Autism Resource Guide for Children’s Hospital
Department of Psychology

Compiled by Jenna Rosen, B.A. & Caleb Lampert
Region 1: New Orleans

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations
• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management
• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*
• **Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder:** Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• **Behavior Management in ASD:** Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• **Verbal Behavior:** Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• **Special Topics:** Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  *Registration is required to attend all classes.

Social Skills Groups*
• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members.  *Registration is required to attend these groups.

ABA Intervention
• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at www.chnola.org/autism for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
**Specialized Schools**

**Chartwell Center**  
1225 Magazine St.  
New Orleans, LA 70115  
504-899-2478  
504-252-9233  
[www.chartwellcenter.us](http://www.chartwellcenter.us)  

**St. Michael Special School**  
1522 Chippewa St.  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
504-524-7285  
Note – Private, parochial school with classrooms where the student to teacher ratio does not exceed 1 teacher for 15 students. The school is designed to help students with major learning disabilities. Contains an elementary classroom for children age 6-16, vocational training for individuals 16-21, and a sheltered work activity (i.e., the Joy Center) for individuals who are over 21 years of age.

**Within Reach Center for Autism**  
3313 Jurgens St.  
Metairie, LA 70002  
504-231-6447  
www.WithinReachNOLA.com  
Note – This agency includes a preschool utilizing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) techniques.

**Raphael Academy**  
Mailing address: 517 Soraparu St., Suite 104  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
504-598-3227  
[www.raphaelacademy.org](http://www.raphaelacademy.org)  
Contact Person – Jacqueline Case, Director, jcase@raphaelacademy.org  
Note – Raphael Academy is a Waldorf inspired private school for children and youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities that may include, but are not restricted to Asperger’s Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD), Developmental Delay, ADD/ADHD and other conditions associated with intellectual disability. They also have a young adult program designed for individuals 21 and over with ASD.

**Holy Rosary Academy and High School**  
3368 Esplanade Ave.  
New Orleans, LA 70119  
504-482-7173  
[www.hra-hrhs.org](http://www.hra-hrhs.org)  
Note – Private, Catholic high school that also offers a specialized curriculum for students with learning differences.
The Therapeutic Interdisciplinary Language and Learning Program (TILL) at Crane Rehab Center
8300 Earhart Blvd., Suite 100
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-866-6990
www.cranerehab.com

Note - This program is a comprehensive early childhood program, serving children 2-5 years of age, that includes a team of pediatric specialists including a Speech Language Pathologist, an Applied Behavior Analyst and Psychologist, and an Occupational Therapist to promote appropriate language, cognitive, social, adaptive, and motor development in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The agency also offers Social Skills groups for children ages 5-11.

Tutoring

Melissa V. Bologna
504-559-5568

Note – Ms. Bologna is a former teacher from Holy Rosary Academy who provides tutoring on a part-time basis. She works after school Thursday and Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday. She has a degree in education and twelve years of teaching experience, including six years with children with learning differences, including Autism.

Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps – Orleans, St. Bernard, and Plaquemines Parishes
SPOE: Easter Seals of Louisiana
1010 Common St., Suite 2000
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-595-3408
877-595-3408 (toll free)
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person - Jessica Rodrigue, Program Director (jrodrigue@laeasterseals.com)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Early Steps – Jefferson Parish
SPOE: Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
1321 26th St.
Kenner, LA 70026
504-496-0165
866-296-0718 (toll free)
Contact Person - Brian Jakes Jr., Program Manager (brian.jakes2@selahec.org)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Metropolitan Human Services District (MHSD) (serves Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes)
1010 Common St., 5th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-599-0245
1-800-899-2975
Or
Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority (serves Jefferson Parish)
3610 S. I-10 Service Rd. W.
Metairie, LA 70001
504-838-5357
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137
Note – OCDD provides a range of services for individuals with developmental disabilities (including Autism Spectrum Disorders) such as individual and family support, cash subsidies, vocational training, and supported living.

Center for the Advancement of Early Relationships (CAER)
Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority
5001 Westbank Expressway
Marrero, LA 70072
504-349-8755
Contact Persons- Byron Hammer, M.D., Joaniko Kohchi, LCSW-BACS, Katherine Aucoin, Ph.D., Psychologist
Note – This program provides intervention and support services for children 0-5 years of age who reside in Jefferson Parish. Services include evaluations, medication management, parent education groups, individual and family therapy, crisis intervention, school observations, and IEP support and advocacy.

Tulane Infant Mental Health Services (TIMHS)
Physical Address:
131 South Robertson Ave, 14th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112

Mailing Address:
1430 Tulane Ave., #8055
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-988-9184
Note – This program provides assessment, treatment, and case management for children 0-6 years of age and their families. Families must reside in Orleans Parish and be Medicaid eligible in order to access services through this agency.
Treatment Options - Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

Agencies familiar with ASDs

Mercy Family Center
110 Veterans Blvd., Suite 440
Metairie, LA 70005
504-838-8283
www.mercyfamilycenter.com
Note – Provides social skills groups. Accepts Medicaid.

Developmental Neuropsychiatric Program (DNP)
Outpatient Services and Inpatient Services
St. Bernard Behavioral Health Center
7407 St. Bernard Highway, Suite A
Arabi, LA 70032
504-620-2867
Note – This program is a community treatment program that provides outpatient services to individuals 2-22 years of age who are dually diagnosed with a developmental disability and a psychiatric disorder and who reside in the greater New Orleans area (including Jefferson Parish). The program provides intensive community-based, specialized, comprehensive, and empirically driven behavioral stabilization, maintenance, rehabilitation and treatment. The DNP also provides inpatient services for youth 13-17 years of age who are dually diagnosed with a developmental disability and serious psychiatric disorder who have not responded to other types of mental health treatment.

Tulane Center for Autism and Related Disorders (T-CARD)
c/o Pediatric Specialty Clinics
1415 Tulane Ave.
HC-18
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-988-3533
Note – As of December 2012, this program provides interdisciplinary diagnostic evaluations for children and accepts Medicaid. They plan to offer treatment services using ABA approaches in the future.

Family Behavioral Health Center (2 Locations)
145 Robert E. Lee, Suite 145
New Orleans, LA 70124
(504) 309-4924
www.facebook.com/familybhc
www.familybhc.com
2nd Location: 4050 Lonesome Road, Suite A
Mandeville, LA 70448
(985) 246-2600
This agency offers autism evaluations, social skills groups, and individual and family therapy. They offer reduced rate for evaluations of individuals with Medicaid.

Private Psychologists familiar with ASDs
Terry Johnson, Ph.D.
3350 Ridgelake Dr., Suite 272
Metairie, Louisiana 70002
504-874-3190
www.terryjohnsonphd.com
Stacey Gengel, Ph.D.
644 N. Carrollton Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70119
504-220-3039
www.staceygengelphd.com
Note – Areas of specialty include therapy with children and families, Autism Spectrum Disorders, and evaluation of ASDs. Fee for service.

Claire Peebles, Ph.D.
Behavioral Health and Human Development Center
4517 Lorino St.
Metairie, LA 70006
504-324-8739
http://clairepeebles.com/
Note – Provides evaluation and behavioral management for children with ASDs. Fee for service although accepts some insurance plans.

Laurie Olson, Ph.D.
3350 Ridgelake Dr. Suite 274
Metairie, LA 70002
504-400-9218
lolsonphd@gmail.com
www.lolsonphd.com
Note – Provides therapy to children as well as support and consultation to parents. Psychological evaluations are also available. Fee for service although accepts some insurance plans.

Kristin Callahan, Ph.D.
137 N. Clark St.
New Orleans, LA 70119
504-301-8669
dr.kristincallahan@gmail.com
www.drkristincallahan.com
Note – Provides evaluation and treatment for young children (0-5), with and without developmental disabilities such as ASDs. Fee for service.

APS – Assessment & Psychological Services – Multiple Locations
Metairie: 504-299-3917
Baton Rouge: 225-769-8335
Covington: 985-893-3224
Thibodaux: 985-448-0535
This agency primarily provides evaluations for ASD, Learning Disorders, and ADHD. They also provide therapy services and consultation.
www.APSLouisiana.com

Psychiatrists familiar with ASDs

Charles Coleman, M.D.
Children’s Hospital
Department of Psychology – Calhoun Campus
935 Calhoun St.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-896-7272
Note – Accepts Medicaid and private insurance.

Jason Wuttke, M.D.
Pelts, Kirkhart, and Associates
1539 Jackson Ave.
Suite 300
New Orleans, LA 70130
504-581-3933
Note – Private practice.

Jessica Hof, M.D.
3705 Coliseum St.
New Orleans, LA 70115
504-810-7590
Note – Private practice.

Morgan Feibelman, M.D.
400 Poydras, Suite 1780
New Orleans, LA 70130
504-322-3837
Dr.Morgan@nolapsychiatry.com
Note – Private practice.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

The Art in Me, A Center for Behavior Therapy and Counseling
512 Metairie Road
Metairie, LA 70005
504-481-7359
artinmenola@artinmenola.com
Note – This agency provides personalized Applied Behavior Analysis for individuals with autism, parent consultation, social skills training, informational workshops. Contact: Mandy Parten, BCBA or Melissa Thibodaux, BCBA.

Autism Spectrum Therapies
Program Supervisor – Rebecca Mandal-Blasio, Ph.D.
504-239-6707
888-856-4541 (toll free)
rmandalblasio@autismtherapies.com
www.autismtherapies.com
Note - This agency provides in-home ABA services in the Greater New Orleans area. They provide early intervention, social skills training, teen and adult programs, and positive behavioral support in the home, school, and community. The agency also provides social skills classes where siblings and typical peers are welcome to join for free. The agency was founded in 2001 by clinical psychologist autism specialists in California, and has recently begun services in Louisiana.
Within Reach Center for Autism
3313 Jurgens St.
Metairie, LA 70002
504-231-6447
www.WithinReachNOLA.com
Note – This agency provides individual therapy using ABA techniques, assessment using the Assessment of Basic Learning and Language Skills (ABLLS) to guide therapy, parent consultations, and behavior evaluations. This agency also includes a preschool utilizing Applied Behavior Analysis.

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
Note – This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Kelly Spears, Inc.
547 Baronne St., Apt. 402
New Orleans, LA 70113
845-667-2077
Note – private speech language pathologist who is certified in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).

The Behavior Guru, LLC
3110 Magazine St., # 348
New Orleans, LA 70115
504-345-8222
mindy@thebehaviorguru.com
www.thebehaviorguru.com
Note - The Behavior Guru LLC provides applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy to individuals diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum and beyond. We service the greater New Orleans area from ages 0+. Services include functional behavior assessments, behavior intervention plans, individual consultations, direct intervention, social skills instruction, parent/family training, teacher training, IEP attendance, and workshops. For more information please contact Mindy Rothstein, PhD, BCBA-D, CEO and Founder.

The Therapeutic Interdisciplinary Language and Learning Program (TILL) at Crane Rehab Center
8300 Earhart Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-866-6990
www.cranerehab.com
Note - This program is a comprehensive early childhood program, serving children 2-5 years of age, that includes a team of pediatric specialists including a Speech Language Pathologist, an Applied Behavior Analyst and Psychologist, and an Occupational Therapist to promote appropriate language, cognitive, social, adaptive, and motor development in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com
Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Social Skills Groups

Asperger’s Group
Ochsner Clinic
Department of Psychiatry
1514 Jefferson Highway
New Orleans, LA 70121
504-842-5998
Note – A group for boys in grades 3-6 who have Asperger’s Disorder. Group is led by Milton W. Anderson, M.D. and focuses on social skills and friendship skills. Call for schedule.

Asperger’s Group for Boys ages 7-13
Ochsner Clinic
Department of Psychiatry
1514 Jefferson Highway
New Orleans, LA 70121
504-842-5998
Note: A group for boys ages 7-13 with Asperger’s Disorder having developmental and related issues. Focus on social skills, self-esteem, relationships, behavior, and emotional development. Group is led by Marvin Clifford, Ph.D., LCSW and meets Tuesdays 4-5 PM.

Creating New Connections
504-231-8981
http://creatingnewconnections.com
E-mail – chrstine@creatingnewconnections.com
Note – Christine Tilley is a therapist with ABA experience who is conducting social and recreational activities for children with ASDs. She also provides individualized ABA therapy.
Contact: Christine Tilley

Adolescent Social Skills Group
504-581-3933
1539 Jackson Ave. Suite 300 in New Orleans, LA
$50 per group
Call Nancy Timm, LCSW-BACS
Note – Ms. Timm conducts social skills groups on a periodic basis for adolescents with ASDs and other conditions. Call to indicate interest and/or determine current group schedule.

Family Behavioral Health Center (2 Locations)
145 Robert E. Lee, Suite 145
New Orleans, LA 70124
(504) 309-4924
www.facebook.com/familybhc
www.familybhc.com
2nd Location: 4050 Lonesome Road, Suite A
Mandeville, LA 70448
(985) 246-2600
This agency offers autism evaluations, social skills groups, and individual and family therapy. The agency accepts most private insurance and Medicaid for therapy. They offer reduced rate for evaluations of individuals with Medicaid.

**Dentistry**

Children’s Hospital Dental Clinic  
200 Henry Clay Ave., Suite 2103  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
504-352-8038

Stephen C. Holmes, DDS  
3715 Prytania Street, Suite 380  
New Orleans, LA 70115  
504-896-7435  
[www.uptownpediatricdentistry.com](http://www.uptownpediatricdentistry.com)

**Speech Therapy Resources**

Speech and Hearing Department at Children's Hospital  
200 Henry Clay Ave.  
New Orleans, LA. 70118  
504-896-9551  
Note- Accepts Medicaid and other insurances.

New Orleans Speech and Hearing Center  
1636 Toledano St.  
New Orleans, LA. 70115  
504-897-2606  
Note- Accepts Medicaid and other insurances.

New Orleans Speech and Hearing Center - East  
5640 Read Blvd., Suite 460  
New Orleans, LA 70127  
504-897-2606  
Note- Accepts Medicaid and other insurances.

Simply Speaking, LLC  
504-905-3529  
Contact – Liz Knoth

**Occupational Therapy Resources**

Occupational Therapy Department at Children's Hospital  
200 Henry Clay Ave.  
New Orleans, LA. 70118  
504-896-9540  
Note- Accepts Medicaid and other insurances.
Crane Rehab Center
8300 Earhart Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-866-6990
Note – This agency has activities geared specifically for children with autism. Also has summer programming (Speech-N-Motion program). Does not accept Medicaid but does accept other insurances.

Integrative Touch Pediatric Occupational Therapy
4899 Westbank Expressway, Suite D
Marrero, LA 70072
504-494-8339
504-417-0281
Contact: Tammi Lavin, LOTR, owner
Note – Provides occupational therapy services designed for children with various disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorders, sensory issues, Down Syndrome, and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Also provides summer camp opportunities.

Therapeutic Learning Center
4000 West Esplanade Ave.
Metairie, LA 70002
504-364-4408
www.tlcnola.com
tlcnola13@gmail.com
Contact: Jenny Domiano, MOT, LOTR and Brooke Weinstein, OTD, LOTR
Note – This is an occupational therapy clinic that provides a number of services including a handwriting clinic, a picky eaters club, developmental classes, pre-k prep classes, social skills groups, and adapted dance and yoga classes.

Physical Therapy Resources

Physical Therapy Department at Children's Hospital
200 Henry Clay Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504- 896-9557
Note- Accepts Medicaid and other insurances.

Crane Rehab Center
8300 Earhart Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-866-6990

Summer Camp Resources

Speech-n- Motion Summer Camp at Crane Rehab Center
8300 Earhart Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-866-6990
The Creative Learning Center of Louisiana
2432 General Ogden St.
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-975-7961
sheilaealey@yahoo.com
Contact: Sheila Ealey
Note- age range of 4-14 for children with a primary diagnosis of Autism.

Integrative Touch Pediatric Occupational Therapy
4899 Westbank Expressway, Suite D
Marrero, LA 70072
504-494-8339
504-417-0281
Contact: Tammi Lavin, LOTR, owner
Note – Provides summer opportunities including a multi-sensory summer camp and Writing Camp

Recreation and Summer Camp Guides
You can find recreation and summer camp guides for children with special needs on the following websites:
www.autism-society.org/chapter168
Note – The guide will be under the heading “Documents”

Note – Sponsored in part by Children’s Hospital and includes information regarding summer camps and other recreational opportunities for children with special needs

Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Orleans Parish
Central City Mental Health Center-
2221 Philip Street
New Orleans, LA 70113
Phone: 504-568-6650
Desire/Florida Counseling Center
3400 Florida Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70117
Phone: 504-942-8345
Fax: 504-942-8270
Chartres-Pontchartrain Mental Health Center
719 Elysian Fields
New Orleans, LA 70117
Phone: 504-942-8101
Fax: 504-942-8242
New Orleans Mental Health Center
3100 General DeGaulle Drive
New Orleans, LA 70114-6699
Phone: 504-361-6211
Fax: 504-361-6451
Jefferson Parish
East Jefferson Mental Health Center
3101 W. Napoleon Avenue, Suite 1000
Metairie, LA 70001
Phone: (504) 838-5257
Fax: (504) 838-5414
West Jefferson Mental Health Center
5001 Westbank Expressway
Marrero, LA 70072
Phone: 504-349-8706
Fax: 504-349-8703

Other Mental Health Agencies that Accept Medicaid

The Children's Bureau
400 Lafayette St. Ste. 140
New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: 504-525-2366
Note – This agency provides a range of services and many services are free.

Daughters of Charity
3201 S. Carrollton Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70118
General Phone: 504-207-3060.
Behavioral Health Phone: 504-207-3064
Note – This agency accepts Medicaid and works with children with developmental delays, learning or behavior problems, or difficulties in social or emotional functioning.

LSU Behavioral Science Center – Harris Center for Infant Mental Health
3450 Chestnut Street
New Orleans, LA 70115
Phone: 504-897-8558
This agency specializes in working with young children although they also see adolescents and adults.

Tulane Infant Mental Health Services (TIMHS)
Physical Address: Mailing Address:
131 South Robertson Ave, 14th Floor 1430 Tulane Ave., #8055
New Orleans, LA. 70112 New Orleans, LA 70112
504-988-9184
Note – This program provides assessment, treatment, and case management for children 0-6 years of age and their families. Families must reside in Orleans Parish and be Medicaid eligible in order to access services through this agency.

Family Behavioral Health Center (2 Locations)
145 Robert E. Lee, Suite 145 2nd Location: 4050 Lonesome Road, Suite A
New Orleans, LA 70124 Mandeville, LA 70448
(504) 309-4924 (985) 246-2600
www.facebook.com/familybhc
www.familybhc.com
Note – This agency provides a range of services including evaluation for concerns about Autism Spectrum Disorders, a group therapy program related to emotion regulation, and a social thinking group for children with ASDs and other social difficulties. Medicaid is accepted for some therapy services.

Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups/Specialized Social Opportunities

Tuesday Morning Parent Support Group
Meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 9:30-11 AM at 3350 Ridgelake Drive in Metairie, LA, second floor conference room, # 262.
The group is led by Laurie Olson, Ph.D., psychologist in private practice. Contact Dr. Olson at 504-400-9218 orolsonphd@gmail.com for more information.

The Life Club – Asperger’s Support Group
A support group and social skills club for adults 18-28 years of age with Asperger Disorder. Meets twice a month on Wednesday nights in Metairie, LA.
Contact mbanaj@lsuhsc.edu for additional information.

ABLE to Learn Parent Support Group
443 Canal St.
New Orleans, LA
504-866-4983 – Kelly Fischer - for more information
Note – This support group meets the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8 PM and is designed for parents of children with disabilities (not only Autism Spectrum Disorders).

T.O.T.A.L (Teaching Ours Activities of Living)
A support group for parents and caregivers of children and adults diagnosed with Autism and Developmental Disabilities. Meets the third Saturday each month at 2 PM inside Contractor’s Advocate at 4703 Downman Road in New Orleans, LA.
Contact Tiffany Wimberly at 504-272-1740 or pinkheaven1@hotmail.com for more information.

Sibling Support Group
2500 Elizabeth St.
Metairie, LA 70003
504-905-3529
Run by Liz Knoth on the second Tuesday of every month from 5:15 to 6:45. Cost is $20 per child ($15 per each additional sibling), which includes pizza.

Sibshops NOLA
504-943-0343
Contact: Monica Roberts
A program just for brothers and sisters of kids with special needs that meets periodically. Registration fee is $15. Siblings must be residents of Orleans, Plaquemines, or St. Bernard Parishes.

Families Helping Families of Southeast Louisiana, Inc.
Region I - serving parishes of Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard
Carol Calix, Executive Director
7240 Crowder Blvd. Suite 202
New Orleans, LA 70122
504-943-0343 or 877-243-7352 (toll free)
504-940-3242 Fax
Email: info@fhfjefferson.org
Website: www.fhfjefferson.org
Note – The mission of this agency is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services. This agency also provides referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries.

Families Helping Families of Jefferson, Inc.
Region X - serving Jefferson Parish
Mary Jacob , Executive Director
Spanish speaking staff – Laura Nata
201 Evans Road, Bldg. 1, Suite 100
Harahan, LA 70123
504-888-9111 or 800-766-7736 (toll free)
504-888-0246 Fax
Email: info@fhfjefferson.org
Website: www.fhfjefferson.org
Note – The mission of this agency is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services. This agency also provides referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries.

The Louisiana State Autism Chapter (LSAC): Offers support groups that meet monthly around the state, as well as information and referral services. LSAC provides information and training to parents, teachers, and other service providers.
Julie Bourgeois
4425 Annunciation Street
New Orleans, LA 70115
Phone: 1-800-955-3760
Fax: 1-504-896-9050
Website: http://www.lastateautism.org

Louisiana State Department of Education Autism Supervisor:
Contact: Robyn Hargrave, State Supervisor of Autism Services, Louisiana State Department of Education, Division of Education Improvement and Assistance
P.O. Box 94964
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4064
225-342-0520
Robyn.hargrave@la.gov
Note: This is someone parents, school system and advocates can contact regarding the education of students who have autism.

Greater New Orleans Chapter- Autism Society of America
2561 Ridgecrest Road
Marrero, LA 70072
504-348-8155
www.gnoasa.org
Services Offered: ASA Chapters, Information and Support

Pyramid Parent Training: Community and parent resource and advocacy center established by parents of children with disabilities. This organization offers expertise to parents and the traditionally underserved.
Pyramid Parent accomplishes this by providing information about special education and disability legislation through workshops, referrals, and one-to-one assistance.

Director: D.J. Markey
Phone: 1-504-899-1505
Fax: 1-504-899-1455
Email: info@pyramidparentcenter.org

Ochsner Health System Child Development Center (7 locations)
Rothschild Pediatric Center
4901 Veterans Blvd
Metairie, LA
504-887-1133
fax 504-888-1866
Note – Provides developmental evaluations in a wide range of areas to all children from infancy to adolescence. Also provides short-term individual and family counseling, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy. Autism may be treated depending on case and Medicaid is not accepted.

Champions of Greater New Orleans
A social, recreational, educational and support group for children and youth with physical and/or developmental disabilities.
P.O. Box 1114
Metairie, LA 70004
504-390-1995
championsofgno@yahoo.com

Elmwood Cheerleading Academy/Galaxy All Stars
1200 Clearview Parkway, Suite 1200
Harahan, LA 70123
504-733-1200
Contact Person: Raymond Williams
Note – Special needs cheerleading squad.

The Studio School of Dance
3225 Danny Park, Suite 201
Metairie, LA 70002
504-941-7345
www.thestudionola.com
Note – The studio offers a dance class called Twinkle Toes for young children with special needs.

The Miracle League of Greater New Orleans
The mission of the Miracle League is to promote the health and well-being of children with disabilities, provide opportunities for able-bodied children to learn about and interact with children with disabilities, and develop community awareness and support for the child athlete with disabilities through organized sports leagues. The vision of the program is to provide any disabled child, regardless of their level of disability, the opportunity to play league sports. Baseball season runs September through November and March through May with two age brackets (6-12 and 13-20). Soccer season runs January through February for 6-12 year-olds and September through October for 13-20 year-olds.
504-894-5415
www.gnomiracleleague.org
Contact Person: Gina Lorio, Executive Director, glorio@chnola.org
The Advocacy Center
8325 Oak Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/la
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

Reliable Community Alternatives
504-779-4740
5416 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Suite 310
Metairie, LA 70003
Note- an agency that provides personal care and respite services

Louisiana Rehabilitative Services
www.laworks.net/servicelocator.asp
Note: an agency focused on providing career services for individuals with disabilities.

Heart of Sailing
www.heartofsailing.org
Mission: Introduces sailing for free to children and adults with developmental disabilities, such as Autism

Let’s Play Foundation
505-885-0085
Equestrian Angels
504-452-1081
ken@equestrianangel.org
Mission: interactions with service ponies for therapeutic benefits

Art Therapy
Kate Lacour, MA, ATR-BC
914-844-5053
kate.lacour@gmail.com
www.katelacour.com
Note – Creative arts therapy for children on the Autistic spectrum.

Music Therapy
Contact: Jacqui Baron
985-788-1340
jacquibaron@yahoo.com

Thibodeaux School of Music
2436 Valence St.
New Orleans, LA 70115
504-717-1076
www.thibodeauxschoolofmusic.com
Note – Agency that offers a “Kindermusic” program, private lessons, and group classes.

The Prism Project of Greater NOLA
This is a performing arts recreational activity for children with special needs 6-14 years of age in Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes. The program is designed to help children with disabilities engage and develop socially as well as learn performing arts skills and intends to provide recreational opportunities for children with disabilities.
Contact – Alexandra Abend, program coordinator
Please contact Families Helping Families of Southeast Louisiana at 504-943-0343 for additional information.

Shadows for Life’s Journey
504-508-9007
Contact: Eureka Harris, case manager
shadowsforlifesjourney@hotmail.com
Note – This agency provides shadows for students who might require them to attend school.
Helpful Internet Resources used by Children’s Hospital

**Autism Speaks – Family Service Tool Kits**
Autism Speaks prints a number of tool kits covering different topics that are available online.

» Web: [www.autismspeaks.org/family-services](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services)

**Association for Science in Autism Treatment**
A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.

» Web: [www.asatonline.org](http://www.asatonline.org) Go to the “treatment” tab

**Autism Science Foundation**
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.

» Web: [www.atusimsciencefoundation.org](http://www.atusimsciencefoundation.org)

**National Autism Center**
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.


**Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC)**
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.

» Web: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html)

**Autism Society of America (ASA)**
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.

» Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
» Web: [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

**Organization for Autism Research**
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.

» Phone: 1-703-351-5031
» Web: [www.researchautism.org](http://www.researchautism.org)

**First Signs**
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.

» Phone: 1-978-346-4380
» Web: [www.firstsigns.org](http://www.firstsigns.org)
Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger's, and PDD
  » Web: www.aspergersyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)
  » Phone: 1-732-321-0880
  » Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services

**Autism Apps**


Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

**Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps**

http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps

A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

**Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities**

Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:

http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities

**Autism Society of America funding for iPads**


**Autism Care and Treatment Today!** (www.act-today.org)
The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 2: Baton Rouge

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations
• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management
• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*
• Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• Behavior Management in ASD: Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• Verbal Behavior: Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• Special Topics: Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  *Registration is required to attend all classes.

Social Skills Groups*
• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members. *Registration is required to attend these groups.

ABA Intervention
• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at www.chnola.org/autism for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Specialized Schools

Greater Baton Rouge Hope Academy
3650 O’Neal Lane, Suite A
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816
225-293-0141
www.HopeAcademyBR.org

Note – School serving students from Kindergarten through 8th grade. Also has a Functional Life Skills Lab designed for older special needs students not pursuing a high school diploma. Additionally, provides a small, specialized Limited Enrollment Class for students who require intensive intervention. The school also provides speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, direct behavior intervention utilizing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and provides extracurricular activities.

Ascension Parish School District
LeBlanc Special Services Center
611 North Burnside Avenue
Gonzales, LA 70737
(225) 621-2521 or (225) 621-2530

Note – Special Education Dept., faculty includes School Psychologists, Audiologists, OT/PT, Speech Pathologists, etc.

Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps-East/West Baton Rouge & Feliciana, Pointe Coupee, Iberville, & Ascension Parishes
SPOE: Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
4324 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., St. B-155
Baton Rouge, LA. 70816
225-925-2426
1-866-925-2426 (toll free)
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/

Contact Person- Brian Jakes Jr., Program Manager (brian.jakes2@slahec.org)

Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov

Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Capital Area Human Services District (serves Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Point Coupee, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana Parishes)
McMains Children’s Developmental Center
1805 College Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
225-922-9316
Director- Janet Ketcham
Note- multidisciplinary treatment center whose services include; medical, social services, psychological services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, assistive technology assessment, and educational therapy

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

LSU Psychological Services Center
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA
225-578-1494
Note - Applied Behavior Analysis therapy and consultation (3 appointments) for children with autism. Also have a summer class (6 hours a day). Children may be asked to participate in research projects.

The Emerge Center (formerly Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation)
7784 Innovation Park Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70820
225-343-4232
www.emergela.org
Note – This agency offers speech and language services, audiology services, early intervention, and discrete trial teaching (based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis). They also offer a multidisciplinary program to treat young children with autism spectrum disorder.

Access to Better Communication
768 Chevelle Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
225- 930-0208
www.accesstobettercommunication.com
Contact: Sheran L. Samuel, M.A., CCC-SLP Vicky Poston Roy, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Note – Treatment agency familiar with Relationship Development Intervention (RDI). Fee for service.

Neurotherapy Specialists
11140 North Harrells Ferry Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
225- 926-1838
www.neurotherapyspecialists.net
Contact: Stacy Levy
stephens77@yahoo.com
Note – Provides a range of services including speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, Relationship Development Intervention (RDI), and social skills groups.
Abilities Pediatric Therapy Services  
18268 Petroleum Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
225-292-4138  
www.abilitiesinfo.com  
This agency provides comprehensive pediatric services including Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Speech-Language therapy, Occupational therapy, Academic instruction, and social skills groups.

APS – Assessment & Psychological Services – Multiple Locations  
Metairie: 504-299-3917  
Baton Rouge: 225-769-8335  
Covington: 985-893-3224  
Thibodaux: 985-448-0535  
This agency primarily provides evaluations for ASD, Learning Disorders, and ADHD. They also provide therapy services and consultation.  
www.APSLouisiana.com

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)  
Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state  
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment  
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism  
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.  
www.rethinkautism.com

Behavioral Intervention Group  
Renee Guidry, M.A., BCBA  
Applied Behavioral Analysis/Verbal Behavior services to children  
Baton Rouge, LA  
rguidry@big-br.com  
http://www.big-br.com

Note- This agency provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for children with autism spectrum disorders. Their goal is to provide the skills, teaching environment, and learning opportunities necessary to improve the quality of life for each client. The agency offers both center-based and home-based ABA therapy services. Programs are personalized and adapted to each child’s specific needs.

Center for Autism & Related Disorders (CARD)  
9229 Bluebonnet Blvd. Suite B  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
info@centerforautism.com  
www.batonrouge.centerforautism.com

Note – Agency that provides in-home Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for children with autism spectrum disorders. They offer early intervention services as well as assessment and treatment of
challenging behaviors and language deficits. The agency was founded in 1990 by a clinical psychologist and is one of the largest autism treatment providers in the world.

Butterfly Effects  
www.ButterflyEffects.com  
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator  
(888) 880-9270  
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Abilities Pediatric Therapy Services  
18268 Petroleum Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
225-292-4138  
www.abilitiesinfo.com  
This agency provides comprehensive pediatric services including Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), Speech-Language therapy, Occupational therapy, Academic instruction, and social skills groups.

Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Ascension Parish  
Donaldsonville Mental Health Center  
P.O. Box 1725  
Gonzales, LA 70707  
Phone: 225-474-2007  
Fax: 225-474-2055

East Baton Rouge Parish  
Baton Rouge Mental Health Center (CAHSD)  
4615 Government Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821  
Phone: Admit 225-925-1909  
Fax: 225-925-1972  
Margaret Dumas Mental Health Center  
3843 Harding Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, LA 70807  
Phone: 225-359-9315  
Fax: 225-359-9326

Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups

Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge, Inc.  
Region II - serving parishes of East and West Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and Ascension  
Jamie Tindle, Executive Director  
2356 Drusilla Lane  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809  
225-216-7474 or 1-866-216-7474  
225-216-7977 Fax
Email: info@fhfgbr.org
Website: www.fhfgbr.org
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

**Ochsner Health System Child Development Center (3 locations)**
Baton Rouge Main Campus
9001 Summa Avenue
225-761-5555
800-999-3043
Note- Provides developmental evaluations in a wide range of areas to all children from infancy to adolescence. Also provide short-term individual and family counseling, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

**Louisiana Federation for Families for Children’s Mental Health**: Provides free family support, advocacy services and mentoring for families and caregivers of children that have developmental disabilities.
5627 Superior Drive Suite A2
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
Phone: 225-293-3508

**The Baton Rouge Autism Society**
12854 Arlingford Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70815
225-273-3984
Email: mjhebert654@earthlink.net
Web: www.lastateautism.org
Note- a support group for families and persons affected by autism.

**Parents and Professionals for Exceptional Progress (PEP):** Coalition of parents and health professionals interested in various treatments for children with sensory impairments.
233 Summer Ridge Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
Phone: 225-755-2304
Website: http://pep-usa.org/

**The Advocacy Center**
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/la
advocacymcenter@advocacyla.org
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

**Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition**
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

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A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
  » Web: www.asatonline.org Go to the “treatment” tab

Autism Science Foundation
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
  » Web: www.autismsciencefoundation.org

National Autism Center
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.

Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC)
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.
  » Web: www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html

Autism Society of America (ASA)
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
  » Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
  » Web: www.autism-society.org
**Organization for Autism Research**
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.

» Phone: 1-703-351-5031
» Web: [www.researchautism.org](http://www.researchautism.org)

**First Signs**
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.

» Phone: 1-978-346-4380
» Web: [www.firstsigns.org](http://www.firstsigns.org)

**Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger's, and PDD**
» Web: [www.aspergersyndrome.org](http://www.aspergersyndrome.org)

**Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)**
» Phone: 1-732-321-0880
» Web: [http://www.aspennj.org/](http://www.aspennj.org/)

**Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services**

**Autism Apps**

Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

**Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps**
[http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps](http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps)

A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

**Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities**
Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:

[http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities)

**Autism Society of America funding for iPads**
Autism Care and Treatment Today! (www.act-today.org)
The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 3: Thibodaux

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management

• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*

• **Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder:** Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• **Behavior Management in ASD:** Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• **Verbal Behavior:** Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• **Special Topics:** Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  *Registration is required to attend all classes.*

Social Skills Groups*

• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members.  *Registration is required to attend these groups.*

ABA Intervention

• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at [www.chnola.org/autism](http://www.chnola.org/autism) for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps-Assumption, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Terrebonne, Lafourche, & St. Mary Parishes
SPOE: Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center
602 Parish Rd.
Thibodaux, LA. 70301
985-447-6550
1-866-891-9044
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person- Brian Jakes Jr., Program Manager (brian.jakes2@selahec.org)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority (serves Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary, and Terrebonne Parishes)
1000 Plantation Rd., Suite E
Thibodaux, LA. 70301
985-449-5167
1-800-861-0241
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

McMains Children’s Developmental Center (Assumption and St. James Parish)
1805 College Drive
Baton Rouge, LA. 70808
225-922-9316
Director- Janet Ketcham
Note- multidisciplinary treatment center whose services include; medical, social services, psychological services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, assistive technology assessment, and educational therapy.

Center for Pediatric Therapy
270 Highway 3185
Thibodaux, LA 70301
985-449-0944
http://therapyforpeds.com
Note – This agency provides speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy to children. They are also starting a support group for parents of children with autism spectrum disorders. They also
offer a developmental play group, a play group for pre-schoolers, a social skills group for school-age children (Fantastic Friends class), summer camps, and a Mom-n-tots class.

**Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders**

**Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**

Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Stella Learning Center
143 Morning Glory Court Bldg. A
Houma, LA  70364
985-868-2671
www.stellala.com
This agency works with individuals with Autism and related disorders using Applied Behavioral Analysis to improve students’ performance academically and socially. The program’s primary focus is on home-schooled individuals with ASD and other disabilities. The agency works with individuals ages 2 to 18.

**APS – Assessment & Psychological Services – Multiple Locations**
Metairie: 504-299-3917
Baton Rouge: 225-769-8335
Covington: 985-893-3224
Thibodaux: 985-448-0535
This agency primarily provides evaluations for ASD, Learning Disorders, and ADHD. They also provide therapy services and consultation.
www.APSLouisiana.com

**Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid**

**Lafourche Parish**
Lafourche Mental Health Center
157 Twin Oaks Drive
The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital, 12/5/14

Raceland, LA 70394
Phone: 800-840-7758
Fax: 985-537-5519

South Lafourche Mental Health Center
127 East 123rd Street
Galliano, LA 70354
Phone: 985-632-2175
Fax: 985-632-8651

Terrebonne
Terrebonne Mental Health Center
500 Legion Avenue
Houma, LA 70364
Phone: 985-857-3615
Fax: 985-857-3706

St. John the Baptist Parish
River Parishes Mental Health Center
1809 West Airline Highway
LaPlace, LA 70068-3336
Phone: 985-652-8444
Fax: 985-652-2450

St. Mary Parish
St. Mary Mental Health Center
500 Roderick St., Suite B
Morgan City, LA 70380
Phone: 800-481-6882
Fax: 985-380-2476

Other Agencies that provide Psychological Services

Magnolia Family Services Center
106 Hickory St.
Thibodaux, LA 70301
985-449-4055
magnoliafamilyservices@gmail.com
www.magnoliafamilyservices.com

Note – This agency provides mental health rehabilitation including individual and family therapy and school interventions for children and adolescents with behavioral and emotional difficulties. Families must have Medicaid in order to qualify for services.

The Family Service Center at Nicholls State University
PO Box 2131
Thibodaux, LA 70310
985-493-2490 or 888-314-6114

Note - This program provides a range of services to families residing in Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Assumption Parishes. If accepted into the program, the Family Service Center also covers the cost of therapy and is able to provide assistance with transportation. For a family to initiate a referral directly
they must first contact the Terrebonne Parish Mental Health Center crisis intervention program at 985-857-3615, extension 120 (Ms. Judy Brunet).

**Teche Action Clinic at Houma**
809 West Tunnel Blvd.
Houma, LA 70360
985-851-1717
Note – This agency has a social worker, Chris Bailey, LCSW, and nurse practitioner, Timothy Pellegrin, PNP-C, who provide mental health services for children.

**Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups**

**Bayou Land Families Helping Families, Inc.**
Region III - serving parishes of Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, Terrebonne
Kim Detillier, Executive Director
286 Hwy. 3185
Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301
985-447-4461 or 1-800-331-5570
985-447-7988 Fax
Email: blfhf@bellsouth.net
Website: www.blfhf.org
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

**Bayou Chapter- Autism Society of America**
121 Callin Court
Morgan City, LA. 70380
985-631-9823
Services Offered: ASA Chapters, Information and Support

**The Advocacy Center**
800-960-7705
[www.advocacyla.org](http://www.advocacyla.org)
[www.facebook.com/advocacy/la](http://www.facebook.com/advocacy/la)
[advocacycenter@advocacyla.org](mailto:advocacycenter@advocacyla.org)
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

**Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition**
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.
The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital, 12/5/14

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

Helpful Internet Resources used by Children’s Hospital

**Autism Speaks – Family Service Tool Kits**
Autism Speaks prints a number of tool kits covering different topics that are available online.
» Web: [www.autismspeaks.org/family-services](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services)

**Association for Science in Autism Treatment**
A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
» Web: [www.asatonline.org](http://www.asatonline.org) Go to the “treatment” tab

**Autism Science Foundation**
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
» Web: [www.autismsciencefoundation.org](http://www.autismsciencefoundation.org)

**National Autism Center**
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.

**Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC)**
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.
» Web: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html)

**Autism Society of America (ASA)**
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
» Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
» Web: [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

**Organization for Autism Research**
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
» Phone: 1-703-351-5031
» Web: [www.researchautism.org](http://www.researchautism.org)

**First Signs**
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including
autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.

» Phone: 1-978-346-4380
» Web: www.firstsigns.org

Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger's, and PDD
» Web: www.aspergersyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)
» Phone: 1-732-321-0880
» Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services

Autism Apps
Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps
http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps
A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities
Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:
http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities

Autism Society of America funding for iPads

Autism Care and Treatment Today! (www.act-today.org)
The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 4: Lafayette

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations
• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management
• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*
• Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• Behavior Management in ASD: Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• Verbal Behavior: Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• Special Topics: Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  * Registration is required to attend all classes.

Social Skills Groups*
• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members.  * Registration is required to attend these groups.

ABA Intervention
• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at www.chnola.org/autism for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Specialized Schools

Acadia Parish School District
2402 North Parkerson Avenue
Crowley LA 70526
Contact Person- Mr. John Doughty, Supervisor (337) 783-3137 Ext. 225 jdoughty@acadia.k12.la.us

Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps- Lafayette, Iberia, St. Martin, Vermillion, St. Landry, Evangeline, & Acadia Parishes
SPOE: First Steps Referral and Consulting LLC
138 East Main St., Suite 4
New Iberia, LA. 70560
337-359-8748
1-866-494-8900
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person- Mary F. Hockless, CEO (teamfsrc@bellsouth.net)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
GINA.EASTERLY@LA.GOV
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Acadiana Area Human Services District (serves Acadia, Evangeline, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermillion Parishes)
302 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
337-262-5610
1-800-648-1484
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

Joslyn McCoy, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
107 Regency Square
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-235-5676

Aucoin and Associates
5000 Ambassador Caffery Parkway
Province, Building 13
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-237-0788
Note: Staff at this agency provide psychological and psychoeducational assessments (including evaluations for Autism Spectrum Disorders). They also offer individual therapy and social skills groups for children with Asperger’s Disorder.

Therapy Center of Acadiana
300 Park West Drive
Scott, LA 70583
337-233-1167
www.TCAcadiana.com
Note: This agency provides consultation and therapy using ABA strategies. Brooke Guidry is the Vice President of the agency and the contact.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute - information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.
Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Acadia Parish
Crowley Mental Health Center
1822 W. 2nd Street
Crowley, LA 70527
Phone: 337-788-7511
Fax: 337-788-7588
Richland Mental Health Center
115 Christian Drive
Rayville, LA 71269
Phone: 318-728-6456
Fax: 318-728-4121

Evangeline Parish
Ville Platte Mental Health Center
312 Court Street
Ville Platte, LA 70586
Phone: 337-363-5525
Fax: 337-363-1567

Iberia Parish
New Iberia Mental Health Center
611 West Admiral Doyle Drive
New Iberia, LA 70560
Phone: 337-373-0002
Fax: 337-373-0129

Lafayette Parish
Dr. Joseph Henry Tyler, Jr. Mental Health Center
302 Dulles Dr
Lafayette, LA 70506
Phone: 337-262-4100
Fax: 337-262-1147

Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups

Families Helping Families of Acadiana, Inc.
Region IV - serving parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermillion
Kathy Allen, Executive Director
100 Benman Rd.
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506
337-984-3458 or 1-800-378-9854
337-984-3468 Fax
Email: info@fhfacadiana.org
Website: www.fhfacadiana.org
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries
Acadian Society for Autistic Citizens
202 Sandalwood Drive
Lafayette LA 70507-3726
Contact Person- Vickie Nettles
337-236-6658 (Main Phone)
http://www.autism-society.org/chapter285
Note- Info and referral, stipends for conferences & workshops, basic support, lending library

The Advocacy Center
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/la
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org
Note- The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

Helpful Internet Resources used by Children’s Hospital

Autism Speaks – Family Service Tool Kits
Autism Speaks prints a number of tool kits covering different topics that are available online.
  » Web: www.autismspeaks.org/family-services

Association for Science in Autism Treatment
A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
  » Web: www.asatonline.org  Go to the “treatment” tab

Autism Science Foundation
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
  » Web: www.autismsciencefoundation.org
National Autism Center
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.

Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.
» Web: www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html

Autism Society of America (ASA)
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
» Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
» Web: www.autism-society.org

Organization for Autism Research
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
» Phone: 1-703-351-5031
» Web: www.researchautism.org

First Signs
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.
» Phone: 1-978-346-4380
» Web: www.firstsigns.org

Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger's, and PDD
» Web: www.aspergersyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)
» Phone: 1-732-321-0880
» Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services

Autism Apps
Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.
**Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps**

http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps

A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

**Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities**

Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:

http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities

**Autism Society of America funding for iPads**


**Autism Care and Treatment Today! (www.act-today.org)**

The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 5: Lake Charles

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management

• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*

• **Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder:** Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• **Behavior Management in ASD:** Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• **Verbal Behavior:** Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• **Special Topics:** Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
*Registration is required to attend all classes.*

Social Skills Groups*

• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members. *Registration is required to attend these groups.*

ABA Intervention

• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at [www.chnola.org/autism](http://www.chnola.org/autism) for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Treatment Options - “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps- Beauregard, Jefferson Davis, Allen, Cameron, & Calcasieu Parishes
SPOE: First Steps Referral and Consulting LLC
138 East Main St.
New Iberia, LA. 70560
337-359-8748 or 1-866-494-8900 (toll free)
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person- Mary F. Hockless, CEO (teamfsrc@bellsouth.net)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Imperial Calcasieu Human Services Authority (serves Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Jefferson Davis Parishes)
3501 Fifth Ave., Ste. C2
Lake Charles, LA 70607
337-475-8045
1-800-631-8810
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

McNeese State Autism Program
225 Farrar Hall
McNeese State University
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70609
337-562-4246
Program director, Janice Huber, BCBA
www.mcneese.edu/autism/
Note – This agency provides a range of services for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders including early intensive behavioral interventions, problematic behavior interventions, specific skill acquisition, family training, and social skills groups.
Diagnostic and Counseling Center
300 E. McNeese St., Suite 3-A
Lake Charles, LA 70605
337-474-7090
Kathy Chovanec, BCBA
Note – Private therapist who conducts treatment with Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).

St. Nicholas Center for Children
2519 Ryan Street
Lake Charles, LA 70601
337-491-0800
www.stnickcenter.org
saintnicholascenter@gmail.com
Note – This agency is a non-profit center that provides therapeutic services to children, aged 2-17, with Autism and Developmental Delays utilizing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).

Autism Support Alliance affiliated with the Family and Youth Counseling Agency
220 Louie St.
Lake Charles, Louisiana
337-436-9533
www.fyca.org.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Allen Parish
Allen Mental Health Center
402 Industrial Drive
Oberlin, LA 70655
Phone: 337-639-3001
**Beauregard Parish**
Beauregard Mental Health Center
Standard Building, Office #1
106 West Port Street
DeRidder, LA 70634
Phone: 337-462-1641
Fax: 337-462-1354

**Calcasieu Parish**
Lake Charles Mental Health Center
4105 Kirkman Street
Lake Charles, LA 70607
Phone: 337-475-8022
Fax: 337-475-8054

**Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups**

**Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana, Inc.**
Region V - serving parishes of Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Jeff Davis
Susan Benoit, Executive Director
2927 Hodges Street
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601
337-436-2570 or 1-800-894-6558 (toll free)
337-436-2578 Fax
Email: info@fhfswla.org
Website: www.fhfswla.org
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

**Southwest Louisiana Chapter-Autism Society of America**
P.O. Box 1805
Lake Charles, LA. 70602
337-855-2068
Services Offered: ASA Chapters, Information and Support

**The Advocacy Center**
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/la
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.
Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

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A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
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» Web: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html)

**Autism Society of America (ASA)**
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
» Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
» Web: [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

**Organization for Autism Research**
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
First Signs
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.

   » Phone: 1-978-346-4380
   » Web: www.firstsigns.org

Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger’s, and PDD
   » Web: www.aspergerssyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (AS PEN)
   » Phone: 1-732-321-0880
   » Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

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Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps
http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps

A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities
Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:
http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities

Autism Society of America funding for iPads

Autism Care and Treatment Today! (www.act-today.org)
The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 6: Alexandria

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management

• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*

• Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• Behavior Management in ASD: Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• Verbal Behavior: Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• Special Topics: Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  *Registration is required to attend all classes.

Social Skills Groups*

• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members.  *Registration is required to attend these groups.

ABA Intervention

• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at www.chnola.org/autism for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps- Vernon, Rapides, Winn, Grant, Lasalle, Catahoula, Concordia, & Avoyelles Parishes
SPOE: Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana
2840 Military Highway Suite B
Pineville, LA. 71360
318-640-7078
1-866-445-7672 (toll free)
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person- Patricia Dufrene, Program Supervisor (trishspoe6@yahoo.com)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Central Louisian Human Services District (serves Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, and Winn Parishes)
429 Murray St., Ste. B
Alexandria, LA 71301
318-484-2347
1-800-640-7494
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

Care Tec Pediatric Therapy and Autism Center
855 Shirley Rd.
Bunkie, LA 71322
318-346-9288 or 888-948-3162
caretecbunkie@att.net
Note – An agency offering Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy for children 0-21 years of age. They accept private insurance and Medicaid.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php
Lovaas Institute - information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Rapides Parish
Mental Health Center of Central Louisiana (MHCCL)
242 West Shamrock St.
Pineville, LA 71306
Phone: Main: 318-484-6850
Fax: Adult: 318-484-6506

Avoyelles Parish
Avoyelles Mental Health Center
694 Government Street.
Marksville, LA 71351
318-253-9638

Vernon Parish
Leesville Mental Health Center-
Phone: 337-238-6431
Fax: 337-238-7070

Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups

Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of La., Inc.
Region VI - serving parishes of Avoyelles, Concordia, Catahoula, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon and Winn
Jim Sprinkle, Executive Director
2840 Military Hwy., Suite A
Pineville, Louisiana 71360
318-641-7373 or 1-800-259-7200
318-640-4299 Fax
Email: fhfxroads@aol.com
Website: www.familieshelpingfamilies.net
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

The Advocacy Center
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/laj
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

Helpful Internet Resources used by Children’s Hospital

Autism Speaks – Family Service Tool Kits
Autism Speaks prints a number of tool kits covering different topics that are available online.
   » Web: www.autismspeaks.org/family-services

Association for Science in Autism Treatment
A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
   » Web: www.asatonline.org Go to the “treatment” tab

Autism Science Foundation
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
   » Web: www.autismsciencefoundation.org

National Autism Center
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.
Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC)
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.
   » Web: www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html

Autism Society of America (ASA)
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
   » Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
   » Web: www.autism-society.org

Organization for Autism Research
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
   » Phone: 1-703-351-5031
   » Web: www.researchautism.org

First Signs
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.
   » Phone: 1-978-346-4380
   » Web: www.firstsigns.org

Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger's, and PDD
   » Web: www.aspergersyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)
   » Phone: 1-732-321-0880
   » Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services

Autism Apps
Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps
http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps
A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

**Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities**

Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:

http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities

**Autism Society of America funding for iPads**


**Autism Care and Treatment Today! (www.act-today.org)**
The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 7: Shreveport

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management

• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*

• Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
• Behavior Management in ASD: Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
• Verbal Behavior: Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
• Special Topics: Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  * Registration is required to attend all classes.

Social Skills Groups*

• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members. * Registration is required to attend these groups.

ABA Intervention

• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at www.chnola.org/autism for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps- Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Claiborne, Bienville, Natchitoches, Sabine, DeSoto, Red River Parishes  
SPOE: Families Helping Families at the Crossroads of Louisiana  
2620 Centenary Blvd, Bldg. 2 Suite 249  
Shreveport, LA. 71104  
318-226-8038  
1-866-676-1695 (toll free)  
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/  
Contact Person- Kim Williams, Program Supervisor (kim.spoe@gmail.com)  
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model  
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.  
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps  
225-287-9925  
225-342-2586  
gina.easterly@la.gov  
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)  
Northwest Louisiana Human Services District (serves Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, and Webster Parishes)  
3018 Old Minden Road, Ste. 1211  
Bossier City, LA 71112  
318-741-7455  
1-800-862-1409  
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

Dr. Cheryl Marsiglia  
Autism Diagnostic Center and Psychological Services  
2920 Knight St., Suite 130  
Shreveport, LA 71105  
318-865-2764  
www.AutismDiagnosticCenter.com  
Note – This agency offers multidisciplinary evaluations in autism diagnosis and screening. They also offer treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders including social skills training, floor time, and positive behavioral supports for children, social skills groups and vocational assessment and counseling for young adults, and education, support, and advocacy for parents.
Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on
ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and
practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social
interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Webster Parish
Minden Mental Health Center
421 Meadowview Drive
Minden, LA 71055
Phone: (318) 371-3001 / 3002
Fax: (318) 371-3300

Caddo Parish
Shreveport Mental Health Center
1310 North Hearne Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71137
Phone: (318) 676-5111
Fax: (318) 676-5077

Natchitoches Parish
Natchitoches Mental Health Center
210 Medical Drive
Natchitoches, LA 71457
Phone: (318) 357-3122
Fax: (318) 357-3240

Red River Parish
Red River Mental Health Clinic
1313 Ringgold Avenue
Coushatta, LA 71019-1016
Phone: (318) 932-4029
Fax: (318) 932-5914
**Sabine Parish**  
Many Mental Health Center  
265 Highland Drive  
Many, LA 71449  
Phone: (318) 256-4119  
Fax: (318) 256-4171

**Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups**

**Families Helping Families Region 7, Inc.**  
Region VII - serving parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Lincoln, Red River, Natchitoches, Sabine, and Webster  
Chanel Jackson, Executive Director  
2620 Centenary Blvd. Bldg. 2, Suite 250  
Shreveport, Louisiana 71104  
318-226-4541or 1-877-226-4541 (toll free)  
318-226-4518 Fax  
Email: info@fhfregion7.com  
Website: www.fhfregion7.com  
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

**Northwest Louisiana Chapter- Autism Society of America**  
625 Red Chute Lane  
Bossier, LA 71112  
(318) 478-0243  
Services Offered: ASA Chapters, Information and Support

**The Advocacy Center**  
800-960-7705  
[www.advocacyla.org](http://www.advocacyla.org)  
[www.facebook.com/advocacy/la](http://www.facebook.com/advocacy/la)  
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org  
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

**Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition**  
888-942-8104  
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

**The ARC of Louisiana**  
866-966-6260  
[www.thearcla.org](http://www.thearcla.org)
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related development disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

**Helpful Internet Resources used by Children’s Hospital**

**Autism Speaks – Family Service Tool Kits**
Autism Speaks prints a number of tool kits covering different topics that are available online.
- Web: [www.autismspeaks.org/family-services](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services)

**Association for Science in Autism Treatment**
A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
- Web: [www.asatonline.org](http://www.asatonline.org)  Go to the “treatment” tab

**Autism Science Foundation**
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
- Web: [www.autismsciencefoundation.org](http://www.autismsciencefoundation.org)

**National Autism Center**
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.

**Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.
- Web: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html)

**Autism Society of America (ASA)**
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
- Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
- Web: [www.autismsociety.org](http://www.autismsociety.org)

**Organization for Autism Research (OAR)**
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
- Phone: 1-703-351-5031
- Web: [www.researchautism.org](http://www.researchautism.org)

**First Signs**
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.
The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital, 12/5/14

» Phone: 1-978-346-4380
» Web: [www.firstsigns.org](http://www.firstsigns.org)

**Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger’s, and PDD**

» Web: [www.aspergersindrome.org](http://www.aspergersindrome.org)

**Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)**

» Phone: 1-732-321-0880
» Web: [http://www.aspennj.org/](http://www.aspennj.org/)

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**Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services**

**Autism Apps**


Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

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[http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps](http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps)

A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

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[http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities)

**Autism Society of America funding for iPads**


**Autism Care and Treatment Today! ([www.act-today.org](http://www.act-today.org))**

The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 8: Monroe

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations
• For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
• Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management
• For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
• Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
• Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*
• Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
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• Special Topics: Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
* Registration is required to attend all classes.

Social Skills Groups*
• Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members. * Registration is required to attend these groups.

ABA Intervention
• Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at www.chnola.org/autism for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Treatment Options - “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps - Ouachita, Union, Jackson, Lincoln, Caldwell, Morehouse, West/East Carroll, Richland, Franklin, Tensas, & Madison Parishes
SPOE: Easter Seals of Louisiana
1863 Avenue of America
Monroe, LA. 71201
318-322-4788
1-877-322-4788 (toll free)
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person - Rebecca Walker, Director (rwalker@laeasterseals.com)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Northeast Delta Human Services Authority (serves Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Caldwell Parishes)
2513 Ferrand St.
Monroe, LA 71201
318-362-3396
1-800-637-3113
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

Med Camps of Louisiana
102 Thomas Rd. Suite 615
West Monroe, LA. 71281
318-329-8405
Website: info@medcamps.com

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state
http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php
Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment
www.lovaas.com

Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinksautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

Caldwell Parish
Columbia Outreach Clinic (Merged with Winnsboro MHC)
HC75 Box 27
Columbia, LA 71418
Phone: 318-649-2333
Fax: 318-649-0149

Franklin Parish
Winnsboro Mental Health Center (Columbia Outreach Clinic)
1301 B Landis Street
Winnsboro, LA 71295
Phone: 318-435-2146
Fax: 318-435-2134

Jackson Parish
Jonesboro Mental Health Center
4134 Hwy. 4
Jonesboro, LA 71251
Phone: 318-259-6624
Fax: 318-259-4840

Lincoln Parish
Ruston Mental Health Center
901 White Street
Ruston, LA 71273
Phone: 318-251-4150
Fax: 318-251-4177

Madison Parish
Tallulah Mental Health Center
1012 Johnson Street
Tallulah, LA 71284
Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups

Families Helping Families of Northeast Louisiana, Inc.
Region VIII - serving parishes of Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll
Aliscia Banks, Executive Director
Laura Nettles, Co-director
5200 Northeast Road
Monroe, Louisiana 71203
318-361-0487 or 1-888-300-1320 (toll free)
318-361-0417 Fax
Email: info@fhfnela.org
Website: www.fhfnela.org
Note: Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

Northeast Louisiana Chapter- Autism Society of America
P.O. Box 4762
Monroe, LA 71211-4762
318-649-7449
Services Offered: ASA Chapters, Information and Support

The Advocacy Center
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/la
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.

Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
Mission: The Arc of Louisiana advocates with and for all people with intellectual and related developmental disabilities and their families so that they shall live to their fullest potential. The ARC has
day programs, work programs, and a number of other services for individuals with a developmental
disability including an autism spectrum disorder.

**Helpful Internet Resources used by Children’s Hospital**

**Autism Speaks – Family Service Tool Kits**
Autism Speaks prints a number of tool kits covering different topics that are available online.
- Web: [www.autismspeaks.org/family-services](http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services)

**Association for Science in Autism Treatment**
A site that summarizes research regarding the effectiveness of multiple treatments.
- Web: [www.asatonline.org](http://www.asatonline.org)  Go to the “treatment” tab

**Autism Science Foundation**
A foundation that provides funding for autism research to determine the causes of autism and to develop better treatments. The site provides resource information to support the needs of individuals with autism and their families.
- Web: [www.autismsciencefoundation.org](http://www.autismsciencefoundation.org)

**National Autism Center**
An agency that released a parent guide to evidence-based practice in autism.

**Autism Resources from the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC)**
The CDC has a number of helpful resources available in addition to Internet links to other websites.
- Web: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/links.html)

**Autism Society of America (ASA)**
Founded in 1965, ASA is the oldest and largest nonprofit autism organization in the nation. ASA and its 200 chapters provide: free information and referral services for parents, an interactive Web site, educational and scientific conferences, and legislative advocacy for services and funding for research.
- Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
- Web: [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

**Organization for Autism Research**
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
- Phone: 1-703-351-5031
- Web: [www.researchautism.org](http://www.researchautism.org)

**First Signs**
First Signs is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating parents and professionals about early identification and intervention for children at risk for developmental delays and disorders, including autism. The Web site provides essential developmental information; a systematic guide that walks you through each stage of the screening, referral, and diagnostic process; listings of available local and national resources, and links to research, books, articles, and programs nationwide.
- Phone: 1-978-346-4380
- Web: [www.firstsigns.org](http://www.firstsigns.org)
Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger’s, and PDD
   » Web: www.aspergersyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)
   » Phone: 1-732-321-0880
   » Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

Helpful Technology Links and Funding Opportunities to receive Technology/Services

Autism Apps
Autism Apps is simply a comprehensive list of apps that are being used with and by people diagnosed with autism, Down syndrome and other special needs. It also includes links to any available information that can be found for each app. The Apps are also separated into over 30 categories, and the descriptions are all searchable, so any type of app is easy to find and download.

Autism Speaks page on iPad Apps
http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps
A list of apps collected by Autism Speaks including category, age group, platform, and cost.

Autism Speaks Family Grant Opportunities
Click on the link below. There is a section for iPad Grants which has additional links to agencies/organizations that provide funding specifically for iPads and other technology:

http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/resource-library/family-grant-opportunities

Autism Society of America funding for iPads

Autism Care and Treatment Today! (www.act-today.org)
The ACT Today! board provides funding assistance to families on a quarterly basis with typical grant amounts ranging from $100-5,000. They fund effective treatments, assessments, and needed life supports (see website for more information). Applications from families with multiple children with ASDs are reviewed first and families with household incomes $100,000 or below are also reviewed first. Contact person is Amy at 818-705-1625.
Region 9: Mandeville/Hammond/Florida Parishes

The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital

We provide the following services:

Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluations

- For children and adolescents 2-21 years of age
- Provided by clinical psychologists

Medication Management

- For children/adolescents with an existing diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Provided by a child psychiatrist who consults with The Autism Center
- Please contact 504-896-7790 if interested in this service.

Parent/Caregiver Classes*

- **Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder:** Three-week course covering the basics of diagnosis, treatment, and common challenges.
- **Behavior Management in ASD:** Course covering the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to use ABA to reduce problem behavior and increase functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.
- **Verbal Behavior:** Course focused on using the verbal behavior approach, based on the principles of ABA, to teach communication to children with ASD.
- **Special Topics:** Single-topic workshops focusing on specific challenges often faced by families of children with ASD. Topics will rotate and may include topics such as toilet training and feeding challenges.
  *Registration is required to attend all classes.*

Social Skills Groups*

- Children of similar ages and grade levels will be grouped together for therapeutic groups focusing on the development of skills required to navigate the social world. Topics will vary depending on the age and needs of individual group members. *Registration is required to attend these groups.*

ABA Intervention

- Clinic-based ABA intervention services using a family consultation model. Appropriate targets for treatment often include reduction of problem behavior and increasing functional communication and other socially significant behaviors.

We accept Medicaid and all major insurance plans. For appointments or more information, please call 504-896-7272. Please also visit our website at [www.chnola.org/autism](http://www.chnola.org/autism) for information, a calendar of upcoming classes, and a copy of our resource guide for services throughout the state.
Treatment Options- “Umbrella Agencies” (Provide Multiple Services)

Early Steps- St. Tammany, Livingston, St. Helena, Tangipahoa, & Washington Parishes
620 N. Morrison, Suite G
Hammond, LA 70401
985-543-4113, ext. 224
1-866-640-0238 (toll free)
www.oph.dhh.state.la/us/earlysteps/
Contact Person- Wanda Stroud, Program Manager (wanda.stroud@la.gov)
Note – Early Steps provides a range of services for children 0-3 years of age, including services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, special instruction, and physical therapy.

Connect Model
Gina Easterly, Ph.D.
Assistant Program Manager Early Steps
225-287-9925
225-342-2586
gina.easterly@la.gov
Note – A family-centered approach to evidence-based early intervention for children on the autism spectrum. Children who are currently enrolled in Early Steps or eligible to receive early intervention services that have failed one or more of the autism screeners are eligible for Connect Model services. In this model, families work directly with one provider and parents are trained to conduct learning activities in their own home.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)
Florida Parishes Human Services Authority (serves Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Washington, and Tangipahoa Parishes)
835 Pride Drive, Suite B
Hammond, LA 70471
985-985-543-4730
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/134/n/137

McMains Children’s Developmental Center (Tangipahoa, St. Helena, and Livingston Parish)
1805 College Drive
Baton Rouge, LA. 70808
225-922-9316
Director- Janet Ketcham
Note- multidisciplinary treatment center whose services include; medical, social services, psychological services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, assistive technology assessment, and educational therapy

Treatment Options- Agencies Providing Specific Treatments for Children with Autism/Related Disorders

Agencies familiar with ASDs
Mercy Family Center
1445 W. Causeway Approach
Mandeville, LA. 70471
985-727-7993
www.mercyfamilycenter.com
Note- easiest way to get registered as a new patient is via Internet

Family Behavioral Health Center (2 Locations)
145 Robert E. Lee, Suite 145
New Orleans, LA 70124
(504) 309-4924
www.facebook.com/familybhc
www.familybhc.com
This agency offers autism evaluations, social skills groups, and individual and family therapy.

APS – Assessment & Psychological Services – Multiple Locations
Metairie: 504-299-3917
Baton Rouge: 225-769-8335
Covington: 985-893-3224
Thibodaux: 985-448-0535
This agency primarily provides evaluations for ASD, Learning Disorders, and ADHD. They also provide therapy services and consultation.
www.APSLouisiana.com

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Live Oak Behavioral Psychology
Lacey Seymour, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Licensed Psychologist, Director
56 Louis Prima Drive, Suite A
Covington, LA 70433
Phone: 985-327-7256
Fax: 985-327-7523
Dr.Lacey@liveoakpsychology.com
www.liveoakpsychology.com

The Sunflower Social Club
Contact: Allison Bowers, M.A., BCBA
985-662-3653
allisonbowers@sunflowersocialclub.com
www.sunflowersocialclub.com
Note: The Sunflower Social Club is a small ABA playgroup for children with PDD-NOS, Asperger’s Disorder, and high-functioning Autism. Two groups exist – one for children 3-5 years of age and the other 6-9 years of age. Groups meet weekly for an hour and occur in Mandeville, LA.

Registry of certified applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapists across the state http://www.bacb.com/registry/zip.php

Lovaas Institute- information about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment www.lovaas.com
Rethink Autism
An Internet-based program that includes an educational curriculum and instructional videos based on ABA methods.
www.rethinkautism.com

Butterfly Effects
www.ButterflyEffects.com
Dodie Powers, JD, LMSW – Gulf Coast Coordinator
(888) 880-9270
This agency’s autism treatment program integrates Speech/Language Pathology with principles and practices of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) to promote changes in language, communication, social interaction, behavior, and daily living skills.

Speech Therapy Resources

Pediatric Therapy and Learning Center
201 Holiday Blvd., Suite 315
Covington, LA
985-898-2999
www.pediatricTLC.com
Note – An agency specializing in pediatric speech-language therapy and occupational therapy who commonly work with children with autism. Kristine Menard is the co-owner and lead therapist.

The Chatterbox LLC
2615 Rue Saint Martin
Hammond, LA
985-222-4701
chatterboxllc@gmail.com
www.thechatterboxllc.com
Note – A private practice that provides individual and/or group speech therapy in the home, school, or daycare environment. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

Occupational Therapy Resources

Advanced Hand Specialists LLC
594 Asbury Drive
Mandeville, LA
985-264-7440
Note- Provides occupational therapy services with an age range of 2-adult. Medicaid is not accepted, but other insurances are accepted. Services are offered on a sliding fee scale with reduced cost.

Pediatric Therapy and Learning Center
201 Holiday Blvd., Suite 315
Covington, LA
985-898-2999
www.pediatricTLC.com
Note – An agency specializing in pediatric speech-language therapy and occupational therapy who commonly work with children with autism. Kristine Menard is the co-owner and lead therapist.
Mental Health Centers in Louisiana that accept Medicaid

St. Tammany Parish
Lurline Smith Mental Health Center
900 Wilkinson Street
Mandeville, LA 70448
Phone: 985-624-4450
Fax: 985-624-4461

Tangipahoa Parish
Rosenblum Mental Health Center
15785 Medical Arts Plaza
Hammond, LA 70403
Phone: 985-543-4080
Fax: 985-543-4090

Washington Parish
Bogalusa Mental Health Center
619 Willis Avenue
Bogalusa, LA 70427
Phone: 985-732-6610
Fax: 985-732-6626

Other Mental Health Agencies that Accept Medicaid

Abundant Health, Inc.
2053 Gause Blvd. Suite 150
Slidell, LA 70461
Phone: 985-649-1001
Fax: 985-646-1005
www.abundantmentalhealth.com

Family Behavioral Health Center (2 Locations)
145 Robert E. Lee, Suite 145
New Orleans, LA 70124
(504) 309-4924
www.facebook.com/familybhc
www.familybhc.com
2nd Location: 4050 Lonesome Road, Suite A
Mandeville, LA 70448
(985) 246-2600

Note – This agency provides a range of services including evaluation for concerns about Autism Spectrum Disorders, a group therapy program related to emotion regulation, and a social thinking group for children with ASDs and other social difficulties. Medicaid is accepted for some therapy services.
Other Helpful Resources/Support Groups/Specialized Social Opportunities

Northshore Families Helping Families, Inc.
Region IX - serving parishes of Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington
Sue Ellen Stewart, Executive Director
204 West 21st Avenue
Covington, Louisiana 70433
985-875-0511 or 1-800-383-8700 (toll free)
985-875-9979 Fax
CSHS 985-345-8300 or 1-877-537-8700
Email: info@fhfnorthshore.org
Website: www.fhfnorthshore.org
Note – Our mission is to enable and empower Louisiana families of individuals with disabilities through an effective coordinated network of Resources, Support, and Services; provide referrals, workshops, and information through their resource libraries

Autism Answers of Louisiana
1506 JW Davis Drive, Suite 105
Hammond, LA 70403
985-549-0836
Mission: “advocating for families and individuals, coordinating support services, educating and empowering families, and providing an unbiased source of information regarding all aspects of life impacted by Autism”

Strengthening Outcomes with Autism Resources (SOAR)
306 Pine St., Suite 400
Madisonville, LA 70447
985-792-7627
www.soarwithautism.org
Note – This is a non-profit agency that offers: educational advocacy, support groups, a lending library, resources, workshops and training for families, individuals, professionals and communities impacted by autism spectrum disorder.

Ochsner Health System Child Development Center (2 locations)
North Shore Pediatrics
3916 Highway 22, Suite 1
Mandeville, LA
985-727-2100
fax 985-727-1666
Note – Provides developmental evaluations in a wide range of areas to all children from infancy to adolescence. Also provide short-term individual and family counseling, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy.

Louisiana Families For Effective Autism Treatment (Lou-Feat): Periodically offers workshops and training in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Lou-Feat provides information and referral services for the treatment of autism using ABA.
Jim DeBoisblanc
1003 South Monroe St.
Covington, LA 70433
Phone: 1-985-809-7478
The Autism Center at Children’s Hospital, 12/5/14

Donna Slocum
Phone: 1-985-643-1052

The Advocacy Center
800-960-7705
www.advocacyla.org
www.facebook.com/advocacy/la
advocacycenter@advocacyla.org
Note - The Advocacy Center is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to persons with disabilities. To request assistance, call or email and an Intake Specialist will call you to discuss the problem in greater detail within 1-2 business days. If the issue fits within the Advocacy Center’s priorities, the Intake Specialist will make a referral to the legal team and you will be contacted within two weeks. If not, the Intake Specialist will make referrals to other organizations that may be able to provide help.
Website: http://www.unlockingautism.org/

Louisiana Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Coalition
888-942-8104
Note – An agency that was established to provide information and advice on how work impacts Social Security benefits. Services are available statewide and are free of charge to those individuals receiving SSI or SSDI who are between 14-64 years of age.

The ARC of Louisiana
866-966-6260
www.thearcla.org
Call or visit the website to find the nearest ARC Chapter
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North Cypress Fitness
1606 South Magnolia St.
Hammond, LA
985-542-3121
www.northcypress.com
Note – The North Cypress Fitness center offers a swim safety class for children with ASD or other developmental delays. The class incorporates the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) to teach new skills and is sponsored by Autism Answers of Louisiana.

Northshore Autism Network Groups:

Livingston Autism Spectrum Disorders Network Meeting
Denham / Walker Branch Library
8101 Highway 190, Denham Springs
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Meets the 1st Wednesday of every month.
Tangipahoa Autism Spectrum Disorders Network Meeting
Hammond Health Unit
15481 W. Club Deluxe Road, Hammond
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Meets the 2nd Monday of every month

St. Tammany Morning Autism Spectrum Disorders Network Meeting
Slidell Memorial Hospital Parenting Center
SMH Wellness Pavilion, 2nd Flr. Conference Rm.
501 Robert Boulevard, Slidell
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month

St. Tammany Evening Autism Spectrum Disorders Network Meeting
Northshore Families Helping Office
204 W. 21st Avenue, Covington
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month

St. Tammany Parish Hospital Parenting Center
(Open to all disabilities)
1505 N. Florida Street, Suite B, Covington
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Meets the 4th Wednesday of every month

Washington Autism Spectrum Disorders Network Meeting
Centenary United Methodist Church Library
1015 Cleveland Street, Franklinton
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Meets the 4th Thursday of every month

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   » Phone: 1-800-3-AUTISM
   » Web: www.autism-society.org

Organization for Autism Research
OAR is a national nonprofit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions.
   » Phone: 1-703-351-5031
   » Web: www.researchautism.org

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   » Phone: 1-978-346-4380
   » Web: www.firstsigns.org

Online Asperger Syndrome Information and Support (OASIS) and MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger's, and PDD
   » Web: www.aspergerssyndrome.org

Asperger Syndrome Education Network (ASPEN)
   » Phone: 1-732-321-0880
   » Web: http://www.aspennj.org/

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