

# Disabilities Information & Resources

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### Autism

**Autism Spectrum Group Support Group**  
Sponsored by The Arc of Smith County,  
meets on the first Tuesday of each month at  
Autism Response Team building, 120 E. South Town  
from 6:00—7:30 pm. The emphasis is on support,  
encouragement and education, including guest speakers.  
**Free child care is provided.**

For more information contact the Arc @ 903-597-0995  
or [rhondab@arcofsmithcounty.org](mailto:rhondab@arcofsmithcounty.org)

### **Autism Society of America**

7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 300  
Bethesda, MD 20814-3067  
**800-328-8476 / 301-657-0881**  
Website: [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

ASA is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families and the professionals with whom they interact. The Society and its chapters share a common mission of providing information and education, and supporting research and advocating for programs and services for the autism community.

### **Autism Research Institute**

4182 Adams Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92116  
Phone **619-281-7165**  
Website: [www.autism.com/](http://www.autism.com/)

Researches the causes of autism as well as methods of preventing, diagnosing, and treating it and other severe behavioral disorders of childhood.

### **The Center for AAC & Autism**

P.O. Box 1317  
Wooster, OH 44691  
330-202-5800 (local or international toll line)  
866-998-1726 (toll free US)  
Website: [www.aacandautism.com](http://www.aacandautism.com)

The Center for AAC & Autism believes that every child has the desire and the ability to communicate despite physical and neurological challenges. By providing specialized clinical training to health care professionals, teachers, and parents... empowering clients and families with education, resources, and information... and supporting clinical research, our aim is to give all children the ability to speak their mind and heart and become engaged in their world.

### **Brain Injury**

Neurorestorative Speciality Services at UTHCT  
11937 US Hwy 271  
Tyler, TX 75708  
800-743-6802  
Website: [www.neurorestorative.com](http://www.neurorestorative.com)

"NeuroRestorative® Specialty Services at UTHSCT is a highly structured specialized restorative and behavioral program for individuals recovering from acquired brain injuries. Our interdisciplinary team of clinical specialists delivers functionally oriented, post-acute treatment in progressive inpatient and residential environments.

### **Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

Tyler Field Office  
3800 Paluxy Dr., Ste. 325  
Tyler, TX 75703  
**(903) 534-2070**

The [Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services program](#) helps persons with spinal cord and brain injuries receive intensive therapies to increase independence.

### **Brain Injury Resource Center**

Website: [www.headinjury.com/](http://www.headinjury.com/)

The place to find links to information on brain injury. While it was designed primarily for traumatic brain injury it contains information relevant to many types of brain injuries. Items in this library will help you to

identify and pursue your goals as they relate to brain injury.

It was designed to empower you to identify services, and resources specific to your particular needs and objectives. Additionally, it will help you to formulate, evaluate and implement, goal directed action plans.

## **Cancer**

### **National Cancer Institute**

BG 9609 MSC 9760

9609 Medical Center Drive

Bethesda, MD 20892-9760

**1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)**

Website:

[www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/childhoodcancers](http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/childhoodcancers)

### **American Cancer Society**

1301 S. Broadway Ave.

Tyler, TX 75701

903-597-1348

Website: [www.cancer.org/cancer/cancerinchildren/](http://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancerinchildren/)

## **Cerebral Palsy**

### **United Cerebral Palsy Association, Inc**

1660 L Street, NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20036-5602

202-776-0406

800-872-5827

TTY: (202) 973-7197

E-mail: [ucpanatl@ucpa.org](mailto:ucpanatl@ucpa.org)

Web Address: [www.ucpn.org](http://www.ucpn.org)

The mission of United Cerebral Palsy is to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through an affiliate network.

UCP affiliates serve more than 170,000 children and adults with disabilities and their families every day providing services such as housing, therapy, assistive technology training, early intervention programs, individual and family support, social and recreation programs, community living, state and local referrals, employment assistance and advocacy. Each affiliate offers a range of services tailored to its community's needs.

### **National Easter Seal Society, Inc.**

230 West Monroe Street, Suite 1800

Chicago, IL 60606

**(312) 726-6200;** (312) 726-4258 (TT)

(800) 221-6827

E-mail: [nessinfo@seals.com](mailto:nessinfo@seals.com)

Web address: [www.easterseals.com](http://www.easterseals.com)

Providing Services for People with Disabilities and Their Families:

**Medical Rehabilitation:** Promoting Independence and Quality of Life

**Job Training and Employment:** Building Skills to Find — and Keep — a Great Job

**Child Care:** Providing a Learning Environment for Children and Peace of Mind for Parents

**Camping and Recreation:** Having Fun, Making Friends, Mastering Skills, Expanding Independence

*Closest Easter Seals office to Tyler:*

## **Easter Seals of Greater Dallas**

### **Oak Cliff Center**

4201 Brook Spring Dr, Bldg B

Dallas, TX 75224

**214 372-3300**

## **Cystic Fibrosis**

### **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**

#### **Northeast Texas Chapter -- Tyler Branch**

305 S Broadway Ave Ste 1000

Tyler, TX 75702-7384

**903-597-6237**

Email: [tyler-tx@cff.org](mailto:tyler-tx@cff.org)

- Scientific pioneers, blazing new trails in **CF research**;
- **Fund-raisers**, securing the money needed to support our efforts;
- **Advocates**, keeping CF a top priority in government, industry and research;
- Investors, funding **drug discovery and development**;
- **Caregivers**, linking patients and families to specialized CF care; and
- Family, offering support, information and resources.

## **Diabetes**

### **American Diabetes Association**

1701 North Beauregard Street

Alexandria, VA 22311

1-800-DIABETES (**800-342-2383**)

Website: [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org)

For diabetes-related questions or to request a diabetes information packet, email [AskADA@diabetes.org](mailto:AskADA@diabetes.org).

ADA provides diabetes research, information and advocacy. The mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

- funds **research**,
- publishes scientific findings,
- provides **information** and other services to people with diabetes, their families, **health professionals** and the public.
- advocates for scientific research and for the rights of people with diabetes.

Visit their store for a variety of cookbooks, meal planners, self-care guides and other educational materials to assist you in managing diabetes.

### **American Diabetes Association**

4100 Alpha Road, Suite 100

Dallas, TX, 75244

**(972) 392-1181**

## **Down Syndrome**

### **The Arc of Tyler / Smith County**

5520 Old Bullard Rd, Suite 111

Tyler, TX 75703

903-597-0995

Website: [www.arcofsmithcounty.org/](http://www.arcofsmithcounty.org/)

### **Longview Area Down Syndrome Support Group**

**LADSSG**

6 Thorntree

Longview TX 75601  
**903-757-3516**  
Email: [info@ladssg.org](mailto:info@ladssg.org)  
This organization is an NDSS affiliate.

**National Down Syndrome Congress**  
1605 Chantilly Drive, Suite 250  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
**(404) 633-1555**  
**(800) 232-6372**  
E-mail: [ndsc@charitiesusa.com](mailto:ndsc@charitiesusa.com)  
Web address: [www.ndscenter.org/](http://www.ndscenter.org/)

**National Down Syndrome Society**  
666 Broadway, 8th Floor  
New York, NY 10012  
**(212) 460-9330**  
**(1-800) 221-4602 (Toll Free)**  
Web address: [www.ndss.org/](http://www.ndss.org/)

### **Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)**

Also see "Education" section

**The Andrews Center**  
1722 W. Front St.  
Tyler, TX 75702  
**(903) 597-5067**  
Website: [www.andrewscenter.com](http://www.andrewscenter.com)

**Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**  
Tyler Field Office  
3800 Paluxy Dr., Ste. 325  
Tyler, TX 75703  
**(903) 534-2070**

**Early childhood intervention services:**  
**903-279-0970**

website: [www.dars.state.tx.us](http://www.dars.state.tx.us)  
Email: [DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us](mailto:DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us)  
DARS is composed of four divisions focused on people with disabilities and children with developmental delays. The department includes the Division for Rehabilitation Services (DRS), the Division for Blind Services (DBS), the Division for Disability Determination Services (DDS) and the Division for Early Childhood Intervention (ECI).

### **Epilepsy**

**Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Smith County**  
130 Shelley Dr.  
Tyler, TX, United States  
**(903) 581-5935**  
Individual and Family Social Services

**Epilepsy Foundation**  
8301 Professional Place  
Landover, MD 20785  
**(800) 213-5821**  
(301) 459-3700  
Website: [www.epilepsyfoundation.org](http://www.epilepsyfoundation.org)

Dedicated to the welfare of the over 3 million people with epilepsy in the U.S. and their families. To ensure people with seizures are able to participate in all life

experiences; and to prevent, control and cure epilepsy through research, education, advocacy and services. Programs include activities in schools designed to educate about epilepsy -- with the goal to eliminate stigma and discrimination in our lifetimes.

### **Hearing Impairment**

**Tyler ISD**  
**Special Education**  
P.O. Box 2035  
Tyler, TX 75710  
**903-262-1034**

Educational programs are available for children ages 0-22 who are deaf, visually impaired or both. Educational programs are available for children ages 3-22 with all other handicaps. Related services include: physical therapy, speech therapy, transportation, occupational therapy, adaptive physical education, orientation mobility training, psychological services. Special education programs are available on most campuses, as well as at Boshears Center.

### **Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

Tyler Field Office  
3800 Paluxy Dr., Ste. 325  
Tyler, TX 75703  
**(903) 534-2070**  
Email: [DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us](mailto:DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us)

**Services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing:**  
(800) 628-5115 or TTY 1-866-581-9328

### **Deafness Resource Specialists (DRS)**

CSD of Texas  
1530 SSW Loop 323, #120  
Tyler, TX 75701  
**903-534-1222** office  
888-313-7851 toll free  
Website: [www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs/specialistpgm.shtml](http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs/specialistpgm.shtml)

The DARS, Division for Rehabilitative Services, Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS) works in partnership with people who are deaf or hard of hearing to eliminate societal and communication barriers to improve equal access for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. DHHS advocates for people of all ages who are deaf or hard of hearing to enable them to express their freedoms, participate in society to their individual potential, and reduce their isolation regardless of location, socio-economic status, or degree of disability.

### **Heart Condition**

American Heart Association  
1125 Judson Road, #150  
Longview, TX 75601  
phone: **(903) 323-8800**

American Heart Association  
National Center  
7272 Greenville Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75231  
1-800-AHA-USA-1  
or **1-800-242-8721**  
Website: [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)

## **Intellectual Disabilities**

### **The Andrews Center**

5520 Old Bullard Rd, Suite 111

Tyler, TX 75703

**(903) 597-5067**

Website: [www.andrewscenter.com](http://www.andrewscenter.com)

\*Home & Community Based Services (HCS)

\*Group Homes

\*Adult Day Training (ADT)

\*Sheltered Workshop

\*Supported Employment

### **The Arc of Tyler / Smith County**

810 Vine Heights

Tyler, TX 75701

**903-597-0995**

Website: [www.arcofsmithcounty.org](http://www.arcofsmithcounty.org)

## **Juvenile Arthritis**

### **The Arthritis Foundation**

North Texas Region

4300 MacArthur, Suite 245

Dallas, TX 75209-6524

Phone: 214.826.4361

Toll Free Phone: **800.442.6653**

Email: [info.ntx@arthritis.org](mailto:info.ntx@arthritis.org)

Website: [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org)

The Texas Juvenile Arthritis Program offers information and referral, support and education, school info, scholarships to the American Juvenile Arthritis Conference, and other fun activities for children and their families. *To get your free copy of [Kids Get Arthritis Too Newsletter](#), please call 1-800-442-6653.*

## **Learning Disabilities**

### **Tyler ISD**

#### **Special Education**

P.O. Box 2035

Tyler, TX 75710

**903-262-1034**

Educational programs are available for children ages 0-22 who are deaf, visually impaired or both. Educational programs are available for children ages 3-22 with all other handicaps. Related services include: physical therapy, speech therapy, transportation, occupational therapy, adaptive physical education, orientation mobility training, psychological services. Special education programs are available on most campuses, as well as at Boshears Center.

### **Learning Disabilities Association of America**

4156 Library Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15234

**412-341-1515**

Web site: [www.ldanatl.org](http://www.ldanatl.org)

Email: [ldanatl@usaor.net](mailto:ldanatl@usaor.net)

Since 1963, LDA has provided support to people with learning disabilities, their parents, teachers and other professionals. At the national, state and local levels, LDA provides cutting edge information on learning disabilities, practical solutions, and a comprehensive network of resources. LDA believes that every person

with learning disabilities can be successful at school, at work, in relationships, and in the community -- given the right opportunities.

### **Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)**

8181 Professional Place, Suite 150

Landover, MD 20785

**301-306-7070**

Web site: [www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)

CHADD is the nation's leading non-profit organization serving individuals with AD/HD and their families. The U.S. Chapters offer support for individuals, parents, teachers, professionals, and others.

CHADD is a membership organization, produces the bi-monthly Attention! magazine (for members), and sponsors an annual conference.

## **Mental Health**

### **The Andrews Center**

2323 W. Front St.

Tyler, TX 75702

**(903) 597-1351**

Website: [www.andrewscenter.com](http://www.andrewscenter.com)

\*People Share (support group)

\*Emergency services

\*Outpatient Clinics

### **National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Public Inquiries**

Office of Communications

6001 Executive Boulevard, Room 8184, MSC 9663

Bethesda, MD 20892-0663

301-443-4513 or **1-866-615-NIMH (6464)**, toll free

Web site: [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov)

E-mail: [nimhinfo@ih.gov](mailto:nimhinfo@ih.gov)

NIMH is the lead Federal agency for research on mental and behavioral disorders.

### **Anxiety Disorders Association of America (ADAA)**

Phone: (240)485-1001

Website: [www.adaa.org](http://www.adaa.org)

ADAA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the prevention, treatment and cure of anxiety disorders and to improve the lives of all people who suffer from them.

Since 1980, they disseminate information, linking people who need treatment with those who can provide it and advocating for cost effective treatments. The association is made up of professionals who conduct research and treat anxiety disorders and individuals who have a personal or general interest in learning more about such disorders.

## **Muscular Dystrophy**

Muscular Dystrophy Association

3800 Paluxy Drive, Suite 535

Tyler, TX 75703

**(903)534-2984**

Email: [tyler@mdausa.org](mailto:tyler@mdausa.org)

Web: [www.mdausa.org](http://www.mdausa.org)

Medical services, braces, summer camps for all ages

**MDA clinic**  
**UT Health Northeast**  
11937 US Highway 271  
Tyler, TX 75708-2003  
**903-877-3451**

### **Neurological Disorders**

**National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke**

**Brain Resources And Information Network**

BRAIN

P.O. Box 5801  
Bethesda, MD 20824  
301-496-5751  
800-352-9424

Website: [www.ninds.nih.gov](http://www.ninds.nih.gov)

### **Easter Seals**

230 W. Monroe St., Suite 1800  
Chicago, IL 60606-4802  
312-762-6200

**800 221-6827**

Website: [www.easter-seals.org](http://www.easter-seals.org)

### **Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder**

**Anxiety Disorders Association of America (ADAA)**

Phone: **(240)485 -1001**

Website: [www.adaa.org](http://www.adaa.org)

ADAA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the prevention, treatment and cure of anxiety disorders and to improve the lives of all people who suffer from them.

Since 1980, they disseminate information, linking people who need treatment with those who can provide it and advocating for cost effective treatments. The association is made up of professionals who conduct research and treat anxiety disorders and individuals who have a personal or general interest in learning more about such disorders.

### **Physical Disabilities**

Department of State Health Services  
(Cotton Belt Bldg)

1517 W. Front St.

Tyler, TX 75701

Medical Social Workers:

**903- 533-5255**

**903-533-5249**

**903-533-5231**

\*Personal Care Services (PCS)

\*Texas Health Steps

\*Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN)

\*Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)

\*Comprehensive Care Program (CCP)

\*Community Living & Support Services (CLASS)

### **Prader-Willi Syndrome**

Prader-Willi Syndrome Association

5700 Midnight Pass Road, Suite 6

Sarasota, FL 34242

Phone: **800-926-4797**

Web Site: <http://www.pwsausa.org>

E-Mail: [national@pwsausa.org](mailto:national@pwsausa.org)

### **Rare Disorders**

**National Organization for Rare Disorders, Inc. (NORD)**

55 Kenosia Avenue

PO Box 1968

Danbury, CT 06813-1968

**(203) 744-0100**

Tollfree: (800) 999-6673 (voicemail only)

TDD Number: (203) 797-9590

Website: [www.rarediseases.org](http://www.rarediseases.org)

NORD funds research for rare diseases and has the following information on its website:

#### **•Index of Rare Diseases**

This is the list of diseases currently covered in the Rare Disease Database.

#### **• Rare Disease Database**

Search this database for reports on more than 1,150 diseases.

#### **• Index of Organizations**

This is the list of organizations in NORD's Organizational Database.

#### **• Organizational Database**

Read about more than 2,000 patient organizations and other sources of help.

If you have questions related to providing care or accessing services for someone with a rare disease, write to: [RN@rarediseases.org](mailto:RN@rarediseases.org)

If you have a question related to genetic testing or the inheritance patterns of diseases, write to: [genetic\\_counselor@rarediseases.org](mailto:genetic_counselor@rarediseases.org)

### **Respiratory Conditions**

**UT Health Northeast**

Pulmonary Clinic

Heart & Lung Center

11937 US Highway 271

Tyler, TX 75708-3154

**(903) 877-7777**

[www.uthct.edu/patientcare/clinical/heartandlung/](http://www.uthct.edu/patientcare/clinical/heartandlung/)

**American Lung Association**

61 Broadway, 6th Floor

NY, NY 10006

Website: [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org)

**212-315-8700**

To speak to a lung health professional, contact the ALA Lung Help Line at 1-800-548-8252.

The mission of ALA is to prevent lung disease and promote lung health. It fights lung disease in all its forms, with special emphasis on asthma, tobacco control and environmental health.

### **Rett Syndrome**

**International Rett Syndrome Association**

9121 Piscataway Road, Suite 2B

Clinton, MD 20735

301-856-3334

**800-818-7388**

[www.rettsyndrome.org](http://www.rettsyndrome.org)

## **Rett Syndrome Research Foundation**

5600 Devitt Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45246  
**513-874-3020**  
[www.rsrf.org](http://www.rsrf.org)

## **Spina Bifida**

### **Spina Bifida Association**

#### **SBA of North Texas**

Carol Barrett - Office Manager  
705 Ave. B, Suite 409  
Garland, TX 75040  
Phone: **972-238-8755**  
Email: [sbnorthtexas@aol.com](mailto:sbnorthtexas@aol.com)  
Website:

[www.spinabifidaassociation.org/site/c.evKRI7OXIoJ8H/b.8028963/k.BE67/Home.htm](http://www.spinabifidaassociation.org/site/c.evKRI7OXIoJ8H/b.8028963/k.BE67/Home.htm)

The mission of SBA is to promote the prevention of spina bifida and to enhance the lives of all affected. It serves the 70,000 adults and children who live with spina bifida. Since 1973, SBAA has served as the nation's only voluntary health agency dedicated to enhancing the lives of those with spina bifida and those whose lives they touch. Through its network of 57 chapters, SBA has a presence in more than 125 communities nationwide and serves thousands of people each year.

## **Tourette's Syndrome**

Tyler/Longview Area TS Support Group Meeting  
Denise Rite, Support Group Leader  
P.O. Box 132295  
Tyler, TX 75713  
Email: [tourettetyler@gmail.com](mailto:tourettetyler@gmail.com)  
**903-330-5036**

Tourette Syndrome Association of Texas  
3919 River Forest Drive  
Richmond, TX 77406  
Phone: 281-238-8096  
Toll free: **1-866-896-8484**  
Email: [TouretteTexas@aol.com](mailto:TouretteTexas@aol.com)  
Website: [www.tourettetexas.org](http://www.tourettetexas.org)

### Services & Programs:

Medical Assistance	Scholarships
Camp du Ballon Rouge	Direct Client Services
Advocacy & Consulting	Support Groups & Meetings
Family Events & Activities	Education & In-Service
Youth Ambassador Program	

## **Visual Impairment**

### **Dept of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services, Blind Services (DARS)**

1121 ESE Loop 323, Bldg 1, Suite 106  
(Wood Gate offices)  
Tyler, TX 75701  
**903-581-9945**

### **Services for people who are blind or visually impaired:**

**(800) 628-5115** or TTY 1-866-581-9328

Children's Program age 0-21  
Visual aids, medical, vocational training - all ages  
Vocational training age 14+

## **Tyler ISD Special Education**

P.O. Box 2035  
Tyler, TX 75710  
**903-262-1034**

Educational programs are available for children ages 0-22 who are deaf, visually impaired or both. Educational programs are available for children ages 3-22 with all other handicaps. Related services include: physical therapy, speech therapy, transportation, occupational therapy, adaptive physical education, orientation mobility training, psychological services. Special education programs available on most campuses, as well as at St. Louis School.

## **Texas Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (TAPVI)**

12801 Midway RD Suite 212  
PMB 231  
Dallas, TX 75244  
**866-998-2784**  
email: [info@tapvi.org](mailto:info@tapvi.org)

TAPVI is a state-wide organization serving families of children who are visually impaired or blind, including those who have multiple disabilities.

## **The Foundation Fighting Blindness**

(formerly National *Retinitis Pigmentosa* Foundation)  
Executive Plaza One, Suite 800  
11350 McCormick Road  
Hunt Valley, MD 21031-1014  
**(1-800) 683-5555** (Toll Free)  
(410) 785-1414; (410) 785-9687 (TT)  
Web Address: [www.blindness.org](http://www.blindness.org)

Began in 1971, FFB funds research that will provide preventions, treatments and cures for people affected by retinitis pigmentosa (RP), macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, and the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases. It provides information for patients, families and professionals. Over 30 volunteer-led groups across the US raise funds, increase public awareness, and provide support to their communities.

### **FFB Texas - Gulf Coast Chapter**

David T. Cleveland, Contact  
830 Myrtle Lane  
Houston, TX 77079-3615  
Phone: **713-465-9577**  
Email: [davidtcleland@yahoo.com](mailto:davidtcleland@yahoo.com)

## **Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired**

1100 W. 45th St.  
Austin, TX 78756  
Switchboard: (512) 454-8631  
Toll Free Recording Number: **1-800-872-5273**  
TDD (512) 206-9451

A special public school established by the Texas Legislature to provide specialized and intense services which focus on the unique learning needs of students with visual impairments, including those with additional disabilities.