

# Fairfield SEPTA

## Virtual Provider Fair and Resource eBook 2020



# Welcome!

## Fairfield SEPTA Virtual Provider Fair and Resource eBook 2020

- The purpose of the biennial SEPTA Provider Fair is to broaden awareness within the Fairfield special needs community about the various resources available in our region, provide the opportunity to connect directly with providers, and obtain information on the programs and services that they provide
- As we were unable to host this year's event in our typical fashion, we decided to release a virtual resource: an interactive PDF eBook for families
- **In this challenging time, more and more families are looking for new supports and services, for now and the future. We hope this collaboration will be a useful resource**
- **We have included submitted content from providers from across the county and the state and also supplemented with resources and contacts found online that we hope will be useful to you**

While we know this is not an exhaustive list of resources, we hope this will springboard you to **new ideas, new providers, and new opportunities!**

This directory is a free resource. Fairfield SEPTA does not endorse, recommend, or support any business, organization or individual listed in this directory. This information is being provided for informational purpose only. Please carefully consider the appropriateness of any service provider or resource to your personal needs.

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ACTIVE/SOCIAL



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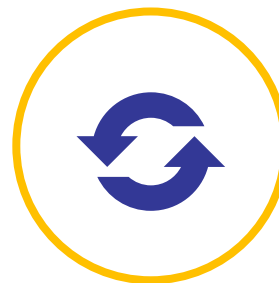
FINANCIAL/  
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THERAPIES



TRANSITION /  
...AND BEYOND



JARGON BUSTER  
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ACTIVE/SOCIAL





# CT Dance School

42 Halley Court  
Fairfield CT 06825

(203) 384-2492  
info@ctdanceschool.org  
www.ctdanceschool.org

- **Dance 4 All Abilities** is an adaptive dance program for children facing various challenges. This program provides fun, small group dance classes using creative movement principles with modified ballet technique and allows dancers with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down syndrome and physical disabilities to engage, explore and express themselves in dance.
- Dance 4 All Abilities is part of **Connecticut Dance School**, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing dance education of the highest standard. At Connecticut Dance School, we believe in the transformative power of dance. Dance can add infinite depth and artistry to the lives of young people, opening them to a new world of creative expression. Students and parents appreciate our nurturing, disciplined environment.



# Fairfield Adaptive Recreation

Kathy Morehouse - Director

[kmorehouse@fairfieldschools.org](mailto:kmorehouse@fairfieldschools.org)

Tel: 203.521.6384

- Fairfield Adaptive Recreation runs programs designed to provide recreational and socialization opportunities for individuals with special needs. Enrichment opportunities allow our attendees to grow and learn to be independent individuals. These programs are open to individuals in Fairfield, CT or who have attended Fairfield schools.
- Adaptive Summer Camp – 3 (2 week) sessions from the end of June til the beginning of August. Activities include a variety of field trips, games, group activities, special visitors, crafts, etc.
- TGIS/DROP – Year round Saturday meetings where attendees plan the activities. Activities include quiet games, movies, dining out, dance parties, bowling, etc.
- Afternoon Chill – Two sessions from September into February and February into June. Attendees participate in quiet group activities, gym/field time, crafts, games and homework assistance with peer volunteers



Note that activities may be modified or postponed due to Covid 19





# Fairfield Challenger Baseball American League

Mid April - Mid June.

Head Coach Brian Markham; Asst Coach Matt Pechkis

Email: fairfieldredstorm@gmail.com

- The Challenger division is **Little League's adaptive baseball program** for individuals with physical and intellectual challenges. Any individual between the ages of 4 and 18 (or up to 22 years old if they are still enrolled in school) with a physical or intellectual challenge is welcome to participate. The division is open to players whose families live in Fairfield (as well as Bridgeport, Monroe, Trumbull or any surrounding town that might not have a team).
- Little League - and Fairfield American - believe that if an individual can participate in the traditional Little League Baseball or Softball program with reasonable accommodations they should do so. **However, the Challenger Division provides an amazing option for boys and girls to get on the field to...PLAY BALL!!!**



# Ray Greenberg Basketball League

February – April @ Fairfield Ludlowe Gym

Contact Drew Bickel, League Founder

bickeldrew@gmail.com

- Everyone plays! The Ray Greenberg League is a non-competitive, organized basketball league for children residing in Fairfield aged 6-19 with intellectual and/or physical disabilities. The league is held on Saturdays at the Fairfield Ludlowe High School Aux Gym from February – April.
- The Rules are Simple: Everyone Plays – Everyone Shoots - Everyone Scores!
- To provide assistance and encouragement to the athletes, we use community volunteers who are “buddies” on the court with the athletes. This partnership benefits both the players and the volunteer buddies - they'll share the love of basketball and most importantly, create a lasting friendship.
- The cost to participate is \$10, which includes a league t-shirt and player insurance. Sponsor donors help defray the cost for the league and insurance.
- For more information, please **e-mail** Drew Bickel at [bickeldrew@gmail.com](mailto:bickeldrew@gmail.com)
- Follow us on **Instagram** [@greenbergbasketball](https://www.instagram.com/greenbergbasketball)





# Music Together of Fairfield County Inc.

[www.ctmusictogether.com](http://www.ctmusictogether.com)

Email : [info@ctmusictogether.com](mailto:info@ctmusictogether.com)

Call or text : (203) 256-1656



Music  
Together  
Online

- Music Together Online classes are interactive, engaging, and fun! Join us for singing, dancing, instrument play and drumming right in your living room. Music making is an activity that children of all abilities can participate in – there are no performance expectations.
- Children ages 0 – 10 can participate, with special classes offered for Babies under 8 months, Mixed Ages 0 – 5, and Rhythm Kids for ages 4 -10. Or choose a Canta Y Baila Conmigo class for singing and dancing in Spanish.
- Classes are offered 7 days a week on Zoom, with additional Facebook Live and pre-recorded content available 24/7, so there's no need to worry if you have to miss. Try a free class/register today! Special pricing available for front line medical providers.



# Advocacy / Support



# Advocacy for Kids



Advocacy for Kids  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVOCATES

Founder / Principal Advocate: **Laurie Markus**  
Email: [Laurie@advocacyforkids.net](mailto:Laurie@advocacyforkids.net) Web: [advocacyforkids.net](http://advocacyforkids.net)  
Phone: (203) 763 - 4099

## Advocacy for Kids will:

- Empower you with the information and strategies you need to have productive and positive conversations with your child's school
- Help you understand what your child's educational rights are, and
- Teach you how to work with the school in a non-adversarial way to develop a plan that addresses your child's individual needs.



**Most importantly, we will help you develop a solid working relationship with your child's school.  
Our end goal? To get you to a point where you are comfortable and confident  
advocating for your child on your own.**





# Connecticut Family Support Network (CTFSN)

Family Support ~ Southwest Region LaVerne Moore  
([lmoore@ctfsn.org](mailto:lmoore@ctfsn.org))  
(203) 727-9564 [www.ctfsn.org](http://www.ctfsn.org)

**CTFSN exists to help families raising children with disabilities and special healthcare needs through the life span.**

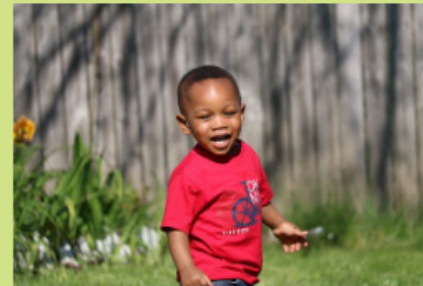
- We connect **one-to-one** with parents via telephone, email, Facebook and other social media. We provide emotional support, advocacy and guidance.
- We hold workshops and trainings across the state for parents and professionals on a wide variety of topics including special education, transition, recreation and communication.
- We work to **empower** families to become effective and successful advocates. We encourage individuals with disabilities to become successful self-advocates.
- We offer many **support groups** per month across Connecticut, both in person and online. The groups provide parent-to-parent connections, access to resources and guest speakers.
- We share **current information on disability issues** and resources via email, our website and social media, so parents can keep informed.
- We **collaborate** with local and state agencies, community groups and other non-profit organizations to provide access to resources and support.



FAMILY SUPPORT



PARENTS SUPPORTING  
PARENTS



DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING  
SUPPORT



YOUR VOICE MATTERS





# CT Parent Advocacy Center/CPAC Empowering and Educating Families

860-739-3089 [cpac@cpacinc.org](mailto:cpac@cpacinc.org)

[www.cpacinc.org](http://www.cpacinc.org)

- Understand special education laws
- Identify your child's educational needs
- Communicate more effectively with professionals
- Participate in the educational decision making process





# CT DDS Families First

## WHO IS FAMILIES FIRST

Families First was formed in 2015 by a group of families whose loved ones are served by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Based on our prior experience as advocates, we recognized the need for an independent **family group** that could educate families and legislators, as well as become a dedicated presence at the Capitol.

## OUR MISSION

To secure opportunities and supports for Connecticut citizens with **intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD)** so that they may live and work in settings of their choosing.

## OUR GOAL

To educate the legislature and public about the challenges facing families of people with I/DD, to create an understanding of the need to prioritize this population within the state's budget.



"This legislation is a direct result of the determined and tireless families who came to the Capitol day after day to share their stories with state lawmakers."

-Senator Len Fasano



# Fairfield Police Department

Sergeant Jason Kline and Sergeant Michael Stahl, Patrol Division  
Members of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)  
For general information, call (203) 254-4800

Be aware of the resources available to your family from the FPD  
<https://www.fpdct.com/community/>



- **The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)** was formed in June 2011 and is comprised of Police Officers, Detectives and Dispatchers **with special training** in the recognition of, and response to, a wide variety of Mental Health and Substance Abuse issues.
- In addition to exposure to many forms of moderate to severe Mental Health/Behavioral Conditions, this training involves further development of skills in interpersonal communications, de-escalation techniques, conflict resolution, and awareness of available Mental Health and Substance Abuse resources
- The Crisis Intervention Team and the Fairfield Police Department aspire to provide the best services possible to individuals and families living with mental illness and take every possible step to connect these individuals and families to the resources they need.

[www.fpdct.com/patrol/cit](http://www.fpdct.com/patrol/cit)

- **SafeReturn Network** (<https://www.fpdct.com/safereturn/>)  
The SafeReturn Network is a computer database developed to assist emergency personnel in locating community members who suffer from conditions which make them susceptible to "wandering," and safely returning them home.
- **Members of the community may register their family members or friends who suffer from conditions that make them susceptible to "wandering" (eg, Autism, dementia, Alzheimer disease).** Officers can search the database using a variety of variables, such as name, physical characteristics and age. In addition, the database contains photographs of each individual. This is especially useful in the event an officer encounters someone who is unable to communicate. The database is accessible/viewable from the mobile computer terminal within the officer's patrol vehicle.
- Registration forms are available at Fairfield Police Headquarters (100 Reef Road) and online [Click here](#). For more information on the SafeReturn Network, please contact the Fairfield Police Department at (203) 254-4800.



# Fairfield SEPTA

Fairfield Special Education PTA Inc.

501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield, CT 06825

Check us out to learn more about us at <https://fairfieldsepta.org/>

**Fairfield SEPTA is an independent PTA representing students, parents, and teachers across the 18 schools in Fairfield who share an interest in special education**

- We partner in a positive and collaborative manner with our parents, school system, and community to raise awareness of broader issues that impact children and families with diverse needs in our community
- We strive to improve access to social and educational activities and resources for all students, especially those who learn differently
- Throughout the school year we provide:
  - **Accessible activities and programs** for students of all ages and abilities
  - Information and **support to parents navigating the special education landscape**, as well as the associated state and federal programs aligned to special needs children and young adults
  - **Innovative and much needed grants** and training opportunities to special education teachers and service providers who serve this community
  - **Annual scholarship opportunities** for Fairfield graduates who received special education services throughout their career and are advancing to higher education



# Only You Foundation

Only You  
P.O. Box 854  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
203-292-6601



Only You Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to enhance and enrich the lives of children with special needs and their families.

If you are a special needs family in need of assistance, please download, complete and submit our

[Application for Assistance.](#)

<https://www.onlyyoufoundation.org/>

## How do we support families:

- **ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT** ~ Purchasing specialized equipment (eg, wheelchairs, adaptive bicycles, items used in sensory integration therapy) not covered by insurance
- **SPORTSPLEX SPECIAL NEEDS CAMP** ~ Working with Sportsplex@Fairfield and providing the necessary support for children with a wide range of challenges to participate in a variety of activities including rock climbing, gymnastics, ice skating, tae kwon do, dance and more
- **SCHOLARSHIPS** ~ Providing scholarships for children with special needs for camps, classes, and therapies
- **SPECIAL EVENTS** ~ Hosting fun events for children with special needs and their families - Holiday Parties, Family Fun Nights, etc.

# Introducing **JumpSTARs**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/437955726789535/>



- A collaboration of **JumpStart** and **STAR, Inc.** to provide a series of **activities that are: Educational, Recreational, and Social.**
- Our mission is to promote well-being and create a family support network for parents, caregivers, relatives, and siblings of individuals of all ages who are impacted by intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Please join our **JumpSTARs FaceBook page** to learn about our upcoming events and to stay in-the-loop on family network news. Please share with your family and friends

# EDUCATION





# Developing Brains Neuropsychological Services

Tim Heitzman, PhD  
Developmental Neuropsychologist  
Dr.Heitzman@gmail.com



[www.DevelopingBrains.net](http://www.DevelopingBrains.net)

- Parents, districts and pediatricians refer students to Dr. Heitzman when they need a better understanding of a student's complex development and learning difficulty. Beyond his training at prestigious teaching hospitals like Boston Children's Hospital and Johns Hopkins Hospital, Dr. Heitzman is sought out for his ability to connect comfortably with students of all ages, and his skill at translating complex material into a meaningful, integrated picture of each child. Parents and teachers who work with Dr. Heitzman come away with a stronger sense of the child and confidence in the path ahead.
- Dr. Heitzman is a professor at Sacred Heart University, a speaker in community-based workshops, and a neuroeducational consultant developing a cutting-edge Executive Functioning curriculum for public and private schools. However, his most important professional role is that of a clinician, conducting evaluations that are more in-depth than traditional psychoeducational testing, and presenting results that connect well to educational programs. He also follows a number of students in therapy to address emotional needs and self-esteem, specializing in mental skills training and Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT). As a father of five children across elementary, middle and high school, he has an intimate understanding and empathy for the demands and pressures that children and parents face at different levels. This is a different kind of "training" that helps him relate to families while helping them learn to cope with challenges, improve performance and build independent skills.





# Fairfield Public Schools Special Education

Summary and key resources available from Fairfield Special Education Department

<https://www.fairfieldschools.org/departments/special-education>



- **The Fairfield Public Schools Special Education Department partners with our families to service the needs of our students with disabilities.**

The link above provides parents information and additional resources regarding students' eligibility for services under the IDEA (Individual with Disabilities Education Act) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 including:

- The Special Education and Section 504 Referral Process
  - The Evaluation Process utilized to determine student eligibility for Special Education or Section 504 support
  - The process for determining eligibility for Special Education or Section 504 support
  - The IEP (Individualized Education Plan) development process
  - Parent resources regarding various Connecticut state agencies and
  - Various additional resources for parents of students with disabilities.
- The Fairfield Public Schools Special Education Department believes that **through collaboration with parents our students will greatly benefit while receiving high quality individualized services.**
- You can contact the special education department at (203) 255-8379 anytime to answer any questions regarding special education or Section 504 services for which your child may be in need.

- **We encourage parents to contact their child's school** with any concerns they may have regarding their child's educational performance related to learning, social, emotional and behavioral development, communication, fine and gross motor development, sensory processing, medical concerns or any other concern that they may have so that together we can support students' progress.

- There are certified professionals in each school that identify student needs and partner with families to provide interventions and services to students to address identified concerns. Some of these certified professionals include:

- Language Arts Specialists
- Math Specialists
- Special Education Teachers
- General Education Teachers
- School Psychologists
- Speech and Language Pathologists
- School Social Workers
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- Board Certified Behavior Analysts
- Assistive Technology Specialists and
- School Registered Nurses.



# Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes

Gail Zuckerwise, Center Director  
(203) 656-0771

This summer  
**you can count on Lindamood-Bell Instruction**  
to make up for lost time.

**Open** either live online or in-person!

- Just like our in-center instruction, our virtual instruction is **100% live and face-to-face**.
- Our instruction for reading, comprehension, and math is **proven effective** for students with challenges that affect learning, including dyslexia. We also help students who just need improved skills that will make school easier!



In a *matter of weeks*, our evidence-based instruction can result in *extraordinary gains*.



Contact us now to get started and save your spot.

**(203) 656-0771**  
**LindamoodBell.com**

READING • SPELLING • COMPREHENSION • MATH



# Literacy Learning

& Assessment Center of CT, LLC

Evidence-based, individualized  
**consultative**, **evaluative**, and  
**remediation** services for  
students with complex learning  
needs.

**Sheryl Knapp, M.Ed., C/AOGPE, CDT/IDA**

Certified Orton-Gillingham Practitioner

Certified Dyslexia Specialist - CERI/IDA

President, Dyslexia Society of CT, Inc.

[sknapp@literacylearningct.com](mailto:sknapp@literacylearningct.com)  
203.240.1912

[www.literacylearningct.com](http://www.literacylearningct.com)



## CONSULTATION SERVICES

- Comprehensive record review
- Program review
- PPT/IEP meeting Participation
- IEP development
- School collaboration

## EVALUATION SERVICES

- Comprehensive literacy evaluations
- Instructional needs assessments
- Progress monitoring

## REMEDIATION SERVICES

Individual remediation services targeted to address students' unique learning needs utilizing evidence-based methodologies – including the **Visualizing & Verbalizing** program, **Structured Word Inquiry (SWI)**, and the **Orton-Gillingham** approach.



# Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities

[www.smartkidswithld.org](http://www.smartkidswithld.org)

(203) 226-6831

- Helping children with learning and attention differences reach their full potential by inspiring, educating and empowering parents to help their children succeed.
- Free e-newsletter, award-winning website, in-person and virtual educational programs, conference, youth panels, Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Awards, and annual Smart Walk for Smart Kids with LD



# SPED\*NET Wilton

Executive Director: Eve Kessler, Esq.

Co-Presidents: Carolina Corrigan

Janine Kelly, Esq.

info@spednetwilton.org



**SPED\*NET** is a network for information and a life-net for families thrust unexpectedly into the world of special needs parenting. We strive to empower parents, professionals, and students to become informed, capable advocates in their schools and communities.

- ***Bringing Knowledge to the Table: How to Be an Effective Advocate for Your Child***, our guide to special services in CT, is designed to support parents in becoming full partners in their children's education. It walks readers through the special services process — from the time parents think their child might be struggling to the time their teen transitions out of high school. The on-line guide, free on our website, [www.spednetwilton.org](http://www.spednetwilton.org), links readers to helpful, current websites, forms, and resources. Soft-bound copies are also available for purchase on our website.
- **Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.**
- **Our presentations and webinars** are free and open to the public; videos and PDFs of prior talks are accessible on our website and Facebook page.







# SAINT CATHERINE ACADEMY

Where learning and caring lead to personal best

For more information about Saint Catherine Academy and a tour of our program, contact Eric Spencer, Director of Education, at 203-540-5381.

[www.StCatherineAcademy.org](http://www.StCatherineAcademy.org)

[www.StCatherineCenter.org](http://www.StCatherineCenter.org)

Established in 1999, Saint Catherine Academy is a state-approved special education program in Fairfield, CT, serving students ages 5 to 21 of all faiths who are impacted with autism, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. We offer a small, structured environment with individualized attention and a focus on integrated, intentional learning. The Academy is part of Saint Catherine Center for Special Needs, which also provides state-approved services for young adults ages 21 and older. The Adult Program is currently at capacity.

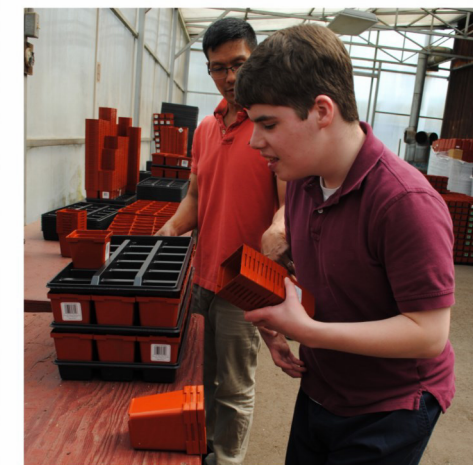
## Academics

Classes are organized around specific needs and capacities of each student, using technology to reinforce learning. Individual Education Plans (IEPs) help our certified teachers to meet each student where he or she is. Weekly music, art, and yoga classes offer a way for students of all capacities to express themselves.



## Vocational Experiences

Supported by staff, older students visit partner worksites in the community each week where they stack pots, work with preschoolers, shred documents, sort clothes, clean and bus tables, and other tasks to develop vocational and interpersonal skills.



## Life Skills

In a welcoming Life Skills apartment with a fully equipped kitchen, students and adults learn teamwork, patience, and skills to build greater independence.



# FINANCIAL LEGAL



# 1847Financial

Serendipity Labs 55 Post Road West  
Westport, CT 06880

Nolan Menachemson, CFA, ChSNC

[LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Website](#)

Office: (203) 635-5700

Cell: (917) 710-1788

Email: [nmenachemson@1847financial.com](mailto:nmenachemson@1847financial.com)

- SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING FOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A DISABILITY
- GOVERNMENT BENEFITS
- ESTATE PLANNING & FUNDING STRATEGIES
- INVESTMENTS
- ABLE ACCOUNTS AND PROTECTION

## Your circle of advisors





# Planning Across The Spectrum

**Andrew Komarow**, MSFS CFP®  
AEP® BFA™ CAP® CASL® CHFC® ChSNC®  
CLU® FSCP® REBC® RHU® RICP®

74 Batterson Park Road  
Floor 1  
Farmington, CT 06032

(860) 606-7060

Andrew@planningacrossthespectrum.com



## PLANNING ACROSS THE SPECTRUM

Our mission is to identify and support life-enhancing financial opportunities for self-advocating individuals, the care teams of those with autism or intellectual disabilities, and businesses with neuro-diverse employees. We simplify financial and benefit planning and provide tailored solutions for achieving client goals.

# Stephen Ehrens CPA and Wealth Advisor Northwestern Mutual

[Stephen.Ehrens@nm.com](mailto:Stephen.Ehrens@nm.com)  
203-256-2162

1 Eliot Place Fairfield, CT 06824



"So many families have  
been helped because of my  
daughter Liz."

— Stephen Ehrens

- Financial and Estate Planning
- Special Needs Trusts
- Able Accounts
- Benefits-SSI and Medicaid
- Insurance Options
- Asset Management



# Michael Beloff, CFP<sup>®</sup>, ChSNC<sup>®</sup>

## Wealth Advisor, Stratos Wealth Management

914-607-2241

[mbeloff@stratowm.com](mailto:mbeloff@stratowm.com)

[www.michaelbeloff.com](http://www.michaelbeloff.com)

- Michael has over fifteen years of financial services experience, enabling him to look at the complex issues facing families and small businesses from different perspectives to create strategies and tactics personalized for their specific opportunities, issues, needs, and goals.
- In addition to earning the Certified Financial Planner<sup>™</sup> certification, Michael is a Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP<sup>®</sup>), Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC<sup>®</sup>) and a Retirement Income Certified Professional (RICP<sup>®</sup>).
- Inspired by his son with Autism, Michael has become a Chartered Special Needs Consultant<sup>®</sup> with extensive training and continuing education on the complex topics and particular challenges of caring for a dependent with special needs, including the constant changes in federal and state laws. Michael's expertise and ability to educate and empower has made him a noted speaker on the topic of special needs planning at both national and local venues including the National Autism Association, the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress, the Autism Society of America, the US Autism Association and COPAA. He has also appeared on CNN and in various publications including Financial Advisor magazine.
- Michael is a board member and Treasurer of Abilis, a non-profit organization serving intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals in lower Fairfield county, is a board member of SEEK CT and is a member of the First Selectman's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities in Greenwich. A graduate of SUNY Albany and Columbia Law School, Michael lives in Greenwich, CT with his wife Deborah and son Ben.
- Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC.



STRATOS  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT



# Law Office of Lawrence W. Berliner, LLC

## *Special Education Law Attorney*

- Lawrence Berliner has dedicated his Connecticut law practice to advocating for parents of children with special needs pursue their child's educational rights. *Experience matters* and Attorney Berliner has been passionately representing and advocating for children, adults and families with special needs for the past 36 years.

*Tune in to our Zoom webinars we host with the Stamford JCC on a variety of special education law issues and concerns to parents.*

Take the first step...Schedule an initial consultation via phone or video conference to discuss your child's educational issues, expectations and hopes for your child:

[www.berlinerspeciallaw.com](http://www.berlinerspeciallaw.com)

Telephone: (203)-255-0582

Email: [lwb.esq@gmail.com](mailto:lwb.esq@gmail.com)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/berlinerspeciallaw/>



# HEALTH





## INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR DIAPERS/PULL UPS FOR KIDS OVER AGE OF 3 WITH MEDICAID/HUSKY

- Do you have a child over the age of 3 who wears diapers or pull-ups?
- Does your child have Medicaid/Husky coverage?
- Are you paying out of pocket for these items?
- If so, Charm Medical Can help!



Charm Medical specializes in helping families receive their insurance-covered medical supplies.

Charm's experienced staff will:

- Handle insurance paperwork, including obtaining the prescriptions and letters of medical necessity.
- Deliver products to your door—Free of charge!
- Track renewals, to insure no disruption to deliveries.

***Call: 877-942-4276 to see if your child is eligible.***

CHARM  
MEDICAL SUPPLY

*"Proudly serving thousands of patients across New England"*

141 South Street West Hartford, CT 06110

[www.charmmedicalct.com](http://www.charmmedicalct.com)





# FAMILY CARE VISITING NURSE

*and Home Care Agency, LLC*



Phone: 1-800-946-6331 Fax: 1-203-380-3229 Email: [info@familycarevn.com](mailto:info@familycarevn.com)

**Family Care Visiting Nurse is committed to helping patients in need and thank the Clinicians who are out in the field!**

**We are open and accepting ALL REFERRALS including positive COVID-19. We are accepting by fax, phone, and we are on EPIC, All Scripts, Navi Health, and ENSOCARE.**

**We have N95 respirator masks for our clinicians and are fully stocked with PPE- gloves, gowns, booties, and soap. All of our clinicians have been trained and retrained on infection control and universal precautions.**

**We take all patients including pediatric patients as well. Our excellent intake department is available and open 24/7 with daily, weeknight and weekend on-call.**

**We can provide same day admits as needed. We are available daily for calls, questions and on-sites. We can also do a video on-site if needed.**

**PLEASE REACH US ON EPIC, ALL SCRIPTS, NAVI HEALTH, ENSOCARE, OR AT 1-800-946-6331**



## **We have 4 office locations:**

999 Oronoque Lane, Stratford

1371 East Main Street, Meriden

1764 Litchfield Turnpike, Woodbridge

9 Mott Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Norwalk

## **We can accept patients in ALL of:**

New Haven County

Fairfield County

Middlesex County

Parts of Hartford County.



# The Autism Program at Yale Child Study Center

Contact: **Erin MacDonnell**

Phone: **(203) 737-3439**

Email: **autism@yale.edu**

Website: **www.autism.fm**



**YALE CHILD  
STUDY CENTER**

*Where discovery inspires care*

- Participate in research on social behavior
- Children and adults with and without autism are welcome
- Behavior and brain studies to understand social difficulties and develop new treatments
- Participation includes clinical evaluation and report
- Compensation up to \$550





# THERAPIES



# Swim Angelfish

**Cindy Freedman**, MOTR, CTRS, Co-Founder & Owner (cindy@swimangelfish.com)

**Ailene Tisser**, MA, PT, Co-Founder & Owner (ailene@swimangelfish.com)



**swim  
angelfish**  
EST 2000  
adaptive swim program  
203-524-0024 - EXT 3

<https://swimangelfish.com/>

## ADAPTIVE SWIM PROGRAMS



### Online Education

- Online program education for all aspects of adaptive swim instruction.
- Learn to identify the underlying problems for swimmers with challenges of autism, anxiety, trauma, sensory and motor disorders, discomfort, physical difficulties and delay.
- Created in 2010 and online since 2016.
- Over 200 enrolled instructors in 5 countries...and growing!



### Angelfish Therapy

- Physical & Occupational Therapy in the water.
- We combine the sensory input of the water with therapeutic handling to increase strength, endurance, integration of primitive movement patterns, self regulation and coordination.



### Swim Whisperers Swim School

- Private, Semi-Private and small group swim lessons given by swim instructors certified in the Swim Angelfish Methodology Swim Whisperers Training.
- These lessons overcome the 14 universal roadblocks swimmers with autism, anxiety, physical difficulties and sensory disorders face so that they can be independent swimmers.

**Established in 2000 - 20 Locations**



# Autism Learning Partners – New Haven, CT

[www.autismlearningpartners.com](http://www.autismlearningpartners.com)

Phone: 1 (888) 289-9706 **\*NO WAIT LIST\***

- **Autism Learning Partners (ALP)** is a national leader in the field of developmental disabilities specializing in the evidenced based practice of **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)** a targeted intervention for Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- **Services include:** ABA, Functional Behavior Assessments, Social Skills Groups and Parent Training
- Services are provided for children, infants, adolescents and families and are provided **in the home**, in school and in the community and now Telehealth!
- **Most insurance plans are accepted!**



## TELEHEALTH

Delivering Applied Behavior Analysis services in-home using videoconferencing technology.

### Services Available Via Telehealth

- Parent Coaching and Behavior Management Support
- Supervision of In-Home ABA Sessions
- Functional Behavior Assessments
- Behavior Technician Sessions (as appropriate)
- Speech Therapy (Orange County and San Jose, CA)
- Occupational Therapy (Orange County and San Jose, CA)
- Physical Therapy (Orange County, CA)
- Developmental Evaluations (Orange County, CA)



### Requirements for Telehealth

- Confirmation that insurance plan covers telehealth services (Our team can assist you with this!)
- Parent agreement
- Telehealth Consent Form signed
- Access to Wi-Fi and a smartphone/ tablet/ computer with a webcam and microphone

### Telehealth Benefits

- Allows the opportunity to provide essential services to families while reducing the number of individuals present in the home during COVID-19.
- Can enhance and provide efficient care for families by creating more opportunities for parent involvement and training within the child's natural environment. The increase in communication with parents and caregivers can result in improved patient outcome and satisfaction.
- Allows us to expand the geographical areas served by providing behavioral health care to rural and underserved communities with provider shortages or limited access to care.

Phone: (855) 295 -3276 | Fax: (855) 266-5455

[www.AutismLearningPartners.com](http://www.AutismLearningPartners.com) | [intake@AutismLearningPartners.com](mailto:intake@AutismLearningPartners.com)





# Children's Therapy and Learning Center

Setting the course for your child's bright future

*Providing premier therapeutic and educational services  
for children and adolescents in Fairfield County*

Occupational & Speech and Language Therapies  
Therapeutic Massage, Educational Tutoring and Consulting  
Behavioral Support, Extended Day Programs

2228 Black Rock Tpke, Suite 201  
Fairfield, CT 06825  
[www.childtherapycenter.com](http://www.childtherapycenter.com)

Tel: 203-908-4433  
Fax: 203-908-4449  
[office.ctlc@optimum.net](mailto:office.ctlc@optimum.net)





# Cindy Scope, PHD, NCSP

Cindy Scope, PHD, NCSP Psychologist  
19 Compo Road South, Suite #2  
Westport, CT 06880

[drcindyscope@gmail.com](mailto:drcindyscope@gmail.com)  
(203) 635-7722



Website: [www.shorelinefamilypsychology.com](http://www.shorelinefamilypsychology.com)

- **My goal is to promote your child's awareness and skills in coping with Anxiety, Depression, Anger, HFA, ADHD or other Social & Emotional challenges.** Developing their unique strengths, interests, and wellness habits are important buffers to stress. Enhancing parent skills is a key part of therapy in many cases. I work effectively with schools and special education teams to foster gains at home and at school for LD, Gifted as well as highly sensitive students in setting goals, making educational decisions and future preparations. A special area of my practice is assisting competitive athletes looking to improve their mental game and maximize cognitive "flow" in competition.
- Together as a team, we identify key challenges and target goals for wellness, peer connection, and behavioral improvement while building on your child's personal strengths. Working in schools for 30 years, I have extensive experience in psychoeducational assessment for identifying learning and emotional disabilities and assisting families in navigating the Special Education process. I specialize in practical problem-solving, CBT, and Mindfulness based approaches. SPACE Parent training to assist parents and families reducing child and adolescent anxiety is a part of my practice.
- **My services are typically utilized by children, adolescents or college students and or parents who have concerns about behavioral, social, emotional or educational needs.** Students, parents, athletes, and executives seeking mindfulness skills for improved functioning and wellbeing are seen as well. Office is in WESTPORT, CT. CT Licensed Psychologist and Nationally Certified School Psychologist in NY and CT.





## YOUR AUTISM THERAPY CONNECTION

[info@connec-to-talk.com](mailto:info@connec-to-talk.com) | 203.210.7124 | [www.connec-to-talk.com](http://www.connec-to-talk.com)

- Connec-to-Talk will help guide you through your autism journey — from diagnosis to a customized treatment plan addressing your child's individual needs.
- Our step-by-step program will equip your child with the resources necessary to gain independence, so your family can live a less-stressful, more joyful life.
- Our therapy is rooted in applied behavior analysis (ABA) and the principals of collaboration and play-based learning.
- Our goal is to enable your child to successfully and naturally carry the skills acquired during therapy into everyday living.



# Constellation ABA

[www.constellationhs.com](http://www.constellationhs.com)  
800-860-6656



Our specialized, in-home **ABA services** include individualized treatment plans and interventions that enhance the lives of children and their families. Our evidence-based approach focuses on individual strengths in order to develop critical life skills and help children reach their full potential. Our trained, ABA Therapists and registered behavior therapists (RBTs) are supervised by board-certified behavior analysts (BCBAs) and provide compassionate and knowledgeable care. ABA services are available through most health insurance providers, and may be available as part of a child's individual education program (IEP) at school.

# The Hangout Spot

The Place to Learn Social Smarts

**Coming Soon to Fairfield County, Connecticut**

Say Hello! Co-Founders, Meghan Cave and Justyna Balzar, can be reached at [hello@thehangoutspotllc.com](mailto:hello@thehangoutspotllc.com) or 203-529-1064.

The Hangout Spot provides specialized play and social skills instruction rooted in Applied Behavior Analysis. We offer thoughtfully structured, experiential learning delivered in small group settings through on-site programs and remote teaching.



The **Hangout Spot** has gone virtual! During this time of social distancing, we are pleased to be offering **at-home solutions for social success!**

## What We Do

All children have a right to meaningful relationships with others. Our evidence-based programs are designed to eliminate barriers to friendship and empower children to be socially successful throughout their lives.



**Social Skills Classes**  
On-Site and Remote Learning Programs



**Summer Skillz**  
Special Programs During School Break



**Party Partners**  
Playdate Facilitation, Special Event Support, & More



**Evaluations**  
Behavior Analytic Assessments



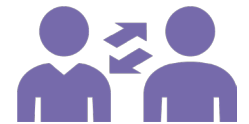
**Generalization Classes**  
Special Events for Extra Practice



**The Play Space**  
Infant-Toddler Playgroups Where Parents Play Too



**Family Coaching**  
Support for Parents, Siblings, and Caregivers



**Consultation**  
Partnerships with Schools and Other Teams

Let's be friends! Find us at <http://www.thehangoutspotllc.com/>.  
Our Facebook is under construction. Stay tuned to follow us @thehangoutspotllc.  
Free webinars available on our YouTube Channel.



# High Quality Home Therapy

Office: 203.212.4191 / Fax: 203.212.4191  
30 Buxton Farm Road Suite 230 Stamford, CT 06905  
[hghtherapy.com](http://hghtherapy.com) | [@hghtherapy](https://www.instagram.com/hghtherapy)



## Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy *in your home or ours*



HIGH  
QUALITY  
HOME  
THERAPY

hght

30 Buxton Farm Road, Suite 230  
Stamford, CT 06905  
P 203.212.4191 | F 203.212.4191  
[HGHTherapy.com](http://HGHTherapy.com)

- Individualized
- Social skills groups
- Pelvic floor rehab
- Neurological therapy
- Feeding & sensory
- Telehealth option

# Infinity Music Therapy Services

Jona Jeffcoat, MT-BC, Founder and Director of Services

(860) 518-5557 or [info@infinitymusictherapy.com](mailto:info@infinitymusictherapy.com) to schedule a **free consultation**

<http://www.infinitymusictherapy.com> for more information

- Infinity Music Therapy provides individual and group music therapy, music lessons, and music enrichment services for **all ages and abilities**
- We have experience treating individuals with developmental disabilities, mental health disorders, and neurological needs
- We are DCF vendors, work with DDS, and provide IEP and B23 services
- Infinity also provides **customized professional development workshops** for individuals looking to use music to connect to their clients or students
- All services can be provided **virtually**
- “Like” us on Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/infinitymusictherapy/> for **free live streams** of sing alongs, dancing, and music activities



# The Kennedy Center

2440 Reservoir Drive, Trumbull, CT 06611

[www.thekennedycenterinc.org](http://www.thekennedycenterinc.org)



## We provide a wide range of services and supports:

- Therapeutic Services
- Developmental, Independent Living Assessments
- Competitive Integrated and Supported Employment



- **The Kennedy Center empowers people with disabilities to reach their full potential**
- Headquartered in Trumbull, Connecticut The Kennedy Center provides statewide services, with a focus in Fairfield and New Haven Counties. The Kennedy Center is one of the largest and most highly regarded community rehabilitation organizations in the state.
- **We support the special needs of children, teens, adults and seniors who have intellectual, developmental, mental health, physical, and other disabilities**, focusing on their individual needs, dreams and aspirations while supporting them to thrive in their communities.



# KidSense Therapy Group, LLC

Email: [KidSense@KidSenseTherapyGroup.com](mailto:KidSense@KidSenseTherapyGroup.com)

Phone: (203) 874-5437

Website: [www.KidSenseTherapyGroup.com](http://www.KidSenseTherapyGroup.com)



- At KidSense Therapy Group, we provide the highest quality of Speech & Language Therapy, Social-Cognitive Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Feeding Therapy, Physical Therapy, Executive Functioning Coaching and Mental Health Counseling services. Therapy is typically delivered within individual sessions. Additionally, there are also options to participate in small groups.





## Pediatric Therapy Program

### FAIRFIELD

1931 Black Rock Tpke  
(203) 384-8681

### WESTPORT

728 Post Road East  
(203) 341-0488

### STRATFORD

728 Post Road East  
(203) 378-0092

### MILFORD

728 Post Road East  
(203) 783-1997

### SHELTON

555 Bridgeport Ave.  
(203) 922-1773

- Our exceptional team of **licensed occupational, physical, and speech therapists** provide services to children with a variety of diagnoses and special needs!
- Our clinicians work together with **licensed clinical social workers** and a **registered dietitian** in a family-centered approach to best determine and address each child's specific needs
- We provide child-friendly, state of the art environments (including **aquatics**). Your child will have **FUN** while working to reach his or her individual potential!
- Family involvement is crucial to a child's progress. Our clinicians will work closely with your family to educate you about your child's strengths and limitations, in addition to providing activities that can be done at home to further your child's progress.
- We are now excited to offer **Teletherapy**!

For more information visit <http://rehabilitationassociatesinc.com/>

OR contact Ali Gilbey (Pediatric Director) at (203)-384-8681 or [A.Gilbey@RehabAssocInc.com](mailto:A.Gilbey@RehabAssocInc.com)



# The SEED Center

30 Buxton Farm Rd. Suite 105

Stamford, CT

203-674-8200

[mdelucia@seedautismcenter.com](mailto:mdelucia@seedautismcenter.com)

- The SEED Center is the premier provider of **Autism Services** in CT. We strive to create an effective and rewarding learning experience at our center, in your home, in your school or in the community. Our staff is experienced in providing the following services:
  - **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**
  - **Parent training**
  - **Social skills services**
- Our team is composed of dedicated Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs). Our goal is to create the largest impact in the lives of individuals with autism. We stand by our commitment to provide quality autism services for our clients across Fairfield County.
- The SEED Center is in-network with the following insurances:
  - **Optum Behavioral Health: United Healthcare, Oxford, Connecticare and UMR**
  - **Aetna: Coventry and First Health**



<https://seedautismcenter.com/>





# Speech Language & Literacy Partners

Nicole Nascimento, M.S., CCC-SLP  
SL2partner@gmail.com



- As a practicing speech-language pathologist (SLP) for nearly two decades, educated at Teachers College, Columbia University, and a mother of a child with dyslexia, Nicole Nascimento understands the development of language and literacy skills in children and adolescents. As a result of her clinical and personal experience she is well versed in the diagnosis, assessment, and treatment of language-based learning disorders as well as the emotional and educational challenges these disorders can present for students and their families.
- Nicole's holistic approach considers all aspects of a child's development to empower students and their families. She has built a practice around bringing context to a student's diagnosis and providing actionable steps to facilitate the development of language and literacy skills in her clients, and remove the frustration felt by so many families and children alike.
- Her personal experience has highlighted the need and importance for a synchronized approach between diagnostician, teachers, and family members.
- She incorporates this principle into her daily practice as an SLP, as a consultant, and a professional development provider for teachers, SLPs, and SETs in public and private schools across Fairfield county.



# St. Vincent's Special Needs Services

95 Merritt Boulevard, Trumbull, CT 06611

[www.stvincentsspecialneeds.org](http://www.stvincentsspecialneeds.org)

## Our Services

View all Our Programs and Services for  
Individuals with Disabilities

[Birth-to-Three Services](#)

[Alternative School for Ages 3-21](#)

[Autism Services](#)

[Transitioning to Adult](#)

[Adult Day Services](#)

[Children's Residential Services](#)

[Adult Residential Services](#)

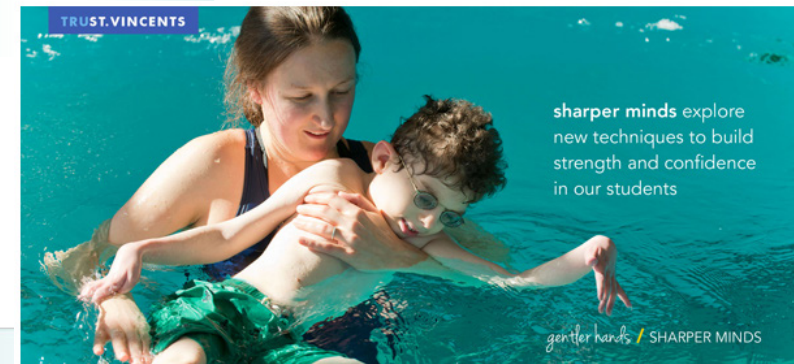
[Therapeutic Services](#)

[Family Support Services](#)



sharper minds know every  
person is capable of learning  
gentler hands seek every  
opportunity to teach

gentler hands / SHARPER MINDS



sharper minds explore  
new techniques to build  
strength and confidence  
in our students

gentler hands / SHARPER MINDS



gentler hands nurture students  
in an enriched environment  
where creativity is cherished  
and diversity is celebrated

gentler hands / SHARPER MINDS



Active/Social

Advocacy

Education

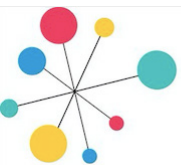
Finance/Legal

Health

Therapy

Transition





**YALE CHILD  
STUDY CENTER**

*Where discovery inspires care*



# Do you have a child with autism?

The Yale Child Study Center  
is seeking participants for studies of  
**Pivotal Response Treatment** and  
**Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy.**

Participants will receive FREE therapy and  
compensation of up to \$350 upon completion.

To be eligible, participants must:

- Have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder
- Be able to complete study assessments, including fMRI
- Commute to New Haven

**To learn more, please contact:**

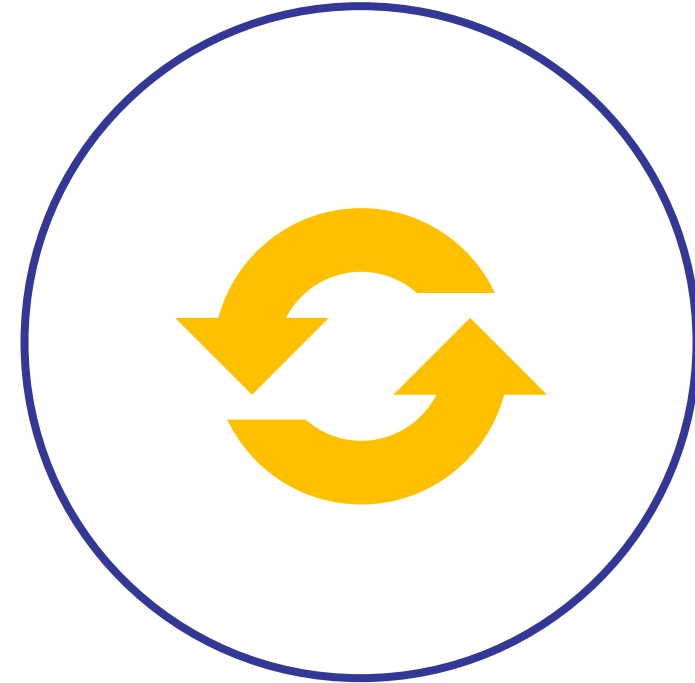
*Children 5-8 years old:* (203) 737-4378

*Children 8-14 years old with anxiety:* (203) 737-7664

Yale HIC # 2000021581 Yale HIC # 01211011144



# TRANSITION... and Beyond



# Transition Planning

## The Facts: What do you need to know

- Transition into the adult world presents challenges for all young people. The process of transition may be more difficult for some youth with disabilities and will require unique strategies to enable each student to achieve the maximum possible independence in working, living and participating in the community as adults.
- Transition planning is a process that brings together a student, family and those individuals directly involved in helping the student prepare to enter a post-school environment.** It is designed to ensure that the student will be provided the necessary skills and services to make a smooth transition from school to adult life with as little interruption as possible. Unless the transition process is formalized, little thought or planning is given to the student's future service or program needs.
- As mandated by the reauthorization of I.D.E.A., all students must have transition plans by age 16.



**FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

***There are three areas that must be discussed  
when participating in a  
transition planning meeting***

What is the student's long term goal in the area of :  
**Employment?**  
**Independent Living?**  
**Postsecondary Education?**

- Quality transition planning is achieved when the process is initiated at an early age (age 13 or younger). A team comprised of the student, family member(s), school personnel, agency representatives and significant others, meet to assist the young student in defining a vision for the future. The overall value of the meeting is the sharing of knowledge about the student's strengths, interests, and preferences in order to create a map of where help is needed, and what experiences are going to be valuable over the high school years.

**For more information and useful links and tools go to:**

<https://www.fairfieldschools.org/departments/special-education/transition-planning>







# ARI of Connecticut, Inc.

## Program Contacts:

Darlene Caviness, Director of Day Services, Email: [cavinessd@arict.org](mailto:cavinessd@arict.org)

Patrizia Scialis, Director of Residential Services, Email: [scialis@arict.org](mailto:scialis@arict.org)

## Day Programs:

- Group Supported Employment Services - small group cleaning crew working at several business locations in the local community in order to develop skills with a goal of individual supported employment.
- Individualized Supported Employment Services – career planning, development and support services to identify, obtain, and maintain competitive employment. Individualized.
- Day Service Options – Activities and volunteer opportunities designed to maximize independence and improve daily living skills, including pre-vocational skills. Activities are based on individual need, choice and preference.
- School to Adult Life Transition Services - ensure that all students with disabilities receive appropriate academic, independent living, social and vocational skills training in order for them to be as independent and successful as possible after graduation

## Residential Programs:

- Community Residences – shared group living arrangements where individuals are encouraged to achieve personal goals in order to live as independently as possible.
- Individual Home Supports Services – independent living for those individuals who are generally able to live on their own or with a roommate, but require some assistance in order to do so successfully and safely.





# Chapel Haven Schleifer Center

1040 Whalley Avenue New Haven, CT 06515 • (203) 397-1714 • [chandler@chapelhaven.org](mailto:chandler@chapelhaven.org) • [admission@chapelhaven.org](mailto:admission@chapelhaven.org)

- Chapel Haven Schleifer Center is a nationally accredited transitional living program and approved private special education school with a mission of **empowering adults (18+) with developmental and social disabilities to live independent and self-determined lives.**
- Our comprehensive, individualized day and residential programs located in CT and AZ provide learning in practical academics, job development, life skills, apartment living, social communicative competence, recreation and help with college. Students then transition into a community apartment with lifelong support services and a continuing education component.
- We also offer structured day programs, recreation programs, vocational training and several virtual learning & social opportunities. **Learn more at [www.chapelhaven.org](http://www.chapelhaven.org)!**



 **CHapel HAVEN  
SCHLEIFER CENTER**  
GROW THRIVE BELONG



# Next Step Solutions NY

Eric Homburger, MA, *Founder & CEO*  
<https://www.nextstepsolutionsny.com>  
(516) 512-1621

## Next Step SolutionsNY

- ★ **Next Step Solutions NY** is a company based on Long Island, NY that is designed to help students with Autism and other related disorders **find the perfect college program!**
- ★ We work closely with students and their families, in order to find the support program and college that **best fits their needs.**
- ★ We help **guide** students and their families through the college application process, to help them apply to the programs they desire.
- ★ All students receive a **professional resume** to submit with their college applications, which they can keep and use for future job applications.





# Transition CT



- ◆ **School Programs**
- ◆ **Post Graduate/Gap Year**
- ◆ **Transition**
- ◆ **Daily Living Skills**
- ◆ **Comm-UNITY**
- ◆ **Social**

169 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT 06468  
[www.TransitionCT.org](http://www.TransitionCT.org)

[www.TransitionCT.org](http://www.TransitionCT.org)

203-261-4555

169 Monroe Turnpike,  
Monroe, CT 06468



## STUDENT PROGRAMS/SCHOOLS

- Half Day and Full Day, Transition Programs
- Career Exploration and Life Skills
- Post Graduate/Gap Year Internship Programs
- Extended School Year/Summer (ESY)
- Job Placement and Career Coaching



Approved CT State Department  
of Education Bureau of  
Special Education  
Transitional/Vocational Program

Career Exploration, Prevocational Skills, Interview Preparedness/Resume and Community Work Experience. Life Planning and Post Graduate Academic or Trade Program alternative will be introduced. School District Goals will be intertwined with all transition programming.



## DAILY PROGRAMS...

Living skills, social and enrichment activities will take place in the community and at the TransitionCT campus. Independent skills are developed through a person-centered planning approach. Individualized programming focuses on cognition, developing relationships, life skills, sensory motor, work skills and opportunities to earn money.

CT Department of Developmental  
Services (DDS) Qualified Provider



Visit our website [www.transitionct.org](http://www.transitionct.org)  
for information and application.

Call us at (203) 261-4555

# Woofgang & Co.

To learn more about our **programs**, to **get involved** or just to **do a little online shopping** to support a great cause...  
Please feel free to check us out online: <https://www.woofgangco.org/>

There are links directly on that page to contact us.



- **Woofgang & Co.** is a local, non-profit that seeks to bring **job & vocational training to young adults ages 18 and older.**
- As producers of **gluten free dog treats** and other pet novelty items, we provide both a **production & retail experience** that is tailored to the abilities of the individual.



# JARGON BUSTER & INDEX OF PROVIDERS



# Jargon Buster: Special Education and Disability

**AAC** | Alternative Augmentative Communication  
**ABA** | Applied Behavioral Analysis  
**ADA** | Americans with Disabilities Act  
**ADD/ADHD** | Attention Deficit/Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder  
**ADLs** | Activities of Daily Living  
**APE** | Adaptive Physical Education  
**ASD** | Autism Spectrum Disorders  
**ASL** | American Sign Language  
**AT** | Assistive Technology  
**AYP** | Adequate Yearly Progress

**BD** | Behavioral Disorder  
**BIP** | Behavioral Intervention Plan  
**BSP** | Behavior Support Plan  
**BOE** | Board of Education

**CBA** | Curriculum Based Assessment  
**CCSS** | Common Core State Standards  
**CDA** | Child Development Associate  
**CD** | Cognitive Delay  
**COTA** | Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant  
**CP** | Cerebral Palsy

**DB** | Deaf-Blind  
**DD** | Developmental Delay  
**DDS** | Department of Developmental Services  
**DOE** | Department of Education  
**DoH** | Department of Health  
**DPH** | Due Process Hearing Officer  
**DSM** | *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* by the American Psychiatric Association  
**DSS** | Department of Social Services

**ECE** | Early Childhood Education  
**EBD** | Emotional Disturbance  
**EHDI** | Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program  
**EI** | Early Intervention  
**ESD** | Extended School Day  
**ESEA** | Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
**ESL** | English as a Second Language  
**ESY or EYS** | Extended School Year or Extended Year Services

**FAPE** | Free Appropriate Public Education  
**FBA** | Functional Behavioral Assessment  
**FERPA** | Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act  
**FM** | Focused Monitoring

**GE** | General Education  
**GT** | Gifted and Talented  
  
**HI** | Hearing Impaired  
**HQT** | Highly Qualified Teacher

**IA** | Instructional Assistant  
**IAES** | Interim Alternative Educational Setting  
**ID** | Intellectual Disabilities  
**IDEA** | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
**IEE** | Independent Educational Evaluation  
**IEP** | Individualized Education Program  
**IFSP** | Individualized Family Service Plan  
**IQ** | Intelligence Quotient  
**ITP** | Individualized Transition Plan

**LD** | Learning Disability  
**LEA** | Local Education Agency  
**LRE** | Least Restrictive Environment

# Jargon Buster: Special Education and Disability



**MD** | Muscular Dystrophy

**MD or MH** | Multiple Disabilities or Multiply Handicapped

**MMR** | Mildly Mentally Retarded \*\*

**Mod MR** | Moderately Mentally Retarded \*\*

**MR** | Mental Retardation \*\*

**NAMI** | National Alliance on Mental Illness

**NCLB** | No Child Left Behind Act (Elementary and Secondary Education Act)

**NEA** | National Education Association

**NECTAC** | National Early Childhood and Technical Assistance Center

**OCD** | Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

**ODD** | Oppositional Defiant Disorder

**OHI** | Other Health Impairment

**OI** | Orthopedic Impairment

**O & M** | Orientation and Mobility Services

**OT** | Occupational Therapy

**PALS** | Peer-Assisted Learning System

**PASS** | Plan for Achieving Self-Support

**PBS** | Positive Behavioral Supports

**PD** | Physical Disability

**PR** | Percentiles or Percentile Ranks

**PDD** | Pervasive Developmental Disorder

**PEI** | Spanish acronym for the Individualized Education Program (Plan Educativo Individualizado)

**PLEP or PLP** | Present Level of Educational Performance or Present Level of Performance

**PP** | Paraprofessional

**PS** | Preschool

**PT** | Physical Therapy

**RDA** | Results-Driven Accountability

**RS** | Related Services

**RTI** | Response to Intervention

**SA** | Self-Assessment

**SAS** | Supplementary Aids and Services

**SAT** | Student Assistance Team

**SE or SPED** | Special Education

**Section 504** | Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

**SED** | Serious Emotional Disturbance

**SI** | Sensory Integration

**SLP** | Speech Language Pathologist

**SLD** | Specific Learning Disability

**SLI** | Speech/Language Impairment

**SLP** | Speech/Language Pathologist

**SSDI** | Social Security Disability Income

**SSI** | Supplemental Security Income

**TBI** | Traumatic Brain Injury

**TDD** | Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf

**TS** | Tourette Syndrome

**TWWIIA** | Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act

**USDOE** | United States Department of Education

**VI** | Visual Impairment

**Voc Ed** | Vocational Education

**VR** | Vocational Rehabilitation

Active/Social

Advocacy

Education

Finance/Legal

Health

Therapy

Transition



For more detailed glossary of terms, IDEA description and state and national resources: <https://www.fairfieldschools.org/departments/special-education>



# Who's Who

Thank you to our contributors!

- Advocacy for Kids
- ARI of CT
- Autism Learning Partners
- Chapel Haven Schleifer Center
- Charm Medical Supply
- Children's Therapy and Learning Center
- Cindy Scope, Psychologist
- Connecticut Dance School
- Connecticut Family Support Network (CTFSN)
- CT Parent Advocacy Center/CPAC
- CT DDS Families First
- Connec-to-talk
- Constellation School Based Therapy
- Developing Brains
- Fairfield Adaptive Rec
- Fairfield American League Challenger Baseball
- Fairfield Police Department
- Fairfield SEPTA
- Family Care Visiting Nurse & Home Care Agency
- Fairfield Public Schools
- The Hangout Spot LLC
- High Quality Home Therapy
- Infinity Music Therapy Services
- JumpSTARs (JCC and STAR Inc)
- Kid Sense Therapy Group LLC
- Kennedy Center
- Law Office of Lawrence W. Berliner
- Lindamood-Bell
- Literacy Learning & Assessment Center
- Michael Beloff, Stratos Wealth Management
- Music Together
- Next Step Solutions
- Nolan Menachemson (1847Financial)
- Only You Foundation
- Planning Across the Spectrum
- Ray Greenberg Basketball League
- Rehabilitation Associates
- SEED Center
- Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities
- Speech Language and Literacy Partners
- SPED\*NET Wilton
- St. Catherine Center for Special Needs
- St Vincent's Special Needs Services
- Stephen Ehrens, CPA - Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
- Swim Angelfish
- Transition CT
- Woofgang
- Yale Autism Program
- Yale Child Study (Sukhodolsky Lab at the Yale Child Study Center)



*Thank You!*

*We hope to see  
more of you in  
2020-2021!*



**SEPTA**

**Fairfield Special Education PTA, Inc.**