

Howard County Resources for Families of Children with Disabilities



This guide is a collaborative project of The Howard County Family Support and Resource Center, the Community Connections Project of the University of Maryland and the Howard County Library System. The guide is also available on the web at: www.communityconnections.umd.edu. Please send suggestions, additions and/or changes to tonia_lewis@hcpss.org or kathy_learman@hcpss.org

Howard County Resources for Families of Children with Disabilities

Children's Agencies

Howard County Department of Citizen Services

410-313-6400

http://www.co.ho.md.us/citizenservices/CS_HomePage.htm

Commission on Disability Issues

410-313-6400

http://www.co.ho.md.us/DS/CS_DisabilitySrvcs.htm

Disability Services assist individuals with disabilities and their families to obtain support services and to provide information and referral services in Howard County and the immediate area.

Office of Children's Services

410-313-1940

http://www.co.ho.md.us/OCS/CS_ChildrensServices.htm

This office provides resources for parents and caretakers and includes the Child Care Resource Center, training for parents and providers and information about the Local Children's Board.

Child Care Resource Center

410-313-1940

<http://www.co.ho.md.us/childcareresourcecenter>

The Childcare Resource Center provides a variety of services and information including how to find childcare and interview providers, a childcare provider listing and a service that helps families of children with disabilities find childcare.

Howard County Local Children's Board

410-313-1940

http://www.co.ho.md.us/CitizenServices//Partnerships/CommAdvBrd_s_LocalChildBrd.htm

The Howard County Local Children's Board provides funding, planning, program development and implementation, and technical assistance to programs and services working to improve outcomes for Howard County's children.

Howard County General Hospital
Main Number: **410-740-7890**
Emergency Room: **410-740-7777**

Howard County Department of Social Services
Family Services Division
410-872-4204 ext. 287
howcodss@dhr.state.md.us

Howard County Health Department, Substance Abuse Services Office
410-313-3784
The Substance Abuse Services Office provides literature and
counseling referrals information

Educational Supports

Howard County Public Schools
10910 Route 108
Ellicott City, MD 21042
410-313-6600
www.hcpss.org

Board of Education
boe@mail.howard.k12.md.us (Read-only e-mail)

Interpretation Services
ESOL Family & Community Outreach Liaison
410-313-6667

Gifted and Talented Program
410-313-6671
Howard County Elementary G/T
Programs
ljensen@mail.howard.k12.md.us

Home and Hospital Instruction Coordinator
410-313-6653
pschultz@mail.howard.k12.md.us

Howard County PTA Council

410-740-515

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

The Howard County PTA council is committed to the safety, well-being and education of all children. Their website offers local, state and national PTA information; a newsletter and information regarding PTA sponsored programs.

Black Student Achievement Program

410-313-6804

Assists middle and high school African American students with meeting identified educational, career, personal/ social competencies to be prepared for meaningful participation in a diverse and changing world.

Family and Community Outreach Specialist

Department of Academic Support

410-313-6806 ext.354

Office of International Student Services

410-313-7101 or 7102

The OISS is a program of the Howard County Public School System that provides educational services to International and Limited English Proficient (LEP) students and their families.

Special Education

Department of Special Education

410-313-6656

The County Diagnostic Center

410-313-7046

The County Diagnostic Center (CDC) is a free special education service of the Howard County Public School System that provides screening and assessment services for students from preschool through school age who are suspected of having an educational disability and may be in need of special education services.

The Family Support and Resource Center

410-313-7161

Staffed by parents of children with disabilities, the center provides information, training and support for families of children (birth to 21) with special needs.

Parent to Parent of Howard County

443-562-4772

parenttoparent@att.net

Parent to parent is a mentoring program for parents of special needs children needing support.

Special Education Community Advisory Committee (SECAC)

410-381-5318, Chairperson, Mark Gray

markgray@toad.net

Howard County Special Education yahoo discussion and posting list: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HoCo-SpecialEd>
SECAC is an independent group of parents and students that provide feedback to the Department of Special Education. The group has monthly meetings and subcommittees that work on a variety of issues including behavioral and mental health issues, inclusion and learning disabilities.

Post High School Supports

Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)

Maryland Rehabilitation Center

For over 70 years, DORS has assisted people with disabilities to become independent and contributing members of their communities. Programs and services for eligible individuals may include vocational evaluation, skills training, academic preparation, and job placement assistance.

410-554-9100 Voice

410-554-9155 TTY

Project Access

Howard Community College

410-992-4800 ext. 4625

Project Access seeks to improve transition of students with disabilities into postsecondary education and work.

Family Supports & Advocacy

The Arc of Howard County, Inc.

410-730-0638

The Arc of Howard County's mission is to support full community life for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Services include respite resources, respite preschool program, and the Education Advocacy Committee.

Family Advocacy and Parent Education Program for Howard County (FAPE)

410-465-1193

FamilyAdvocacy@msn.com

FAPE offers parents of children with disabilities educational workshops and one on one advocacy support as well as resources regarding IEP's, 504's and other issues surrounding the education of children with disabilities.

The Parents' Place

410-859-5300 Voice and TDD

www.ppm.org

The Parents' Place of Maryland offers information and assistance to families concerning issues in special education.

Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education

410-859-5400

www.mcie.org

MCIE is a non-profit organization that provides advocacy, professional development and information services regarding inclusion of children with disabilities in the public school system.

Maryland Disability Law Center

410 727-6352 Voice

410 727-6387 TDD

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

MDLC is Maryland non-profit protection and advocacy service for the state of Maryland.

Community Programs and Resources

Howard County Library System

410-3137-7850

<http://www.HCLibrary.org>

Howard County Library provides education and enrichment through access to information, a knowledgeable staff and services provided in a free and open environment. Further, we bring people together to stimulate the free exchange of ideas and promote a sense of community.

Assistive devices are available for the hearing and visually impaired. Also, large print/Braille materials, books on tape, signing videos and signing interpreters on request are available.

LOCATIONS:

Central Library: Ph: 410-313-7850 TTY: 410-313-7883

East Columbia: Ph: 410-313-7700 TTY: 410-313-7740

Miller Branch: Ph: 410-313-1950 TTY: 410-313-1957

Elkridge Branch: Ph: 410-313-5077 TTY: 410-313-5090

Savage Branch: Ph: 410-880-5975 TTY: 410-880-5979

Glenwood Branch: Ph: 410-313-5577 TTY: 410-313-5597

National Family Resiliency Center, Inc.

410-740-9553

divorceABC.com

The Center provides services for children and families experiencing separation and divorce. Services include individual and group therapy and educational seminars as well as publications to support families.

Family Advocacy and Parent Education Program for Howard County (FAPE)

410-465-1193

FamilyAdvocacy@msn.com

FAPE provides parents advocacy and training regarding a wide range of special education issues.

Family & Children's Services of Central MD

410-997-3557

Shedeenstad@fcsmd.org

Family and Children's Services of Central MD is a private non-profit organization providing a variety of services in Howard County, including family, couple, and individual counseling

The Horizon Foundation

410-715-0311

www.horizonhelp.org

The Horizon Foundation's goal is to address health and wellness issues through strategic grant making, community initiatives, and partnerships with private and public institutions within Howard County. The website provides information about their initiatives within Howard County as well as a community information portal that provides information and community referrals.

Mental Health Association of Howard County

410-995-3323

<http://www.mhamd.org>

The Mental Health Association of Howard County is part of the Mental Health Association of Maryland. The association provides advocacy and education regarding mental health issues. The website provides access to The Guide to Mental Health Care in Maryland and The Guide to Mental Health Insurance in Maryland.

Howard County Mental Health Authority

410-313-7350

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

The Howard County Mental Health Authority plans, develops and manages treatment and rehabilitation services for individuals with serious mental illness.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)-Howard County

410-772-9300

namicmd@mindspring.com

NAMI provides advocacy, education, support and outreach for those with mental illness and their families.

Hotlines

MD Youth Crisis Hotline
1-800-422-0009

Parent's Stress Line
1-800-243-7337

Support Groups and Agencies in Howard County

Howard County Chapter of the American Autism Society
410-760-5595

The Arc of Howard County, Inc.
410-730-0638
11735 Homewood Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Asperger's Syndrome Support Group
Elaine McAuliffe **410-730-0068** or
Contact Nancy Kirchner **410-579-2996**
The group meets the third Thursday of the month except August at
7:30p.m. at Faulkner Ridge Center

Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
www.chadd-mc.org
The CHADD, Howard County Parent Support Group, will meet
on the second Wednesday of each month at Loyola College Graduate
Center in Columbia from 7pm to 8:30pm.

Developing Services Group, Inc.
Brain Injury Group Support (BIGS)
410-381-7171

Down Syndrome Resource Network of Howard County
410-730-0638 (The Arc of Howard County Main Line)
Please leave a message at ext.410

Gifted Different Learners (GDL)
www.gifteddifferentlearners.org

Howard County Learning Disability Association (LDA)
301-725-9755

Maryland Coalition of Families for Children's Mental Health and Coping and Caring
410-730-8267

The Coping and Caring support group meets the first and third Thursday of every month at Owen Brown Library.

Maryland Society for Cleft Lip and Palate
410-244-7171

Provides support, information, training and referrals to families and providers

Mom's Night Out
Contact Pam Paris for information
HoComoms@yahoo.com

PATH (Parents at Home) of Howard County
410-992-9291

People Power
410-730-0638 ext. 242
People Power is a self-advocacy group for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Multi Cultural Resources

Black Student Achievement Program
410-313-6804

Assists middle and high school African American students with meeting identified educational, career, personal/ social competencies to be prepared for meaningful participation in a diverse and changing world.

Howard County Public Schools Family and Community Outreach Services

410-313-6794 voice mail 353

410-313-6806 voice mail 354

Howard County Public Schools Interpretation Services

ESOL Family & Community Outreach Liaison

410-313-6667

Foreign Born Information and Referral (FIRN)

410-992-1923

Korean American Disabled People's Association (KADPA)

1-800-510-0023

kadpa@egroups.com

KADPA seeks to support Korean families of children with disabilities to overcome cultural, language and informational barriers that may prevent families from accessing available services.

Office of International Student Services (OISS)

410-313-7101 or 7102

The OISS is program of the Howard County Public School System that provides educational services to International and Limited English Proficient (LEP) students and their families.

Recreational Activities

Boy Scouts of America, Baltimore Area Council

410-573-2500

<http://www.baltimorebsa.org>

The Baltimore Area Council serves Howard County and other surrounding counties and provides opportunities for recreations of individuals with disabilities as young as 7. Contact the area council for local pack information.

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland

410-358-9711

www.gscm.org

Howard County Parks and Recreation

410-313-4700

http://www.co.ho.md.us/RAP/RAP_HomePage.htm

HCPR provides a variety of programs for individuals of all ages with disabilities.

Howard County YMCA

410-465-4334

<http://www.ymcamd.org/Branches/Howard>

Special Olympics

410-740-0500

www.somdhc.org

The Special Olympics of Howard County seeks to provide year round recreation and social opportunities for youth (age 8 and above) and adults with mental challenges.

Local Information Guides

Baltimore's Child Special Edition

410-367-5883

www.baltimoreschild.com

Baltimore's Child Special Edition is an annual publication of Baltimore's Child that provides resources for families and children with special needs in Maryland. This publication is available from Baltimore's Child or through the Family Support and Resource Center.

Parents Guide to Howard County

Available by calling the Howard County Children's Board

410-313-1940

Stepping Stones

A publication of the Family Support and Resource Center

Available by calling 410-313-7161 or e-mailing

Tonia_Lewis@hcpss.org or Kathy_Learman@hcpss.org

