

Resources for Children with Learning Differences, Neurodiversity, Mental Health Challenges, and/or other Disabilities *

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*Note: This is not a comprehensive list of all the services and supports that are available, nor is it a prescriptive list. Different people have different ideas about what is best for each child. This is merely an array of the types of services and supports that may be helpful in building on a child's strengths and supporting them with challenges and/or lagging skills.

** In addition, this list is not necessarily an endorsement of the people contained on this list.

Advocates, Attorneys, and Self-Advocacy

- **Nonprofit Legal Organizations**

- Disability Rights California, <https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/get-help>, 1-800-776-5746
- Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, <https://dredf.org/> 1-800-348-4232 or email iephhelp@dredf.org

- **Private Attorneys, Advocates, and Consultants**

- Edith Ben Ari <edith@brightmindsconsulting.org>, <https://brightmindsconsulting.org/contact-me>
- Lilly Chen, <https://oaklaw.org/chen-law-office-lillian-chen/>
- Toby Levenson Fiduciary Services, CLPF #1029, (Toby Levenson is a fiduciary; she consults families to set up special needs trusts.) tlevenson@gmail.com, levensonfiduciary@gmail.com, 510.435.5531
- Gina Miller <http://www.ginamillerconsulting.com/>
- Tatiana Guerreiro Ramos <https://www.classroommatters.com/advocacy-iep-504>
- Tollner Law Offices <https://specialeducationcounsel.com/>
- Natashe Washington Esq <https://www.natashewashington.com/>

- **Self-Advocacy**

- **WCCSD Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CAC)**, which is a mandated organization whose purpose is to advise the district on the unique requirements of individuals with exceptional needs. Here is the website to

learn more: <https://www.wccusd.net/Page/485>.

- **Classroom Matters**, <https://www.classroommatters.com/advocacy-iep-504>
- **Disability Rights California**
 - Special Education Rights and Responsibilities, free online book and toolkit by Disability Rights California and CASE, <https://serr.disabilityrightsca.org>
 - Sample letters, by Disability Rights CA and CASE, <https://serr.disabilityrightsca.org/serr-manual/appendix/>
- **Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund**, <https://dredf.org/>
- **East Bay Community Law Center**, <https://ebclc.org/need-services/education-defense-justice-for-youth-services/>
- **From Emotions to Advocacy**, book by Wrightslaw (available at amazon or Wrightslaw), <https://www.wrightslaw.com/store/feta2.sm.store.html>
- **Matrix Parents**, <https://www.matrixparents.org/resources/iep-and-special-education/>
- **Parent Training and Information Center** classes, resources and materials, <https://www.parentcenterhub.org/find-your-center/>
- **Wrightslaw** website, <https://www.wrightslaw.com>

Camps and Extracurricular Activities

- **Piedmont Recreation Department**, https://piedmont.ca.gov/services___departments/recreation: They have some great year round and summer programs, including their adaptive programming and sidekicks program.
- **Quest Therapeutic Camp**, <https://www.questcamps.com/> (It's far away and expensive, but may be covered by some insurance. They also have shuttles that help with the commute. It's a very well-run program.)
- **Sienna Ranch**, <https://siennaranch.net/programs-for/special-needs/>

- **Words in the Wild**, revolutionizing the way reading is taught—kids become scientists who investigate words as they explore the world around them, <https://www.wordsinthewild.org/>

Counselors, Doctors, and Therapists

- **Bay Area Clinical Associates:** Mental Health Treatment for Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults. We were able to get in quickly via TeleHealth when many other resources had a long wait list.
- **Hallowell Todaro ADHD Center:** Treatment, education, and community resources centered on a strengths-based approach to ADHD, <https://www.hallowelltodaro.com/california-team>
- **Dr. Keith Sutton**, <https://www.drkeithsutton.com/> Psychotherapy (child-centered and parental support): Individual structured/directive therapy for child to focus on enhancing behavioral and emotional regulation skills.
- **UCSF Center for ASD and NDDs**, <https://autism.ucsf.edu/> (Note: Somer Bishop and her team are amazing.)
- **UCSF Osher Center/ Integrated Pediatrics/** (particularly good for those who want to explore non-pharmacological treatments and interventions).

Educational Resources

- **Classroom Matters:** <https://www.classroommatters.com/>
- **Strategies for Learning:** <https://strategiesforlearning.com/>
- **Words in the Wild:** revolutionizing the way reading is taught—kids become scientists who investigate words as they explore the world around them, <https://www.wordsinthewild.org/>

Neuropsychologists

- **Dr. Liz Angoff**
Drlizangoff.com
Confidential Voicemail: (510) 423-3329

Email: Liz@DrLizAngoff.com

- **Maya Guendelman, PhD**
Pediatric Neuropsychologist
Assistant Clinical Professor
University of California, Berkeley
Phone: (510) 843-2005, ext. 4,
Email: dr.maya@bayareaneuropsych.com
Website: www.bayareaneuropsych.com

Occupational Therapists

- **Full Circle Collective**
 - **Christina Sosa, MOT, OTR/L**
Pediatric Occupational Therapist
510-508-7822
 - **Hannah E. Beggan, MOTR/L**
Pediatric Occupational Therapist
FCCollectiveOT@gmail.com
Clinic: 510-250-9164
- **Pediatric Motor Playground**, <https://www.pediatricmotorplayground.com/>

Parenting

- **SPACE treatment** (Supportive Parenting of Anxious Childhood Emotions), Emily Berner, San Francisco Bay Area Center for Cognitive Therapy,
<https://www.sfbacct.com/emily-berner/>
- **Wits' End Parenting**, Rebecah Freeling, witsendparenting.com, (614) 769-3563 (c)
(510) 619-5920 (o)
- **Other Bay Area Parent Groups**
 - **Piedmonters for Inclusive Education (PIE)**, <https://www.piedmontie.org/>, a parent-led organization that works in partnership with the Piedmont Unified School District in Piedmont, California and other parent groups to create a supportive and inclusive environment for students with disabilities and learning

differences, as well as their families.

- **REEL 2E**, <https://www.reel2e.org/>, REEL strives to ensure Silicon Valley twice-exceptional students thrive in school by raising parent and educator awareness and understanding of practical, research-based strategies to address their needs successfully. REEL provides resources, events, tools, workshops, and services.
- **SEED Lafayette**, <https://www.seedlafayette.org/>, Support and Resources for families and educators of children with diverse learning needs.

Social Skills

- **Confidence Club**, Kate Ekman, Psy.D., ConfidenceClubCA.com, drkate@confidenceclubca.com, (510) 255-5141
- **Outdoor Kids OT**, social skills play group in Tilden Park, <https://www.outdoorkidsot.com/>
- **Sienna Ranch SEED Group**, <https://siennaranch.net/programs-for/special-needs/>
- **Super Social Explorers**, Piedmont Recreation Department, <https://piedmont.ca.gov/cms/one.aspx?portalId=13659823&pageId=16462403>

Websites, Books, and Podcasts

- ADDitude Magazine, <https://www.additudemag.com/>
- Big Life Journal and the Growth Mindset, <https://biglifejournal.com/>
- With Understanding Comes Calm, <https://www.withunderstandingcomescalm.com/>, supporting 2E families and kids (including the book Gifted and Distractible)
- Eli Lebowitz, Breaking Free of Child Anxiety and OCD (2021)
- Linda K. Murphy, Declarative Language Handbook: Using a Thoughtful Language Style to Help Kids with Social Learning Challenges Feel Competent, Connected, and Understood.

- Marshall B. Rosenberg, Nonviolent Communication, 3rd Edition
- Julie Skolnick, Gifted and Distractible: Understanding, Supporting, and Advocating for your Twice Exceptional Child (2023)