

**RESOURCE LIST FOR PARENTS OF ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (Revised 3.12.18)**

SUPPORT GROUPS FOR PARENTS IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY

AutismNE (Northeast Ohio Autism Support)

Name: Marian Helmick

Website: https://www.meetup.com/AutismNE-Northeast-Ohio-Family-Support-for-Autism/?_cookie-check=h6c4v_f6Mo4CKcCt

AutismNE is an online parent/family support and resource network for anyone who has loved ones with autism. They provide resources, message forums for support, family get togethers, Mom's Night Out and activities.

Autism Society of Greater Cleveland

7650 Chippewa Rd, Brecksville

P.O. Box 41066, OH 44141

Phone: (216) 556-4937

Email: support@asgc.org

Website: <http://www.asgc.org/>

Offers support and information for families and holds a monthly parent support group.

Grandparents Support Group Meeting

Brody/Nelson Meeting Room, Cleveland Heights Library, 2345 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44106

Name: Tom Frazier

Phone: (440) 339-3384

Email: Fraz7@sbcglobal.net

Support group for grandparents of children with autism spectrum disorder.

Monarch Center for Autism Parent Support Group

Monarch School, 22001 Fairmount Boulevard, Shaker Heights, OH 44118

Name: Karin Hess-Hopkins

Email: hessk@bellefairejcb.org

Phone: (216) 320-8658

Meets the first Tuesday of every month from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

Puzzle Café

Heights Parent Center, 14780 Superior Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Name: JE McPhee

Email: jemcphee@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (330) 689-8356

Meets the last Friday of the month from 9:30 to 11:00 am.

Serenity Support Group

Euclid Library Babbit Room, 631 E. 222nd St. Euclid, OH

Name: Sharon Hummer

Phone: (216) 906-2903

Monthly support group for parents, family members, caregivers and professionals who serve individuals with disabilities.

Shaker Heights Adult Support Group

Stephanie Tubbs Jones Building, 3450 Lee Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44120

Name: Judi Greenspan

Number: (216)-932-1989

Email: jgreenspan@keenepromotions.com

Support group for parents, family members, and caregivers who serve individuals with ASD.

Southwest Suburbs of Cleveland Support Group

United Methodist Church, 6220 Smith Road, Brookpark, OH 44142

Name: Michele Abraham

Number: (440)-724-1848

Support group for parents, family members, and caregivers who serve individuals with ASD.

West Side Parent Support Group

Beth Israel The West Temple, 14308 Triskett Road, Cleveland, OH 44111

Name: Karin Hess-Hopkins

Number: (216)-320-8658

Email: hessk@bellefairejcb.org

Group meets on the first Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

SUPPORT GROUPS OUTSIDE CUYAHOGA COUNTY**Ashtabula County Autism Group in Action (ACAGA)**

Name: Lisa Ebersole

Phone: 440-563-3227

Email: ebersole.lisa@gmail.com

Website: <https://ashcoautismgroup.wixsite.com/action>

Support group for families living with autism, held the third Monday of every month at 6pm.

Greater Cleveland Asperger's Support

Contact: Teresa Szalkowsk

Email: pennycat3@juno.com

Yahoo group: GC-AS@yahoo.com

Meets the first Friday evenings of the month at Restaurants in the Rockside/I-77 area for casual discussion, sharing and support for parents of children with Asperger Syndrome, Pervasive Development Disorder and High-Functioning Autism.

Lake/Geauga County Autism Support Group

Lake County Educational Service Center, REV Center382 Blackbrook Road, Painesville, OH 44077

Name: Anthony Pizzuti, Ph.D, PC, NCC, Family and Community Engagement Consultant, State Support Team Region 4

Phone: (440) 251-1243

Email: apizzuti@lakeesc.org

Website: <http://www.sst4.org/>

Invites family, friends and caregivers of those with autism to connect in an open discussion support group. The support group meets the third Thursday of most months from 6:00-7:30pm.

Parent Support Group – YMCA

French Creek Family YMCA

2010 Recreation Lane, Avon, OH 44011

Phone: (440) 934-9622

Website: <http://www.clevelandymca.org/french-creek-avon.html>

Group serves the West Side of Cleveland and meets the first Saturday of the month from 9:30 – 10:30am.

Wickliffe Parent Support Group

Eisseman Building, 28700 Euclid Ave, Wickliffe, OH 44092

Name: Joy Reagan

Phone: (216) 262-8623

Email: joylreagan@yahoo.com

Meeting the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm, this group is open to all parents, grandparents, and any professionals.

AGENCIES & RESOURCES FOR PERSONS WITH AUTISM AND THEIR FAMILIES

ABA Let’s Play

Canton, OH 44702

Phone: (330) 280-1174

Email: info@abaletsplay.com

Website: <https://www.abaletsplay.com/>

A Canton-based company that provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy services in the greater Stark county area. Provides parent training and offers support and strategy that empower both the child and community around them.

Achievement Centers for Children

Breen Family Center 4255 Northfield Rd, Highland Hills, OH 44128 P: (216) 292-9700

Cleveland West Side 24211 Center Ridge Rd, Westlake, OH 44145 P: (440) 250-2520

Camp Cheerful 15000 Cheerful Ln., Strongsville, OH 44136 P: (440) 238-6200

Contact: Amy Hardy - Programs Coordinator

Office number: (216) 292-9700 ext. 310

Email: amy.hardy@achievementctrs.org

Website: <http://achievementcenters.org>

Since 1998, this Ohio based non-profit organization has offered individualized care and instruction to children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The school has grown steadily in capacity, now serving students from kindergarten through sixth grade on the east side of Cleveland in Highland Hills, and students from kindergarten through eighth grade on the west side in Westlake, Ohio. It’s an alternative public school option, with many local school districts referring and transporting their students to the Achievement Centers. The curriculum is aligned with Ohio’s K-8 Academic Content Standards. A six-week summer program to complete the 12-month educational and therapeutic focus is included in the yearly tuition.

Art Therapy Studio

12200 Fairhill Road, Cleveland, OH 44120

Contact number: 216-791-9303

Email: info@arttherapystudio.org

Website: <http://www.arttherapystudio.org>

Our programs strive to make arts accessible, meaningful, and useful to all individuals, including those unable to participate in traditional community arts programs. We have provided innovative therapeutic art programs to more than 50,000 people throughout Cuyahoga and neighboring counties in a variety of settings. Our programs include customized contracted services at area agencies, hospital-based programs, employee wellness programs, professional education workshops, and our pioneering Discover the Artist Within You community classes. All of the programs have been developed around the philosophy that art making is central to healing and wellness and use the creative process of making art to improve and enhance well-being.

Autism Speaks (Cleveland Office)

4700 Rockside Rd #420, Independence, OH 44131

Phone: (216) 524-2842

Email: familyservices@autismspeaks.org

Website: <https://www.autismspeaks.org>

Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.

Beck Center for the Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Contact number: 216-521-2540

Website: <http://www.beckcenter.org/>

Beck Center for the Arts is a non-profit, performing arts and arts education organization dedicated to inspiring and enriching the quality of life for Northeastern Ohioans. We combine professional theatrical productions with comprehensive curriculum-based arts education in Creative Arts Therapies, dance, music, theater, and visual arts, serving over 60,000 annually in Cuyahoga, Lorain, Lake, Medina, and Summit Counties. Crain's Cleveland Business named Beck Center the 11th Largest Cultural Attraction in Cuyahoga County.

Beech Brook

3737 Lander Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44124

Contact number: 216.831.2255

Email: information@beechbrook.org

Website: <https://www.beechbrook.org>

A leading behavioral health agency, Beech Brook serves 18,000 children, teens and families each year. From prevention, education and early intervention programs to community-based services for at-risk youth. The Beech Brook Family Drop-in Center at the Carl B. Stokes Social Services Mall provides parenting education, support groups and resources for low-income families in Cleveland's Central neighborhood.

Beyond Words Music & Dance Center

North Royalton Main Location: 6048 Royalton Road, North Royalton, OH 44149

Contact number: (440) 230-6100

Email: info@beyondwordscenter.org

Website: <http://www.beyondwordscenter.org/>

An organization of music therapists and adapted dance instructors devoted to developing every individual's potential through artistic expression. Our mission is to create accessible and innovative programming through the arts to enrich the lives of those we serve. We believe in a person-centered approach to teaching, utilizing each individual's strengths and interests.

Cleveland Clinic Center for Autism & Lerner School for Autism

2801 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Cleveland, OH 44104

Name: Carl Carter

Phone: 216 448 6440

Contact Email: carterc7@ccf.org

Website: <http://www.clevelandclinic.org/autism>

Cleveland Clinic Center for Autism is dedicated to treatment, education, and research for children, adolescents, young adults and families dealing with autism spectrum disorders. It is uniquely integrated within the healthcare system and housed in the Debra Ann November Wing at the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation Campus.

Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center

Main Center: Clinical Services

11635 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106 Contact number: 216-231-8787

Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

11635 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106 Contact number: 216-231-0787

South Euclid: Clinical Services

4257 Mayfield Road, South Euclid, OH 44121 Contact number: 216-382-4520

Broadview Heights: Clinical Services

7000 Town Centre Dr., #200, Broadview Hts., OH 44147

Contact number: 440-838-1477

Website: <http://www.chsc.org/main/home.aspx>

Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center (CHSC) has a long and remarkable history of helping individuals with communication challenges become independent members of the Greater Cleveland Community. Founded in 1921, CHSC began with the simple mission of providing lip-reading classes for adults who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is the nation's oldest hearing and speech center and Northeast Ohio's only nonprofit organization dedicated solely to serving those with special communication needs.

Community Fund Management Foundation (CFMF)

Northern Ohio Administrative Office: 14955 Sprague Road, Suite 290, Strongsville, OH 44136

Contact number: 216-736-4540

E-mail: info@cfmf.org

Website: www.CFMF.org

CFMF is a nonprofit tax-exempt foundation, established in 1993 to help families provide for the long-term needs of loved ones with disabilities in ways that can safeguard their eligibility for government benefits such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). CFMF provides education about STABLE accounts and other trust vehicles (possibly funded by gifts, inheritances, insurance settlements, and even savings from the earnings of the person with a disability) that can be used to pay for items and services that improve quality of life, but are not paid for by governmental programs. Supplemental services might include living expenses, transportation, internet service, respite care, entertainment & hobbies, pet care, and prescriptions, specialty therapies, or adaptive equipment not covered under other programs. CFMF also offers a limited number of hardship/emergent needs grants to individuals with disabilities and educational assistance grants to individuals with disabilities and their families.

Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities

1275 Lakeside Ave. East, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Contact number: 216-241-8230

Website: <http://www.cuyahogabdd.org>

The Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities offers a full range of services, everything from in-home early intervention programs for very young children and their families to leisure programs for seniors and specialized therapies (speech-language, occupational and physical), psychological services, support administration, family resources and respite care, supported living, vocational training, community employment, rehabilitation engineering and crisis intervention.

Milestones Autism Resources

4853 Galaxy Parkway, Suite A, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128

Main office number: (216) 464-7600

Email: info@milestones.org

Website: <http://milestones.org>

Milestones Autism Resources improves the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum in Northeast Ohio by educating, coaching, and connecting the local autism community with evidence-based information. Milestones provides a free helpdesk, paid consultations and trainings, and online resources at milestones.org.

Monarch Transition Education Program (MTEP) @ Monarch Center for Autism

22001 Fairmount Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44118

Local: 216.320.8945 Toll-free: 1.800.879.2522

Website: www.monarchcenterforautism.org

Monarch Center for Autism is a division of Bellefaire JCB, one of the nation's leading providers and innovators of wellness, advocacy and behavioral healthcare for children, youth and their families. Monarch offers a comprehensive array of programs and autism services for individuals ages 3 through adulthood with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Monarch Transition Education Program (MTEP) helps prepare Monarch students, ages 14 through 22, to make the transition from adolescence to adulthood.

Music Therapy Enrichment Center

26121 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, Ohio 44145

Contact number: 440-250-0091

Website: <http://www.mtecincorporated.com/>

Music Therapy Enrichment Center, Inc. (MTEC) was founded in 2001 and provides the highest quality services, making music accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Our qualified professionals focus on building relationships with each individual and organization we work with.

Ohio Center for Autism & Low Incidence (OCALI)

470 Glenmont Avenue, Columbus OH 43214

Contact number: 866-886-2254 (866-88-OCALI)

Website: www.ocali.org

OCALI serves families, educators, and professionals working with students with autism and low-incidence disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders, multiple disabilities, other health impairments, and traumatic brain injuries. OCALI's Autism Center provides a clearinghouse for information on research, resources, and trends to address the autism challenge. The Family Center connects families to the information they need regarding services, supports, training and resources, including the free OCALI Lending Library. The Lifespan Transitions Center provides resources, training, technical assistance, and consultation to support the successful transition of individuals with autism throughout their school careers and into their adult lives. Online resources include Transition to Adulthood guides and a Customized Employment Guide.

Ohio Department of Education (Autism Scholarship Program)

25 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Contact number: 877-644-6338

Email: contact.center@education.ohio.gov

Website: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/Autism-Scholarship-Program>

The Autism Scholarship Program (ASP) gives the parents of children with autism who qualify for a scholarship the choice to send the child to a special education program other than the one operated by the school district of residence to receive their education and the services outlined in the child's individualized education program (IEP). Any student who has been identified by their district as a child with autism and for whom the district has created an individualized education plan (IEP) qualifies for the Autism Scholarship program. The student must have a current IEP from the district of residence that is finalized and all parties, including the parent, must be in agreement with the IEP. A child is eligible to apply to participate in the program when the child turns three.

Organization for Autism Research (OAR)

2000 N. 14th Street, Suite 240, Arlington, VA 22201

Contact number: (866) 366-9710

E-mail: info@researchautism.org

Website: <https://researchautism.org>

Organization for Autism Research aims at disseminating new and useful information to as many members of the autism community as possible, and directing all research and programs initiatives toward enhancing the quality of life for individuals with autism. See: A Guide for Transition to Adulthood (75-page free online document), available from <https://researchautism.org/resources/a-guide-for-transition-to-adulthood>

Positive Education Program (PEP) Prentiss Autism Center

3100 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115

Contact: Claudia Lann Valore, Chief Program Officer, Positive Education Program

Office number: 216-361-7760 ext. 116

Email: cvalore@pepcleve.org

Website: <http://www.pepcleve.org/prentiss.aspx>

PEP Prentiss Autism Center, is one of PEP's Day Treatment Centers, all serving school-age children and youth who demonstrate severe and challenging behavior. PEP Prentiss specializes in serving children and youth ages 5-22 with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other complex developmental disabilities; all of our students experience significant impairments in communication.

Rainbow Babies & Children Hospital Autism Center

11100 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44106

Number: 216 844 5437

Website: <http://www.uhhospitals.org/rainbow/services/neurology/autism-center>

The Autism Center is a Clinical Center of Excellence that brings together a team of professionals from University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital and affiliated institutions who are knowledgeable about the diagnosis of autistic disorders and their impact on development, education and the family. The center's goal is to raise community awareness and understanding of autistic disorders and to improve the level of services to autistic individuals and their families.

The Music Settlement

11125 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland, OH 44106

Contact number: 216-421-5806

Website: <https://www.themusicsettlement.org/>

The Music Settlement provides early childhood education, music instruction, and music therapy to people of all ages and levels of experience in Northeast Ohio. Its pioneering Center for Music Therapy positively impacts the lives of children and adults facing a wide range of life's challenges, including ASD and other developmental disabilities. Specially designed music-based interventions in private or group music therapy help people accomplish specific individualized goals, support learning and the transfer of skills and improve quality of life. Clients are seen at the University Circle campus and at partner agencies throughout Northeast Ohio. Inclusion opportunities are available in the Center for Music Therapy, as well as in the Center for Early Childhood Education, and the Center for Music.

Trust Your Heart, LLC

25901 Emery Rd., Suite 105, Warrensville Heights, OH 44128

Name: Adina Bloom Lewkowicz, LISW

Phone: 216-233-1714 Email: Adina.lisw@gmail.com

Mentoring, networking, skills groups, individual and family services for individuals with ASD ages 16-22 years of age. Serving as a social bridge for those young adults striving to matriculate from college and be employed.