

Autism Resource Directory

Central Texas Region

A resource for parents, educators and organizations seeking information about community services for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders within the Central Texas Region.

Compiled by Baylor University's Autism Resource Center.
www.baylor.edu/soe/autism

April 2009 Version

Please note that reference in this manual to any treatment or therapy option or to any program, service or treatment provider is not an endorsement of those treatments, therapy options, programs, services or providers by Baylor University or any of its employees. In addition, such references to treatment or therapy options, programs, services or providers are not intended to be comprehensive statements of all those that are available. We recommend that readers investigate other resources to obtain additional information for individual applications. Baylor University and its employees assume no responsibility for the use made of any information published in this manual.

Baylor University employees compiled this resource guide with the help of various community members. Baylor University's Autism Resource Center would like to especially thank the members of the Heart of Texas Autism Network who provided much of the information included in the guide. We have made every effort to ensure that this list is accurate, but we recognize that some of this information may change. Please help us by e-mailing any additions, changes, corrections, or suggestions to Autism@Baylor.edu.

INDEX**Page**

Advocates/Parent Assistants.....	4
After School Care.....	6
Attorneys.....	6
Babysitters.....	7
Businesses.....	7
Camps/Summer Programs.....	7
Churches.....	19
Community Facilities/Events.....	21
Dentists.....	25
Doctors.....	26
Optometrists/Ophthalmologists...	27
Mother's Day Out.....	28
OT/PT/Speech/ABA/Other.....	28
Parent Resources.....	32
Psychiatrists.....	33
Psychologists.....	34
Social Services.....	34

ADVOCATES/ PARENT ASSISTANTS

Advocacy Incorporated

7800 Shoal Creek Blvd. #171-E

Austin, TX 78757-1024

512-454-4816 (V/TDD)

512-323-0902 (Fax)

1-800-252-9108 (V/TDD)

infoai@advocacyinc.org

<http://www.advocacyinc.org/index.cfm>

To advocate for, protect and advance the legal, human and service rights of people with disabilities.

David Beinke

Advocate

1901 East Palm Valley Blvd

Round Rock TX 78664

Phone: (512) 784-3666

Fax: (512) 244-6014

specialmarine@yahoo.com

Serves Texas but can telephonically attend ARD's anywhere. Offers a full range of special and regular education services by a former Marine Corps Sgt. Offers non-attorney representation in ARD's, 504 meetings, mediation, due process, OCR complaints, ADA complaints, and complaints about ISD staff using internal and certification protocols.

Cirkiel & Associates, P.C.

Phone 512-244-6658

Fax (512) 244-6014

E-mail: thefirm@cirkielaw.com

<http://www.cirkielaw.com/>

Cirkiel & Associates, P.C. is a unique law firm that provides both general legal services to the Central Texas community and specific legal representation to persons (and their families) with mental illness, cognitive impairments, and/or physical disability.

Council of Parent Attorneys & Advocates

www.copaa.com/

The Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Inc. (COPAA) is an independent, nonprofit, §501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization of attorneys, advocates and parents. Our primary mission is to secure high quality educational services for children with disabilities. COPAA is premised on the belief that the key to effective educational programs for children with disabilities is collaboration -as equals- by parents and educators.

Education Advocacy

3427 Speegleville Rd

Waco, TX 76712

Phone: 254-723-4941

Email: rene@education-advocacy.org

Advocacy services are provided anywhere in central or north Texas. For an initial consultation, full consultation, or other advocacy service, contact Education Advocacy.

Jimmy Kilpatrick

Special Education Advocate and Consultant

<http://www.specialedadvocate.org/>

SpecialEdAdvocate.org

P.O. Box 17392

Sugar Land, Texas 77496-17392

(832) 814-7463

Phyllis Nairn

Advocate

P. O. Box 10207

Killeen, TX 76547-0207

254 466-1878

pnairn001@hot.rr.com

My name is Phyllis Nairn and I am an advocate with a little experience. I volunteer my services to help parents. I can travel to meet parents as well at no cost to them. I am a certified teacher with Elementary, Reading and English Endorsement as well as special education. I also have my mid-management certification. I have taught special education and have been a high school special education coordinator.

Partners Resource Network

1-800-866-4726

<http://www.partnerstx.org/>

Darla Bower

Regional Coordinator-Regions 12 & 13

PATH Project

(512) 642-4226

Partners Resource Network (PRN) is a non-profit agency that operates the statewide network of federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI's) in Texas. The programs and services of PRN are based on the concept of parents helping parents. Our mission is to empower parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children and to promote partnerships among parents and professionals.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Arc of McLennan County

1825 Morrow

Waco, TX

254-756-7491

Executive Director: Tom Pearson- tpearson@hotmail.com

<http://www.wacoarc.org/>

From 3:00 to 5:30 pm each school day, the Arc offers care and activities for school-aged children with autism, mental retardation, and other developmental disabilities. This program allows parents to complete their workdays.

Boulders Sport Climbing Center

325 Indian Trail

Harker Heights, TX

254-690-9790

<http://www.climbboulders.com/boulders.html>

We have found Boulders in Harker Heights to be great. They provide after school care from 3:00-6:00 for \$25.00 a week.

Klaras Children's Center Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

(254) 297-7089 or (254) 297-7088 or

Toll free at 1-866-752-3451, ext.1504

<http://www.kcceci.org/>

Klaras Children's Center ECI is an Early Childhood Intervention Program that serves families with children who are birth to third birthday, and who are experiencing problems with their development and/or behavior. Klaras Children's Center ECI serves families in McLennan, Hill, Bosque, Falls, Limestone, and Freestone counties in the state of Texas, U.S.A. Therapists will also go to daycare centers.

ATTORNEYS

Sheryl S. Swanton, Managing Attorney

900 Austin Ave. 7th floor

PO Box 527

Waco, TX 76703-0527

254-756-7944

800-299-5596

Fax: 254-756-3381

BABYSITTERS

Alma Pizarro

Former Head Start teacher
(254) 640-7078.

Jennifer Jackson

353 Mill Creek Rd.
Waco, Tx. 76712
Phone number: 254-715-9092

I truly enjoy children and would like to provide childcare services in the afternoons and on weekends. I have substituted in a special needs classroom in a school district. I know sign language, and I have cared for children with autism. References available.

Pam Broussrd

pbbb42@hotmail.com

I'd be more than happy to babysit any kids in the evenings or during the day, at least up to two of them. My son was diagnosed with extreme autism at 18 months old and now at age 11 he's moderate.

BUSINESSES THAT WILL WORK WITH CHILDREN THAT HAVE DISABILITIES

Hollywood Video

254-399-8082
203 Hewitt Dr
Waco, TX 76712

I have been so inspired with the way this organization treats my son. He loves video tapes, but sometimes we have a hard time getting him to turn them back in. Well, last year Hollywood Video made a deal to not charge me late fees when I could not get my son to turn tapes back in on time.

CAMPS/SUMMER PROGRAM DIRECTORY

Arc Summer Day Camp

1825 Morrow
Waco, TX
254-756-7491
Executive Director: Tom Pearson- tpearson@hotmail.com
<http://www.wacoarc.org/>

For children ages 5 – 18 care with autism, mental retardation, and other developmental disabilities.

ARCIL

Austin Resource Center for Independent Living
825 E. Rundberg Lane, Suite A-1
Austin, TX 78753
(512)832-6349

www.arcil.com

Arcil provides opportunities for people with disabilities to gain the skills that empower them to live independently. Classes are offered in independent living skills such as money management. Classes are free. Check website for schedule.

Austin Adaptive Sports

1000 East 41 St., Ste. 965
Austin, TX 78751
(512) 451-3637

www.austinadaptivesports.com

A program dedicated to help people of all ages and abilities in fulfilling their athletic dreams through innovation, dedication and determination. Adapts sports, such as track, basketball and tennis for people with physical disabilities. A year-round program. Check website for schedule. Ages: 5-adults.

Austin Children's Museum

201 Colorado St.
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 472-2499

www.austinkids.org

Full day camps, ages 7-10 and half-day sessions ages 4-6 with field trips and various activities. Please call to see if your child can be accommodated. Ages 4-10

Austin Nature & Science Center

301 Nature Center Dr.
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 327-8181

www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc

Very active camp offering 1 and 2 week sessions for ages 3-12. Participants must be able to be safe, stay with their group and not be disruptive. 12:1 counselor to camper ratio. Activities include hiking, swimming, caving, canoeing, field trips. Children with special needs accepted on case by case basis. Please call ahead to discuss placing your child in camps.

Austin Parks and Recreation Department

200 S. Lamar
Austin, TX 78704
(512) 974-6700

www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks

Half-day and full-day camps available. Each of the 17 recreation centers in town offers summer day camp programs. Staff or interns ready to help with children with disabilities. Please call for the recreation center near you and its programs and discuss the needs of your child. Ages: 3-18

Austin Zoo

10807 Rawhide Trail
Austin, TX 78709
(512) 288-1490

www.austinzoo.com

An education animal park. Wheelchair accessible. Please call for more information and to register. They are open to having children with mild disabilities; please ask.

Camp Barnabas Texas

19326 Halston Ridge CT
Tomball, TX 77375
(281) 255-3695

www.campbarnabastexas.org

A Christian summer camp for children with special medical, physical and developmental disabilities and their siblings. Because parents/caregivers don't come to camp, our campers need to be comfortable away from their parents/caregivers for a week. We suggest campers be at least seven years old. There is no upper age limit.

Camp Brave Heart

C/O Hospice Austin
4107 Spicewood Springs Rd. Ste. 100
Austin, TX 78759
(512) 342-4700

www.hospiceaustin.org

Hospice Austin's Camp Brave Heart is a recreational summer camp for children and adolescents ages 6 through 17 who have experienced the loss of a loved one due to death. Through a variety of creative activities, campers are supported in their exploration of emotional, behavioral and physical adjustments to their loss.

Camp C.A.M.P.

P.O. Box 27086

San Antonio, TX 78227

(210) 292-3566

Download applications from website

www.campcamp.org

This camp in the Texas Hill Country provides a wide range of overnight camping experiences for children with special needs who are not eligible for other camps due to severity of the child's condition and their siblings. Offers a wide range of recreational, rehabilitative and respite services for children with developmental disabilities and their families. Six one-week sessions available throughout the summer. Disabilities served: physically and medically disabled, MR or seizure related disabilities, multiple disabilities, and autism and PDD. Please call for more information and applications. Respite weekends during the year are available. One session for adults over 21. Ages: 5-21.

Camp for All

6301 Rehbarg Rd

Burton, TX 77835

(979) 289-3752

www.campforall.org

Admin. Office

10500 NW Frwy, Ste. 220

Houston, TX 77092

(713) 686-5666

Camp For All is a unique camping and retreat facility that works in partnership with special needs groups to enrich the lives of people with chronic illnesses and disabilities. Go to their website for a camp focused on a specific disability.

Camp Life

Amy N. Sharp, Ph.D.

Associate Director

Center on Disability and Development, Texas A&M University

637E Harrington, 4225 MS TAMU

College Station, TX, 77843-4225

tel: 979.845.4612 I fax: 979.862.1256

<http://cdd.tamu.edu> I <http://fsn.tamu.edu> I sharp@tamu.edu

The camp is held at Camp for All in Burton. The facility is TOP notch and all campers and counselors are housed in cabins with meals provided by the camp. The camp is fun, tiring, life-changing and rewarding.

Camp Lone Star

2016 Camp Lone Star Rd

LaGrange, TX 78945

(800) 362-2078

www.lomt.com

This Christian camp in La Grange has regular camp activities, including archery, canoeing, swimming, hiking and Bible studies, and campfire devotions. They are willing to accept children with mild disabilities but due to rough terrain please call to see if your child can be accommodated. Also, call for dates. Ages: 5-18

Camp Summit

2915 LBJ Freeway, Ste. 185

Dallas, TX 75234-7607

(972) 484-8900

www.campsummittx.org

Camp Summit seeks to enrich the lives of individuals with disabilities by broadening their experiences and improving their social skills while increasing their capacity for independence and providing opportunities to have camp-loads of FUN. For children who are physically challenged, developmentally delayed, dual sensory impaired, multiple disabilities. Ages: 6-Adult.

Camp Xtreme

TIRR Sports, Houston

Contact: Suzanne Krenek

(713) 797-5719

www.campxtreme.com

Youths with physical disabilities are welcome to attend Camp Xtreme held at Camp For All just right outside Brenham, TX. Campers need to be independent and provide their own personal self-care. Please call for cost of camp and more information. Ages: 10-21

Center for Music Therapy

4106 Marathon Blvd., Ste. C

Austin, TX 78756

(512) 472-5016

www.centerformusictherapy.com

Individual sessions and a variety of groups. Music and more groups (inclusive groups) on Saturday through summer and fall. Also have drumming circles for kids. Early childhood through adulthood.

Charis Hills Christian Summer Camp

Physical Address

498 Faulkner Rd.

Sunset, TX 76270

(940) 964-2145

(888) 681-2173

E-mail us: info@charishills.org

<http://charishills.org/>

Charis Hills is a Christian Summer Camp for kids with learning and social difficulties such as ADD, AD/HD, and Asperger's disorder. Our goal is to provide a positive camp experience for kids while sharing the good news about Jesus Christ. The camp is located in the Cross Timbers or North Texas Hill Country area, northwest of Fort Worth, near Decatur.

Clay Madsen Recreation Center

1600 Gattis School Rd

Round Rock, TX

(512) 341-3383

www.claymadsen.com

The Summer Fun Youth Adventures Day Camp is for youth with disabilities; Sizzling Summer Teen camp is for teens and adults with disabilities. This program offers daily activities and lots of fun, each related to the weekly theme. Morning and afternoon snacks provided. Campers need to bring a sack lunch, rest mats, and swimwear. Youth Camp ratio is 1:4, Teen Camp ratio is 1:5. Campers must be able to behave and function within this ratio. Information forms must be filled out at time of registration. One week sessions all summer. Ages: 6-12 and 13-21.

Crenshaw's Athletic Club

5000 Fairview Dr.

Austin, TX 78731

(512) 453-5551

www.crenshaws.com

All-day camp and afternoon sports camp offered. Minimum requirements for participation would be the ability to stay with the group and not be disruptive. Thereafter, participation would depend upon the difficulty of the sports. Parents are advised to come by and watch the program to see if it is appropriate for their child. Regular gymnastics and swim lessons also offered.
Ages: 5-7; 6-10; 5-11. Also available in Northwest Austin and Westlake.

Crowe's Nest Farm

10300 Taylor Lane

Manor, TX 78653

(512) 272-4418

www.crowesnestfarm.org

Crowe's Nest Farm, Inc. is a private, non-profit educational organization established in 1983 and dedicated to fostering public appreciation, knowledge and wise stewardship of Texas agriculture and Texas wildlife. Summer half-day weekly sessions are offered for campers to experience the outdoors at the farm. Wheelchair accessible. Call for schedule and information and to determine if the camp is able to accommodate your child's special needs.

Grades K-5

Dougherty Art Center

1110 Barton Springs Rd.

Austin, TX 78704

(512) 397-1458

www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty

The Dougherty Arts School has award winning programs and provides a variety of multi-disciplinary classes, workshops and camps including painting, drawing, photography, pottery, metals, dance, jewelry, fiber, computer graphics, animation, drama and much more. Students range in age from 3 years old to senior adults. Pre-School; Youth & Preteen; Youth at Arts.

Down Home Ranch

20250 FM 619

Elgin, TX 78621

(888) 926-2253

Contact: Jerry and Judy Horton

www.downhomeranch.org

Ranch Camp is an innovative camp for children and adults with mental retardation, must be physically and emotionally well. Crafts, nature lore, archery, target practice, fishing, hiking, boating, farm animal care and swimming are the activities. Ages: 13 and up.

Dream of Hopes Ranch, Inc.

P.O. Box 164283

Austin, TX 78716

(512) 791-0160

Contact: Laura Stock

www.dreamofhopesranch.org

This camp is for anyone who has mild to moderate mental retardation, who is emotionally and physically well, and whose behavior is within our guidelines. Activities include bowling, swimming, field trips, and crafts. Limited to 10 campers per week.

Ages: 8 & up Sessions: Monday – Friday 8am – 6pm

Easter Seals- Camp Eskimo

919 W. 28 1/2

Austin, TX 78705

(512) 478-2581 Ext. 108

www.centraltx.easterseals.com

http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA_camp_connections

Easter Seals – Central Texas is offering a therapeutic respite day camp called Camp Eskimo for children with special needs ages 5-15 and their siblings. Activities include swimming, crafts, community outings and games adapted to meet the child's special needs. Space is limited. First come, first served. 3 sessions. Ages: 5-15 Fees: Sliding fee scale (\$30 non refundable deposit is required with registration).

NEW—camp for adults in Gonzales, TX. Camping experience for adults with disabilities and their caregivers. Go to Easter Seals website for more information.

Easter Seals Camp for Adults with Disabilities

919 W. 28 1/2

Austin, TX 78705

(512) 478-2581 Ext. 108

www.centraltx.easterseals.com

http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA_camp_connections

Our adult camp program is an overnight adventure for adults with development and/or physical disabilities. We accept adults ages 18-100+. Campers are given the chance to experience the same sort of activities one would find at a traditional camp, such as nature walks, arts & crafts, fishing, field trips, etc. As for costs, there is a \$30 non-refundable application fee. Camp tuition is based on a sliding-fee scale, so campers who would like to apply for a scholarship must fill out a separate form to do so. The majority of our campers are on scholarships due to their socioeconomic status.

Hearing-Impaired Summer Day Camp

Baylor Speech & Hearing Clinic

First floor of Neill Morris Hall, Baylor University Campus

Corner of 7th and M.P. Daniel

Waco, TX

Janice Stewart

254-710-6373, Janice_stewart@baylor.edu

Jewish Community Association of Austin Summer Camps

7300 Hart lane
Austin, TX 78731
(512) 735-8050
www.jcaaonline.org

Camp Shalom is for children in grades K-10. Children participate in a variety of fun and educational activities, swimming, sports, arts and crafts, and for older kids, service projects. Camp Shalom provides the opportunity for children with special needs to participate in the camp program. Experienced counselors support campers through appropriate adaptations and individual attention. Work with staff to identify needs and supports to make camp successful.

The Magic Camp

(513) 288-1596
www.magiccamp.com
www.kent@magiccamp.com

Camp teaches magic, juggling and puppets for children. Fee includes T-Shirt, snack, and all supplies. Program is eager to meet the needs of any child; please call and discuss your child and his/her special needs. Before and after camp care is available. Scholarships available: attendants free. Five 2-week camp sessions; 9am –3pm; Monday – Friday at Concordia University.

Marbridge Summer Camp

P. O. Box 2250
Manchaca, TX 78652
(512) 282-1144
Contact: Will Hoermann
wchoermann@marbridge.org
www.marbridge.org

For young men and women ages 16 – 30 with a variety of developmental disabilities and cognitive challenges. Campers with developmental disabilities or cognitive challenges must be independent in their basic activities of daily living or in need of minor verbal prompting or cueing. Hiking, nature walks, greenhouse, swimming, socialization and interpersonal skill development.

McBeth Recreation Center

2401 A Columbus Dr.
Austin, TX 78746
(512) 974-9011
www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/mcbeth.htm

Located in Zilker Park. Facilities include a large multipurpose room, kitchen, craft room, game room, activity/computer room, playscape, and outdoor picnic areas. Staffs to participant ratios vary from 1:4 to 1:10 depending on type of program and special needs of participants. Pre-registration is required. Scholarships may be available. Programs for ages 7-21 and 22 and up. Full days, half days and sports camp.

Odyssey School

4407 Red River
Austin, TX 78751
(512) 472-2262

www.odysseyschool.com

Remedial and enrichment courses, open to students in grades 4-8 with learning differences. Excellent way to maintain skills over the summer.

Sea Camp

Texas A&M University at Galveston
P.O. Box 1675
Galveston, TX 77553-1675
(409) 740-4525

www.tamug.edu/seacamp

A hands-on marine adventure. Founded in 1986, Sea Camp has opened up the world of marine biology to over 10,000 campers. This weeklong camp explores the wonders of the marine environment of the Galveston Island area. This camp is open to having children with special needs participate, but due to the nature of the activities, please call to discuss your child's individual needs and whether the camp can accommodate them. Ages: 10-18.

Sea World

(800) 700-7786
Adventure Camps
10500 Sea World Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78251

www.seaworld.org

Explore the world of animals by doing up-close hands-on activities. Camps all summer: children with disabilities welcome as long as they can tolerate the ratio. If a child needs an attendant, the attendant can come for free. Sea World education office also offers special education outreach programs, gifted & talented programs, overnight sleepovers, and many more educational programs throughout the year.

South Austin Karate

10203 Old Manchaca Rd.
Austin, TX 78748
(512) 280-0611

www.bakido.com

Karate to children. Please call for dates, prices and additional information. Martial Arts training plus swimming, arts and crafts, CPR, First Aid, other safety topics, games, etc. Sessions: summer camp and evening classes. Ages: 5+

Special Olympics – Austin ISD Contact: Karl Cooks

Delco Center

(512) 841-8334

Kcooks@austinisd.org

www.austinisd.org

From website, go to Academics and then to Special Olympics

Special Olympics Texas is a year-round movement that provides sports training and competition opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities. Contact the AISD Special Olympics coordinator.

Special Olympics – Heart of Central Texas Region

P.O. Box 1203

Killeen, TX 76540

http://www.sotx.org/areas/?related_area=area_12

254.699.3479

Email area_director.a12@sotx.org

Star Ranch

149 Camp Scenic Loop Road

Ingram, TX 78025

(830) 367-4868

cschrank@starranch.org

www.starranch.org

A Christian educational camp for children ages 7-18 with learning, disabilities, ADD/ADHD, and emotional disorders and behavioral concerns. Located in the Texas Hill Country near Kerrville. 40 students per session.

Summer Camps at Community Schools

(512) 414-0371

www.communityeducation.org

Full day camp with weekly themes and traditional camp activities. Call to see what is offered to determine whether the program can accommodate and meet the needs of your child. Grades 1-6

Sunshine Camp

2225 Andrew Zilker Rd

Austin, TX 78746

(512) 472-8107

Contact: Margaret Marucci

www.sunshinecamps.org

The Austin Sunshine Camp offers programs benefiting over 700 Austin area at-risk children annually. Camps provide a 5-day overnight summer camp experience. Camps are not set up for kids in wheelchairs. Applications available through school counselors. Cases will be determined on an individual basis. Please call for further information. Fees: No Cost; Ages: 7-11.

Swimming and Track/Field Day Camp

St. David's Wheelchair Sports and Fitness Program

1000 East 41st St. #965

Austin, TX 78750

Contact: Larry Turner

(512) 451-3637

cell: 461-1306

Youths with physical disabilities are welcome to attend St. David's Wheelchair Sports and Fitness Program's Summer Swimming and Track/Field Camp from 8-12pm Mon-Thursday at Canyon Vista Middle School on Spicewood Springs Road. Campers need to be independent and provide their own personal self-care. Please call for more information.

Texas Elks Camp

Rt. 5, Box 185

Gonzales, TX 78629

(830) 875-2425

www.texaselks.org

Texas Elks Camp provides camp opportunities for any child with a disability not requiring one-to-one care who is a resident of Texas. Offers swimming, fishing, horseback, team building, etc. No charge. Ages 7-15

University of Texas Autism Project (UTAP)

Please contact Dolores Groves for more information:

512.232.1715

dolores.groves@mail.utexas.edu

Offering four individual weeks of summer camps. Children are encouraged to attend who have been identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), or Asperger's, and are primarily independent functioning. Each child will be able to bring one age-appropriate neurotypical friend or sibling complimentary. We are accepting six children with ASD and six of their friends in each camp. Camps will be facilitated by university students and certified educators.

Cost: \$175.00, includes one child with ASD and one friend, supplies, snacks, and an activity agenda including social skill promotion, cooperative play, creative design, and rhythmic challenges.

**VSA Arts of Texas
Arts Summer Camp**

April Sullivan
3710 Cedar Street #7
Austin, TX 78705
(512) 454-6298 (TTY)
(512) 454-9912

www.vsatx.org

Sign up for one, two, or all three morning sessions, which can accommodate participants with a wide range of ability and disability. Weeklong morning sessions for middle and high school age students include both visual and performance-based workshops organized around theme.

YMCA Camp Flaming Arrow

P.O. Box 770
Hunt, TX 78024
(800) 765-9622

www.campflamingarrow.org

ACA accredited camp. Camp is not wheelchair accessible. Special needs accepted on a case-by-case basis. Primarily able to serve children with learning disabilities, but depends on the child. Resident RN on site. Please call for more information and an application. Ages: 6-16

YMCA of Austin

www.austinyymca.org

YMCA Greater Williamson County

www.ymcagwc.org

Day camp features a theme every week including swimming, games, sports, crafts and field trips. One-week sessions; Ages: 4-15. Located at centers all over the city.

CHURCHES

Canyon Creek Baptist Church

4306 S 31st St
Temple, TX

<http://www.creekfamily.org/>

Sunday Morning Ministry at 9:45 am.

Wednesday Evening Ministry, supper at 5:30 and class at 6:15.

Classes for adults, age 18 and up.

Columbus Avenue Baptist Church Special Needs Sunday School Classes and Shooting Stars Basketball Program

1115 Columbus Ave

Waco , TX 76703

“Shooting Stars” Basketball --

Contact Barry Miller -- 254-753-7971

FREE. Open to children 5 – 18 years of age with physical, intellectual, or developmental challenges. Uniforms provided free of charge.

First Baptist Church Belton

506 N. Main Street

Belton, TX, 76513

(254) 939-0705

<http://www.fbcbelton.org/>

Buddy Ball is a recreational program for children (K-6th) with special needs. Buddy Ball allows children to participate in the game of basketball with the assistance of a buddy, if needed, and by on a winning team! Buddy Ball ensures every child is successful, has lots of fun, and learns about the love of Jesus. The STARSS Ministry exists to reach those with special needs for Christ. Their desire is to welcome families with special needs, and to be an encouragement and support. STARSS Small Group Bible Study meets each Sunday morning at 10:30 am.

First Baptist Church-Waco

500 Webster Ave

Waco, TX 76706

254-752-3000

<http://www.fbcwaco.org/>

Special Sunday School class for disabled adults

First Baptist Church- Waco

Preschool Development Center

500 Webster Avenue

Waco, TX

254-756-6933

7:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for ages 6 weeks to 5 years of age.

First Baptist Woodway Special Needs Sunday School Classes

13000 Woodway Dr

Waco, TX 76712

(254) 772-9696

www.fbcwoodway.org/

Erica Black

254-732-2659, Erica@hot.rr.com

Free childcare provided for special needs children and their siblings, with RSVP.

Temple Bible Church

3205 Oakview

Temple, TX 76502

254-778-3233

<http://www.templebiblechurch.org/>

Special needs ministry and Respite once a month.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES/EVENTS**Baylor Bear Plaza**

254 710-3322

1200 S. 5th St.

Waco, TX

www.baylor.edu/bear/**FREE.** Bear Plaza on the Baylor University Campus. The bears' environment features a waterfall, pools, caves, deadfall trees and digging areas.**Breckenridge Village of Tyler, Texas**

909 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 800

San Antonio, Texas 78209

<http://www.breckenridgevillage.com/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?&pid=349>

BVT is a faith-based residential community offering a variety of services for adults with mild to moderate cognitive/developmental disorders. Our goal is to provide quality services that meet the unique needs of the special persons entrusted to our care. BVT programs are thoughtfully designed to help our residents achieve and maintain developmentally appropriate skills which enable them to function successfully in family, group living, and community settings. We are dedicated to empowering each resident as he or she develops spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially in a safe, loving, and closely supervised environment.

Cameron Park

University Parks Dr. and Martin Luther King Dr., along the Brazos River

Waco, TX

(254) 750-8080

www.waco-texas.com/city_depts/parks/cameronpark.htm**FREE.** Encompassing 416 acres, Cameron Park is one of the state's largest municipal parks. A wide variety of hiking and riding trails, lookout points, picnic areas, and playgrounds are located throughout this great natural resource.

Cameron Park Zoo

254 750-8400

1701 N. Fourth Street

Waco, Texas, 76707

<http://www.cameronparkzoo.com/>

The Cameron Park Zoo is an award-winning natural-habitat zoo covering approximately 55 acres with exhibits of animals, playground (with a water sprinkler fountain feature in the summer), and walking trails. The Brazos River Country exhibit features large aquatic displays as well as Indian tipis. Indoor (air-conditioned) exhibits include aquariums, night creatures, and a herpetarium (reptile house).

Challenger Little League Baseball

Lake Air Little League fields

New Road and Cobbs Avenue (Challenger/Don Deatheridge field)

Waco, Texas

Michael or Teresa Bancale, 254 857-4978

<http://www.littleleague.org/divisions/challenger.asp>

FREE. Open to boys or girls ages 5-21 who deal with physical, intellectual, or developmental challenges. Free, although players should provide their own baseball glove (if possible). T-shirts and hats are provided at no charge.

The College Living Experience-Austin, Texas

1321 Murfreesboro Pike, Suite 702

Nashville, TN 37217

Toll-Free: 800-486-5058

Phone: (615) 361-4000

Fax: (615) 577-5695

<http://www.cleinc.net/home.aspx>

CLE is a comprehensive program that provides young adults with the opportunity to pursue higher education and transition into their next life stage – independent adulthood. Our staff works closely with students to provide structured tutoring to develop academic skills, group outings to facilitate the development of social skills and instruction in independent living, such as grocery shopping, cooking and paying bills. Students live in apartments near the CLE offices and receive intensive support to achieve their goals.

Austin's numerous higher education offerings provide excellent opportunities for students with special needs to transition to college and independent adulthood. CLE-Austin is located less than a quarter-mile from Austin Community College-Northridge in Texas' capital city.

Fishing for Special People

One-day event in January or early February

Heart of Texas Fair Complex

4601 Bosque Blvd.

Waco, TX 76710

Travis Bailey, 254-757-5026

FREE. One-day event in January or early February

Heart of Texas “Special Ranch Rodeo” event

Every year during the Heart of Texas Fair & Rodeo (October)

Heart of Texas Fair Complex

4601 Bosque Blvd.

Waco, TX 76710

Charlie Finley

254-640-0718 or email ctrade@flash.net

FREE. Open for children aged 3 to 16 with physical, developmental, or intellectual challenges (including autism). Each participant receives a T-shirt and trophy medallion. “Buddies” accompany children and assist with a variety of events (horseback riding, petting zoo, stagecoach ride, etc). Must pre-register to participate.

Homestead Heritage

Halbert Lane

Elm Mott, TX

(254) 754-9600

<http://www.homesteadheritage.com/>

FREE. Homestead Heritage Traditional Crafts Village is a Christian agricultural settlement located several north Waco. Accessible walkways and ramps. Group tours available.

Lion's Park KiddieLand

254-772-3541

1716 North 42nd Street

Waco, Texas

Go Karts, Miniature Golf, Choo Choo Train, various amusement rides. Rides are \$1.50 per ride; Miniature Golf costs \$3 per game, kids under 6 play free. Go Kart and Bumper Boat Rides are \$4.50 (for the driver; passengers are less). Height and age limits for some of the attractions. Armbands are available at various prices; call for details.

Marbridge

P.O. Box 2250

Manchaca, Texas 78652

ph: (512) 282-1144 | fax: (512) 282-3723

info@marbridge.org

<http://www.marbridge.org/>

Marbridge provides a unique spectrum of residential care, education, and training for adults with various cognitive challenges. Our unique Abilities Centered Training program was designed and developed by Marbridge to serve our residents. The program helps residents set their own goals, make their own choices, and achieve their full potential.

Mayborn Museum

254.710.1110

1300 S. University Parks

Waco, TX 76706

<http://www.baylor.edu/mayborn/>

Sixteen themed Discovery rooms with “hands-on” activities, computer games, exhibits, and live animals. Outdoors, the Bill & Vera Daniels Historic Village has buildings from the 1890's including a blacksmith shop, a one-room schoolhouse, a church, a general store, and others. There are also chickens and guinea hens to visit! Picnic tables nearby.

SCHI (Southwest Center for Higher Independence), San Antonio, Texas

Admissions Director- Terri Gutierrez at terri@mmhome.org

(800) 842-5433, ext. 132.

<http://www.mfrs.org/schi.php>

For young adults with disabilities, college is not always the next step. SCHI is the next step for many young adults with disabilities. For more than 30 years, SCHI has assisted hundreds of adults with disabilities learn the vocational and life skills to achieve their personal best. Students may live in our dormitory or commute daily from a neighboring community. SCHI is licensed by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS license number 117108)

Spray Parks

Various locations in Waco, TX

FREE. Five spray parks are located throughout Waco. The parks are free and open during daylight hours from April through September. When school is in session, all parks with the exception of the Cameron Park location are open only on the weekends.

The spray grounds are located at Cameron Park (University Parks/Herring), Kendrick Park (4011 Bagby), Chapel Park (9420 Chapel Rd.), Dewey Park (925 N. 9th) and Mountainview Park (2325 Mountainview).

World Hunger Relief Farm

356 Spring Lake Rd

Elm Mott, Texas

254-799-5611

<http://www.worldhungerrelief.org/>

FREE. A working “sustainable agriculture” farm used to train mission and relief workers..

DENTISTS**Castle Dental**

254-776-4867

Children 10-21yrs - paid through Texas Health Steps

Dr. Cox

254-772-4184

Accepts Medicaid/Texas Health Steps and uses sedation when needed (which for children is covered by Texas Health Steps)

Dr. Susan Frances

254-799-4000

Accepts children under 10 - through Texas Health Steps

Dr. Wayne Parks

7100 Sanger Ave.

254 776-2775

Trotter, Amanda R DDS

211 Old Hewitt Rd, Waco, TX 76712

(254) 399-9000

DOCTORS

Dr. Keith Horner

Hillcrest Bosque Clinic: Horner Keith D MD
Family Practice
www.hillcrest.net
7300 Bosque Blvd
Waco, TX 76710
(254) 202-2600

Dr. Jepson

Thoughtful House Medical Center, Austin
512-732-8400.

He is a board certified ER physician who began researching autism when his son was diagnosed. He has written an excellent book on autism and treatment. We use him and love him. Again, it is not necessarily traditional, but it's wonderful. The staff are fantastic - they do lab draws and get them the first time. They do not take insurance, so it's cash only. They will do payment plans and will furnish a HCFA so you can submit to your insurance company. Our insurance has covered our visits.

Dr. Nesmith & Partner

Heart of Texas Pediatrics
601 W Highway 6 Stc 102
Waco, TX 76702
254-399-8364

Great with and very familiar with autism, talks to you and is very current on what is going on. I asked many questions on what I had read and he knew exactly what I was talking about.

Dr. Samuel Orr

Scott White Clinic-Waco
7700Fish PondRd
Waco, TX
(254) 741-4444

Dr. Orr is not only knowledgeable as a professional; he is the father of an adolescent boy with Asperger's. His info can be seen at:

http://www.sw.org/web/SW/patientsAndVisitors/templatedata/hr/staff/data/phy_ghi/phy_hall_j

Dr. Russell Roby

Roby Institute.
Austin, TX
800-842-6349

He is an allergist in Austin and does not do allergy injections. The treatment is sublingual drops! It's fantastic. I have tried it myself, and it clears up your allergies. He takes insurance, and it's a very calm and quiet place. It is well worth the drive!

Dr. Patricia Wilcox

254-752-2300

I have heard very positive things about Dr. Patricia Wilcox. She is a local family practice physician who is open to all kinds of treatment for autism. According to several families, she wants to learn more about autism and some of the not-so-traditional treatments.

**Dena Woodell-Fogle MSN, RN, FNP-C
and Nivea Alvarado, MD**

3004 South WS Young Drive
Killeen, Texas 76542
254-634-7337

Optometrists/Ophthalmologists**Shutt, Bryce MD**

Ophthalmologist
321 Richland West Circle
Waco, TX 76712
(254) 756-4457

Dr. Stacie Virden

Therapeutic Optometrist
Glaucoma Specialist
Waco Vision & Health
1000 W Hwy 6, Ste. 210
The Ridge Office Park
Waco, TX 76712
www.wacovision.com
254.776.8119

She is great w/ special needs kiddos and adults! She actually does eye exams for the MHMR adults in group homes and the special needs nursing home in Bellmead.

MOTHER'S DAY OUT

Crestview Church of Christ

7129 Delhi Rd
Waco, TX 76712
(254) 776-0711
office@crestview-church.org

Crestview Church of Christ worked well with us in their MDO program. My son needed to be with kids younger than he was. They were very flexible to put him into a younger classroom. And, when they saw he was ready, they moved him up to the next class. They listened to me and were very willing to meet his needs. Sometimes that meant allowing him to spend most of his time in a younger classroom, but then allowing him to go to playtime with the older kids. And, they were always willing to bring in a highchair since he needed to be spoon fed while the other kids were feeding themselves. I am very thankful for the teachers at Crestview, as I thoroughly enjoyed, and needed, my Mother's Day Out!

OT/PT/SPEECH/ABA/OTHER

A Therapy Connection

2032 Valley Mills
Waco, TX 76710
254-366-0313

<http://www.atherapyconnection.com/>

Offers a full range of diagnostic testing and therapy for children with a variety of diagnoses and disorders. We provide speech, occupational, and physical therapy and serve children from birth through adolescence. We also train parents and caregivers so they can be fully involved in their child's program. Our practice provides initial screenings, parent consultations, comprehensive evaluations, scheduled therapy sessions, family education and support, and collaboration with schools, physicians, and other paraprofessionals.

Baylor Speech & Hearing Clinic

First floor of Neill Morris Hall, Baylor University
Corner of 7th and M.P. Daniel Esplanade
Waco, TX
254 710-2567
Deborah Rainer, Clinical Coordinator
254 710-2567, Deborah_Rainer@baylor.edu

Camp Hope

1007 Camp Road
McGregor, Texas

For information please contact Lauri Watkins at 399-8255 or laurislp@sbcglobal.net

Camp Hope Therapeutic Riding Center

Executive Director: Larry Barnett 254-836-4736

Volunteer Coordinator: Candace Harrison 254-744-5693

Mailing Address: 525 Austin Hines Dr. China Spring, TX 76633

Physical Address: 1007 Camp Road McGregor, TX 76657

lbarn0641@aol.com or charrison@hot.rr.com

<http://camphopetrc.org/default.aspx>

Camp Hope Therapeutic Riding Center strives to improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities through the use of equines. Our goal is to improve the overall wellness of the individual, increase their confidence, and promote independence while providing hippotherapy and therapeutic riding as appropriate. Our center serves individual clients in McLennan county Texas and surrounding counties. We provide safe and affordable hippotherapy and therapeutic riding activity with our horses. Additional types of therapy are also available through our partners, Camp Hope Therapy Team.

Camp Hope Therapy Team

611 W Hwy 6, Suite 115

Waco, TX 76710

Phone: 254-399-TALK (8255)

Fax: 254-235-3408

<http://www.camphopetherapy.com/page/page/5888758.htm>

Camp Hope Therapy Team offers quality physical, occupational and speech therapy services for children of all ages & abilities. Our program promotes child-initiated, play based activities designed to carry over to the home and school environment. Our therapists work directly one-on-one with the child as well as consult with the families and caregivers.

Our team of professionals offers many “firsts” in Waco: the first to provide hippotherapy, using horses as a treatment tool, and the first to offer AmTryke[®] therapeutic tricycles, free to children. Developed by Camp Hope Therapy Team, clients enjoy Ballerina Dreams, the first ballet class for children with special needs. All enrollment and costume fees are sponsored.

The only multidisciplinary clinic where certified therapists use Interactive Metronome, a neurological assessment and treatment tool that helps children with developmental and learning disorders. Specialty programs also include High Risk Infant Follow-Up Program for children birth-to-three, year-round aquatic therapy in an indoor, heated pool, and Lite Gait intensive gait training program.

DARS, Division for Blind Services

Kim Scott, LBSW
Blind Children's Specialist
(254)753-1552

Our children's program covers eight counties and serves blind & visually impaired children 0-10 years. Our goal is to make the child as independent as possible. Each child/family is unique in their needs but some of what we provide includes support services, resources, parent training, counseling & activities to help the child develop social & "pre" vocational skills. We also have a transition program which serves the 10-22 kids.

Heart of Texas Therapeutic Riding Center

848 E White Oak Rd
West, Texas 76691
Telephone: (254) 829-0674

<http://www.hottrc.org/>

The Heart of Texas Therapeutic Riding Center is a North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (N.A.R.H.A) Premier Accredited Center. The purposes for which the corporation was organized are to improve the quality of life for children and adults with physical, mental, emotional, behavioral, social, and/or spiritual needs by providing activities and therapy through the interaction with horses. The organization will educate others to work with horses in the treatment of individuals with these challenges.

JonMarie Center

Jennifer Darwin, BSE, GSE, ET/P
Professional Educational Therapist
Director - JonMarie Center
(254) 717-7229

jennifer@friendsforlife.org

The JonMarie Center is an educational therapy program designed to help students with learning disabilities / challenges who are struggling in core subjects (such as reading, writing, math, spelling, etc). Most of our clients are 2 - 5 years behind in school. Our center is based on building / improving the neuro-developmental foundations so that learning is easier for the student. Therefore, the program is generally 2-3 days per week; one hour per session; for 9 – 12 months. The tuition is \$95.00 per hour. However, families may apply for a scholarship. Scholarships are awarded when funds are available.

Katy Hart

Katy.Hartb@gmail.com
903-312-1315

Applied Behavior Analysis Therapist serving the Waco area, certified all level special education teacher. Experience in both clinical and home based intervention services, as well as self contained and inclusion settings within schools.

Our Children's House at Baylor

1-877-820-9061

Our Children's House at Baylor offers child-friendly inpatient care and outpatient services through 9 clinics conveniently located throughout the DFW Metroplex. Each location offers services such as physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy. Children, from birth to 18 years of age, come to us with a variety of health issues including communication disorders, fine and gross motor delays, trauma-related disorders, feeding disorders, congenital disorders, chromosomal abnormalities and more. Every day, our goal is to help kids achieve and maintain their maximum state of well-being and independence, with minimal intervention.

When children and parents come through our doors, it's more than convenience. They become part of our family. Our focus is to improve the health and quality of life of children who have special needs, and to provide families with the support and resources they need. Together, we can open doors to new opportunities. We are located in Allen, Coppell, Dallas, Frisco, Grapevine, Irving, Plano, Rockwall and Waxahachie.

Stepping Stone Therapy (OT)

3300 Pine Ave

Waco, TX 76708

Phone: 254 235-7604

The Therapy Group of Waco

Therapy Group of Waco

Andrea Nall, M.S., CCC/SLP

7545 Bosque Blvd.

Waco, TX 76712

Phone: (254) 315-2205

Fax: (254) 235-1144

www.therapygroupofwaco.com

Therapy Group of Waco is a speech, language and occupational therapy team that also offers tutoring and handwriting assistance for individuals as well as contract therapy services for schools and organizations.

Zero Gravity Gymnastics Academy

7712 Central Park Dr

Waco, TX 76712

254-235-7870

Offers a special-needs class taught by Becky Peacock, PT

PARENT RESOURCES

Baylor Autism Resource Center

Baylor University,
Waco, TX

Dr. Julie Ivey, Director

254-710-7584

Julie_Ivey@baylor.edu

<http://www.baylor.edu/soe/autism/>

Located on the campus of Baylor University in the Draper Building. The Center provides free resources available for checkout, social groups for children with autism, and training/workshops for parents and professionals.

Heart of Texas Autism Network

Contact: Anita Karney

anitakarney@hotautismnetwork.org

254-666-8846

www.hotautismnetwork.org

Heart of Texas Autism Network (HOTAN) is a group of local families, educators and professionals dedicated to improving the lives of people with autism. The group meets monthly with a speaker who discusses a topic relevant to autism. Other extracurricular activities include monthly Supper Clubs for children and youth on the autism spectrum (see article in Waco Today at

<http://www.wacotrib.com/today/content/wacotoday/stories/2009/03/25/03262009wacWTautism.html>) as well as other activities.

Joni and Friends International Disability Center

<http://www.joniandfriends.org/>

Joni Eareckson Tada founded the ministry in 1979 to communicate the gospel and equip Christ-honoring churches worldwide to evangelize and disciple people affected by disabilities.

Klaras Children's Center Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

(254) 297-7089 or (254) 297-7088 or

Toll free at 1-866-752-3451, ext.1504

<http://www.kcceci.org/>

Klaras Children's Center ECI is an Early Childhood Intervention Program that serves families with children who are birth to third birthday, and who are experiencing problems with their development and/or behavior. Klaras Children's Center ECI serves families in McLennan, Hill, Bosque, Falls, Limestone, and Freestone counties in the state of Texas, U.S.A.

Lorena Parent Information Network

Call Kelly Yarborough at 254-214-7253 for more information.

Partners Resource Network

1090 Longfellow

Beaumont, TX 77706

409.898.4684

<http://www.partnerstx.org/>

Partners Resource Network (PRN) is a non-profit agency that operates the statewide network of federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI's) in Texas. The programs and services of PRN are based on the concept of parents helping parents. Our mission is to empower parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children and to promote partnerships among parents and professionals.

Texas Project FIRST Website

TEA Parent Information Line 1-800-252-9668

<http://www.texasprojectfirst.org/> -

The Texas Project FIRST website is designed to give parents accurate and consistent information about Special Education in Texas. Texas Project FIRST is an activity of the Texas Continuing Improvement Process (TCIP) under the auspices of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Region 9 Education Service Center, and is focused on helping to fulfill the goals of TEA and the Parent Training Committee.

PSYCHIATRISTS**Dr. Fran Koller**

Providence DePaul Clinic

301 Londonderry Drive

Waco, Texas 76712

254-751-4880

<http://www.providence.net/PCDepaul.htm>

Dr. Jane Ripperger-Suhler

Program Director, General and Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Dept. of Psychiatry

Texas A&M HSC/COM/Scott & White Mem. Hosp

2401 South 31st Street

Temple, TX 76508

Phone: 254-724-7842 Fax: 254-724-1747

jripperger-suhler@swmail.sw.org

PSYCHOLOGISTS

Baylor Psychology Clinic

1011 Ivy Square

Waco, Tx

254-757-0535

Dr. Helen Benedict, Associate Director of Clinical Training

254-710-2961, Helen_benedict@baylor.edu

Dr. Mark Pantle

Midway ISD

mark.pantle@midwayisd.org

SOCIAL SERVICES

Tila Cole

Service Coordinator I, MHMR

Cell 254-721-2682 Office 254-547-0248

I link families to services such as school advocacy, employment assistance, vocational training, some respite, In-Home and Family Supports -- funding for diagnoses related items, community supports, etc.

Dana Stanley, LMSW

Intake Social Worker

Center for Developmental Services

3420 W. Waco Dr.

Waco, TX 76710

(252) 757-3933