

Community Resources for People with Special Needs

Special Education Information

New York State Education Department- <https://www.nysed.gov/>

Suffolk County Early Intervention Program Division of Services for Children with Special Needs-

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Health-Services/Children-With-Special-Needs>

Parents' Bill of Rights- <https://www.nysed.gov/data-privacy-security/bill-rights-data-privacy-and-security-parents-bill-rights>

Crisis Intervention

If you or your family are in a mental health **emergency** and are requiring immediate mental health services
Call #- 988

https://988lifeline.org/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=onebox

Suffolk County Services:

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Health-Services/Mental-Hygiene/Directory-of-Behavioral-HealthServices#EMERGENCY%20PHONE%20NUMBERS%20&%20CRISIS%20INTERVENTION%20SERVICES>

Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

415A Oser Avenue

Hauppauge, NY 11788

(631) 434-6100

www.opwdd.ny.gov

http://opwdd.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2025/04/040_front-door-access-to-services_3_2025.pdf

Family Support Services

Respite, Family Training, Advocacy,

Counseling & Support Services, Crisis Intervention,

Voucher Reimbursement, Senior Day Programs,

Recreation, Non-Medicaid Service Coordination

Department of Social Services

(631) 854- 9700

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Social-Services>

Medicaid

WIC

Family Health Plus

Child Health Plus

Food stamps

Social Security

75 Oak Street

Patchogue, NY 11772

1- 800- 772- 1213

www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices

<https://www.ssa.gov/ssi>

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Parent to Parent

415 Oser Ave.

Hauppauge, NY 11788

www.parenttoparentnys.org

631-434-6196

Brianne Walsh ext. 11

Dodie Daniels ext. 13

Valerie Dill ext. 12

Information, referral, outreach, community resources/ programs

Project Lifesaver

Sheriff Vincent F. DeMarco

Suffolk County Sheriff's Office

Project Lifesaver

100 Center Drive

Riverhead, NY 11901

(631) 852-3003

<https://www.suffolkcountysheriffsoffice.com/project-lifesaver>

Project Lifesaver is a rapid-response program that aids victims (and their families) who wander as a result of cognitive impairments, or other afflictions. The program combines technology and specially trained Sheriff's Deputies to locate individuals who have wandered. Project Lifesaver clients wear a "watch-type" wristband transmitter (worn on the wrist, ankle or as a necklace), which emits a tracking signal.

Food Pantries

Hunger Solutions New York (SNAP, WIC, School food programs, Summer food programs):

<https://hungersolutionsny.org>

Women, Infants and Children (WIC):

https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/wic/local_agencies.htm?county=suffolk

https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/wic/how_to_apply.htm

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Eligibility Tool:

<https://hungersolutionsny.org/find-food-help/snap/snap-eligibility-tool>

Summer Food Programs:

<https://www.islandharvest.org/summer-food-service-program/>

<https://www.licares.org/what-we-do/youth-programs/summer-food/>

Suffolk County Food Pantries:

<https://suffolkcountyny.gov/Portals/3/Docs/Food%20Pantries%20in%20Suffolk%20County.pdf>

Recreation Programs and Resources for Children with Special Needs

The following programs are not endorsed by NIS. Please contact the individual agency listed for any questions or concerns you may have.

Autism Community Resources

<https://hudsonshelpinghands.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/keepingittogetheronthespectrum/>

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

<https://www.goldenfundautism.org/index.html>

<https://spectrumofdreams.org/>

<https://www.mamaittakesavillage.com/>

Challenger Lacrosse

Raymond Samson
Challenger Athletics Inc.
d.b.a. Challenger Lacrosse-South Shore
P.O. Box 5511
Bay Shore, NY 11706
631-252-3292
<https://www.challengerathletics.org/>

Surfer's Way

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

Surfer's Way provides surf outings only for children (aged 3-15) with special needs. To register your child please email with your child's name and age, your name and cell phone number, and the date and time of the event you are registering for. We will send you an email confirmation when your child is registered.

Thunder Run

Does your child love to run? Thunder Run USA gives children with disabilities the opportunity to run!
<https://rtsnp.org/chapters/long-island/>

Camp Horseability

Melville
(631) 367-1646; www.horseability.org

This camp includes on-site swimming, horseback riding, swimming, indoor/outdoor sports, arts and crafts, circus workshops and more for ages 3 1/2 - young adult.

Gymboree Play & Music

Plainview, Woodbury, Westbury, Oceanside, East Northport, Oakdale, St. James
(631)266-1114; <https://www.gymboreeclasses.com/>

Their Sensoree Kids class, led by an occupational therapist and a Gymboree teacher, places an emphasis on helping children 3-6 with sensory processing difficulties to cope with sensory stimuli in their everyday lives. Parents participate and are invited to bring their child's own therapists.

Mastic Sports Club Sports For Special Needs

Moriches
<https://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=mscspecialneeds>

A sports-based program designed for children with special needs and disabilities that provides the basics for participation in sports including hockey, baseball, basketball, soccer and bowling. Kids play to their own level while developing important socialization skills and learning about peer unity through team play.

Long Island Blues Special Hockey

Offering children and young adults with a disability the opportunity to play ice hockey.
<http://www.thelongislandblues.org/>

This program teaches skating and hockey skills, as well as gives the player the opportunity to play in a team sport. Prior skating and hockey experience is not required.

Nassau PAL - Special Needs Unit

PAL in Nassau County for kids with special needs. Nassau PAL hosts dances, basketball leagues and computer classes.

Nassau PAL SPECIAL NEEDS UNIT
510 Parkside Blvd.

Massapequa Park, NY 11758

516-809-7617

<https://nassaucountypal.org/units/ncpal-special-needs-unit/>

League of Yes- Baseball

The League of Yes provides a baseball league for children with disabilities.

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

YMCA

Where: Brookhaven-Roe, East Hampton, Glen Cove, Great South Bay, Huntington, Patchogue

Contact Info: Visit website for each facility's phone number

<http://www.ymcali.org>

Kyle Sports for Special Needs Program MSC

<https://www.msckylesportsforspecialneeds.com/>

MSC Kyle Sports is an Inclusion Sports Program for Children with Special Needs and Disabilities ages 3 - 21.

The MSC Kyle Sports For Special Needs Program is a Community Program of support and we extend the opportunity to open doors for every child.

Lil Athletes Sports Training

www.lilathletes.com

Various locations in Suffolk County

Serves children 20 months to 7 years

Sachem Youth Soccer League *TOPS Program*

<https://www.sysl.org/topsoccer/>

Sketchbook Studio

<https://www.mysketchbookstudio.com/special-needs.html>

Sketchbook Studio's goal is to provide individuals residing in Suffolk County with quality art instruction for All AGES and ABILITIES.

Long Island Toy Lending Center for Children with Disabilities

Farmingdale Public Library

116 Merritts Road

Farmingdale, New York 11735

(516) 889-8287

<https://longislandtoylendingcenter.com/index.html>

The Long Island Toy Lending Center (L.I.T.L.C.) is a resource center which allows children with disabilities and their families to have fun and learn at the same time.

L.I.T.L.C. is a not for profit agency founded in 1986. L.I.T.L.C. focuses on the child's ability, not on their disability. The center teaches children through play and counsels parents on using play to help their child. The children and their family select specially adapted toys that can be borrowed until the following monthly session.

Kid Esteem Center for Social Learning

<https://www.kidesteem.com/autism-spectrum-disorder-social-emotional-development-programs-for-children-and-teens/>

Social Skills groups, Creative arts groups and Parenting groups

175 S 11th St

Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Phone: 631 321 6675

Fax: 631 226 8249

Email: kidesteem@aol.com

Special Needs Scouting

<https://www.sccbsa.org/specialneeds>

Dance, Karate and Gymnastics

Many community karate, gymnastics and dance studios provide classes for and will make accommodations for children with special needs. Contact your local studios for further information.