org

Connecticut Autism Spectrum Resource Center (ASRC)

Serves individuals with autism and their families. Provides support,

connection to resources, and advocacy training.

Phone: 1-203-265-7717

Website: www.ct-asrc.org

Connecticut Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired

Offers a guide to services for the deaf and hard of hearing in Connecticut.

Phone: 1-800-708-6796

Website: www.cdhi.ct.gov

Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities

Promotes inclusion of people with disabilities in community life.

Phone: 1-860-418-6160

Website: www.ct.gov/ctcdd

Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress

Improves the lives of persons with Down Syndrome.

Phone: 1-888-486-8537

Website: www.ctdownsyndrome.org

Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center (CPAC)

Supports families of children with any disability or chronic illness, ages birth to 21. Parent consultants, workshops, trainings, a newsletter, information on support groups.

Phone: Toll Free: 1-800-445-2722

Website: www.cpacinc.org

Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut

Provides support, advocacy, education, and services to people with epilepsy and their families.

Phone: Toll Free: 1-800-899-3745

Website: www.epilepsyct.com

FAVOR Family Advocate Program

For parents and caregivers of children with mental health needs. Offers direct advocacy, information, education, resources, and support.

Phone: Toll Free: 1-866-630-6055

Website: www.favor-ct.org

Learning Disabilities Association of Connecticut (LDA of CT, Inc.)

Secures educational and employment opportunities for children and adults with learning disabilities.

Phone: 1-860-560-1711

Website: www.ldact.org

NAMI of CT Child and Adolescent Network

Self-help, support and advocacy for families whose children have biological brain disorders.

Phone: Toll Free: 1-800-215-3021

Website: www.namict.org

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

Protects rights of people with disabilities and offers information, referral, and more.

Phone: 1-860-297-4300 or 1-800-842-7303

Website: www.ct.gov/opapd

PATH (Parents Available to Help, Inc.)

Offers a parent-to-parent listener program, information on disability and medical resources, a newsletter, and a family listserv.

Phone: 800-399-7284 or 203-234-9554

Website: www.pathct.org