

FLORIDA

State Resources

UMDF Support Groups & Ambassadors:

[Click here](#) for information on the Central Florida Support Group

[Click here](#) for information on Ambassadors in the state of Florida

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities was designed, by Executive Order, to be a policy advising body, collecting, analyzing, advocating, and advising on issues involving persons with disabilities. The Governor's Commission receives input from various sources, most importantly the public, as well as universities, state agencies, and non-profit organizations.

4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 315K

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950

Phone: (850) 487-3423

TTY: (850) 410-0684

Fax: (850) 414-8908

http://dms.myflorida.com/other_programs/governor_s_commission_on_disabilities

Easter Seals of Florida

Children and adults with disabilities and special needs find the highest-quality services designed to meet their individual needs when they come to Easter Seals Florida. Teams of therapists, teachers and other health professionals help each person overcome obstacles to independence and reach his or her personal goals. Easter Seals Florida also includes families as active members of any therapy program, and offers the support families need.

2010 Mizell Avenue

Winter Park, FL 32792

Phone: (407) 629-7881

Fax: (407) 629-4754

http://fl.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=FLDR_homepage

Heart of Florida United Way

Founded in 1939, HFUW is Central Florida's largest supporter of local health and human service agencies.

1940 Traylor Blvd.

Orlando, FL 32804

Phone: (407)-835-0900

<http://www.hfuw.org>

UCP of Florida

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) was founded more than 60 years ago – in 1949 – by parents of children with cerebral palsy. Today, UCP is a leading service provider and advocate for children and adults with disabilities. Since its inception, UCP has been committed to change and progress for persons with disabilities and strives to ensure the inclusion into every facet of society – from the web to the workplace, from the classroom to the community – to ensure a life without limits for people with disabilities.

1830 Buford Court

Tallahassee, FL 32308

Phone: (850) 878-2141

Fax: (850) 922-1258

<http://www.ucp.org/main.cfm/54>

Agency for Persons with Disabilities

The APD works in partnership with local communities and private providers to assist people who have developmental disabilities and their families. APD also provides assistance in identifying the needs of people with developmental disabilities for supports and services.

4030 Esplanade Way, Suite 380

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0950

Phone: (866)-273-2273

<http://www.apd.myflorida.com>

Children's Medical Services

The Children's Medical Services (CMS) program provides children with special health care needs with a family centered, managed system of care. Children with special health care needs are those children under age 21 whose serious or chronic physical or developmental conditions require extensive preventive and maintenance care beyond that required by typically healthy children.

Phone: (850)-245-4200

<http://www.cms-kids.com>

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology

FAAST works with consumers, family members, caregivers, providers and agencies to ensure that individuals with disabilities continue to benefit from assistive technology as they move between home, school, work and the community. FAAST is a non-profit organization funded by the US Department of Education through the Assistive Technology Act of 2004, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), private foundations and individuals.

325 John Knox Road, Building 400, Suite 402

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: (888)-788-9216

<http://www.faast.org>

Florida Department of Early Intervention (Early Steps)

The Department of Early Intervention provides services to children demonstrating delays or disabilities between the ages of birth and their third birthday. Services are determined through a developmental assessment and parental priorities, and may include speech, physical, or occupational therapy, behavioral intervention, specialized instruction, parent training, and other services. In Florida, this agency is referred to as Early Steps.

Phone: (800)-654-4440

http://www.cms-kids.com/home/faqs/early_steps.html

Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS)

The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (pronounced “fiddlers”) is a network of 19 Associate and 4 Specialized Centers in Florida that provide support services to educators, parents, and other professionals who work with exceptional students.

<http://www.fdlrs.com>

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

The primary mission of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council is to promote innovative programs and practices designed to prevent developmental disabilities and improve the quality of life of individuals with such disabilities and their families. The Council, a non-profit organization that receives its funding from the Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration on Developmental Disabilities, was founded in 1971 and operates independently of any agency or department of state.

124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: (800)-580-7801

TDD: (888)-488-8633

<http://www.fddc.org>

Florida Discount Drug Card Program

The Florida Discount Drug Card is designed to lower the cost of prescriptions for Florida residents who are age 60 and older and without prescription drug coverage or who fall into the Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage gap; or under age 60, without prescription drug coverage, and with an annual family income of less than 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Phone: (866)-341-8894

<http://www.floridadiscountdrugcard.com>

Florida Healthy Kids and Florida KidCare Programs

Florida Healthy Kids and KidCare are health insurance programs for children from birth through age 18, with very low monthly premiums. The programs are:

Florida Healthy Kids Corporation

P. O. Box 980

Tallahassee, FL 32302

Phone: (888)-540-5437

<http://www.healthykids.org>

Florida KidCare

Phone: (888)-540-5437

<http://www.floridakidcare.org>

Florida MediKids

Phone: (877)-506-0578

<http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/Medicaid/MediKids/index.shtml>

Florida Inclusion Network

The Florida Inclusion Network provides learning opportunities, consultation, information and support to educators, families, and community members, resulting in the inclusion of all students.

Florida State University

355 North Monroe Street, Suite B

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: (888)-232-0421

<http://www.floridainclusionnetwork.com>

Florida Independent Living Council

FILC's purpose is to promote independent living opportunities for persons with disabilities throughout the state of Florida.

1416 North Adams Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: (877)-822-1993

<http://www.flailc.org>

Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc. (FND)

Providing training, information, resources and referrals for families of children with disabilities.

2196 Main St, Suite K

Dunedin, FL 34698

Phone: (800)-825-5736

<http://www.fndfl.org>

Parent Education Network (PEN)

A statewide project providing information, support, training, and technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, their families, and professionals.

2196 Main St, Suite K

Dunedin, FL 34698

Phone: (800)-825-5736

<http://www.fndfl.org/projects/pen/index.asp>

The Family Café

The Family Café began in 1998 as an attempt to meet an urgent need among persons with disabilities and their families: the need for information. The Annual Family Cafe would provide a unique environment, where families could connect with peers, commercial service providers, and public entities to find out what services were available to them, which best met their needs, and how to go about securing those services. The guiding principle of The Family Café has always been the belief that well-informed people make the best decisions for themselves and their loved ones.

1322 North Duval Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: (850)-224-4670

Toll-Free: (888)-309-CAFÉ

Fax: (850)-224-4674

<http://www.familycafe.net>

Florida Respite Coalition, Inc.

2304 Aloma Avenue, Suite 100

Winter Park, FL 32792

Phone: 407-740-8909

Fax: 407-644-6548

Toll Free: 866-FL-RELIEF

email: contact@floridarespite.org

Ensuring Lifespan for Generations

Web: <http://www.floridarespite.org>

Protection and Advocacy Agency

Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities

2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102

Tallahassee, FL 32301

850-488-9071

Toll Free: (800) 342-0823

Fax: (850) 488-8640

TDD: (800) 346-4127

Web: www.AdvocacyCenter.org

Variety Orlando

“Variety **Kids on the Go!** aims to help kids gain mobility, confidence, freedom, independence and the chance to join in the life of their community by providing funding for walkers, wheelchairs, specially-designed adaptive bikes, strollers, prosthetic limbs and other devices to families with the most need. The program also puts more **Sunshine Coaches**, specially-equipped passenger vans, on the road to provide mobility-disadvantaged children with much-needed transportation to medical care, school, and outreach activities.”

Tent #70

520 N Semoran Blvd, Suite 220

Orlando, Florida 32807

tel: 407.422.KIDS (5437)

fax: 407.382.1234

Web: <http://www.varietyflorida.org/about.html>

MyChild’s Advocate, Inc.

“Helps develop your child's medical, diagnostic, and educational records. We also provide IEP coaching and attendance at any or all IEP or school meeting. We work with you to determine what school placement fits your child's needs. In addition, we help locate sources of therapy, doctors, organizations, support groups, or any other sources of help for you and your family. We are dedicated to helping your child achieve a fulfilling and meaningful life.”

Lauren Morris, MSLIS

PO Box 163184

Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-3184

407-592-0081

lauren@my-childsadvocate.com

www.my-childsadvocate.com