
Resource Guide

This guide is designed to help parents and professionals in Santa Cruz County navigate through the complex service system and community resources available to families who have children with special needs.

Developed by
Special Parents Information Network
of Santa Cruz County (SPIN)

SPIN's mission is to help children with special needs achieve their full potential by empowering their families and the professionals who serve them through information, support and resources.

Version 2.0
Information valid as of November 1, 2012

Introduction

Parents of children with special needs may feel overwhelmed and isolated. The emotional turmoil of dealing with everyday life, and trying to do what is best for your child and your family is a full time endeavor. The delivery of services to families can be confusing, and the mountain of paperwork may be daunting. Special Parents Information Network (SPIN) of Santa Cruz County was founded to provide information, support and resources to help parents and professionals be better able to meet the needs of the child as well their families.

In 1985 a group of parents from Santa Cruz County who have children with special needs began meeting together for support. As parents trying to cope with the challenges of raising a child with a disabling condition, they found it was important to be able to share experiences and information about local resources with parents in similar situations. In 1996 the group became known as SPIN, Special Parents Information Network and incorporated as a 501[c][3] nonprofit charitable corporation in June 2000.

Through a grant from the State Department of Education and contributions from our donors, SPIN is able to produce this resource guide for parents and guardians in Santa Cruz County who have children with special needs. We hope you find it useful.

If you have any questions or find the information incomplete, call SPIN in Watsonville at (831) 722-2800 or Santa Cruz at (831) 423-7713.

Resources are provided for information only and do not reflect the opinions or endorsements of Special Parents Information Network (SPIN).

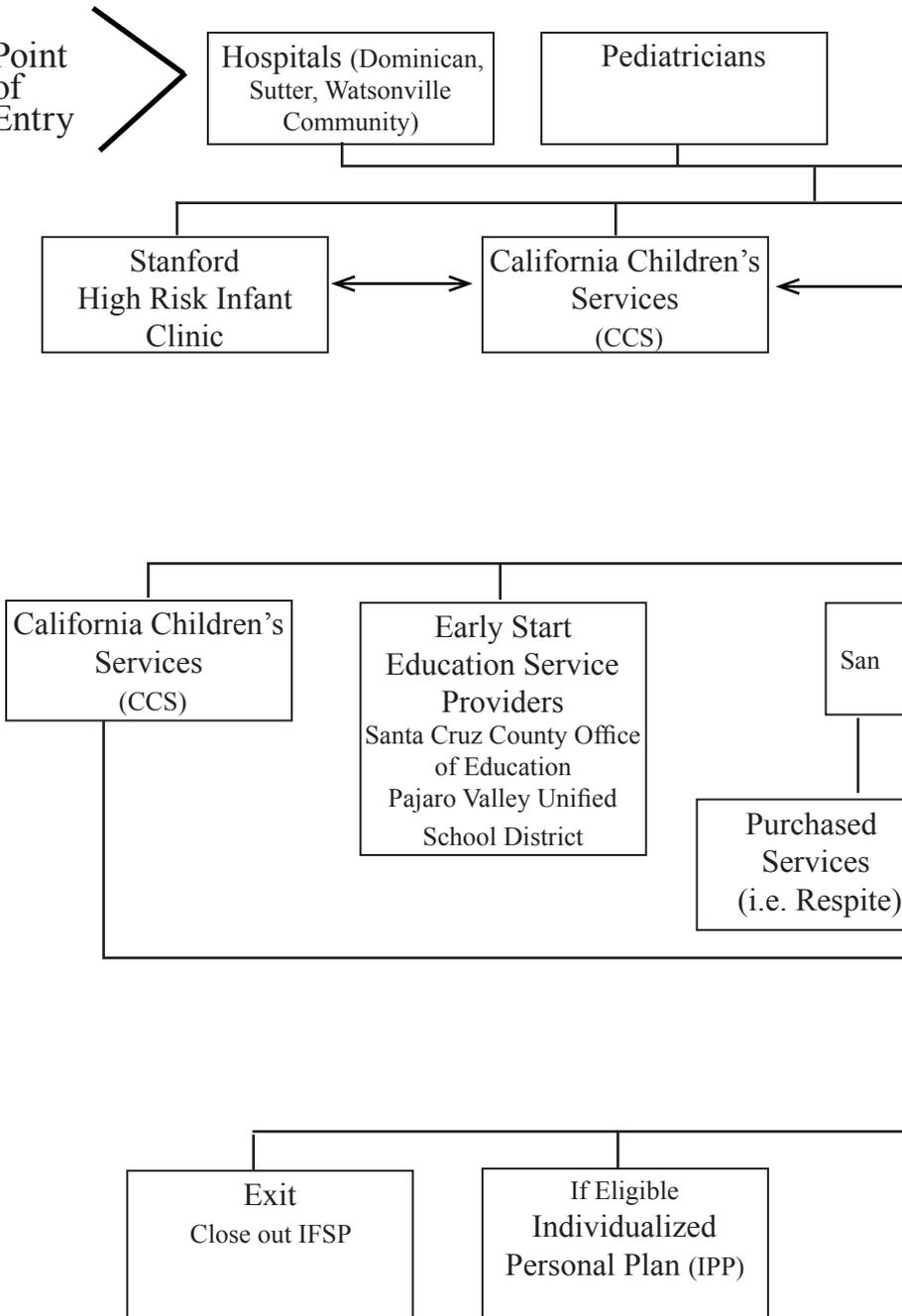
Table of Contents

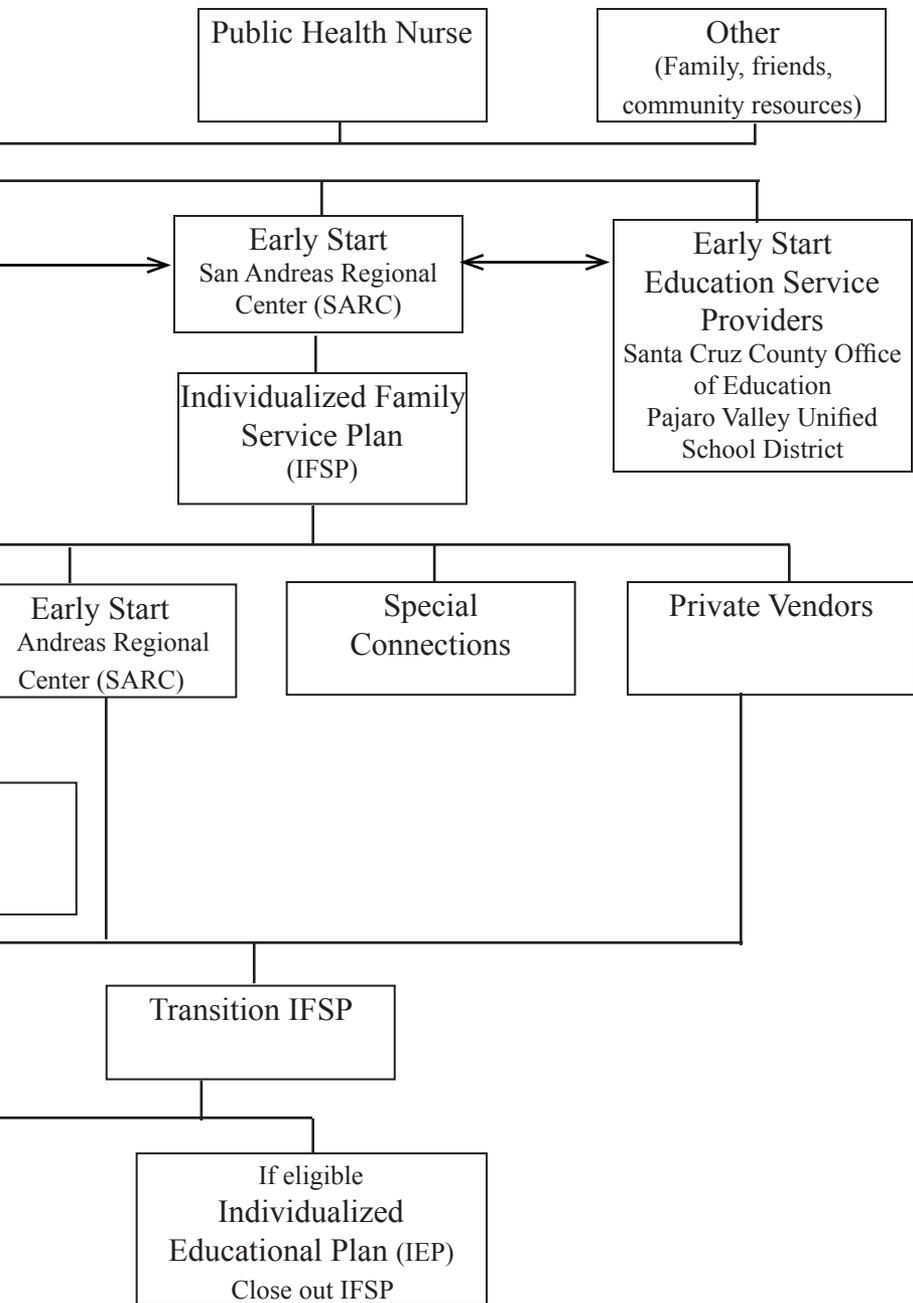
Service System Chart, birth to 36 months _____	4
Service System Chart, 3 – 22 years old _____	6
Services for children, birth – 36 months	
Stanford High Risk Infant Clinic _____	9
Early Start _____	10
Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) _____	12
Special Connections _____	14
Transition Individualized Family Service Plan _____	15
Services for children, 3 – 22 years old	
Individualized Education Program (IEP) _____	18
Individualized Transition Plan (ITP) _____	22
School Districts, Local Educational Agencies (LEA) _____	23
Specialized Schools _____	25
San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) _____	27
Individual Personal Plan (IPP) _____	29
Financial, Health and Personal Care Agencies	
Serving Special Needs	
California Children’s Services (CCS) _____	31
MediCal/MediCal Waiver Program _____	33
Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI) _____	35
In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) _____	36
Community Agency Resources	
Special Parents Information Network (SPIN) _____	38
Central Coast Center for Independent Living (CCCIL) _____	39
The National Alliance on Mental Illness(NAMI) of Santa Cruz County _____	40
Balance4Kids _____	41
Easter Seals Central California _____	42
Special Needs Information, Referral and Services	
Crisis Intervention _____	43
Healthcare & Specific Disability Information _____	43
Special Needs Information & Advocacy _____	44
Childcare/Respite _____	45
Transportation _____	45
Recreation _____	45
Independent Living Services _____	47
Housing _____	48
Support Groups _____	49
Family Resource Centers _____	51
Other Community Resources _____	52
Websites _____	55

Support Services Flow Chart

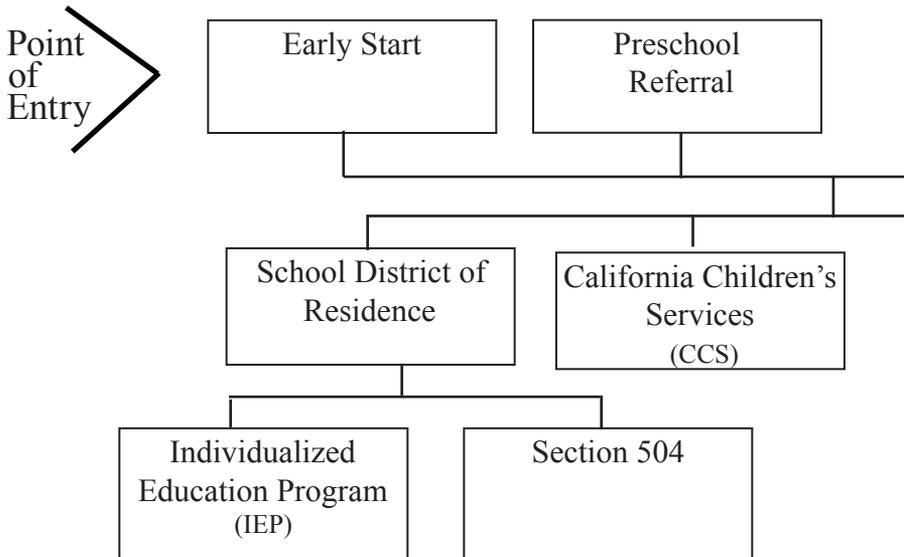
(Children 0-36 months)

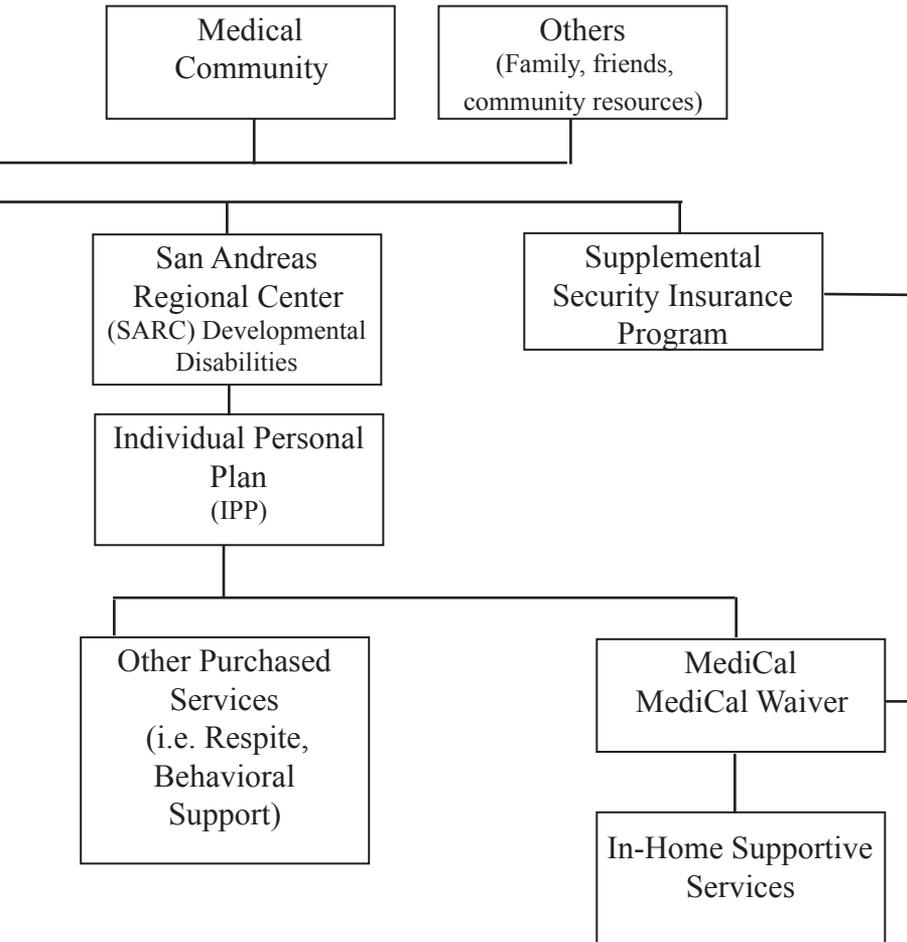
Point of Entry





Support Services Flow Chart
(Children 3-22 Years Old)





NOTES

Stanford High Risk Development Clinic

Pediatric Subspecialty Clinic

Dominican Rehabilitation Services

610 Fredrick St.

Santa Cruz, CA. 95062

(831) 462-7700

For Appt. call (650) 725-8995

The Stanford High Risk Development Clinic provides a multidisciplinary medical team staffed by specialists from the faculty of the Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford to do periodic follow-ups on at risk infants.

Eligibility:

- Referral from a physician
- Children up to age 3.
- Children with developmental delay or who are at risk due to prenatal/neonatal factors.

Services Provided:

- Follow –up of newborn ICU graduates and developmentally at risk infants
- Medical specialty referrals (e.g. Pediatric Neurology)
- Public agency referrals (e.g. San Andreas Regional Center)
- Clinic is held quarterly

Early Start

San Andreas Regional Center (SARC)

1110 Main St., Ste. 8

Watsonville, CA. 95076

(831)728-1781

(831)688-7633

Fax (831) 728-5514

www.sarc.org/earlystart.html

Early Start is an early intervention program for children from birth to 36 months of age who have disabilities or are at risk of having disabilities. Services are family centered and multidisciplinary. Early Start is a program governed by federal and state statutes and regulations

Eligibility:

Any child from birth to 36 months that has one of the following factors present:

- After being assessed by qualified professionals, your child must show significant delay in one or more of the following areas:
 - Cognitive development – e.g. limited interest in environment, limited interest in play and learning
 - Physical and motor development including vision and hearing – e.g. hypertonia, dystonia, asymmetry
 - Communication development – e.g. limited sound repertoire, limited responses to communication with others
 - Emotional-social development – e.g. unusual responses to interactions, impaired attachment, self-injurious behaviors
 - Adaptive development – e.g. feeding difficulties
- Established risk conditions of known etiology or those conditions expected to result in significant development problems.
 - Examples: chromosomal disorders, neurological disorders, inborn errors of metabolism, or visual and hearing impairments
- High risk of having a substantial developmental disability due to a combination of risk factors. Examples: prematurity (less than 32 weeks gestation and low weight), asphyxia or need for ventilator, central nervous system infection or abnormality, biomedical insult

(including but not limited to injury, accident, or illness which may seriously or permanently affect developmental outcome), or parent with a developmental disability

Services Provided:

- Assessment for services – e.g. occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language therapy,
- Individuals at risk of having a child with a developmental disability may be eligible for genetic diagnosis, counseling and other prevention services.
- Development of Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

The Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) defines early intervention services that are family centered and determined by a multidisciplinary team that includes the parents of the child. The child must be referred to San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) within 2 working days of identification as being at risk of having disabilities. The initial IFSP process must be completed within 45 days of the referral to Early Start. The IFSP is written annually and is reviewed every 6 months

Eligibility:

Children age birth to 36 months are assessed by a multidisciplinary team which may include medical professionals, psychologists, speech and language pathologists and occupational/physical therapists coordinated by SARC staff, educational staff (Pajaro Unified School District or the Santa Cruz County Office of Education), or agency personnel designated by SARC. A child can not be assessed without the written permission of the parents. Assessments must be conducted by personnel trained in appropriate methods and procedures for the assessment tests being given; based on available medical records, information provided by the parents through personal interview and include the parents' description of their resources, priorities, and concerns related to the child's development.

Planning Services:

Services are decided by a team that includes the parents, service coordinator, individuals involved in conducting the assessment, service providers and may also include other family members or an advocate by parents' request. The team will meet and develop long term annual goals and short term objectives based on the child's assessment. The goals and objectives must meet the child's educational needs and family priorities. A baseline of the current level of performance for each goal is established in the assessment process. The short term objectives must be measurable and progress on the goals and objectives will be reviewed periodically. The IFSP must state how often,

where, and what agencies will provide the services. The IFSP must also include when services will not be available. To the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the child, services must be provided in natural environments in which non-disabled children participate and services provided in settings other than natural environment occur only if early intervention cannot be achieved for the child in a natural environment.

Services Provided:

Services may include: Assistive technology, audiology, family training, health services, medical services for diagnostics or evaluation only, nursing services, nutritional services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, speech-language pathology, transportation and related costs, vision services, social work services or special instruction.

If parents disagree with the IFSP they can request mediation, request a due process hearing or file a complaint with the State.

Special Connections

Family Resource Center
984-2 Bostwick Lane
Santa Cruz, CA. 95062
(831)464-0669
Fax (831) 464-0779

Special Connections is a family resource center that provides support and education to families of children with special needs and professionals who serve them. The program supports families in Santa Cruz County.

Eligibility:

Child must be age 0 – 36 months and enrolled in the Early Start program.

Services Provided:

- Information on early intervention and community resources
- Provides families with a binder to help organize information, medical and educational records on the child.
- Lending library open to parents of Early Start children and the professionals who serve them. The library contains books, magazines and videos on various subjects pertaining to special needs and early childhood development.
- Workshops and trainings to assist parents in helping their child with special needs at home and in the community.
- English and Spanish parent support groups.
- Internet availability for parents

Transition Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

The Transition IFSP ensures a smooth transition from early intervention services to preschool. The service coordinator must convene a conference of the transition IFSP team, with the approval of the parents at least 90 days before the child is eligible for preschool (3 years old). The transition IFSP team (service coordinator, parents, service providers and if requested by the parents, an advocate or support person) will discuss procedures to prepare the child for future school placement. Before the child's third birthday, the team will review the IFSP and close the plan.

With the parents' approval, assessments will be completed by the school district of residence's trained staff or their service providers to determine if the child is eligible for special education services. At the conference, the team will discuss the eligibility for special education services provided by the school district of residence.

Children not eligible for special services:

Options for future general education preschool programs (e.g. Head-start, State Preschool, community preschools, and childcare programs) will be discussed and the parent will be given information on community resources and referrals.

The transition team will plan services to prepare the child for the changes in service delivery. This may include: concentration on specific skills, program visits, follow-up visits to the new program (with the parents' permission) and telephone consultation with the staff of the new program (with the parents' permission).

Transition IFSP (continued):

Children eligible for special services:

When the child turns 3, the focus of educational services change from supporting the family to supporting the child's access to the general educational curriculum. Services are provided by the school district of residence or their service providers. All educational services must become part of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) (see page 18). Similarly, if other services continue to be provided by San Andreas Regional Center, they must become part of an Individual Personal Plan (IPP) (see page 29). The service coordinator will assist in scheduling the meetings to develop the IEP and the IPP before the child's third birthday.

The service coordinator will explain the differences in services and service providers, parent's rights and responsibilities, and the assessment process. The team will discuss options for future service delivery (e.g. participation in a program with a resource specialist, special day class or a combination of options).

The transition team will plan services to prepare the child for the changes in service delivery. This may include: concentration on specific skills, program visits, follow-up visits to the new program (with the parents' permission) and telephone consultation with the staff of the new program (with the parents' permission).

NOTES

Individualized Education Program (IEP)

The Individualized Education Program (IEP) defines the needs, services, supports and placements to assist the child with special needs in accessing the general education curriculum as required by law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA). Children with special needs have the right to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in the Least Restricted Environment (LRE) provided by the child's Local Educational Agency (LEA). The LEA is the child's school district of residence. All documents and discussions must be in the parents' primary language.

Eligibility:

Any child who has been evaluated as having one or a combination of the following:

- Intellectually Delayed
- Hearing impairment
- Visual impairment
- Deaf – blindness
- Traumatic brain injury
- Serious emotional disturbance
- Orthopedic impairment
- Autism
- Specific learning impairments
- Speech and/or language disabilities
- Other health impairments

The child will be assessed by professionals to determine eligibility based on the affect of the disability for the child to access general education curriculum.

Assessment

With the parents' written permission, qualified personnel from the school district of residence or qualified professionals contracted by the school district will assess areas of educational concern. The professionals administering the assessment tests must be experienced in working with the assessment tools used.

IEP (continued):

The assessment tests should be age appropriate, in the child's primary language, based on the child's level of functioning and take into account the child's abilities and disabilities. No one test should be used to determine need for services.

Assessment methods can include:

Formal testing, interviews with parents, observation of the child, interviews with individuals familiar with the child, interviews with professionals who have worked/are working with the child, and review of child's records (e.g. medical). Parents should make sure that all areas of concern are addressed.

Assessment areas could include:

- Academic/cognitive
- Gross motor
- Fine motor
- Speech and language
- Language functioning
- Social/emotional
- Self-help skills
- Vocational
- Other aspects of the suspected disability

An assessment plan should be developed and approved by the parents within 15 days (not counting general education school breaks exceeding 5 days, e.g. summer vacation) of the referral to special education. If regular school is not in session due to term breaks, the 15 days will stop and restart when the regular school commences. If the referral is made within 10 days of the end of the regular school year, the assessment plan must be developed within 10 days of the start of the following regular school year unless the parent agrees to a time extension.

Parents have the right to independent assessments but the school district may not necessarily have to pay for it. If the parent pays for an independent assessment, the results can be used to aid in determining need and developing the IEP.

The assessment process and IEP team meeting must be completed

IEP (continued):

within 60 days (not counting general education school breaks exceeding 5 days, e.g. summer vacation) from parents' approval of the assessment plan unless the parent agrees to a time extension. If regular school is not in session due to term breaks, the 60 days will stop and restart when the regular school commences. If the assessment plan is approved within 20 days of the end of the regular school year, the assessment process and IEP team meeting must be completed within 40 days of the start of the following regular school year unless the parent agrees to an extension.

IEP Meeting:

Eligibility, services and supports are decided by the IEP team, which includes; the parents, teachers, school district administrator or designee, individuals involved in conducting the assessment, service providers and may also include other family members, friend of the family or an advocate by parents' request (parent must notify the school district in advance of other participants to the team). If the child is not eligible for special education services, he/she may be eligible for a Section 504 plan, which provides appropriate accommodations, and support for the child to access the general education curriculum. The Section 504 plan can be developed by the IEP team after the IEP process is completed. Each school district has their own procedures for Section 504 plans.

If the child is eligible for special education services, the team will meet and develop long term annual educational goals and short term educational objectives based on the child's needs as defined in the assessments. A baseline of the current level of performance for each goal is established in the assessment process. The short term objectives and long term goals must be measurable and progress on the goals and objectives must be reviewed and reported periodically. The IEP team will determine how the goals and objectives will be measured and how often progress will be reported. The IEP team will determine what services and support will be needed to accomplish the goals and objectives. The IEP team will also determine in what educational setting the services and supports will be provided. Children with special needs are to be educated as much as possible with non-disabled peers in a Least Restricted Environment (LRE). LRE options may

IEP (continued):

include: full inclusion in a general education classroom (least restrictive), inclusion with resource specialist pull outs, special day class, home instruction, and private residential schools (most restrictive) or a combination of LRE options. Only if the use of supplemental aids and services cannot make education successful in the regular educational environments are more restrictive options to be considered.

The IEP must state why a child is not able to benefit from full participation with non-disabled peers if the educational setting is not full inclusion. The IEP must state what services and supports will be provided, what type of specialist or personnel will provide the services and supports, how often services and supports will be provided, when services and supports start and stop, and where the services and supports will be provided.

Services and support start when the IEP is signed. The parent has the right to disagree with all or part of the IEP.

Services continue until age 22 unless the student receives a high school diploma or the Individual Transition Plan services have been completed.

Services and Support Provided:

Services may include: Transportation, assistive technology, behavioral intervention plan, speech-language therapy, physical and occupational therapy, 1:1 aides, adaptive P.E., vocational instruction, life skills instruction, oral motor therapy, social skills instruction, visually impaired instruction, hearing impaired instruction, adaptive equipment and mental health services.

If parents disagree with the IEP they can request alternative dispute resolution, mediation, due process hearing or if the IEP has already been developed, file a compliance complaint with the State Department of Education. It is recommended that parents try to resolve problems at the local level first. If the parent does not sign the IEP within a reasonable amount of time and does not proceed with mediation or due process, the LEA has the right to initiate due process so that the child will receive the services needed to progress in school.

Individualized Transition Plan (ITP)

Individualized Transition Plans (ITP) will be developed for students with IEPs at age 16 (or younger if the IEP team determines it is appropriate). The transition plans are developed to assist the student in preparing for life after high school and may include work training, jobs, school, independent living, or help from public agencies. Transition services are provided until the student receives a high school diploma, moves from the district or reaches the age of 22.

The transition planning team might include the student, parents, teacher, school administrator, transition staff (Workability) and community agency staff. The team will make informed decisions about the student's future. The student's interests, needs and preferences are the most important consideration in developing the plan.

The plan will document:

- Instructional services
- Related services
- The role of community experience
- Learning daily living skills
- Learning vocational skills

Services may include:

- Assistance in post secondary school enrollment
- Vocational training
- Independent living skills

IEP must include—

- Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment and, where appropriate, independent living skills;
- The transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the child in reaching those goals

At least one year before age 18, the parents and student must be informed about the “age of majority”. At age 18 the right to make decisions transfers from the parent to the student. If appropriate, there are alternatives to this transfer. These alternatives will be discussed in the meeting. The notification of transfer of rights must be documented on the ITP.

School Districts Local Educational Agencies (LEA)

Each school district of residence is a local educational agency (LEA). When your child turns 3 years old, the LEA becomes responsible for the child's educational program. The Individualized Education Plan is developed with the LEA, parents and professionals serving the child.

School Districts

South Santa Cruz County (Aptos – Watsonville)
Pajaro Valley Unified School District
294 Green Valley Rd.
Watsonville, CA. 95076
(831) 786-2100
www.pvusd.net

North Santa Cruz County (Soquel – Boulder Creek and Davenport)
Pacific Elementary School Bonny Doon Union Elementary School
50 Ocean 1492 Pine Flat Rd.
Davenport, CA. 95019 Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
(831) 425-7002 (831) 427-2300
www.pacific.santacruz.k12.ca.us www.bonnydoon.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Mountain Elementary School Happy Valley Elementary School
3042 Old San Jose Rd. 3125 Branciforte Dr.
Soquel, CA. 95073 Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
(831) 475-6812 (831) 429-1456
Fax (831) 464-7200 Fax (831) 429-6205
www.mountain.santacruz.k12.ca.us www.happyvalley.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Delta School Pacific Collegiate School
6500 Soquel Dr. 255 Swift St.
Aptos, CA. 95003 Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
(831) 477-5212 (831) 479-7785
Fax (831) 479-6173 Fax (831) 427-5254
www.deltaschool.org www.pacificcollegiate.com

School District LEA (continued):

Live Oak School District
984 Bostwick Ln., Blding 1, Santa Cruz, CA. 95062
(831) 475-6333
www.lodo.santacruz.k12.ca.us

San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District
325 Marion Ave., Ben Lomond, CA 95005
(831) 336-9678
www.slv.k12.ca.us

Santa Cruz City Schools
405 Old San Jose Rd., Santa Cruz, CA 95073
(831) 429-3410
www.sccs.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Scotts Valley Unified School District
4444 Scotts Valley Dr. Suite 5B, Scotts Valley, CA. 95066
(831) 438-2055
Fax (831) 438-2314
www.svusd.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Soquel Elementary School District
620 Monterey Ave., Capitola, CA. 95010
(831) 464-5630
Fax (831) 475-5196
www.soqueldo.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Santa Cruz County Office of Education is not an LEA, however they provide educational services for children in North County Santa Cruz that need more intensive or specialized services.

Santa Cruz County Office of Education
400 Encinal Dr. Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 466-5600; Fax (831) 466-5607
Special Education- (831) 466-5700
www.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Specialized Schools

The Bay School for Autism Spectrum Students

5400 Soquel Ave., Suite F, Santa Cruz, CA. 95062

(831) 462-9620

www.thebayschool.org/

(Intensive ABA day program for ASD students ages 3-21)

Brightpath

255 Swift Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(831) 466-0444

Private school for students with severe behavioral challenges, such as autism or mental health disorders.

California Department of Education

www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ss/

Information on the State Schools for the Deaf, School for the blind, Diagnostic Center, or the Deaf and Hard of Hearing programs. Some programs offer residential and day programs.

Chartwell School

2511 Numa Watson Road, Seaside, CA 93955

(831) 394-3468

www.chartwell.org

Private day school program for children with Learning Disabilities, who learn in small classes with specialized instruction.

The Chrysalis Autism Center

Located on the Green Acres School Campus

966 Bostwick Lane, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

(831) 466-5780

www.santacruz.k12.ca.us/spec_ed/chrysalis_center_autism_program.html

(Serving children 3 years old through 3rd grade, living in North Santa Cruz County)

Specialized Schools (continued):

Coryell Autism Center

111 Errett Circle, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(831) 713-5186

www.coryellautismcenter.org

(Provides specially-designed educational services to people with autism between the ages of 14 and 22)

Listen Foundation

303 Portero #29-103, Santa Cruz, CA. 95060

(831) 426-7234

www.listenfoundation.net

(A private non-profit agency serving individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other developmental disabilities.)

Pinnacle Learning Academy

<http://www.pinnaclelearningacademy.com/index.html>

(831) 287-6786

Offers a “multi-sensory tailored curriculum for struggling learners with social, attention, and learning differences who are bright but challenged in a conventional classroom.” Uses alternative, research-based methods in a small, supportive environment. Serves Central Coast communities in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties.

San Andreas Regional Center (SARC)

1110 Main St., Ste. 8

Watsonville, CA. 95076

(831)728-1781 or (831)688-7633

Fax (831) 728-5514

www.sarc.org

San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) is a private non-profit corporation funded by the State of California Department of Developmental Services to provide opportunities for independence at home and in the community for children and adults with developmental disabilities through information, advocacy and purchased services.

Eligibility:

The developmental disability must be present before the individual's 18th birthday. The developmental disability must be significant and expected to continue throughout the individual's lifetime. The developmental disability must be due to one of the following conditions:

- Intellectually Delayed – Significant deficits in general intellectual functioning (generally an I.Q. of 70 or below) and significant deficits in adaptive functioning.
- Cerebral Palsy – A neurological condition from birth or early infancy resulting in an inability to voluntarily control muscle activity, and resulting in significant deficits in motor adaptive functioning and/or cognitive abilities.
- Epilepsy – A disorder of the central nervous system in which the major symptoms are seizures. Eligibility is based on a seizure disorder that is uncontrolled, or poorly controlled despite medical intervention.
- Autism – A syndrome characterized by impaired social interaction, delays in both verbal and nonverbal communication skills, deficits in cognitive skills, and impairment in the ability to engage in make-believe play. Individuals can engage in repetitive activities or a limited repertoire of activities.
- Fifth condition – This category includes disabling condition closely related to mental retardation and requires treatment similar to that required for individuals with mental retardation.

SARC (continued):

Regulations exclude disabling conditions which are solely psychiatric disorders, solely learning disabilities, or solely physical in nature.

Eligibility Process:

The intake interview for eligibility should take place within 15 working days from the referral. Information will be gathered by the SARC intake team to assess whether the disability falls into one of the five categories of eligibility.

This information may include school records, medical records, observation by qualified psychologists and other qualified professionals. Once the assessment is completed, an eligibility determination meeting is set up to share information and determines eligibility or ineligibility. This process can take up to 120 days from the date of the interview.

Services Provided:

Services are determined by the Individual Personal Plan (IPP) which must be developed within 60 days of eligibility (see page 29).

Services may include advocacy for legal, civil or service rights, information and referral, assistance in finding and accessing resources in the community, and purchased services (purchased services, e.g. respite, out of home care, and behavioral support must be provided by SARC contracted vendors). Individuals at risk of having a child with a developmental disability may be eligible for genetic diagnosis, counseling and other prevention services.

Services and eligibility continue through adulthood.

If parents disagree with the determination of eligibility, they may request an informal meeting with the director's designee, mediation, or fair hearing.

Individual Personal Plan (IPP)

The Individual Personal Plan (IPP) is a contract that defines services that enable developmentally disabled children and adults to be as independent as possible at home and in the community. The IPP defines the child's needs, supports and services. San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) staff works with the parents, child and other persons involved with the child to develop the IPP.

Eligibility:

The child must be a client of SARC and age 3 or older (under 3 years old, the child would be eligible for Early Start).

Planning Services:

The IPP must be developed within 60 days of the determination of eligibility. The child's San Andreas Regional Center case manager will meet with the parents, the child (if appropriate), professionals working with the child (optional), and other individuals who are involved with the child (optional) to determine what the needs are for the child to be as independent as possible at home and in the community. The team will discuss long term goals and short term objectives based on the child's strengths and abilities. Services for the child and family will be provided based on what is needed for the child to achieve the goals and objectives. Because the IPP determines services based on goals and objectives, it is important for families to consider reasonable and achievable goals and objectives for their child.

A new IPP is developed every three years and reviewed annually. Services may be added at anytime during the year, but must be added to the IPP.

Services Provided:

There is no cost for most services, however a share of cost is established when SARC is providing residential care and respite care for minors. The share of cost is based on a sliding scale and determined by the State Department of Developmental Services in the case

IPP (continued):

of residential care services for minors. Co-payment for respite care is determined by family income.

Services may include:

- Assessment and diagnosis
- Respite
- In-home behavioral support
- Advocacy for protection on legal, civil and service rights
- Assistance in finding community resources
Assists parent in applying for Institutional Deeming – allows parents to apply for MediCal for their child without an income requirement (MediCal Waiver)
- Purchase of equipment that will allow the child to remain in the home and the community (after all other resources have been exhausted, e.g. CCS, insurance)
- Planning and monitoring 24 hour out of home care (placement)
- Purchased services, e.g. respite, out of home care, behavioral support must be provided by SARC contracted vendors.

IPP services continue through adulthood.

If parents disagree with the IPP services provided or not provided they may request an informal meeting with the director's designee, mediation, or fair hearing.

California Children's Services (CCS)

1430 Freedom Blvd. Suite 101

Watsonville, CA. 95076

P.O. Box 962 Santa Cruz, CA 95061

(831) 763-8000 or (831) 454-2540

www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs

California Children's Services (CCS) is a state program that provides or arranges medical care, equipment, and therapy for children with CCS eligible physical disabling medical conditions.

Eligibility:

- A referral must be made and may come from anyone – a physician, teacher or parent.
- Your child must be under 21 years of age.
- Your child must be a permanent resident of the California County you apply in.
- Your family's adjusted gross income must be less than \$40,000 per year or the expected out of pocket medical expenses must be greater than 20% of the family's income. If your child is adopted, and a CCS eligible condition was identified prior to the adoption, income is not reviewed. However, if a CCS eligible condition is identified after the adoption, a financial eligibility determination is required. If you will only be receiving occupational and physical therapy services, income requirements do not apply. However, if you anticipate medical equipment needs, a financial eligibility determination is required before CCS would pay for the equipment.
- Your child must have a CCS eligible medical condition.

Categories of medical conditions:

- Conditions involving the heart (e.g. congenital heart disease, rheumatic heart disease)
- Neoplasms (e.g. cancer, tumors)
- Diseases of the blood (e.g. hemophilia, sickle cell anemia)
- Diseases of the respiratory system (e.g. cystic fibrosis, chronic lung disease)
- Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (e.g. thyroid problems, PKU, or diabetes), and immune disorders
- Diseases of the genitourinary system (e.g. serious kidney

California Children's Services (continued):

- Diseases of the gastrointestinal system (e.g. liver problems such as biliary atresia)
- Serious birth defects (e.g. cleft lip/palate, spina bifida)
- Diseases of the sense organs (e.g. glaucoma, cataracts, hearing loss)
- Diseases of the nervous system (e.g. cerebral palsy, uncontrolled seizures)
- Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (e.g. heumatoid arthritis, muscular dystrophy)
- Infectious diseases (e.g. HIV infection)
- Disabling injuries and poisonings requiring intensive care or rehabilitation (e.g. severe burns, severe head, brain, or spinal cord injuries, fractures)
- Complications of premature birth requiring an intensive level of care
- Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (e.g. severe hemangioma)
- Medically handicapping malocclusion (e.g. severely crooked teeth)

Services Provided:

- Case Management – Determines medical eligibility, assists in coordination of medical care and makes referrals to other agencies that serve children and adults with special needs.
If your child has MediCal and a CCS medical condition, CCS staff will case manage the medical care of the eligible condition.
- Diagnostic Services – If CCS feels that your child may have an eligible condition, CCS will pay for diagnostic services.
- Treatment Services – This includes doctor's services, emergency services, hospital services, home health care services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, transportation, and other services.
- Other Services – call for list of additional services
- Call for eligibility for specific services

MediCal/MediCal Waiver Program

1020 Emeline Ave.

Santa Cruz, CA. 95061

(831) 454-4131

119 W Beach St., Watsonville, CA 95076

(831) 763-8500

MediCal provides health insurance to low income families. MediCal Waiver is a federally funded program that allows the child with special needs to qualify for MediCal regardless of the family's income.

Eligibility:

Eligibility is based on the income of the family unless the child is a client of San Andreas Regional Center (SARC).

As a SARC client, the child's SARC case manager can assist the parent in applying for Institutional Deeming. The child would be evaluated as if they were to be institutionalized. Once the child is deemed eligible for institutionalization, the parent may apply for MediCal for the child. If the child has any assets over \$2,000 (savings account, savings bond, educational IRAs, or funds accounts), the child will not qualify.

It is recommend that if you mail in the MediCal forms, you mail it certified or return receipt. If you hand carry it in, make note of the date and who you give the form to. The process may take up to 6 months.

Services Provided:

Managed health care – The MediCal case manager will determine if medical procedures are necessary treatment. The client is required to have a primary care physician for referrals. If the child is a client of California Children's Services (CCS), the CCS case manager will determine necessary medical procedures relating to the CCS qualifying disability. CCS can refer clients to specialists outside of the managed health care network, but they must be CCS Board Approved.

MediCal / Medical Waiver Program (continued):

- Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) – Any health service requested for a child (under 21) which is beyond the benefits received by the general MediCal population is considered an EPSDT supplemental service (e.g. therapy services continuing beyond the standard 2 months, specialized equipment).
- Diapers
- Prescriptions
- Dental and Vision services

Services may require a share of cost to the parent. Call the child's MediCal case manager for specific costs for services.

If parents disagree with the determination of eligibility or services, they may request a fair hearing.

Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI)

169 Walnut Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
(831) 426-8111

or

180 Westgate Drive
Watsonville, CA. 95076
1-800-521-3385

The Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI) is a Social Security program. It is a federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues (not Social Security taxes).

Eligibility:

- The program is for low income families and there is an income requirement.
- The child must be physically or mentally disabled and the disability must affect everyday life.
- The disability is expected to last a least one year or to result in death.
- The child must live in the U.S.
- The child must be a citizen or national (some noncitizens can qualify, call the Social Security office for information).
- If the child is eligible for Social Security or any other benefit, the parent must apply for them for the child.
- Assets such as real estate, bank accounts, cash, and stocks and bonds can not exceed \$2,000 for an individual and \$3,000 for a couple.

Services Provided:

- Supplemental income
- MediCal
- Food Stamps

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

1400 Emeline Ave. # K
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
P.O. Box 1320
Santa Cruz, CA. 95061
(831) 454-4101

OR

18 W. Beach St.
Watsonville, CA. 95076
(831) 763-8800

<http://santacruzhumanservices.org/>

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provides in-home care and supervision of the child for the parent in order for the child to remain at home. This service is in addition to SARC respite.

Eligibility:

The child must be a MediCal or MediCal Waiver client. Children that do not have MediCal may qualify for IHSS based on income, however a share of cost to the parent may apply.

Hours of services are determined by need. The IHSS case manager will observe the child and interview the parent to determine the number of hours needed to care for the child while at home.

Services Provided:

Services differ for MediCal clients and MediCal Waiver clients.

MediCal:

Personal Care Services Program (PCSP) – Hours are determined by the amount of physical care the parent gives to the child. This may include: Feeding, dressing, personal hygiene, lifting or range of motion exercising. The parent is paid directly for hours of eligibility.

In-Home Supportive Services (continued):

Protective Supervision Services - Hours are determined by the amount of supervision the parent gives to the child. This may include supervision of: safety, feeding, dressing, or personal hygiene. The parent is paid directly for hours of eligibility.

MediCal Waiver:

Personal Care Services Program (PCSP) – Hours are determined by the amount of physical care the parent gives to the child. This may include: Feeding, dressing, personal hygiene, lifting or range of motion exercising. The service provider (individual hired by the parent) is paid directly for hours spent with the child by the State of California. Protective Supervision Services are not available for MediCal Waiver clients.

If parents disagree with the determination of services, they may request a fair hearing.

Special Parents Information Network (SPIN)

P.O. Box 2367
Santa Cruz, CA. 95063
Santa Cruz: (831) 423-7713
Watsonville: (831) 722-2800
www.spin-sc.org

SPIN is a non-profit organization developed by parents of children with special needs to help empower other parents to meet the unique needs of their child through networking and education.

Eligibility:

Anyone who has an interest in children with special needs. A child with special needs is a child who has a temporary or chronic condition or disability present at birth or due to illness or injury. The child may be physically, emotionally, mentally, developmentally, or cognitively disabled.

Services Provided:

- Information and referral – SPIN assists parents and professionals in locating resources for children with special needs and their families.
- Mentor program-- for parents who want support and information from another parent who has a child with a similar disability or has experience navigating the system of services.
- Support Groups-- for both English and Spanish speaking parents.
- Educational workshops and training – SPIN provides workshops and trainings on various topics to educate parents and professionals to better meet and advocate for the child's needs at home, school and in the community.
- IEP Clinics – Individualized assistance on special education issues.
- Library - Books, tapes, magazines and DVDs on issues relating to families who have children with special needs.
- Networking – SPIN promotes the networking of parents through support groups (see pages 49 and 50), events, workshops and training, and parent to parent support.

Central Coast Center for Independent Living
(CCCIL)

1395 41st Ave.
Capitola, CA. 95010
(831) 462-8720
www.cccil.org

Central Coast Center for Independent Living is a non-profit organization that provides information, support and advocacy for individuals with disabilities and their families.

Eligibility:

- Any person with a disability.
- Disability is defined as anyone that has difficulty walking, talking, speaking, hearing, breathing, seeing, thinking, remembering, learning or working.

Services Provided:

- Gain access to services, programs, benefits and information
- Improve skills at living independently
- Improve access to the community
- Find answers to questions regarding disability rights, accessibility, transportation, benefits, housing, employment, healthcare, equipment and personal assistance
- Advocacy
- Assistive Technology

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Santa Cruz County

P.O. Box 360
Santa Cruz , CA 95061
(831) 427-8020

(this is a message machine where calls will be returned within 24 hours)
www.namisc.org

NAMI of Santa Cruz County is part of the grass-roots, non-profit, national NAMI organization founded in 1979 by family members of people with mental illness to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness through support and information.

Eligibility:

Anyone who has an interest in Mental illnesses. Mental illnesses can include Autism Spectrum Disorders, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Borderline Personality Disorder, Dissociative Disorders, Dual Diagnosis and Integrated Treatment of Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Disorder, Eating Disorders, Major Depression, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Panic Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder, Schizophrenia, Seasonal Affective Disorder, Suicide, and Tourette's Syndrome.

Services Provided:

- Information and referral services
- Support groups
- Classes on mental illness for family members and clients
- Educational meetings
- Networking opportunities
- Advocacy

Balance4Kids
4500 Soquel Drive
Soquel, CA 95073
(831) 464-8669
www.balance4kids.org

The BALANCE organization addresses the needs of students with severe disabilities in a collaborative model with private and public organizations, parents and public schools working together. Individuals will benefit from support in the areas of nutrition, respite services, educational therapies, and alternative education.

Eligibility:

- Any child or adult with a severe disability

Services Provided:

- Provides one-to-one instructional assistants for special-needs students from preschool to high school in the public schools
- Provides one-to-one in-home respite workers for special needs consumer from preschoolers to highschoolers.
- KidQuest program
- Health Enhancement Therapy
- Educational Therapy
- Therapies that support learning in the areas of multiple intelligences.
- Community Life

Easter Seals Central California

9010 Soquel Drive
Aptos, CA 95003
(831) 684-2166

www.centralcal.easterseals.com

Easter Seals provides services to children and adults with disabilities and other special needs, and support to their families.

Eligibility:

- Any child or adult with a disability

Services Provided:

- Camp Harmon (ages 8-62)
- Respite Services (any age)
- Educational Services (school age)
- Wide Awakes (18 yrs and over)
- Early Intervention Assistance Program

Special Needs Information, Referrals and Services

Crisis Intervention

Parental Stress Hot Line

24 hours, 7 days a week (Parents Center)

(831) 426-7322

(831) 724-2879

Youth Services Crisis Hotline

24 hours, 7 days a week

(831) 425-0771

(831) 728-2226

Healthcare and Specific Disability Information

Children's Mental Health

Mental Health services for children covered by MediCal or referred by another public agency

(831) 454-4900

(831) 763-8990

www.santacruzhealth.org

Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Information and referral on resources for blind children

(831) 458-9766

413 Laurel St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Field Public Health Nursing

Serves teen parents; families with premature babies, drug/alcohol exposed babies, at risk children

(831) 454-4040

Jacob's Heart Children's Cancer Association

(831) 477-0690

2007 Freedom Blvd. Freedom, CA 95019

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford

Parent Medical Information and Referral Hotline

(800) 690-2282 Hotline

(650) 497-8000

725 Welsh Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94304

Pediatric Therapy Center

Pediatric Therapy Center uses a team approach that combines the knowledge and creativity of Occupational, Speech-Language and Physical Therapists to meet each child's specific therapy needs.

8050 Soquel Dr. Suites A-B, Aptos, CA 95003

(831) 684-1804

<http://ptc-sc.com/contact-us.html>

Special Needs Information and Advocacy

Area Developmental Disabilities Board VII

Advocacy for children and adults with developmental disabilities

(408) 324-2106

www.scdd.ca.gov

California State Department of Education Procedural Safeguards Referral Service

Answers questions concerning Special Education legal procedures

(800) 926-0648

www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se

Community Alliance for Special Education (CASE)

Provides legal support, representation, technical consultations and training to parents concerning special education services

(415) 431-2285

www.caseadvocacy.org

Disability Rights California

Protects the legal, civil and service rights of individuals with developmental or mental disabilities through a variety of advocacy services

(510) 267-1200

www.disabilityrightscalifornia.org

Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)

General information concerning special education in the area

North Santa Cruz County

(831) 464-5677

Pajaro Valley Unified School District

(831) 786-2130

Childcare/Respite

Balance 4 Kids

Provides respite through San Andreas Regional Center authorization.
(831) 464-8669
4500 Soquel Dr. Soquel, CA 95073
www.balance4kids.org

Child Development Resource Center/Childcare Switchboard

Referrals for childcare in Santa Cruz County
(831) 466-5820 or (831) 724-2997 ext. 210

Easter Seals of Central California

Provides respite services authorized through San Andreas Regional Center. Services for Non-SARC clients are available on a paid basis
(831) 684-2166
<http://centralcal.easterseals.com>

Transportation

Lift Line

Low cost transportation within Santa Cruz County for the disabled
(831) 688-9663 OR (831) 425-1558

Red Cross

Transportation to Santa Clara County for medical appointments for the disabled. Call two weeks in advance.
(831) 462-2881 ext. 11

Recreation

Santa Cruz Adaptive Yoga Project

Adaptive Yoga is a class appropriate for most students regardless of their condition.
1307 Seabright Avenue, Santa Cruz
(831) 423-9642 or yogaforspecialneeds@gmail.com

Camping Unlimited

A recreational-educational organization serving children and adults who have developmental disabilities
(510) 222-6662
www.campingunlimited.com

Recreation (continued)

Dance Center

Dance classes for students with Special Needs

(831) 475-5032

www.dancenter.com

Music Together

Music and movement for infants, pre-schoolers and their parents

(831) 462-5195

Dragon Slayers

Animal therapy program for physically challenged children and adults

(831) 688-6699

Easter Seals Camp Harmon

16403 Hwy 9, Boulder Creek, CA 95006

(831) 684-2166 ext. 107 Camping Services Office

(831) 338-3383 Phone (Summer)

Monterey Bay Horsemanship and Therapeutic Center

Therapeutic riding for individuals with disabilities

(831) 761-1142

www.mbhorsecenter.com

Ride A Wave

Surfing for individuals with special needs

(831) 239-3672

Shared Adventures

Recreational activities in the community for children and adults with special needs

(831) 459-7210

www.sharedadventures.com

Santa Cruz County Stars

Santa Cruz County Stars program is part of a national soccer program created to train young people with disabilities in a caring coaching environment.

Daryl von Haunalter at running247@ix.netcom.com

<http://www.sccysl.org/stars.html>

Via West Campus (formerly Camp Costanoan)

Via West Campus offers year-round day and residential program that gives adults and children, ages 5 and older, with physical and/or developmental disabilities and special needs a chance to learn and grow amid fresh air and scenic surroundings.

(408) 243-7861

www.viaservices.org

Kid Quest/Club Quest (Balance 4 Kids program)

Provides after school program and recreational outings in the community like movies, beach, swimming, art, etc. Please contact for more detailed information regarding schedules and fees. You may use respite hours or pay privately.

831- 421-9159

www.balance4kids.org/

Young Artists Studios

831-459-7210

www.sharedadventures.org/yas

Independent Living Services

Department of Rehabilitation

The California Department of Rehabilitation works in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independent living and equality for individuals with disabilities.

(916) 324-1313

<http://www.rehab.cahwnet.gov/>

Hope Services

Hope is an organization developed by parents of children with special needs to help people with developmental disabilities live and participate in their communities.

220 Lincoln St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(831) 421-9900

www.hopeservices.org

Independent Living Services (continued)

Imagine Supported Living Services

Imagine provides supported living and supported employment services to adults with developmental disabilities in Santa Cruz County.

1395 41st Ave., Suite A

Capitola, CA 95010

Phone: (831) 464-8355

www.imaginesls.org

Community Life

A program in BALANCE4Kids

Community Life is dedicated to advancing community support and opportunities for people with disabilities.

4633 Soquel Dr., Suite #1, Soquel, CA 95073

831.600.7778

www.communitylifeservices.org

Monarch Independent Living

<http://monarchils.com>

Housing

Housing Choices Coalition

Educating, Advocating and Creating Housing Opportunities for people with Developmental Disabilities

21 Brennan Street, Suite 18, Watsonville, CA 95076

Phone: (831) 722-3955

www.housingchoices.com

Housing Authority of Santa Cruz County

provides information regarding rental subsidies and affordable housing for low-income families, seniors and persons with disabilities living in Santa Cruz County

Telephone: 831-454-9455

Website: www.hacosantacruz.org

Support Groups

All Disabilities Parent Support Group (SPIN affiliate)

For any parent of a child with any type of disability including medical, physical, developmental, learning, neurobehavioral, and mental health disabilities

Nancy Winans (831) 423-7713

Autism/Aspergers Support Group (SPIN affiliate)

Contact SPIN (831) 423-7713 for more info.

Divorced Fathers Network

Kerry McCormick (831) 234-5578

www.divorcedfathers.com

Domestic Violence Support Group

English and Spanish groups

Walnut Avenue Women's Center

www.wawc.org (831) 426-3062

Women's Crisis Support~Defensa de Mujeres

www.wcs-ddm.org (831) 722-4532 or (831) 425-4030

Spanish Down Syndrome Support Group (SPIN affiliate)

Elizabeth Chavez (831) 722-2800

Early Start Support Groups through Special Connections

English and Spanish language groups

Leslie Burnham (831) 464-0669

Facilitated Communication Support Group

Parents of students receiving facilitated communication instruction

Email webweaver@skyhighway.com for more info.

Family Partnership

Parents of Children's Mental Health clients, English and Spanish language groups

Melody (831) 454-4961

Grupo Renacer

Spanish language group for all disabilities

Marisella Padilla (831) 763-2620

Hospice Caring Project of Santa Cruz County

Issues concerning death and dying in the family

Parent and children's groups, English and Spanish groups

(831) 430-3000

Family Resource Centers

Davenport Resource Center

provides support and education not limited to, but primarily in the Davenport area.

100 Church St., Davenport, CA. 95017
(831) 425-8115

Familia Center

provides support and education not limited to, but primarily in the lower Ocean/Beach Flats area of Santa Cruz.

711 East Cliff Dr., Santa Cruz, CA. 95060
(831)423-5747

www.familiacenter.org

Live Oak Family Resource Center

provides support and education not limited to, but primarily in the Live Oak area of Santa Cruz.

1740 17th Ave. Santa Cruz, CA 95062
(831) 476-7284

www.communitybridges.org/liveoak.htm

La Manzana Community Resources

provides support and education not limited to, but primarily in the Watsonville area.

521 Main St., Watsonville, CA. 95076
(831) 724-2997

www.communitybridges.org/manzana.htm

Mountain Community Resource Center

provides support and education not limited to, but primarily in the San Lorenzo Valley area.

6134 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018
P.O. Box 105 Ben Lomond, CA. 95005
(831) 336-6600

www.communitybridges.org/mountaincommunity.htm

Walnut Avenue Women's Center

provides education, support and resources for women and their children in domestic violence.

303 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 426-3062 OR Crisis Hotline (866) 269-2559

<http://wawc.org>

Other Community Resources and Services

Beach Flats Community Center

Parent information and children's services
(831)426-8232

California Poison Control System

(800) 876-4766 or (800) 222-1222 24hrs. Hotline

Child Development Division of Community Bridges

Affordable, safe, and supportive childcare centers
(831) 454-9920

Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP)

Preventative health care for children of low-income families or in fostercare
(831) 454-2560
(831) 763-8900

Children's Health Clinic

Healthcare for children of low-income families
(831) 454-4100
(831) 763-8400

Children's Hospice & Palliative Care Coalition

work with children's hospitals, home health agencies, hospices and community- based organizations and the State of California to promote policies and all-inclusive care programs that meet the complex medical, emotional, social, and practical needs of families who are experiencing great loss.
(831) 763-3070
(831) 430-3000

Dientes

Low cost dental care, must income qualify
(831) 459-9211

Divorced Fathers Network

Information, support and referral on co-parenting issues
(408) 416-7470

Families in Transition

Assists in locating housing for families

(831)458-7125

Headstart and Early Headstart

Preschool opportunities for low income, at risk children

(831) 688-3802

First 5 Santa Cruz

First 5 Santa Cruz County invests in health, early learning and family support to promote optimal development of Santa Cruz County children.

(831) 465-2217

Live Oak Child Development Programs

Preschool opportunities for low income, at risk children

(831) 462-1116

MediCruz

Indegent healthcare

(831) 454-4070

(831) 763-8033

Pajaro Valley Shelter Services

Temporary housing and shelter for families

(831)728-5649

Parents Center

Provides counseling service for children and their families

(831)426-7322

(831)724-2879

Planned Parenthood

Health care, immunizations

(831) 426-5550

(831) 724-7525

Salud Para La Gente

Health care, immunizations

(831) 728-0222

Santa Cruz County Human Resources Agency

Services for low income families

(831)454-4165

(831) 763-8500

Survivors Healing Center

Education, information, referral, services and support for adults and youth survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

(831) 423-7601

Victims of Crime Resource Center

Information, referral and assistance for victims of violent crimes (e.g. domestic violence)

(800) 842-8467

Women Infants and Children (WIC)

Nutritional Program

Offers supplemental food and nutritional education for women with children under 5 years old. Must income qualify

(831) 722-7121

(831) 426-3911

Women's Crisis Support~Defensa de Mujeres

1(888) 900-4232 Crisis hotline

(831) 722-4532

(831) 425-4030

Youth Services

offers support and counseling services to adolescents, teens and their families using strategies that are personalized to meet the needs of the youth and their families.

709 Mission St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(831) 429-8350

241 East Lake Ave., Watsonville, CA 95076

(831) 688-8856

www.scccc.org/youth-services

Websites

Access Santa Cruz County www.scaccessguide.com
Resource guide for people with special needs & physical challenges

American Society for Deaf Children: www.deafchildren.org

American Foundation for the Blind: www.afb.org

Assistive Technology (AT) Network: www.atnet.org

Autism Society of America: www.autism-society.org

Balance 4 Kids: www.balance4kids.org
support in the areas of nutrition, educational therapies, and alternative education.

Children's Disabilities Information: www.childrensdisabilities.info

Choices for Learning <http://choices4learning.com/> &
<http://choices4learning.com/support-for-learning/support-for-special-needs/>

Information on all local schools, community activities, special needs resources, differentiated learning materials, and links to national resources for all learners

ECEZero2Three <http://ecezero2three.com>

Information on current issues as they relate to child development; pediatrics; health, safety and nutrition; feeding; special needs, and working with families.

Families for Early Autism Treatment: www.feat.org
FEAT is a non-profit organization of parents, family members, and treatment professionals dedicated to providing best outcome Education, Advocacy and Support for the Northern California Autism Community

Genetic and Rare Conditions.

University of Kansas Medical

Center: www.kumc.edu/gec/support
advocacy and support groups, information on genetic conditions /birth defects for professionals, educators, and individuals,

IDEA Law:	http://idea.ed.gov/
Learning Disabilities Online:	www.ldonline.org
National Center for Learning Disabilities:	www.nclld.org
The National Dissemination Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities:	www.nichcy.org
National Fathers Network:	www.fathersnetwork.org
Santa Cruz County Resources:	www.helpsc.org
Special Parents Information Network of Santa Cruz County:	www.spinsc.org
Parenting Special Needs:	www.specialchildren.about.com
Parents Helping Parents:	www.php.com
Wrightslaw <i>provides parents, advocates, educators, and attorneys with accurate, up-to-date information about special education law and advocacy</i>	www.wrightslaw.com