

There are many organizations that are dedicated to serving and supporting children/youth who require assistance for medical, mental, or psychological disabilities and can assist families with education, advocacy, and advice.

Below are some resources that can be helpful to CYS Staff and families.

1. **Center for Parent Information and Resources**

<http://www.parentcenterhub.org>

The Center for Parent Information and Resources, produced under the US Department of Education Office of Special Education, serves as a central resource of information and products to the community of Parent Training Information Centers and the Community Parent Resources to focus efforts on serving families of children/youth with disabilities.

1. **National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHY)**

<http://nichcy.org/families-community>

NICHCY provides information to parents, and educators on specific disabilities, programs and services for infants, children and youth, the special education law, and effective education practices. It also offers publications pertaining to the special education law, fact sheets on specific disabilities, guides for parents, and tips for teachers. NICHY has information specialists to respond to questions or concerns in English and Spanish.

1. **PACER**

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

PACER is a parent training and information center. It helps the parents to find resources that will help to make decisions about education, vocational training, employment, and other services. It also offers resources for grandparents, information about bullying and housing, software, adaptive devices, and training to help children with disabilities to communicate better.

1. **The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project**

Themorganproject.org

This group support families with special needs children and assists with travel expenses for medical treatments and gifts of medical equipment that aren’t covered by insurance.

**5.** **Military Families Learning**

 <https://militaryfamilieslearningnetwork.org>

The Military Families Learning provides support, training, and resources to families on and off military installations.

**6.** **National Youth Leadership Network**

 nyln.org

Works to build strength and break isolation amongst people with disabilities between the ages of 16 and 28.

The group host workshops around the country for young people to learn how to develop leadership skills.

**7. Parent to Parent USA**

 <http://www.p2pusa.org>

Parent to Parent USA is a group that matches parents with a buddy parent who has a child with the same disability, allowing each parent to have a contact to share information with and receive emotional support from.

**8.** **Council for Exceptional Children**

 cec.sped.org

The Council for Exceptional Children is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the educational success of children with disabilities.

***Sources:***[*https://specialeducationguide.com*](https://specialeducationguide.com)

[*http://www.autismspeaks.com*](http://www.autismspeaks.com)

[*https://www.care.com/c/10-helpful-special-needs-organizations/*](https://www.care.com/c/10-helpful-special-needs-organizations/)

***Agencies that Support Families with Children/Youth with Special Needs***

*August 2023*