

Updated 9-3-25

Links to preschool/special education parent resources
(alphabetical by topic)

Ability Center activities:

Ability Center Scholarship Program

The Ability Center is accepting applications for their Student Scholarship Program. This is an opportunity for students to receive up to \$5,000 in funding to help with their educational costs. The scholarship aims to ease financial challenges and provide the necessary support for students to excel in their studies. The funds can be applied toward tuition for college, trade school, or certification programs. Whether it's for tuition, textbooks, or other academic expenses, the scholarship can help students achieve their dreams. Application deadline is **February 18**.

Ability Center Inclusion Events for all ages:

<https://abilitycenter.org/events/>

Inclusive Storytime

<https://abilitycenter.org/event/inclusive-storytime/>

Soccer

<https://abilitycenter.org/event/sportability-soccer-ages-5-15/>

Musically Me

<https://abilitycenter.org/event/musically-me-6/>

ADA Seminar Accessible Cultural Spaces

<https://abilitycenter.org/event/2024-ada-seminar-accessible-cultural-spaces/>

Positively Portable Preschool

<https://abilitycenter.org/event/positively-portable-preschool-7/>

ADHD:

- Signs of ADHD in Preschoolers: Misinterpreted Symptoms and Effective Interventions

[HERE](#)

May 1 parent workshop - see flyer at the end of this document; register with this link

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjnmlthPZnLFgwBCzTqCxlpJyRLPNuFG1s9sZ6jMoFP4-Ktw/viewform>

Adoption:

<https://ohiokan.ohio.gov/passs/>

Those who have adopted a child with special needs may be eligible for financial assistance through the Post Adoption Special Services Subsidy (PASSS) program. PASSS is designed to help cover the cost of services that are not paid for by other adoption subsidies, insurance, or Medicaid. PASSS can be used for a wide range of services to support families, including:

- Medical and surgical services
- Psychiatric, psychological, and therapeutic counseling
- Residential treatment
- Respite care
-

Art:

- Art and Imagination Studio <https://www.spinandsplat.com/>

Autism:

- **Facebook Group -Autism Support Group for Toledo Moms**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1367872173225713>
- Holidays - [guidance for families of children with Autism](#)
- *[The National Autism Association's Big Red Safety Box](#)[®] is a free-of-charge safety toolkit for autism families in need of wandering-prevention tools*
- **Racquet Sports for Individuals with Autism**
<https://loveservingautism.org/programs/ohio-racquet-sports-programs/>
- The Spectrum of Possibilities 2024 Autism Conference - [link to recorded presentations](#)
- [Autism Guide Available Online](#) offers non-regulatory guidance, aiding early childhood and school-based professionals in the ASD evaluation and eligibility process. Brought to you by the Ohio Department of Education and [Interagency Work Group on Autism](#).
- https://www.ocali.org/project/assessment_asd
- [Myths and Misconceptions](#)
- An online video-based learning solution that provides everyone in your family with practical information, real-life examples, and skills they can use to care for and support loved ones with autism spectrum disorder from early childhood through young adulthood.
<https://autismcertificationcenter.org/families>
- Anxiety & Autism <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eq-kQ2YT2Yw>
- Family & Siblings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKciu7mAPzo>
- [Autism Power Hour](#) The Autism Center at OCALI is pleased to host Autism Power Hour, FREE virtual professional development sessions which focus on a variety of topics to help professionals and family members gain a better understanding of how to address barriers that prevent autistic people from engaging in a purposeful life. When provided with the right support and interventions, people with autism can flourish. Learn about characteristics and best practices to foster learning and growth that meets individual

needs of all ages. During these one-hour sessions, participants will have an opportunity to engage and interact with the hosts and other attendees

<https://www.ocali.org/project/autism-power-hour>

- OCALI “navigating Autism Assessment” webpage
<https://ocali.org/navigating-autism-assessment>
- The Autism Community in Action (TACA): TACA hosts regular events to educate, support, and deliver hope. These TACA events, designed for parents and caregivers of children and people diagnosed with autism, will guide you to the education and support needed to help your family members be the best they can be. We offer a wide variety of both virtual events, and in-person events, allowing families to choose which format suits them best. Events Listings [HERE](#)
- Social stories bank: <https://autismbehaviorservices.com/social-stories/>
- Family Support Videos-Autism <https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/irca/resources/videos/index.html>
- iTaalk Autism Foundation and iPad grants <https://www.itaalk.org/grants>

Behavior

<https://www.triplep-parenting.com/oh-en/triple-p/> The Positive Early Childhood Education (PECE) Program is an online, self-paced professional learning course designed to introduce early childhood educators to 22 strategies to strengthen relationships with all children while teaching new skills, encouraging positive behavior, and preventing challenging behavior. Includes parent option.

Behavior and Mental Telehealth option:

https://dam.assets.ohio.gov/image/upload/childrenandyouth.ohio.gov/Tuesday%20Times/2025/05%20May/Telehealth_Flyer_WEB.pdf

Childcare

- <https://childcaresearch.ohio.gov/> Link to search engine for area childcares
- [YWCA Resource and Referral](#)

Camps

Added 3-31-25

KidStrong-Summer Camp-Special Needs/Typical

KidStrong Camps use certified coaches to give kids aged 4-11 a place to have fun while learning social skills, building confidence, and enjoying physical activity.

<https://www.kidstrong.com/camp>

Wood Co. Summer Speech Program

<https://woodcountysociety.com/summer-speech-therapy/#:~:text=The%202025%20Wood%20County%20Society,Ohio%20Service%20Region%3A%20St.>

Rehab Dynamics Summer Options-See attached info

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

ABA Therapy-Summer Option -See attached info

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

Bay Creek Farm Animal Assisted Recreational Therapy-See attached info

Iamboundless-Autism or I/DD-Summer Option (Special Needs) See attached Info

<https://iamboundless.org/>

Bittersweet Farms Summer Enrichment (Special Needs) Ages 12-21-See attached

<https://www.bittersweetfarms.org/social-and-recreational-programs>

The Miracle League-Baseball for individuals with disabilities/Youth-Adult

<https://mlnwo.org/join-us/#game-schedule>

Mudhens Baseball Camps-Special Needs 5yrs-Up

<https://www.milb.com/toledo/events/baseball-camps>

Toledo Area Parent Summer Guide

<https://toledoparent.com/guides/summer-camp-guide-2025/>

Courageous Community Services Camps 5 yrs-Adult Special Needs

<https://ccsohio.org/programs/summer-camp-2025/>

Toledo Metro Parks Camps 4yrs-12 Typical

<https://metroparkstoledo.com/outdoor-adventures/camps/>

Imagination Station Summer Camps 6 yrs-13 Typical

<https://www.imaginationstationtoledo.org/programs-events/programs/summer-camp/>

Toledo Zoo Summer Camps 4 yrs-15 Typical

<https://www.toledozoo.org/media/fpgh43as/2025-camp-listings-for-the-website-1.pdf>

ZOOTeens 13yrs -17 Special Needs

<https://www.toledozoo.org/zooteens>

PATH FINDERS

A fun and supportive camp experience for grieving children and teens ages 6-15.

A multi-day camp for grieving children and teens, providing opportunities to interact with others who have experienced similar losses - in a safe, fun and supportive environment. Groups will be led by licensed counselors/social workers and trained volunteers.

<https://www.hospicenwo.org/family-support/path-finders-camp/>

DOT Playspace is more than just an indoor playground—it's a space where every child can play, grow, and thrive. Designed with inclusion and accessibility in mind, we're proud to offer individualized occupational therapy services alongside our engaging play opportunities. Special Needs/Typical

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

Therapeutic Music Special Needs/Typicals

<https://heartstringmelodies.com/>

First Tee Golf Program 5ys-Adult Special Needs/typicals

<https://firstteelakeerie.org/>

- <https://connect.toledozoo.org/education/res/camps-september-may>
- Courageous Community Services - summer camps 2025
<https://ccsohio.org/programs/summer-camp-2025/>
- Metro Parks Summer Camps
<https://metroparkstoledo.com/outdoor-adventures/camps/>

Communication:

- Apraxia: speech tablets for Apraxia
<https://www.apraxia-kids.org/speech-tablets-for-apraxia/>
- iTaalk Autism Foundation and iPad grants <https://www.itaalk.org/grants>
- The Assistive Technology and Accessible Educational Materials Center (AT&AEM Center) at OCALI is pleased to host AT Consideration Series: Beyond the Checkbox, which takes a deep dive into the AT consideration process framed around the six steps of the [AT Decision-Making Tool \(ATDMT\)](#). Sessions begin September 17, 2025 and continue through March 11, 2025.

Computer

- Computer Refurbishing Program for Ohioans with Disabilities
https://atohio.org/computer-refurbishing-program?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR0CQoYIHpbwODSPmGA2LRE-uE1rf8s-iTFIpldcyhaDUAWmXI9ht9VydJY_aem_zzIVMmTdrftq9HWnCucczw

Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- https://ood.ohio.gov/about-us/resources/communication-card-to-help-deaf-and-hard-of-hearing?fbclid=IwY2xjawEpnYJleHRuA2FlbQlXMAABHWMYxAAqCVJumx_AolaRN-wLn0GQU5GNVi7Jnp5Wntd-Nlk2cYLBgISjwg_aem_DDCPA4Qn9qzE9tV-7y8Ujg
- **Parent Scholarship Program:** OCDBE offers parents/guardians of a child registered on the Ohio Deafblind Census the opportunity to support and increase their knowledge about deafblindness by assisting them in attending conferences, trainings, and workshops. To learn more about the program or to submit a request, visit <https://www.ohiodeafblind.com/for-families/scholarships/>.

Department of Children and Youth

- Searchable community resource directory:
<https://brightbeginningskids.knack.com/communityresourcedirectories>

Department of Disabilities - Ohio

DODD Cross System Behavioral Health Webpage is Live

The Cross System Behavioral Health team of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities aims to set the standard for behavioral health services and support for individuals with both mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities through innovative programming and cross system collaboration. Learn more about the team and its programs [via this link](#) or email

CSBH@dodd.ohio.gov.

https://dodd.ohio.gov/about-us/Cross_Systems_Behavioral_Health/welcome

Department of Education and Workforce

- <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Special-Education/Families-of-Students-with-Disabilities>

District - Sylvania Schools eflyers

<https://www.sylvania.k12.oh.us/ViewE-flyers.aspx>

Emotional regulation and behavior support

- [Harbor Early Childhood Mental Health consultation](#)

Grants/Funding

Grant Shop Workshop Wednesday \$

On the last Wednesday of every month, the Board's Tammy Eisenreich profiles a different parent, family, or organization that helps families find funding for specialized schooling, alternative therapies, summer camp, respite, sensory items, home modifications and other items not covered by medical insurance. <https://lucasdd.org/finding-funds>

[List of grants, including special health care needs 8-2025](#)

Food

- Kids Eat Free! Or Close To It <https://toledoparent.com/main/kids-eat-free-2/>

Health

Free health services, related to Toledo Lucas County Public Library system

<https://www.toledolibrary.org/healthcare/#5e730f8cbccf3e644>

Bed Bug Resources

- <https://www.epa.gov/bedbugs>
- <https://www.startwithabook.org/>

IEPs

- Evaluation roadmap - Ohio Department of Education and Workforce chart <https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Special-Education/Families-of-Students-with-Disabilities/Sections/Section-1/Evaluation-Roadmap.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>
- Apraxia resource: IEP Roadmap-Interactive <https://www.apraxia-kids.org/iep-roadmap/>

Kindergarten transition

- [Link to letter](#) to parents from Sylvania Schools about preschool/kindergarten transition

Legal/Law

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE) will host four free Education Legal Assistance Sessions.

Free sessions, 2025 dates below:

- Tuesday, Oct. 14 from 6-8pm at The South Toledo Branch Library
- Thursday, Oct. 16 from 10am-noon at The South Toledo Branch Library

The sessions are open to parents, guardians and caregivers of K-12 students who want to learn more about navigating the school system and protecting their children's rights.

<https://toledoparent.com/main/able-to-offer-free-legal-advice-to-parents/>

Life

- <https://www.lifecoursetools.com/>

Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities

- Event Calendar <https://lucasdd.org/upcoming-events/grid>
- [Inclusive Community and Specialty Programs](#)
- Inclusion Fair (scroll down to see links to multiple resources) <https://lucasdd.org/inclusion-fair>

Literacy

- Register for free books for your child from birth through age 5:
<https://www.ohioimaginationlibrary.org/>
- <https://www.startwithabook.org/>
- <https://readinguniverse.org/>
- Ohio Department of Education and Workforce - family literacy guides
<https://allohio.org/learning-modules/early-childhood-birth-to-five-learning-modules-learning-modules/>

Media Ratings and Reviews

- <https://www.common sense media.org/>

Military - childcare resource

- <https://www.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/FAQs.pdf>
- <https://www.childcareaware.org/families/military-child-care-assistance-programs/>

MTSS

- **A Multi -Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework** is designed to ensure all students are getting the instruction they need and are making appropriate growth in areas of academic achievement, attendance, behavior, and student wellness.
[A parents Guide](#)
<https://www.ocecd.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=6Y2230B&dasi=3IU0>

Parent Mentor

- [The Ohio Parent Mentor Project](#) helps families navigate local and state special education processes and services so that children with disabilities can get the most out of their educational experience.
- **[Ohio Parent to Parent \(P2P\) Statewide Mentoring & Support Program](#)** Ohio Parent to Parent (Ohio P2P) is a statewide parent support program. It matches parents, siblings, self-advocates, foster parents, grandparents, etc. who have a family member, of any age, with a disability or special health care need, with an experienced, trained, volunteer support parent. The support parent provides support on needs and issues related to parenting and providing care to a loved one with a disability or special healthcare need. Support is provided via email, phone, virtual communication (e.g. Skype, Zoom, etc.) and/or in-person. Questions or interested in receiving support? [Fill out this form](#) and/or contact Marion, marion.cosgroverauch@cchmc.org or 513-803-5557.
- Early Intervention parent support: An OCALI Family Support Specialist is a parent who will partner with families of young children, so they are able to access early identification

and services as soon as possible. Family Support Specialists provide families with information and resources so they can better support their child with a developmental delay or suspected delay. <https://ocali.org/family-support-specialists>

- **PACER**, a nonprofit organization serving children with disabilities, created a unique set of short videos that address parents' common questions and concerns about advocating for their child with a disability at school and beyond. These videos cover topics such as “What is special education?” and “How can I ask for an evaluation?” to help families better advocate for their children. Each video has an accompanying tip sheet linked in the video description

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMe9zDtTPTVdR4tMwfEtXZ4gYsMltgr0z>

- [Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center](#)
- “Message in a backpack” parent education information from National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) - click link here: <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/topics/message-backpack>

Parent education resources from Ohio’s Department of Children and Youth and Department of Education and Workforce: Whether you work with or have a child with unique learning needs, DCY can offer guidance through the entire special education process, ensuring you understand key aspects such as confidentiality, Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), and the Ohio Individualized Education Program (IEP). DCY’s **Preschool Special Education 101** videos are designed to answer all your questions and provide you with a comprehensive understanding.

The PSE team will walk you through the IEP process, ensuring you have the in-depth knowledge needed to support every child's educational journey. These videos will provide you with key takeaways, including:

- [Understanding confidentiality](#): your child’s privacy matters.
- [Free Appropriate Public Education \(FAPE\)](#): Every eligible child has the right to an education that meets their unique needs.
- [Individualized Education Program \(IEP\)](#): A customized education plan built in collaboration with families and professionals

Ronald McDonald House Charities:

- [Redtreehouse.org Resource](#) Redtreehouse.org supports families and children with challenges, disabilities, and health care needs by helping them find the resources they need to thrive. Curated resource pathways allow individuals to browse our collection of 5000+ verified listings by medical condition or specific need, while Parent & Pro Picks offer information and groupings of resources on a variety of useful topics. They also have an active blog, with a recent post about [Autism on the Go](#).

Safety:

- Safety City: <https://www.sylvaniapolice.com/police-services/safety-city/>

- Safety Town: <https://sylvaniatownshippolice.com/events/>

Sandbox for Kids:

New business in Sylvania (fall 2025) <https://thesandboxforkids.com/> 1000sq ft indoor sandbox; “From the start, our goal has been to combine clean design with child-led discovery. We believe that the best kind of play is sensory-rich, screen-free, and filled with possibility. That’s why our space features real, silica-free sand, thoughtfully chosen toys, and calming environments that support early development.”

Sensory/Motor:

- 50 Calming Activities Using Each of the Senses [HERE](#)
- <https://annarborfamily.com/health-wellness/activities-to-support-sensory-awareness/>

Seasonal:

- Toledo Area Parent Holiday Happenings [HERE](#)
- **ASNO Parents' Night Out** Join the Autism Society of Northwest Ohio for a Nailed It! Workshop — a fun and relaxed crafting class where creativity and good vibes are the focus. No experience needed, just come ready to enjoy the process and make something uniquely yours! Must register, click headline for details. **12 Days of Holiday Stress** The holiday season can be mixed with joyful and stressful feelings (plans, socializing, expectations, fun, and exhaustion). It can be a lot for your nervous system to manage! DODD created a playlist titled “12 Days of Holiday Stress-less Strategies” to help bring more ease into your life.
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZ1qXvA8kYSkEOSimoE5Aiqi3hOrbxYd0>

Siblings:

- Sibshops [link to flyer](#) 2025-26 dates; For brothers and sisters (8-16 year olds) who have a sib with special needs have a chance to meet other kids whose brothers and sisters have special needs and talk about the good and not-so-good parts of having a sibling with a disability.

Social Security:

- This booklet is for parents, caregivers, and representatives of children younger than age 18 who have disabilities that may make them eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. Click here to read more: <https://ow.ly/W5QQ50T2amj>

Sports:

- **Anthony Wayne Inclusive Sports League** A new Anthony Wayne Inclusive Sports league is forming! Anthony Wayne Inclusive Sports will offer accessible youth sports and activities as an inclusive unit within the Anthony Wayne and Greater Toledo Community. You do not have to live in the Anthony Wayne district to participate! AWIS is for children with (any and all) disabilities, or children who may not otherwise participate in recreational or competitive sports. The program is expected to launch in the fall 2025

and will begin by exploring a few sports, with the goal of developing into leagues in future years. Parents, guardians, and caregivers of children who may be interested in participating are asked to complete a survey to assist in planning the pilot season: <https://forms.office.com/r/QqXZ1z1WYH>. Contact awinclusivesports@awyf.org with any questions you have regarding the program or if you are interested in volunteering.

- U.S. Youth Soccer TOPSoccer (The **O**utreach **P**rogram for **S**occer) is a recreational sports program for children and adults with intellectual, emotional, or physical disabilities offered only through local U.S. Youth Soccer-affiliated soccer clubs.
https://toledotopsoccer.gotsportsites.com/?fbclid=IwY2xjawHuBY1leHRuA2FlbQlXMAABHYnEiOjBKKQRMMfyUw7ZJI9ucXb-H8YvQF9_8cFYP-M40mBHZK4sGS9q7w_aem_tLvBj5LSy4QaFmBpbr4ShQ
- Glass City TOPS Soccer: <https://pacesettersoccer.com/topsoccer/>
- Swim: Low Cost Lessons [HERE](#)

Summer:

- <https://mailchi.mp/ocali/earlychildhoodcoesummerguide2025> Comprehensive Guide for Early Care and Education Summer Transitions

TEDDY BEAR CLINIC - Nov 2025

This interactive program is designed to promote early literacy and health education for young children in a fun and approachable way. UT students will read stories centered on themes like wellness, visiting the doctor, and taking care of our bodies. Children will then be invited to participate in a hands-on teddy bear well-check. This engaging activity helps normalize medical check-ups, ease anxiety around healthcare settings, and introduce healthy habits through play.

This interactive program is designed to promote early literacy and health education for young children in a fun and approachable way

<https://events.toledolibrary.org/event/14300100>

Toledo Parent: Education Guide 2025

Including early childhood education, music, dance and specialized learning support

<https://toledoparent.com/main/2025-education-guide/>

Transitions:

- [Age-Appropriate Transition Assessment Planning Tool](#) by OCALI
- [Back to school preparation supports for parents - Department of Children and Youth](#)

Travel:

- [travel tips link](#)

Video library:

- Video On-Demand Library from Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities <https://www.ocecd.org/v-od.aspx>

Vision/Blindness:

- **Parent Scholarship Program:** OCDBE offers parents/guardians of a child registered on the Ohio Deafblind Census the opportunity to support and increase their knowledge about deafblindness by assisting them in attending conferences, trainings, and workshops. To learn more about the program or to submit a request, visit <https://www.ohiodeafblind.com/for-families/scholarships/>.