



## AUTISM AND ASPERGER'S RESOURCES

### **Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts (AFAM)**

Advocates for Autism of Massachusetts will strive to assure the human and civil rights of individuals of all ages across the entire Autism Spectrum. Provide education to individuals with ASD and their families.

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

### **Asperger's Association of New England**

Organizational mission is to foster awareness, respect, acceptance, and support for individuals with Asperger Syndrome and related conditions and their families. Website provides access to a broad array of educational and advocacy resources and services.

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

### **Autism Consortium**

Regional network involving all of the major pediatric medical centers (BMC, Children's, MGH, Tufts) which coordinates research initiatives as well as providing information regarding the diagnosis and treatment of autistic spectrum disorders to help provide a roadmap for parents. They have a searchable database for local therapeutic providers and community resources on the website. Excellent starting point for those gathering information.

[www.autismconsortium.org](http://www.autismconsortium.org); [www.exceptionallives.org/ma](http://www.exceptionallives.org/ma)

### **AutismLink**

Information on opportunities for inclusion, information, and support. Allows you to do a search for autism resources by state.

<http://autismlink.com>

### **Autism Research Institute**

ARI pioneers research, outreach and cooperative efforts with other organizations worldwide. ARI advocates for the rights of people with ASD.

[www.autism.com/ari](http://www.autism.com/ari)

### **Autism Speaks**

Large national organization dedicated to the funding of autism research and patient advocacy. Good source of information about all facets of current autism research. It provides practical information guiding families with education about the disorder and links to resources.

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

### **Children Making Strides**

Offers a variety of educational services in Southeastern, MA that are designed to meet the needs of each individual child. Services are offered within the framework of teaching strategies that current research has shown to be effective with autistic children. Approach to treatment includes looking at the entire child. Provider of both home based and center based therapy and parent support programs.

[www.childrenmakingstrides.com](http://www.childrenmakingstrides.com)

### **Federation for Children with Special Needs**

Provides information, support, and assistance to parents of children with disabilities. The Federation advocates for quality education, parent participation and access to quality health care services for all.

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

### **First Signs**

Aims to educate parents, healthcare providers, early childhood educators, and other professionals to ensure the best developmental outcome for every child. Their mission is to improve screening and referral practices and to lower the age at which young children are identified with developmental delays and disorders.

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

### **Franciscan Children's Hospital**

To provide compassionate care and education to children with special health care needs to help them reach their full potential. Provides medical, dental, educational, behavioral, and support services at their location in Brighton, MA

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

### **May Institute**

A nonprofit organization that provides educational and rehabilitative services for children and adults, and families of individuals, with autism, developmental disabilities, neurological and behavioral disorders, and mental illness.

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

### **ParentPals.com**

Educational community where parent and professionals share information and offer support around special education topics.

[www.parentpals.com](http://www.parentpals.com)

### **Tufts Medical Center Floating Hospital for Children**

Center for Children with Special Needs (CCSN) prides itself on delivering interdisciplinary services that are child and family centered. Assessments are comprehensive and evaluate the “whole child” with an appreciation of the child’s strengths and weaknesses.

[www.floatinghospital.org/OurServices/CCSNDevelopmentalBehavioralPediatrics](http://www.floatinghospital.org/OurServices/CCSNDevelopmentalBehavioralPediatrics)

**Mass Advocate for Children**

Good link to a variety of Massachusetts autism resources and information for legal rights and school regulations regarding assistive communication devices.

<https://massadvocates.org/autism/resources>

**Lurie Center for Autism**

Mass General affiliated program for childhood through adulthood for a wide variety of Autism Spectrum Disorders, Asperger Syndrome and Developmental Disorders. Provides multidisciplinary clinical services with multiple specialties at their Lexington, MA location. Some ability for video visits (telemedicine) is available. Also provides opportunities to participate in multiple research studies on Autism.

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

**Bressler Clinical and Research Program for Autism Spectrum Disorders at MGH**

Provides psychiatric evaluation and care of children, adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorders at their main campus in Boston. Active research institute with opportunities to participate in clinical trials.

[www.massgeneral.org/psychiatry/services/treatmentprograms.aspx?id=1970](http://www.massgeneral.org/psychiatry/services/treatmentprograms.aspx?id=1970)