

# CONNECTING THE DOTS

**A Guide to Finding Services for Children with  
Special Needs in Rhode Island**



January 2023



**RIPIN**

PERSONAL SUPPORT BUILT ON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

FAMILY VOICES<sup>®</sup>

Rhode Island's Family-to-Family  
Health Information Center

This guide is meant to help Rhode Islanders find services for children and youth with special health care needs. Finding the right services to meet your family's unique needs can be challenging. Fortunately, there are many organizations in Rhode Island that can offer support.

In this guide you will find brief descriptions of the resources that families use most often. The resources are listed from early childhood through young adulthood. Contact information and shortened hyperlinks are included to make it easier for you to reach your family's goals.

This guide provides just a sample of the services and resources available. If you do not find what you are looking for, please contact the RIPIN Call Center for more individualized support.

Family Voices updates the guide yearly but relies on partners to ensure that this information meets our community's needs. Please let us know if you have any feedback or need additional support.

**Family Voices / Family to Family Health Information Center  
RIPIN**

300 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 300  
Warwick, RI 02888  
[familyvoices@ripin.org](mailto:familyvoices@ripin.org)  
[www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org)  
(401) 270-0101

**Need more information to support your child with special needs?**

The Rhode Island Medical Home Portal provides:

- Information on chronic childhood conditions
- Service providers and local resources
- Tools to you keep track of your child's medical history

Visit [ri.medicalhomeportal.org](http://ri.medicalhomeportal.org) and create your profile today!



The identified resources are for general informational purposes only and compiled with publicly available information. No information presented in this guide constitutes legal advice or endorsement by RIPIN. Please consult the provider for current program information and to verify if they will work for you.

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# EARLY CHILDHOOD SUPPORTS BIRTH TO AGE 5



## PRENATAL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HEALTH

### The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)

This state agency ensures access to quality maternal and child health services that support healthy birth outcomes, positive child development, school readiness, and preparation for adulthood. The Department of Health encourages all parents to:

- Talk with a healthcare provider as early as possible.
- Get regular prenatal care.
- Sign up for family visiting to get free support

Learn more at: [www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov)

## NEWBORN SCREENING

Babies often appear healthy at birth and serious problems can be prevented if disorders are discovered early. RI birthing hospitals screen every baby for 33 conditions, as well as hearing loss and critical heart issues.

[Guide to Newborn Tests and Screenings in RI](http://www.health.ri.gov/newbornscreening)  
[www.health.ri.gov/newbornscreening](http://www.health.ri.gov/newbornscreening)

## KIDSNET

KIDSNET is RI's database for children's health information. It ensures that all RI children get the right care at the right time. (401) 222-5960 / RI Relay 711

[KIDSNET Fact Sheet](http://www.health.ri.gov/programs)  
[www.health.ri.gov/programs](http://www.health.ri.gov/programs)

## NUTRITION

### Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC)

WIC promotes healthy development through good nutrition. It is for pregnant and breastfeeding women and children up to age 5. Eligibility is based on income. Immigrant women and children with or without documented status may be eligible.

Find your local WIC Office and other nutritional support on page 19.

Or call the Statewide Offices at: (401) 222-5960 or TTY: 711  
[www.health.ri.gov/programs](http://www.health.ri.gov/programs)

## HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

### Love That Baby

Home visits can support you and your baby's healthy development. Trained specialists provide this in-home service to pregnant women and families with children up to age four.

Programs include:

[First Connections](#)  
[Healthy Families America](#)  
[Nurse-Family Partnership](#)  
[Parents as Teachers](#)

(401) 222-5960

Text BABY to 444999

[www.health.ri.gov/familyvisiting](http://www.health.ri.gov/familyvisiting)

## EARLY INTERVENTION

Early Intervention supports families of infants and toddlers with a developmental disability or delay. This program mentors families so that children can develop to their fullest potential.

### Rhode Island's Early Intervention Program

Children referred to the Early Intervention Program receive a comprehensive developmental evaluation to determine if they are eligible. There is no cost to families for these services.

Eligibility: Children must be under age 3 and have a delay in one or more areas. Children do not have to be eligible for RI Medicaid to receive services. Talk with an Intake Coordinator at your local EI center to learn more.

[Fact sheets on Early Intervention](#)  
[www.eohhs.ri.gov/consumer/familieswithchildren](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/consumer/familieswithchildren)



## EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

### **KIDS.RI.GOV**

This site links to all the services Rhode Island offers to set our youngest citizens up for a healthy future.

[www.kids.ri.gov](http://www.kids.ri.gov)

### **Bright Stars**

The Bright Stars website lists options for quality child care, early learning, and school-age programs.

Referral Line: (855) 398-7605

Find Child Care in RI at: [www.earlylearningprograms.dhs.ri.gov](http://www.earlylearningprograms.dhs.ri.gov)  
[www.exceed.ri.gov](http://www.exceed.ri.gov) [www.brightstars.org](http://www.brightstars.org)

### **Early Head Start**

Early Head Start provides high-quality child and family development services to income eligible pregnant women and families with infants and toddlers under age 3. Contact your local Head Start to see what services are available in your area.

### **Head Start**

Head Start provides early learning settings to preschool children ages 3-5. Social services are offered to their families. Contact your local Head Start and Early Head Start Program for more information and eligibility guidelines.

[www.dhs.ri.gov/programs](http://www.dhs.ri.gov/programs)

## COVERING THE COST OF CHILDCARE

### **Childcare Assistance Program**

Financial assistance is available to families who meet income guidelines and work a minimum of 20 hours per week.

For eligibility information or application assistance, contact: (855) MYRIDHS or (855) 697-4347

TTY/Hearing Impaired (401) 462-3363

[Fact sheet](#)

[www.dhs.ri.gov/programs](http://www.dhs.ri.gov/programs)

### **Child Dependent Care Tax Credit**

If you pay for early care and education for children under 13 you may be eligible to claim this credit on your taxes.

[www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

### **Military Families Fee Assistance Program**

Military families may be eligible to receive a monthly subsidy to help offset the cost of early care and education. This program can also refer you to local child care providers in your area.

(800) 424-2246

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

## FAMILY LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

### **Early Learning and Development Standards**

This resource shows what young children may know and be able to do from birth to 5 years of age. Download the *Fun Family Activity Cards* for ideas on how families can support the development and learning of young children through play.

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

### **Rhode Island Children's Cabinet**

This meeting of statewide leaders ensures the wellbeing and education of Rhode Island's children.

[www.kids.ri.gov/cabinet](http://www.kids.ri.gov/cabinet)

### **Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)**

This council looks at how Early Intervention works in RI. Organizations that serve young children and parents of children who have been enrolled in Early Intervention are represented. contact the RI Parent Information Network to learn more.

(401) 270-0101

[www.ripin.org/icc](http://www.ripin.org/icc)

### **Rhode Island Early Learning Council (ELC)**

This group advises the state on funding opportunities that improve early learning and development outcomes for children from birth through age 8.

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

### **Rhode Island Parent and Caregiver Advisory Council**

Join this group to give feedback to improve programs that support families with young children such as Early Intervention, Early Head Start, or Family Visiting. To learn more contact:

[Emily.Eisenstein@health.ri.gov](mailto:Emily.Eisenstein@health.ri.gov)



# FINANCING CARE

**Families have options for health coverage.** These options are based on employment, income, family size, resources, and or disability. Call the agencies listed below to learn more or visit the Economic Progress Institute [www.economicprogressri.org](http://www.economicprogressri.org).

## HEALTH INSURANCE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

### HealthSource RI

Health Source RI is the state's official marketplace for health and dental insurance coverage. An online platform connects those who do not get health insurance through a job or a family member to coverage, including Medicaid.

Visit the Walk-in Center located at:

401 Wampanoag Trail

East Providence, RI 02915

Monday — Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

(855) 840-4774 or TTY: (888) 657-3173

Apply online or find local in-person enrollment help at:

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

## RI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS)

This state agency delivers critical support services to ensure that individuals and families in RI have access to the supports they need to achieve their goals.

### The Rhode Island Medicaid Program

The RI Medicaid Program pays for medical and health related services for eligible Rhode Islanders. DHS oversees this coverage for low-income individuals, families, children, pregnant women, elders and persons with disabilities and special needs who otherwise might not be able to pay for or get access to affordable health care.

Eligibility depends on a variety of factors including income, age, health care needs and, for certain programs, your resources, or assets. You must be a RI resident and meet specific citizenship status requirements. Learn more about eligibility at:

[www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren)



## MEDICAID INSURANCE PLANS MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS

The Affordable Care Act allows RI to improve access to quality health care by offering free health care through insurance providers known as Managed Care Organizations.

Families who are eligible for Medicaid have a choice of managed care plans. All these plans offer the same essential benefits through large networks of providers. Each plan also offers a special Care Management Program to assist with care coordination to help arrange transportation or other services.

*Rhode Island's Medicaid health plans are:*

### Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island

(800) 459-6019

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

### Tufts Health Plan RITogether

(866) 738-4116

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

### United Healthcare of New England

(800) 587-5187

[www.uhcommunityplan.com.ri](http://www.uhcommunityplan.com.ri)

## CHILDREN'S MEDICAID HEALTH PROGRAMS

All children under age 21 enrolled in Medicaid are eligible for preventive and routine health care as well as medically necessary specialized care and services.

### RItE Care program

RItE Care is Rhode Island's Medicaid managed care program for families with children, pregnant women, and children under age 19. To see if you're eligible visit:

[www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/RItECare](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/RItECare)

### RItE Share Program

RItE Share helps families who have health coverage through an employer. RITE Share pays all or part of the employee's cost for employer health insurance coverage for those who qualify. Learn more about RItE Share at:

[www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/RItEShare](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/RItEShare)

### RItE Smiles

RItE Smiles is a Medicaid dental plan for children.

Call (866) 375-3257 (TTY 711)

[www.uhc.com/ritesmiles](http://www.uhc.com/ritesmiles)

## EARLY AND PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT BENEFITS (EPSDT)

This healthcare benefit ensures all children and adolescents get appropriate specialty services when needed. These services are provided during regular well-child visits with the doctor.

- Assess and identify problems *early*
- Check children's health at *periodic*, age-appropriate times
- Provide physical, mental, developmental, dental, hearing, vision, and other *screening* tests to find potential problems
- Perform *diagnostic* tests to follow up when a risk is found
- Health care services and *treatments* that maintain or improve physical and mental illnesses or conditions

When special health care needs are identified, additional services may be available.

[www.eohhs.ri.gov/portals](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/portals)

[EPSDT Schedule](#)



## MEDICAID BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

**CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEED (CSHCN)**  
Rhode Island's Medicaid offers CSHCN extra specialized services that might otherwise be unavailable.

These services become available when a child has been diagnosed with a chronic condition and are determined eligible for: Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Katie Beckett or Adoption Subsidy through the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF).

Find a comprehensive list of services at: [www.eohhs.ri.gov](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov)

### DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME)

DME is equipment or devices used for medical or rehabilitative purposes in the home or community. DME is a benefit available for children if medically necessary. Prior authorization is required. Examples of DME are diapers, nutritional supplements, respiratory supplies, assistive technology, or mobility supports.

Families can access DME Services by working with their doctor and specialists to determine what equipment is needed and calling a durable medical equipment vendor who participates in their health plan. The vendor will evaluate the child's needs and help you get the necessary documentation to the health insurance provider for review and approval.

### Katie Beckett

Katie Beckett provides Medicaid health coverage to children up to age 19 who are living at home and have complex health needs. This benefit is typically used when a child has coverage under a commercial health plan. Katie Beckett provides Medicaid to help to cover the costs of additional services not covered by the commercial insurance plan.

With Katie Beckett, only the child's income and resources, not the parents', are used to determine eligibility.

To be eligible for Katie Beckett, a child must:

- Require a level of care at home that is typically provided in a hospital or nursing facility
- Meet the Social Security Administration's definition of disability
- Live at home and meet the income and resource requirements
- Be a RI resident and U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen

Before applying, talk with a Katie Beckett Parent Consultant to confirm eligibility criteria and review the application process.

Call a Parent Consultant at: (401) 462-0633

[www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren)

### Application for Assistance (DHS-2)

The DHS-2 application form allows families to apply for several assistance programs at the same time. Families can contact their local Community Action Program (page 9) for help completing this form.

Find the application at: [www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer)



## HEALTH CARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Medicare Part D (Prescription Drugs)

Young adults with special needs may be eligible for Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Part D) assistance. The RI Office of Healthy Aging can help disabled adults sign up for this benefit. (401) 462-3000  
[www.oha.ri.gov](http://www.oha.ri.gov)

### Social Security Supplemental Income (SSI)

The Federal SSI program provides monthly cash payments to families of children with physical, developmental, and/or mental impairments. If a child is found eligible for SSI due to a disability, then they are also eligible for Medicaid. (800) 772-1213  
[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

## HEALTHCARE ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS

### RIPIN Healthcare Advocate

This consumer helpline assists people in accessing healthcare, including resolving insurance company denials, and complications with HealthSource RI and Medicaid eligibility, medical bills, and more. (855) 747-3224  
[www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org)

### TeethFirst!

TeethFirst! promotes early dental visits for very young children in Rhode Island. They can help you find a dentist for your children, explain dental coverage, and encourage early dental visits that put our children on a path to healthy smiles.  
[www.teethfirstri.org](http://www.teethfirstri.org)

## LOCAL ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES

### Medicaid Consumer Advisory Committee

The Executive Office of Health & Human Services (EOHHS) holds meetings every other month to gather feedback and information from consumers and advocates. To learn more, contact: [mark.kraics@ohhs.ri.gov](mailto:mark.kraics@ohhs.ri.gov) or [info@economicprogressri.org](mailto:info@economicprogressri.org)

### Neighborhood Health Plan of RI

NHPRI Members can join focus groups or committees and share ideas to help improve services. Transportation is provided. Call a Member Advocate to learn more. (401) 459-6172  
[www.nhpri.org/about-us](http://www.nhpri.org/about-us)

### Protect Our Healthcare

This coalition brings the voice of individual consumers to Federal and State legislative and policy debates to protect access to quality, affordable healthcare for all Rhode Islanders.  
[www.protecthealthri.org](http://www.protecthealthri.org)

### Tufts RI Together Member Advisory Committee

Tufts Medicaid members are invited to join quarterly meetings to learn about how to better utilize your health insurance and provide feedback on services and benefits. For more information, email [ritogethermac@point32health.org](mailto:ritogethermac@point32health.org).

### United Health Care Member Advisory Committee

Members are welcome to join this committee to share feedback about their health plan. Call Member Services to learn more. (800) 587-5187 or (TTY: 711)

## NATIONAL MEDICATION RESOURCES

### Needy Meds

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

### RXassist

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





# HEALTH CARE RESOURCES

## WHERE TO FIND QUALITY CARE – A MEDICAL HOME

Families do best when they and their child's doctors work as partners to help their child reach their full potential. Clinics and primary care practices with a Medical Home designation ensure that services will be arranged with the overall well-being of children, youth, and families in mind.

Learn more about the Medical Home Model at: [www.health.ri.gov/specialneeds](http://www.health.ri.gov/specialneeds)



### Rhode Island Medical Home Portal

This is a "one-stop shop" of information related to children and youth with special health care needs. The website has reliable information for families, caregivers, physicians and other professionals and includes a directory of RI services.

[www.ri.medicalhomeportal.org](http://www.ri.medicalhomeportal.org)

### Choosing Your Primary Care Provider (PCP)

Call the number on your insurance card to find a doctor in your network. Find a list of RI licensed doctors at:

[www.health.ri.gov/find/providers](http://www.health.ri.gov/find/providers)

### Community Action Programs (CAP)

Many RI communities have special programs to help residents obtain insurance. Some CAP services include Primary, Behavioral & Dental Health Centers. See page 19 to learn about the other community supports that CAPs provide.

Find your local CAP Agency at: [www.ricommunityaction.org](http://www.ricommunityaction.org)



## HEALTH CENTERS & CLINICS

The RI Health Center Association provides health care at 31 *Community Health Centers* across the state. Patients receive services regardless of age, income, or insurance status on a sliding scale fee schedule based on the patient's ability to pay.

You can get assistance finding a doctor at: [www.rihca.org](http://www.rihca.org)

### Community Health Centers

Community Health Centers provide primary medical care, mental health and wellness, and Dental services. Staff are able to assist with interpretation, translation, transportation, and case management. Proof of income may be required for discounted or free care.

Call (401) 274-1771 or contact the site in your area to find out if they have openings and to schedule an initial visit.

[Block Island Health Services](#) — *Block Island*

[CCAP/Family Health Services](#) — *Cranston & surrounding area*

[Wood River Health Services](#) — *Hope Valley*

[Tri-County Community Action Agency](#) — *Johnston & Northern RI*

[Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Inc.](#) — *Pawtucket*

[East Bay Community Action Program](#) — *East Bay area*

[WellOne](#) — *N. Scituate, Foster, N. Kingstown Pascoag*

[RI Providence Community Health Centers](#) — *Providence*

[Thundermist](#) — *Woonsocket, W. Warwick, S. County, Providence*

### Rhode Island Free Clinic

This Clinic offers free health care to uninsured RI *adults* 19–64 years of age who are below 200% of the poverty level.

Services include lab work and medication. Spanish interpreters are available.

655 Broad Street

Providence, RI 02907

(401) 274-6347 x314

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

### Clinica Esperanza / Hope Clinic

A team of multi-lingual volunteers and core staff provide health care to uninsured *adults*. Appointments are available by walk-in only. Patients receive continuing care at the Walk-In Clinic.

Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Saturday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*Olneyville Walk-In Clinic*

60 Valley Street, Suite 104

Providence, RI 02909

(401) 347-9093

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

## HOSPITALS – RHODE ISLAND / MASSACHUSETTS

### Kent Hospital

455 Toll Gate Road  
Warwick, RI 02886  
(401) 737-7000  
[www.kentri.org](http://www.kentri.org)

### Landmark Medical Center

115 Cass Avenue  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
(401) 769-4100  
[www.landmarkmedical.org](http://www.landmarkmedical.org)

### Miriam Hospital

164 Summit Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906  
(401) 793-2500  
[www.miriamhospital.org](http://www.miriamhospital.org)

### Newport Hospital

20 Powel Avenue  
Newport, RI 02840  
(401) 846-6400  
[www.newporthospital.org](http://www.newporthospital.org)

### Fatima Hospital

200 High Service Avenue  
North Providence, RI 02904  
(401) 456-3000  
[www.fatimahospital.com](http://www.fatimahospital.com)

### Rhode Island Hospital

593 Eddy Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 444-4000  
[www.rhodeislandhospital.org](http://www.rhodeislandhospital.org)

### Roger Williams Medical Center

825 Chalkstone Avenue  
Providence, RI 02908  
(401) 456-2000  
[www.rwmc.org](http://www.rwmc.org)

### South County Hospital

100 Kenyon Avenue  
Wakefield, RI 02879  
(401) 782-8000  
[www.southcountyhealth.org](http://www.southcountyhealth.org)

### Westerly Hospital

25 Wells Street  
Westerly, RI 02891  
(401) 596-6000  
[westerlyhospital.org](http://westerlyhospital.org)

### Women & Infants Hospital

101 Dudley Street  
Providence, RI 02905  
(401) 274-1100  
[www.womenandinfants.org](http://www.womenandinfants.org)

### Sturdy Memorial Hospital

211 Park Street  
Attleboro, MA 02703  
(508) 222-5200  
[www.sturdymemorial.org](http://www.sturdymemorial.org)

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS

### Hasbro Children's Hospital

593 Eddy Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 444-4000  
[www.hasbrochildrenshospital.org](http://www.hasbrochildrenshospital.org)

### Boston Children's Hospital

300 Longwood Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 355-6000  
TTY: (800) 439-2370  
(800) 355-7944  
[www.childrenshospital.org](http://www.childrenshospital.org)

### Shriners Hospital for Children

516 Carew Street  
Springfield, MA 01104  
(413) 787-2000  
[www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org](http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org)

### Shriners Pediatric Burn Care

51 Blossom Street  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 722-3000  
Emergency Referral:  
(800) 255-1916  
[www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org](http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org)

## PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS

### Bradley Hospital

Bradley offers inpatient services for children ages 2 to 18 years of age who suffer from serious disorders and are in need of short-term stabilization assessment and treatment. Programs include:

- [Access Center](#)
- [Child Psychiatric Emergency Services](#)
- [Emergency Services at Rhode Island Hospital](#)

1011 Veterans Memorial Parkway  
East Providence, RI 02915

For access and crisis intervention, call 1-855-543-5465.  
[www.bradleyhospital.org](http://www.bradleyhospital.org)



### Butler Hospital

[The Adolescent Treatment Unit](#) provides psychiatric care and support for teenagers, ages 13 to 17 in a safe and caring environment. Programs treat depression, anxiety, addictions, and other mental illnesses. Support is also provided for teens who have thoughts of self-harming behaviors.

[The Young Adult Partial Hospital Program](#) is a supportive environment for 18-to-26-year-olds. Young adults learn to gain control of their illness and achieve their personal goals.  
345 Blackstone Boulevard  
Providence, RI 02906  
(401) 455-6200  
[www.butler.org](http://www.butler.org)

### Fuller Hospital

Fuller provides in-home therapy and therapeutic mentoring for youth under the age of 21. Adolescent inpatient psychiatric and partial hospitalization is also available.  
200 May Street  
South Attleboro, MA 02703  
24/7 referral line: 833-3FULLER (833) 338-5537  
[www.fullerhospital.com](http://www.fullerhospital.com)

# MENTAL / BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

**Kids' Link RI: A hotline for children in emotional crisis.**

This free referral line helps parents find the best place to go for treatment and counseling.  
(855) 543-5465 or visit [www.lifespan.org](http://www.lifespan.org)

## STATEWIDE SUPPORTS

### **Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals (BHDDH)**

The Division of Behavioral Healthcare Services has integrated mental health services, substance use treatment, and prevention services, including peer support.  
[www.bhddh.ri.gov](http://www.bhddh.ri.gov)

### **North American Family Institute (NAFI)**

This organization offers support services and training for foster families to help create life-long family ties. Services include residential programs & community-based services.  
1775 Bald Hill Road, Unit 1  
Warwick, RI 02886  
(401) 615-1231  
[www.nafiri.org](http://www.nafiri.org)

### **Tides Family Services**

Tides provide youth ages 6-21 with counseling, recreation, cognitive behavioral therapy, and school/after-school programs.  
(401) 822-1360  
<https://www.tidesfs.org/our-services>

## BRADLEY HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS

Bradley outpatient services offer comprehensive mental health evaluation and treatment for children, adolescents and families.

[\*Access Center\*](#) clinicians perform evaluations for children and adolescents to help families find the most appropriate and effective services. To get help, call: (855) 543-5465

[\*Early Childhood Outpatient\*](#) Pediatric Partial Hospital Program offers counseling services for young children from birth to eight years old, and their families.

[\*The SafeQuest Partial Hospital Program\*](#) is an after-school program for children ages 9 to 12 who are at risk for self-harm or are suffering from significant mood and/or anxiety disorders.

[\*The Mindful Teen\*](#) Adolescent Partial Hospital Program is a six-month outpatient treatment program for adolescents 13 to 18 years old who display signs of self-destructive behaviors.

[\*Outpatient Services for Children and Teens\*](#) provides treatment using a variety of modalities.

[\*Adolescent Substance Use and Psychiatric Program\*](#) provides treatment for 12-17 year olds with co-occurring disorders.

[\*Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health in Newport\*](#) provides pediatric mental health care in Newport County. Children between the ages 3 and 17 years are accepted for evaluation.

1011 Veterans Memorial Parkway  
East Providence, RI 02915

[www.lifespan.org/centers-services/bradley-outpatient](http://www.lifespan.org/centers-services/bradley-outpatient)

### **Community Mental Health Centers**

A network of Community Mental Health Centers provide behavioral health services ranging from emergency services, general and intensive community-based outpatient treatment, substance use treatment, case management and other services.

[Community Mental Health Centers Fact Sheet](#)

### **Community Care Alliance**

Walk ins are welcome Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – Noon  
245 Main Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895  
Appointment Line: (401) 235-7121  
Crisis Hotline: (401) 235-7120  
[www.communitycareri.org](http://www.communitycareri.org)

### **Gateway Healthcare**

Programs are located throughout the state.  
295 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860  
To schedule services or emergency intake call:  
(401) 729-8701  
[www.gatewayhealth.org](http://www.gatewayhealth.org)

### **Newport Mental Health**

127 Johnny Cake Hill Road  
Middletown, RI 02842  
Appointment Line: (401) 846-1213  
24/7 Crisis Hotline: (401) 846-1213  
[www.newportmentalhealth.org](http://www.newportmentalhealth.org)

### **The Providence Center**

520 Hope St, Providence, RI 02906  
Intake Line: (401) 276-4020  
Crisis Hotline: (401) 274-7111  
[www.providencecenter.org](http://www.providencecenter.org)

### **Thrive Youth & Family Services**

2756 Post Road  
Warwick, RI 02886  
Appointment Line: (401) 732-5656  
24/7 Crisis Hotline: (401) 738-4300  
[www.thrivebhri.org](http://www.thrivebhri.org)

***Please call 911  
or go to the emergency room  
if a child or youth  
is in immediate danger.***



## DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

### The Brown Center for the Study of Children at Risk

The Brown Center studies the biological and social factors that determine health outcomes of children. The [Center for Children and Families](#) provides inpatient and outpatient clinical care at Women & Infants. Inpatient services include:

- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Infant & early childhood development
- Perinatal & postpartum services

50 Holden Street, 1st Floor

Providence, RI 02908

(401) 274 -1122 x 48936

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

### The Children's Neurodevelopment Center (CNDC)

Hasbro Hospital provides evaluation and treatment of children with neurological, genetic, developmental, metabolic, and behavioral disorders. The center incorporates multidisciplinary care with pediatric urology, orthopedics, neurosurgery, and craniofacial programs. The center is designed to be welcoming to children and their parents, who are essential partners in their children's care. Services include:

- Child and Family Assessment
- Genetics and Dysmorphology
- Transition Consultation Clinic

335R Prairie Avenue, Suite 1A

Providence, RI 02905

(401) 444-5685

[www.lifespan.org/centers-services](http://www.lifespan.org/centers-services)

## THERAPEUTIC CENTERS

### Autism Care Partners

Empowering children, and their families, to achieve individualized behavioral goals through assessment, education and treatment.

275 West Natick Road, Suite 400, Warwick, RI 02886

301 Concord Street, #335, Pawtucket, RI 02860

(401) 826-8875

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

### CBS Therapy

This office provides a range of services include: speech, language, occupational, physical and ABA therapy.

626 Park Avenue

Cranston, RI 02910

(401) 270-9991

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

### Center for Autism and Development Disabilities (CADD)

This clinic serves children and adolescents (ages 2 – 18) who have developmental disabilities and show signs of serious emotional and behavioral problems.

1011 Veterans Memorial Parkway

East Providence, RI 02915

(401) 432-1119

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

### Children's Rehabilitation Center

This Hasbro Hospital Center offers occupational and physical therapy services and neurological consultation for children and adolescents who have physical, developmental, behavioral, and sensory disabilities, injuries, or other medical needs.

765 Allens Avenue, Suite 200

Providence, RI 02905

(401) 432-6800

1454 South County Trail

East Greenwich, RI 02818

(401) 444-2050

[www.lifespan.org/centers-services](http://www.lifespan.org/centers-services)

### Groden Center

The Groden Center provides educational and therapeutic services to children and youth with autism, behavioral disorders, and developmental disabilities. The center also supports families in caring and advocating for their children.

86 Mount Hope Avenue

Providence, RI 02906

(401) 274-6310

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

### Sensation Station

Therapists employ an occupation based approach to intervention using many methods. We have fully equipped sensory gyms, kitchens and ADL rooms as well as quiet spaces for individualized work.

501 Centerville Road, Warwick, RI 02886

(401) 732 5100

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

### Sensible Development

This pediatric outpatient clinic provides therapy for children with developmental and learning challenges. Clinic has a large therapy gym with specialized equipment and smaller spaces that are used to create the optimal environment for children.

110 Airport Road, Suite 102

Westerly, RI 02891

(401) 348-9400

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

### Tavares Pediatric and Education Center

Tavares Pediatric Center is a Medicaid Certified 30 Bed Intermediate Care Facility that serves individuals with intellectual disabilities and other related conditions.

Call, to learn more: (401) 272-7127

<https://tpcri.com/>



## HEALTH AND WELLNESS ADVOCACY

**Rhode Island Office of the Mental Health Advocate**  
Attorneys at this state office provide an array of free legal, investigative, and advocacy services.  
57 Howard Avenue, 4th Floor Cranston, RI 02920  
(401) 462-2003 or (800) 346-2282 TTY: (401) 462-6018

**Mental Health Association of Rhode Island (MHARI)**  
MHARI advocates for access to treatment and services to improve the lives of people touched by mental illness.  
(401) 726-2285  
[www.mhari.org](http://www.mhari.org)

**The Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council of RI**  
This organization promotes high quality community-based mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services delivered at Community Mental Health Centers. Find the SUMHLC Resource Guide at: [www.sumhlc.org](http://www.sumhlc.org)

## WEBSITES

**American Academy of Pediatrics RI Chapter (AAP RI)**  
This group promotes optimal physical, mental, and social health, and well-being for infants, children, and young adults.  
[www.riaap.org](http://www.riaap.org)

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
This federal agency works protects America from health, safety, and security threats.  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**Mental Health America**  
This national nonprofit is dedicated to addressing the needs of those living with mental illness and promoting wellness and mental health for all.  
[www.mhanational.org](http://www.mhanational.org)

**RI Medical Home Portal**  
The RI Medical Home Portal partners with five other states to offer RI residents information about local, community, and professional services that support children and youth with special health care needs.  
Find tools to help you organize and keep track of all the care your child needs at: [www.ri.medicalhomeportal.org](http://www.ri.medicalhomeportal.org)

# SUPPORTS FOR FAMILIES



## RIPIN

RIPIN is a non-profit organization staffed by people who have loved ones with special needs. RIPIN peers are trained to help others access health, education, and community supports.

## ADVOCACY / PARTNERSHIP

### Family Voices

RIPIN Family Voices promotes family centered healthcare for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN). Family Voices builds partnerships between families and professionals. Together we bring the voice of families with CYSHN to policy makers. Resources include peer support groups and workshops that support caregivers at every level. [www.ripin.org/ripin-family-voices](http://www.ripin.org/ripin-family-voices)

## INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

### RIPIN Call Center (401) 270-0101

Any Rhode Islander can get free support. Call with question about health or education. The Call Center will work with you until your concern is resolved. We can help you:

- Resolve problems with health insurance
- Get answers to your Medicaid questions
- Access special education services
- Connect to HealthSource RI
- Find services for your child with special needs

Calls are answered Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Leave your name, phone number, a description of your issue, and best way to contact you. We strive to return all messages within two business days. You can also contact us by email at: [callcenter@ripin.org](mailto:callcenter@ripin.org)

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

### Early Intervention (EI)

This program helps families coordinate care for children from birth to age three. Parent Consultants give families the information they need to begin their journey into the world of special needs. They support programs like:

- RI Hearing Assessment Program
- Women & Infants Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Download a factsheet at: [Early Intervention \(EI\)](#)

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

### The Parent Training and Information Center (PTIC)

The PTIC provides support to families on their special education journey and into adulthood. PTIC Peers share information to help families understand their rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Peers coach families on how to use this information to making informed decisions about their child's education.

*The Transition Team* helps ease transition to adult services. Transition Peers help young adults with disabilities and their families explore options and prepare for the future.

*Local Advisory Committees (LAC)* RIPIN peers work to develop parent advocacy skills and increase participation on statewide advisory councils and other committees.

*Military Family Support* Peers assist active duty, retired military, veterans, National Guard, and Reserve personnel, who have a family member with a disability or special need.

Visit [www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org) to find: [Resources](#) and [Workshops](#)

## CARE COORDINATION

### Medical Home Program

Peer Care Coordinators offer community supports to keep families with children with special health care needs healthy.

*Pediatric Medical Sites* partner with RIPIN Peer Care Coordinators to develop connections between family, pediatric practices throughout the state.

*The RIPIN Cedar Family Center* helps Medicaid eligible families gain access to services and improve short and long-term health outcomes for CYSHCN and their families.

[RIPIN Cedar Fact Sheet](#)

*Katie Beckett Team* helps families with children under the age of 19 who have long-term complex medical needs apply for a Medicaid waiver - regardless of the parents' income level.

Call 401-270-0101 x365

Or email: [RIPINCedarFamilyCenter@ripin.org](mailto:RIPINCedarFamilyCenter@ripin.org)

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### The Community Health Network (CHN)

Classes are available to help caregivers take control of their health and emotional well-being. Classes are free or low cost and take place in convenient Rhode Island locations.

Find schedule of classes at: [www.ripin.org/chn/](http://www.ripin.org/chn/)

## RIPIN

300 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 300  
Warwick, RI 02888  
(401) 270-0101

Learn more at: [www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org)

inform

support

educate

advocate

empower



## MEDICAID - COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORT

### Home-based Therapeutic Services (HBTS)

This program provides intensive support to improve communication, behavioral, and social skills. Parents participate in this treatment to maximize effectiveness. Services are provided in the child's home and community settings according to an approved individualized treatment plan.

[HBTS Fact Sheet](#)

[Applied Behavior Analysis Fact Sheet](#)

### Personal Assistance Services and Supports (PASS)

This program provides support to help children with special needs learn daily life skills. To be eligible, a child must have a disabling or chronic condition (cognitive, physical, developmental, and/or psychiatric) that is moderate to severe.

[PASS Fact Sheet](#)

### Respite Program for Children

The Respite Program allows parents or guardians caring for a child with disabilities to have time off. To be eligible for Respite, a child must need an institutional level of care.

Both PASS & Respite services can help improve a child's ability to accomplish activities of daily living, improve safety skills, and participate in social situations. Services are provided in the home or community setting by a direct support worker.

Families have a choice in how services are delivered. Parents/guardians find their own direct support worker with assistance from a certified PASS or Respite agency. Families are expected to help train and supervise their direct support worker.

[Respite Fact Sheet](#)

For more information, contact a Cedar Family Center, your managed care plan, or call a DHS Medical Care Specialist.

*Child Medical Equipment*

(401) 462-1796

*Respite Program*

(401) 462-2090

*Certified Nursing Assistant*

(401) 462-0070

[www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/Families](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/Families)

### Non-Medical Emergency Transportation

This program is for RI Medicaid beneficiaries who do not have access to transportation for medical appointments or services.

To book a ride, find out where your ride is, or schedule a pickup call: (855) 330-9131.

Find a comprehensive list of  
**Medicaid funded programs**  
for children with special needs at:

[www.eohhs.ri.gov](http://www.eohhs.ri.gov)  
[Fact Sheet](#)

### Cedar Family Center

Cedar Centers provide intensive care coordination for children with special health care needs. Cedar can help families:

- Learn more about their child's disability or condition.
- Learn how to address their child's needs now and in the future.
- Find resources in the community.
- Get information on a range of services and treatment options.
- Connect with other families who have had similar experiences.

To be eligible for Cedar Family Center services, a child must be eligible for Medicaid, under age 21, a RI resident, live at home, and have a disabling or chronic condition that is cognitive, physical, developmental, and/or psychiatric.

Additional Cedar services may include:

- Obtaining clinical services
- Referrals to community and social supports
- Health Promotion (i.e., education and prevention)
- Screenings for physical and mental health
- Transitional Care (between services)
- Family advocacy

Cedar services are available statewide at no cost. Families choose one of two Cedar Family Centers to work with.

### RIPIN Cedar Family Center

300 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 300

Warwick, RI 02888

(401) 270-0101 x365

[www.ripin.org/resources](http://www.ripin.org/resources)

### Three Cedar

335 R Prairie Avenue, Suite 1A

Providence, RI 02905

(401) 444-7703

[www.lifespan.org/centers](http://www.lifespan.org/centers)



## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

### Family Care Community Partnership (FCCP)

This program collaborates with children, youth, and families to address complex family concerns such as: risk for child abuse and neglect, youth with moderate to severe emotional disturbance, children with developmental delays or disabilities, and adolescents involved with the juvenile justice system. Find your local FCCP at: [www.dcyf.ri.gov/fccps](http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/fccps)

*West Urban Core FCCP*

#### Family Service of Rhode Island

55 Hope Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
(401) 519-2280  
(401) 639-3187  
[www.familyserviceri.org](http://www.familyserviceri.org)

*Washington/Kent FCCP*

#### Tri-County Community Action Program

415 Tower Hill Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
(866) 840-6532  
(401) 258-8678  
[www.tricountyri.org](http://www.tricountyri.org)

*East Bay FCCP*

#### Child and Family

31 John Clarke Road  
Middletown, RI 02842  
(401) 849-2300  
[www.childandfamilyri.com](http://www.childandfamilyri.com)

*East Urban Core FCCP*

#### Communities for People

210 West Avenue  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
(833) FCCP-123  
(833) 322-7123  
[www.communities-for-people.org](http://www.communities-for-people.org)

*Northern RI FCCP*

#### Community Care Alliance

PO Box 1700  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
(401) 235-7252 or  
(401) 235-7120  
[www.communitycareri.org](http://www.communitycareri.org)



## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Assistive technology (A.T.) is any device that helps a person with a disability function better at home, work, school, or in the community.

### Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan Program

Also known as ATEL, this program provides training and long-term loan and device reutilization services of specialized telephone equipment to qualified individuals who have difficulty using a standard telephone.

#### Eligibility Guidelines

To receive equipment, a person must be a RI resident have a speech, hearing, or neuromuscular disability, meet income criteria, and complete the application process. Mail completed applications, along with a signed Certificate of Disability, to:

DHS Office of Rehabilitation Services  
ATEL Program 5th Floor  
40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 421-7005 or (401) 463-0202 (V/TDD)  
Find application at: [www.atel.ri.gov](http://www.atel.ri.gov)

### Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART)

The RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RI CDHH) provides sign language interpreter referral services. Specialized interpreters are also available (CDI, Oral, Deafblind, and Cued Speech). Requests for an interpreter or CART should be made at least two weeks in advance. Voice: (401) 222-5300  
Videophone: (401) 354-7630 or TTY: (401) 222-5301  
[www.cdhh.ri.gov](http://www.cdhh.ri.gov)

### Insight Radio

INSIGHT Radio provides reading of news and other printed materials broadcasted 24 hours a day, seven days a week on a closed signal. Order a free receiver from INSIGHT to access the service or to join their small group programs that bring together people who are living with vision loss.  
(401) 941-3322  
[www.in-sight.org](http://www.in-sight.org)

### TechACCESS of Rhode Island

TechACCESS offers advocacy and referral to assistive technology products, funding, and services no charge. Voice (401) 462-7917 Spanish (401) 272-8090  
TTY (401) 222-1679 TDD (401) 421-7016  
(800) 916-8324  
[www.techaccess-ri.org](http://www.techaccess-ri.org)

## ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE

### Adoption RI

The social work team at Adoption RI works with children and families throughout various stages of the adoption process.  
(401) 865-6000  
[www.adoptionri.org](http://www.adoptionri.org)

### Foster Forward

Foster Forward offers services for youth and adults that promote a safe, healthy, and nurturing home for life for all children impacted by foster care.  
(401) 438-3900  
[www.fosterforward.net](http://www.fosterforward.net)

### The Village

The Village is a foster and adoptive family led support organization that contributes to the development of a robust network of healthy, committed, and well-trained resource families for children in RI needing out of home care. Current offerings include:

- Peer support groups and peer mentoring
- Open Closet

(401) 481-5483  
[www.rivillage.org](http://www.rivillage.org)

## GRIEF SUPPORT

Find a listing of support groups at:  
[www.hopehealthco.org](http://www.hopehealthco.org) and [www.friendsway.org](http://www.friendsway.org)

## SELF-CARE & RESPITE

### Carebreaks Respite Program

This program provides unpaid caregivers a short-term break from caring for a disabled child. Call (401) 421-7833 x 212 or find [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Application](#) at: [www.dioceseofprovidence.org](http://www.dioceseofprovidence.org)

### Family Caregiver Alliance of Rhode Island

This peer network advocates for the needs of caregivers who are providing long-term in-home care for family and friends.  
[www.fcari.org](http://www.fcari.org)

## RECREATION

### INFORMATIONAL GUIDES

#### Accessible RI

The Accessible RI website lists restaurants, museums, cinemas, and cultural sites in RI using the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 guidelines for accessibility.  
[www.access-ri.org](http://www.access-ri.org)

#### Rhode Island Family Guide

This is a resource for finding information on everything from healthcare to support services to education to all of the fun and adventure in RI and surrounding areas.  
[www.rifamilyguide.com](http://www.rifamilyguide.com)

### SENSORY SENSITIVE ACTIVITIES

#### Chuck E. Cheese Sensory Sensitive Sundays

Reduced lighting and noise, Food and games, Trained and caring staff  
650 Bald Hill Road, Warwick, RI 02886  
(401) 823-6255  
[www.chuckecheese.com](http://www.chuckecheese.com)

#### Museum of Work & Culture

The Museum offers low sensory hours, specialized programs, and tools for visitors with sensory processing sensitivities. Sensory-friendly hours are offered as part of our SensAbilities Saturdays program, on the first Saturday of every month at 9 am. Made-to-Order Mondays, offered on alternating summer Mondays, are free programs with art and music therapists.  
42 South Main Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895  
(401) 769-9675  
<https://www.rihs.org/locations/museum-of-work-culture/>

#### Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC)

In partnership with The Autism Project, PPAC's NEW Sensory-Friendly performances create a guest experience that is welcoming, judgement free, and inclusive of guests with a wide range of sensory, learning and physical differences.  
220 Weybosset St Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 421-ARTS (2787)  
[www.ppacri.org](http://www.ppacri.org)

#### Providence Children's Museum

The Children's Museum offers sensory friendly play on the last Sunday of each month from 9:30 am– 12:30 pm.  
(401) 273-5437  
100 South Street, Providence, RI 02903  
[providencechildrensmuseum.org](http://providencechildrensmuseum.org)

#### Roger Williams Park Zoo and Carousel Village

The Zoo offers accommodations to help guests with differences enjoy their experience including wheelchair rentals, Quiet Zones, and sensory-friendly bags to borrow.  
1000 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island 02907  
(401) 941-4998  
[www.rwpzoo.org](http://www.rwpzoo.org)

#### Showcase Cinema Screening

Sensory Sensitive Screenings take place at select locations the first Saturday of each month at 10 am. Check box office for tickets and availability.  
(401) 849-8898  
[www.showcasecinemas.com](http://www.showcasecinemas.com)

#### SkyZone Sensory Hours

Enjoy the freedom of jumping. Sensory hours provide a quieter, toned-down jumping experience for those with special needs. Sensory Sunday is every 2nd Sunday of the Month from 8:30am – 10am.  
70 Pawtucket Avenue, Providence, RI 02916  
(401) 383-6000  
[www.skyzone.com](http://www.skyzone.com)

#### Trinity Rep Theatre

Trinity Rep offers a series of moderately-adjusted performances of every show to meet the needs of autistic patrons, audience members with PTSD, and/or guests with sensitivities to light and sound.  
201 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 351-4242  
[www.trinityrep.com](http://www.trinityrep.com)







### **Special Olympics Rhode Island**

Year-round sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, develops physical fitness and provides opportunity to share skills and friendship with others.  
(401) 349-4900

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

### **Sail to Prevail**

This adaptive sailing program develops independence for those with spinal cord injury and nervous system disorders.

86 Thames Street  
Newport, RI 02840

(401) 849-8898

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

### **ARTS & CULTURE**

#### **Hands in Harmony, LLC**

Hands in Harmony offers neuroscience-based music therapy.  
25 W. Independence Way, Suite B

Kingston, RI 02881

(401) 783-4810

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

#### **Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra and Music School**

This school offers music therapy to support speech and nonverbal communication.

667 Waterman Avenue

East Providence, RI 02914

(401) 248-7001

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

#### **Arts Equity (Formally VSA)**

Arts Equity offers inclusive community-based art opportunities to people with disabilities.

(401) 725-0247

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

### **CLUBS**

#### **Boys and Girls Clubs Rhode Island**

Clubs across RI focus on academics, citizenship, and health to inspire youth to realize their full potential. Find a local club at:

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

#### **Boy Scouts of America**

Narragansett Council

(401) 351-8700

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

#### **Girl Scouts of RI**

(401) 331-4500

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

### **OUTDOOR / FITNESS ACTIVITIES**

#### **Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center**

59 Summer Street

Rehoboth, MA 02769

(508) 252-5814

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

#### **Impossible Dream Playground**

This free integrated playground offers a clean and safe environment for children of all physical abilities.

575 Centerville Road

Warwick, RI 02886

(401) 823-5566

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



## DISABILITY SPECIFIC RESOURCES

### ALLERGIES AND ASTHMA

#### **Hasbro Children's Hospital Community Asthma Program**

Community education, management support, and advocacy helps improve the quality of life of children with asthma.

(401) 444-8340

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

### ATTENTION DEFICIT

#### **Children and Adults Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder of RI (CHADD)**

CHADD provides education, advocacy and support for those affected by attention deficit disorder.

(401) 369-0045

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

### AUTISM

#### **The Autism Project**

This group collaborates to provide support, training, and programming for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other social emotional challenges, their families, and those who work with them.

(401) 785-2666

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

#### **Bailey's Team**

This non-profit supports service providers who care for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

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

#### **Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities**

Bradley Hospital and Brown University have research opportunities for individuals and families impacted by autism and related neuro-developmental issues.

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



### BRAIN INJURY

#### **Brain Injury Association of RI**

This association works to prevent brain injury to enhance the quality of life for those affected by brain injury.

(401) 228-3319

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

### CANCER

#### **American Cancer Society: RI**

This group advocates for policies and laws that prevent cancer and benefit cancer patients and survivors.

(401) 243-2600 or (800) ACS-2345

TTY: (866) 228-4327

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

#### **The Tomorrow Fund**

This fund provides support to families whose children are treated in the Pediatric Oncology Program at Hasbro.

(401) 444-8811

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

### CEREBRAL PALSY

#### **United Cerebral Palsy of RI**

This advocacy group provides services for individuals with a variety of abilities develop independence.

(401) 728-1800

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

### DIABETES

#### **American Diabetes Association of New England**

Find information on how to stop diabetes and support those living with the disease.

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

#### **Rhode Island Department of Health Diabetes Program**

This program helps school nurse teachers ensure children with diabetes have a school health care plan.

(401) 222-5960

[www.health.ri.gov/diabetes](http://www.health.ri.gov/diabetes)

### DOWN SYNDROME

#### **Down Syndrome Society of RI**

This group provides advocacy and support to promote the rights and potential of all individuals with Down Syndrome.

(401) 463-5751

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

### EPILEPSY

#### **Epilepsy Foundation of New England**

This foundation funds research and provides resources to children and families in their fight against epilepsy.

(401) 480-8110

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



## GENETIC DISORDERS & RARE DISEASES

### **New England Regional Genetics Group (NERGG)**

Geneticists, genetic counselors, public health officials and consumers working together to promote awareness, understanding, and access to genetic services.

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

### **New England Regional Genetic Network (NERGN)**

This group, known as NERGN, promotes new approaches to care for individuals with inherited conditions.

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

### **Genetics Educational Material for School Success (GEMSS)**

This group works to ensure that all children with genetic health conditions have a successful school-life.

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

### **Genetic Alliance**

This alliance brings together genetic health groups to provide information, build supports, and drive policy decisions.

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

### **Rare New England**

This group of medical professionals coordinates resources for patients and families with rare and complex conditions.

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

### **National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)**

This organization provides information on rare diseases, clinical trials, and caregiver support.

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

## HEARING

### **RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

This commission ensure that RI is a place where the deaf and hard of hearing have equal opportunity.

(401) 256-5511 Videophone: (401) 256-5511

[www.cdhh.ri.gov](http://www.cdhh.ri.gov)

### **RI Speech-Language-Hearing Association**

This organization of speech-language pathologists and audiologists works with people of all ages who have communication disorders.

[www.risha.info](http://www.risha.info)

## HEART DISEASE

### **American Heart Association**

(401) 228-2320

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

### **Conquering CHD**

This national organization works to fight Congenital Heart Disease, the most common birth defect in the United States.

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

### **Sisters by Heart**

This parent run organization supports families affected by Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS), and other single ventricle (SV) defects.

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

## MENTAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

### **Girls and Boys Town National Hotline**

The Girls & Boys Town free hotline connects kids, teens, and young adults to trained counselors at any time of day or night.

(800) 448-3000 or text VOICE to 20121

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

### **Interfaith Counseling Center**

This center does not subscribe to any one faith, but offers accessible, affordable, and sensitive counseling care.

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

### **National Alliance Mental Health (NAMI RI)**

This peer-led organization brings the unique understanding of people with lived experience to their support groups, training, and mentoring.

(401) 331-3060 or (800) 273-8255

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

### **Parents Support Network of RI (PSN)**

This family-run organization supports Rhode Islanders who experience behavioral, emotional, and/or mental health challenges. PSN promotes well-being and builds a culturally and linguistically competent system of care through advocacy, education, and increased public awareness.

- [Peer Support Groups](#)
- [Parent & Community Workshops](#)
- [Fatherhood Programs](#)

535 Centerville Road, Suite 202

Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

(401) 467-6855 or (800) 483-8844

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

## MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

### **National Multiple Sclerosis Society, RI Chapter**

(800) 344-4867

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

## SPINA BIFIDA

### **Spina Bifida Association of Greater New England**

(508) 482-5300 or (888) 479-1900

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





## VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

### **Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI)**

Social workers provide services and equipment to children from 3 through 14 with visual impairments.

40 Fountain Street

Providence, RI 02903

(401) 421-7005 TDD: (401) 421-7016

Spanish: (401) 462-7791

[www.ors.ri.gov](http://www.ors.ri.gov)

### **Rhode Island Services for Children and Youth With Dual Sensory Impairment (DSI Project)**

This Project assists educational teams who serve learners with deaf and blindness from birth-22 years of age.

(401) 456-8072 TTY: 711 or (800) 745-5555

Spanish TTY: 711 or (866) 355-9241

[www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter/dualsensory](http://www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter/dualsensory)

### **Rhode Island Vision Education and Services Program**

The Sherlock Center provides services to children who are blind or visually impaired, their families, and educational staff.

[www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter/vision](http://www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter/vision)

### **Talking Books Library (TBL)**

Free braille/audio books and equipment are provided to RI residents who are unable to read standard print materials.

One Capitol Hill

Providence, RI 02908

(401) 574-9310 or TTY: 711

[www.olis.ri.gov](http://www.olis.ri.gov)



# BASIC NEEDS

**211 - United Way of Rhode Island**

Call 211 to find assistance with housing, food, affordable childcare, and much more.

[www.unitedwayri.org/get-help/2-1-1](http://www.unitedwayri.org/get-help/2-1-1)

## Community Action Programs (CAP)

RI communities have special programs to address the most pressing needs of RI residents. These programs serve as a safety net across the lifespan of individuals and families. Find your local CAP at: [www.ricommunityaction.org](http://www.ricommunityaction.org)

### Community Action Partnership of Providence

518 Hartford Avenue, Providence, RI 02909  
(401) 273-2000  
[www.cappri.org](http://www.cappri.org)

### Community Care Alliance

PO Box 1700, Woonsocket, RI 02895  
(401) 235-7000  
[www.CommunityCareRI.org](http://www.CommunityCareRI.org)

### Comprehensive Community Action

*Serving: Cranston, Foster, Scituate, Coventry*  
311 Doric Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910  
(401) 467-9610  
[www.comcap.org](http://www.comcap.org)

### Eastbay Community Action - Northern

*Serving: Newport, Portsmouth, Tiverton, Middletown, Jamestown, Little Compton*  
19 Broadway, Newport, RI 02840  
(401) 847-7821  
[www.ebcap.org](http://www.ebcap.org)

### Eastbay Community Action - Southern

*Serving: East Providence, Warren, Bristol, Barrington*  
100 Bullocks Point Avenue, Riverside, RI 02915  
(401) 437-1000  
[www.ebcap.org](http://www.ebcap.org)

### Tri-County Community Action Agency - Northern

*Serving: North Providence, Johnston, North Smithfield, Smithfield, Burrillville, Glocester*  
1126 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919  
(401) 351-2750  
[www.tricountyri.org](http://www.tricountyri.org)

### Tri-County Community Action Agency - Southern

*Serving: Exeter, Charlestown, Narragansett, Westerly, Hopkinton, North Kingstown, South Kingstown, Richmond, West Greenwich, New Shoreham*  
1935 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879  
(401) 789-3016  
[www.tricountyri.org](http://www.tricountyri.org)

### Westbay Community Action Partnership

*Serving: Warwick, West Warwick, East Greenwich*  
224 Buttonwoods Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886  
(401) 732-4660  
[www.westbaycap.org](http://www.westbaycap.org)

## FOOD SECURITY / NUTRITION

### Rhode Island Community Foodbank

200 Niantic Avenue  
Providence, RI 02907  
(401) 942-6325  
[www.rifoodbank.org](http://www.rifoodbank.org)

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP helps families struggling financially to buy food and provide nutritious meals. You do not need to be involved with other DHS programs to receive SNAP benefits.

Apply online at: [www.healthsourceri.com](http://www.healthsourceri.com)  
or [www.dhs.ri.gov/Programs/SNAP](http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Programs/SNAP)

## HOUSING

### RIHousing

RIHousing provides low-interest loans, grants, and education to help Rhode Islanders find, rent, buy, and keep a good home.

(401) 457-1234 or TTY: (401) 450-1394  
(800) 427-5560 Español: (401) 457-1122  
[www.rihousing.com](http://www.rihousing.com)

### HomesRI

This coalition works to increase and preserve the supply of safe, healthy and affordable homes throughout RI.  
[www.housingworksri.org](http://www.housingworksri.org)

### Lucy's Hearth

This is a 24-hour emergency and transitional shelter for families and their children who are homeless.  
(401) 847-2021  
[www.lucyshearth.org](http://www.lucyshearth.org)

## PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

### Project Undercover

Project Undercover provides diapers, socks, and underwear to RI children ages 0-7 who are in need.  
Helpline at (800) 494-8100  
[www.projectundercover.org](http://www.projectundercover.org)

## SAFETY

### Day One

Day One reduces sexual abuse and violence for Rhode Islanders of all ages—from preschool children to elder adults.  
Helpline: (800) 494-8100  
[www.dayoneri.org](http://www.dayoneri.org)

### Prevent Child Abuse RI

This initiative promotes resources informed by science that enable kids, families, and entire communities to thrive.  
Statewide helpline: 401-467-6855  
[www.psnri.org/prevention](http://www.psnri.org/prevention)

### The RI Commission Against Domestic Violence

This coalition of RI domestic violence agencies offers online resources and a 24-hour Helpline.  
Call: (800) 494-8100  
[www.ricadv.org](http://www.ricadv.org)

## TRANSPORTATION

### **Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA)**

[RIPTA Bus Accessibility](#) RIPTA buses have a kneeler and wheelchair lift or ramp. Drivers are trained to help passengers secure their wheelchairs safely. Reduced fare bus passes are available for people with disabilities. Call: (401) 784-9500, ext. 1197

[RIPTA RIder - Para Transit Service](#) are available for individuals whose disability prevents independent use of the fixed route system or travel to or from bus stops.

Find application guidelines at: [www.ripta.com/ada](http://www.ripta.com/ada)  
(401) 461-9760 or TDD RI Relay (800) 745-5555  
[www.ripta.com/riders-with-disabilities](http://www.ripta.com/riders-with-disabilities)

## MILITARY & VETERAN RESOURCES

### **Military ONE Source/ Exceptional Family Member**

The program for military families with special needs helps with special education, financial planning, and childcare.  
(800) 342-9647

[www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)

### **Operation Stand Down RI**

This program provides social services and care coordination to homeless and low-income veterans in RI.

(401) 383-4730

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

### **Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, & Survivors**

The Veterans Administration offers a variety of benefits and services to spouses, children, and parents of veterans.

(800) 827-1000 or (877) 222-8387

[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

## OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### **Capital Good Fund**

This group offer small loans and personalized financial health and coaching to Rhode Islanders.

(866) 584-3651

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

### **Rhode Island Works (RIW)**

This program offers benefits and services that encourage the employment of adult family members.

1-855-MY-RIDHS or (1-855-697-4347)

TTY (800) 745-5555

[www.dhs.ri.gov/ProgramsRIWorks](http://www.dhs.ri.gov/ProgramsRIWorks)

### **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Those in need can find food, clothing, and support.

25 Webb Street, Cranston, RI 02920

(401) 490-0822

[www.svdpri.org/basic-needs](http://www.svdpri.org/basic-needs)





# EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (AGES 3 TO 22)

## The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE)

RIDE is the state agency that ensures all students have access to academic, social, emotional, career readiness and the knowledge and skills needed to be successful.

On this page you will find some of the resources RIDE offers to schools and families.

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

### Office of Student, Community and Academic Supports

This office ensures that all children and youth receive equal access to a public education. This office helps schools develop strategies to meet the unique needs of all learners including:

- Students with disabilities
- Multi-lingual students
- Disadvantaged students
- Students who experience homelessness
- Students who experience neglect, delinquency or who are otherwise at-risk
- Students learning beyond grade level

[www.ride.ri.gov/InsideRIDE/RIDEOffices](http://www.ride.ri.gov/InsideRIDE/RIDEOffices)

### Special Education

Special Education is meant to improve the academic, social and post school success of students with disabilities ages 3 to 22. Eligible students receive special instruction and services to meet their unique needs. Special Education issues include:

- Special Education programming
- School and family partnership
- Advisory committees and school improvement
- Laws, regulation, policy
- Disability specific resources
- Dispute resolution between school and families

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/SpecialEducation](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/SpecialEducation)

**The Special Education Call Center** assists in resolving problems for children receiving special education services. (401) 222-8999

### Child Outreach

Child Outreach staff meet with families to see how each child is developing between the ages of 3-5 years old. The staff check a child's speech, language, vision, and hearing.

If there are areas of concern, a referral for an evaluation is made to the local school department to determine if your child would benefit from special services. Find your Child Outreach office at: [www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment](http://www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment)

### Early Childhood Special Education

Every school district or special education collaborative provides early childhood special education services for three, four, and five-year-old children with developmental delays or disabilities who meet eligibility criteria. For more information, contact the *Office of Instruction, Assessment, and Curriculum* at:

[www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment](http://www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment)

*See page 2 for other inclusive preschool programs.*

### Special Education Schools

Elementary and secondary Special Education Schools focus on serving the needs of students with disabilities. Find a list of these schools at: [www2.ride.ri.gov](http://www2.ride.ri.gov)

### Multilingual Learners (MLLS) - English Language Learner

Resources for multi-lingual learners can be found at:

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

### Title I Programs

Schools with Title I programs provide additional academic support to students who are most in need of educational assistance. Learn more at:

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

### Charter Schools

Charter schools are public schools that pursue innovative strategies to meet student achievement goals.

<https://www.ride.ri.gov/CharterSchools>

### Career and Technical Education (CTE)

These schools offer career exploration activities and job specific skill development programs.

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

### All Course Network

RIDE community partners create opportunities for students to build an individualized graduation pathway. Learn about the courses available to students in participating districts at:

[www.prepare-ri.org](http://www.prepare-ri.org)

### Thrive

Thrive promotes health and safety in RI schools, including:

- After school opportunities
- Health, nutrition, and physical education

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

### SurveyWorks

SurveyWorks gathers data to provide a holistic view of public education in RI. Find school, district, and statewide data on:

- Student achievement
- Students, families, and educators
- Safe and supportive schools
- Funding and resources

[www.reportcard.ride.ri.gov](http://www.reportcard.ride.ri.gov)



## COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING

### Community Schools

Rhode Island's community schools bring together education, health, and social services to students attending public schools in ten communities across RI.

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

### Homeschooling

Home instruction is approved at the local school district level.

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

### RI Distance Learning Helpline

Teachers and families can call the Distance Learning Helpline at 904-414-4927 or fill out the online form at:

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

### Afterschool / Summer Learning Opportunities

Before and after school opportunities give children and youth time to build social and academic skills and provide a critical service for working parents.

[www.ride.ri.gov/studentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/studentsFamilies)

### Onward We Learn

This is a college-readiness/scholarship program for middle and high school students in low-income urban school districts.

134 Thurbers Ave # 111

Providence, RI 02905

(401) 854-5500

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

### RISE (Rhode Islanders Sponsoring Education)

RISE provides scholarships and mentoring to children whose parents are currently or formerly incarcerated.

(401) 421-2010

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

### Rhode Island Tutorial & Educational Services (RITES)

RITES provides tutoring from Kindergarten to adulthood.

334 East Avenue, Suite 3

Pawtucket, RI 02860

(401) 723-4459

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

### Rhode Island Healthy School Coalition

This coalition helps to make all RI schools healthy places for children. They help schools develop wellness policies and offer fun ideas for staying healthy.

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



## PARENT ADVOCACY

### Center for Southeast Asians

CSEA resources engage Southeast Asian families in becoming advocates for their children's education.

(401) 274-8811

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

### Dorcas International Institute

Free family classes help Providence and Central Falls families learn how to participate in their child's education.

(401) 784-8602

[www.diiri.org/family-literacy](http://www.diiri.org/family-literacy)

### Military One Source

The Exceptional Family Member Program assists with special education, financial planning, childcare, and more.

(800) 342-9647

[www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)

### Parent Support Network of RI (PSNRI)

PSNRI helps parents with their children's behavioral health and school related needs. See page 17 to learn more.

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

### Parents Leading for Education Equity (PLEE)

PLEE advocates for families to be equal partners in efforts to improve educational outcomes for all children.

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

### Parent Training and Information Center (PTIC)

The PTIC shares information with families and professionals to build partnerships that support children and youth with disabilities. Training options to preparing to serve on groups. See page 11 to learn more or call: (401) 270-0101.

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

### Interested in joining discussions about current educational issues?

Advisories are a great way for parents to give input to help improve education for all students. The following advisories make recommendations to ensure that educational policies meet the needs of all children.

[RI Special Education Advisory Committee \(RISEAC\)](#)  
[RI Vision Education Services Program Advisory Board](#)

[Transition Council](#)  
[English Language Learners Advisory Board](#)

School districts also meet regularly to talk with families and to gather input on educational plans. To learn more, contact your child's school, call RIPIN, or visit: [www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

# TRANSITION SUPPORTS

**Transition means making a change or going from one place to another.**

It is important for students with disabilities to plan early for a successful and rewarding future. Transition planning is a way for youth ages 14 to 22 and their supporters to prepare youth for life after high school.

## SCHOOL TO CAREER

### RI Department of Education (RIDE)

RIDE works with students, parents, schools, and other state and local agencies to deliver effective transition services for students with disabilities.

[www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies](http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies)

### Rhode Island Regional Transition Center

Transition Centers help students with disabilities prepare for adult life. Transition Coordinators support public and non-public schools that serve young adults (14 – 22) eligible under IDEA. The centers partner with adult service agencies, colleges, training programs, and parent advocacy organizations.

Find your local center at: [www.ride.ri.gov/Portals](http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals)

### RI Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)

ORS Counselors work with school districts, families and students with disabilities to prepare for job training, career development and employment opportunities after high school.

40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903

(401) 421-7005

[www.ors.ri.gov/Transition](http://www.ors.ri.gov/Transition)

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### Adolescent Transition Programs

*The RI Department of Health's Office of Special Health Care Needs* assists youth with disabilities and chronic health conditions as they transition to adult health care.

[Dare to Dream Initiative - D2D](#) help students with special needs gain self-confidence while learning advocacy, teamwork, and public speaking on a college campus.

[RI Youth Transition Workbook](#) assists high schoolers transition to a healthy adulthood.

Learn more at: (401) 222-5929

[www.health.ri.gov/programs](http://www.health.ri.gov/programs)

*The RI Division of Behavioral Healthcare* provides information to help plan for transition to adulthood for youth with developmental disabilities age 14 –25.

[Take Charge of Your Behavioral Health](#) provides 14 to 25-year old's a roadmap for navigating the complex system of behavioral healthcare services. Free hard copies are available in English/Spanish.

Learn more at: (401) 462-3421

[www.bhddh.ri.gov/developmentaldisabilities/youth](http://www.bhddh.ri.gov/developmentaldisabilities/youth)



## LONG-TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS

### RI Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities And Hospitals (BHDDH)

Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) oversees services for adults with developmental disabilities in RI. This division supports efforts across the state to provide equitable access to quality services that meet individual needs including:

- Self-directed services and service navigation
- Employment and day services
- Person-centered planning
- Safeguarding the rights of people with disabilities

**Start Early:** Find a [Transition Checklist](#) and other important resources at: [www.bhddh.ri.gov/developmental-disabilities](http://www.bhddh.ri.gov/developmental-disabilities)

- Find out if you are eligible to receive adult services.
- Apply for services well in advance of leaving high school.
- Visit website to learn more about transition services and review the [application process](#).

For assistance preparing for the next steps with transitioning to adult services call: 462-3421 or email [Transition@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:Transition@bhddh.ri.gov).

Or contact a RIPIN Transition Specialist for peer support.

Once you are determined eligible for services, you will work with BHDDH staff to complete an assessment called the [Supports Intensity Scale \(SIS\)](#). This questionnaire is used to determine service needs and related levels of funding for individuals receiving developmental disability services.

Learn more at: [www.bhddh.ri.gov](http://www.bhddh.ri.gov)

## SHARED-DECISION MAKING

### **Paul V. Sherlock Center On Disabilities**

The Sherlock Center promotes community inclusion and employment of individuals with developmental disabilities.

[Person-Centered Planning](#) describes a process to help people with disabilities plan for their future.

[Self-Directed Supports](#) is a way for you and the people you know and trust, to decide how to spend your Medicaid Long-term care dollars.

(401) 456-8072 TDD (401) 456-8773

Relay TTY 711 or (800) 745-5555

Relay Spanish (866) 355-9214

[www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter](http://www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter)

### **Personal Lifetime Advocacy Networks of RI (PLAN RI)**

PLAN RI helps expand networks of friends and supporters for your loved one, contributing to their quality of life.

(401) 785-9541 [www.planri.org](http://www.planri.org)

### **Rhode Island Parent Information Network (RIPIN)**

RIPIN peer navigators help families navigate the transition planning process and identify pathways to adult services.

(401) 270-0101 [www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org)

### **Disability Rights Rhode Island (DRRI)**

DRRI assists Rhode Islanders with differing abilities in their efforts to achieve full inclusion in society and to exercise their civil and human rights. Download guides and find resources.

[Supported Decision Making](#) is a way for people with disabilities to officially ask trusted and self-selected friends and family for advice when making important decisions.

(401) 831-3150 or TTY: (401) 831-5335

[www.drri.org](http://www.drri.org) [info@drri.org](mailto:info@drri.org)

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### **The Adolescent Leadership Council (TALC)**

Teens with chronic illness and their families are welcome to join to talk about and develop leadership skills.

(401) 444-7563 [www.talcprogram.org](http://www.talcprogram.org)

### **Advocates in Action Rhode Island (AinA)**

AinA is a coalition of Rhode Islanders with developmental disabilities that work to educate and empower others through leadership and advocacy.

(877) 532-5543 or TDD: (800) 745-5555

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

### **Children's Behavioral Health Statewide Family & Youth Advisory Board**

This board meets monthly and is hosted by Parent Support Network. For more information, call 401-467-6855.

[www.psnri.org/get-involved](http://www.psnri.org/get-involved)

### **Progreso Latino**

Progreso Latino programs support personal growth, self-sufficiency, and socio-economic progress for Latino and immigrant communities in RI.

(401) 728-5920 [www.progresolatino.org](http://www.progresolatino.org)

### **The Refugee Dream Center**

The Youth Dream mentor program brings together diverse groups of young people to share stories and to build cross-cultural communication.

(401) 300-0544

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

### **Sentinel Advisory Committee**

Individuals with disabilities and their family members provide input on Sherlock Center activities.

(401) 456-8072

[www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter](http://www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter)

### **Transition Council**

This council of state agencies, local school districts, parents, and students with special needs works to support young adults with special needs as they transition to adult life.

(401) 222-8350

[www.ride.ri.gov](http://www.ride.ri.gov)

### **Young Voices**

Young Voices is a RI non-profit organization that transforms urban youth into powerful advocates, who partner with our State's leaders to create systemic reform and policy change that improve the lives of thousands of youth across the state.

(401) 214-8212

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

### **RI Department of Health Youth Advisory Council**

This young adult council works to improve schools and communities by collaborating on programs and policies that affect the health and wellness needs of youth in RI.

For more information visit, <https://ri.medicalhomeportal.org/>, [www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov), or email [info.YAC@ripin.org](mailto:info.YAC@ripin.org)

## NATIONAL RESOURCES

### **Got Transition?**

This website offers information on how to build the self-advocacy skills needed to successfully transition from pediatric to adult health care.

(202) 769-0486

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

### **Think College**

This national organization helps develop, expand, and improve higher education options for people with intellectual disabilities.

[www.thinkcollege.net](http://www.thinkcollege.net) (617) 287-4300

### **Youth Move**

This is a youth-driven organization that believes that all youth should be equal partners in the process of change.

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

### **Youth as Self Advocates (YASA)**

This national advisory board of young adult leaders with disabilities represent diverse races and cultures, have different disabilities and health care needs. They participate on local and national committees and boards.

[www.familyvoices.org/yasa](http://www.familyvoices.org/yasa) (781) 674-7224

Toll-free (888) 835-5669



# POLICY RESOURCES

## UNITED STATES CONGRESS

[www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov)

### US House of Representatives

*Congressman David Cicilline (D)*

Washington Office:  
2233 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4911

Rhode Island Office:  
1710 Main Street, Suite 300  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
(401) 729-5600  
(800) 392-5772

[www.ciciline.house.gov](http://www.ciciline.house.gov)

*Congressman Seth Magaziner (D)*

Washington Office:  
1218 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2735

Rhode Island Office:  
935 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 3003  
Warwick, RI 02888  
(401) 244-1201

[www.langevin.house.gov](http://www.langevin.house.gov)

### US Senators

*Senator Jack Reed (D)*

Washington Office:  
United States Senate  
728 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4642

Providence Office:  
U.S. District Courthouse  
One Exchange Terrace, Suite 408  
Providence, RI 02903-1173  
(401) 528-5200 TDD or (800) 745-5555

Cranston Office:  
1000 Chapel View Boulevard, Suite 290  
Cranston, RI 02920-5602  
(401) 943-3100 or (800) 284-4200

[www.reed.senate.gov](http://www.reed.senate.gov)

*Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D)*

Washington Office:  
Hart Senate Office Bldg., Room 530  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-2921

Providence Office:  
170 Westminster Street, Suite 200  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 453-5294

[www.whitehouse.senate.gov](http://www.whitehouse.senate.gov)

## RHODE ISLAND (RI) STATE GOVERNMENT

### RI Governor

*Governor Dan McKee*

Office of the Governor  
222 State House  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-2080

[www.governor.ri.gov](http://www.governor.ri.gov)

### RI Lieutenant Governor

*Lt. Governor Sabina Matos*

Office of the Lt. Governor  
State House, Room 116  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-2371

[www.ltgov.ri.gov](http://www.ltgov.ri.gov)

### RI Secretary of State (SOS)

*Gregg M. Amore*

The SOS ensures RI government activities are transparent and that elections are fair and accurate.

[www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov)

### RI General Assembly

Connect to your representatives in the RI State Congress and Senate and obtain the latest information on state legislative activities at:

[www.rilin.state.ri.us](http://www.rilin.state.ri.us)



## RI STATE AGENCIES

**RI Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH)**  
(401) 462-3201  
[www.bhddh.ri.gov](http://www.bhddh.ri.gov)

**RI Department of Health (RIDOH)**  
(401) 222-5960  
[www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov)

**RI Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC)**  
(401) 462-951  
[www.ohic.ri.gov](http://www.ohic.ri.gov)

**RI Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)**  
(401) 528-3500  
[www.dcyf.ri.gov](http://www.dcyf.ri.gov)

**RI Department of Human Services (DHS)**  
1-855-MY-RIDHS  
[www.dhs.ri.gov](http://www.dhs.ri.gov)

**RI Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)**  
(401) 421-7005  
[www.ors.ri.gov](http://www.ors.ri.gov)

**RI Department of Education (RIDE)**  
(401) 222-4600  
[www.ride.ri.gov](http://www.ride.ri.gov)

**DHS Office of Child Support Services**  
(401) 458-4400  
[www.cse.ri.gov](http://www.cse.ri.gov)

**RI Office of the Child Advocate**  
6 Cherrydale Court Cottage 43  
Cranston, RI 02920  
(401) 462-4300  
[www.child-advocate.ri.gov](http://www.child-advocate.ri.gov)

## RHODE ISLAND STATE COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS

### **Governor's Commission on Disabilities (GCD)**

The GCD works to ensure that each person with a disability can exercise all the rights and responsibilities accorded to citizens of this state and reach their full potential with self-sufficiency.  
John O. Pastore Center  
2 Cherry Dale Court  
Cranston, RI 02920-3049  
(401) 462-0100  
[www.disabilities.ri.gov](http://www.disabilities.ri.gov)

### **Rhode Island Commission For Human Rights**

This commission enforces anti-discrimination laws mandated by state and federal law.  
180 Westminster Street, 3rd Floor  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-2661 or TTY: (401) 222-2664  
[www.richr.ri.gov](http://www.richr.ri.gov)

### **Rhode Island Council on Assistive Technology (RICAT)**

This citizens group advises the RI Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP).  
(401) 421-7005 ext. 390  
Find application at: [www.atap.ri.gov](http://www.atap.ri.gov)

### **Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council (RIDDC)**

Under federal enabling legislation the Council must stay abreast of and share information about new programs and services of concern to people with developmental disabilities, families, service agencies, business, and legislators, and policy makers.  
400 Bald Hill Road Suite 515  
Warwick, RI 02886  
Voice/TDD: (401) 737-1238  
[www.riddc.org](http://www.riddc.org)

### **State of Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CDHH)**

This commission advocates for policy, service delivery, and accessibility so that every person who is deaf and hard of hearing in RI can become a contributing citizen.  
One Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908-5850  
(401) 256-5511  
Videophone: (401) 256-5511  
[www.cdhh.ri.gov](http://www.cdhh.ri.gov)

### **Rhode Island Office of the Mental Health Advocate**

Attorneys at this state office provide an array of free legal, investigative, and advocacy services.  
57 Howard Avenue - 4th Floor  
Cranston, RI 02920  
(401) 462-2003 or (800) 346-2282  
TTY: (401) 462-6018

## LOCAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS

### **The ARC Family Advocacy Network**

The ARC provides support services and advocates for the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

[www.ri.thearc.org](http://www.ri.thearc.org)

### **Common Cause Rhode Island**

This organization promotes representative democracy by educating citizens to ensure open, ethical, accountable, effective government at local, state, and national levels.

33 Broad Street, Suite 601

[www.commoncause.org/rhode-island](http://www.commoncause.org/rhode-island)

### **Disability Rights RI (DRRI)**

This organization provides free legal assistance and information on legal rights to persons with disabilities.

33 Broad Street, Suite 601

Providence, RI 02903

(401) 831-3150 or TTY: (401) 831-5335

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

### **The Economic Progress Institute (EPI)**

This organization dedicated to improving the economic well-being of low- and modest-income Rhode Islanders.

(401) 456-8512

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

### **Rhode Island KIDS COUNT**

RI KIDS COUNT releases data- and research-driven publications, to keep policymakers, community members, and advocates up to date on issues affecting RI children and families.

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

### **RI Legal Services (RILS)**

RILS provides high quality legal assistance and representation to income-eligible individuals and groups for the purpose of improving their economic condition and overall wellbeing.

56 Pine Street, 4th Floor

Providence, RI 02903

(401) 274-2652

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

## NATIONAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS

### **Family Voices**

Family Voices is a national grassroots network that aims to achieve family-centered care for all children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities. They provide families resources and support to make informed decisions, advocate for improved public and private policies, build partnerships among families and professionals, and serve as a trusted resource on health care.

(505) 872-4774 or (888) 835-5669

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

### **Leadership in Family and Professional Partnerships (LFPP)**

LFPP promotes families as partners in the decision-making of healthcare for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN). LFPP supports:

- Training and mentoring a community of family leaders
- Projects that show the value of family/professional partnerships and family-centered care
- Engagement in reciprocal learning with strategic partners

[www.familyvoices.org/lfpp](http://www.familyvoices.org/lfpp)

### **National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)**

This network represents federally mandated programs that protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

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

### **Project Vote Smart**

Vote Smart provides free, factual, unbiased information on candidates and elected officials.

(202) 223-1500

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





Did you know that  
one in five families with children  
has at least one child  
with special health care needs?



Join Family Voices today  
to find out how you can  
make a difference!