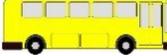




# ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSITION REFERENCE GUIDE

Dear Students, Parents, and Families,

This guide is to assist you on your journey into postsecondary life. Use this guide to find resources relating to the following categories:

Area	Symbol
Education	
Employment and Training	
Agencies	
Parental Information/Resources	
Housing	
Mental Health Services	
Transportation	

Life is full of transitions, and one of the more remarkable ones occurs when students get ready to leave high school and go out in the world as young adults. Transition planning is a crucial part of students' IEP development to ensure that resources and services are put into place to ensure the best quality of life into adult hood.

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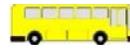
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# Agencies



## Agency for Persons with Disabilities



The APD works in partnership with local communities and private providers to assist people who have developmental disabilities and their families. APD also provides assistance in identifying the needs of people with developmental disabilities for supports and services. Disabilities served include:

- Autism
- Cerebral palsy
- Spina bifida
- Intellectual disabilities
- Down syndrome
- Prader-Willi syndrome
- Children age 3-5 who are at a high risk of a developmental disability

### **Services Offered:**

- Respite
- Support Coordination
- Behavior Analysis and Assistance
- Consumable Medical Supplies
- Supported Employment
- Supported and Independent living
- Occupational, Speech/Language, and Physical Therapy
- Transportation

### **Contact**

3631 Hodges Blvd  
Jacksonville, Florida 32224  
Phone: (844)766-7517

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

### **Apply for Services in the Northeast Region**

Contact: Michelle Sturla, [msturla@esvf.org](mailto:msturla@esvf.org)

Call Toll Free: 1-844-865-1172

*If you reach the voicemail service, please leave a message with your name and number.*

## The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation



Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is a federal-state program that helps people who have physical or mental disabilities get or keep a job. VR is committed to helping people with disabilities find meaningful careers.

Their mission is "to help people with disabilities find and maintain employment and enhance their independence." Their vision is "to become the first place people with disabilities turn when seeking employment and a top resource for employers in need of qualified employees."

In addition to the general customer employment program, VR has additional specific programs designed to help eligible people with disabilities become employed.

### **Examples of VR Services**

- Medical and Psychological Assessment
- Vocational Evaluation and Planning
- Career Counseling and Guidance
- Training and Education After High School
- Job-Site Assessment and Accommodations
- Job Placement
- Job Coaching
- On-the-Job Training
- Supported Employment
- Assistive Technology and Devices
- Time-Limited Medical and/or Psychological Treatment

### **Contact**

Thomas "Wheeler" Clemons, Thomas.Clemons@vr.fldoe.org  
Lynn Seavey, Lynn.Seavey@vr.fldoe.org  
Dept. of Education-Div. of Vocational Rehabilitation  
25 Deltona Blvd. Ste. 3  
St. Augustine, Florida 32086  
Phone: 904-797-6250 ext. 18

Website- <http://www.rehabworks.org/>

ARC of the St. Johns



The Arc of the St. Johns provides services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Services disability areas including- Autism, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Traumatic Brain Injury, Spina Bifida, and Epilepsy.

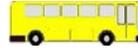
### **Services Provided**

- Behavioral Training
- The Community Campus Charter School
- Companion Services
- In-Home Support Services
- The Jacksonville Beaches Adult Services Center
- Mental Health Services
- Residential Housing
- St. Augustine Adult Services Center
- Supported Employment
- Supported Living
- The Therapeutic Learning Center for Children
- Traumatic Injury Community Housing Option
- Transportation
- Health and Wellness

### **Contact**

Lynn Funcheon, [funcheonl@arcsj.org](mailto:funcheonl@arcsj.org)  
2101 Arc Drive  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
Phone: (904)824-7249  
Website: <http://www.arcsj.org/index.html>

## The ARC Jacksonville



The Arc Jacksonville has served our community's citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1965. The organization began within a grassroots movement to provide educational opportunities for special needs persons who were not well-served by the public education system. Over the decades, The Arc program has evolved and expanded to offer a wide range of services today within community settings.

Services are rendered from three main locations and five group homes. In addition to the direct services provided through our programs, The Arc Jacksonville serves as a source of information and support for the entire Northeast Florida area through its advocacy program, called A.S.K. (Advocacy, Support and Knowledge).

The primary location of the agency is in downtown Jacksonville, in a multi-use complex of administrative offices, program and workshop areas and a packaging warehouse. An additional facility on the Westside provides similar programming.

The five group homes are nestled within the neighborhoods of Arlington, St. Nicholas, Ortega Farms and Mandarin. A college program for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities is on the campus of the University of North Florida.

### Programs and Services

- Day Programs and Services
- Employment Services
- Residential Services
- A.R.T. Program
- College Experience
- Summer Life Experience
- Club Arc
- The Arc Jacksonville Villages

**Charlotte Temple**  
**Vice President, Advocacy**  
904.358.1200  
[ctemple@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:ctemple@arcjacksonville.org)

**Janet Lawrence**  
**Vice President, Residential**  
904.723.3527  
[jlawrence@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:jlawrence@arcjacksonville.org)

**Dr. Crystal Makowski, C.R.C., Ed.D.**  
**Vice President, The Arc Village**  
904.355.0155  
[cmakowski@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:cmakowski@arcjacksonville.org)

**Patricia Goff**  
**Vice President, Program Services**  
904.355.0155 x408  
[pgoff@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:pgoff@arcjacksonville.org)

**Susan Hamilton**  
**Vice President, Employment**  
904.355.0155 x 420  
[shamilton@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:shamilton@arcjacksonville.org)

## Advocacy, Support, and Knowledge (ASK) at ARC of Jacksonville



ASK was created to help individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) gain the information, training and support needed to achieve improved self-sufficiency, independence and well-being. Individuals with I/DD, their families and their circles of support can find answers to issues that arise throughout the life span.

ASK:

- Links family to find circles of support to begin to understand the journey for persons with I/DD
- Works in the community to expand awareness, increase opportunity, promote partnership and eliminate barriers for individuals with disabilities
- Promotes partnerships with families and schools
- Collaborates with the community to ensure trainings, workshops, and conferences are provided that address the needs of individuals with I/DD, their families, and those that work with them
- Helps families develop an understanding of how to access, participate in and influence the design and policies of the systems and organizations that serve them

**The ARC Jacksonville's programs include:**

- Day programs
- Community employment
- Residential programs
- The A.R.T program
- College experience (OCT @ UNF)
- Summer LIFE program
- Club ARC

### **Contact**

Charlotte Temple, [ctemple@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:ctemple@arcjacksonville.org)

Vice President, Advocacy

90358.1200

1050 North Davis Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32209

Phone: 904.358-1200

Email: [info@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:info@arcjacksonville.org)

Website- <http://www.arcjacksonville.org/>

*Division of Blind Services (DBS)* 

DBS has a rich history of providing services to persons who are blind or have severe visual impairments and to persons who have disabling conditions that make it difficult to read and write regular print.

**Services Provided**

- Blind Babies Program
- Business Enterprise
- Children's Program
- Employer Services
- Independent Living
- Transition Services
- Talking Books Library
- Rehabilitation Center
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Job shadowing, work experiences, job modification, on the job training
- Adaptive/Assistive Technology
- Orientation and Mobility Training
- Career Counseling

**Contact**

Robert Lewis [robert.lewis@dbs.fldoe.org](mailto:robert.lewis@dbs.fldoe.org)

(904)348-2730

Florida Department of Education  
1809 Art Museum Drive, Suite 201  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Website: <http://dbs.myflorida.com/>

*University of Florida- Jacksonville Center for Autism and Related  
Disabilities* 

CARD provides support and assistance with the goal of optimizing the potential of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, dual-sensory impairments, and related disabilities. CARD services are provided, at no cost, to individuals and their families, and to the professional who work with them.

**Services Provided**

Services individuals of any age with:

- Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
- Autistic Disorder
- Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified
- Rett's Syndrome
- Childhood Disintegrative Disorder
- Social Communication Disorder
- Dual-sensory Impairments (deaf-blind)
- Sensory loss plus another disabling condition
- Services include consultations, functional behavioral assessment, behavior support plans, referral to services providers funding sources, support groups, counseling, social skills groups, and groups for siblings

**Contact**

Anne Wilson, [anne.wilson@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:anne.wilson@jax.ufl.edu)  
(904) 633-0764

UF College of Medicine- Jacksonville  
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)  
6271 St. Augustine Road, Suite 1  
Jacksonville, Florida 32217

Website

<http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/pediatrics/autism>  
<https://www.facebook.com/AutismJacksonville>

## Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville

In 1989, the Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville was founded by a handful of families who recognized the need to have a support group in the Jacksonville community. The focus was, and continues to be, to provide awareness and education and to help individuals with Down syndrome reach their potential. Our association has continued to grow with over 1,500 individuals, families and community members.

The Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville (DSAJ) is a non-profit organization committed to helping people with Down syndrome achieve their full potential and to helping create a community that is educated, supportive, and inclusive of individuals with Down syndrome.

We envision a community where all people with Down syndrome are actively included, given opportunities to participate and contribute as valued citizens, and have the choice to create their own path to fulfillment and success.

### **Services:**

- Therapies- speech/language, occupational, physical
- Wellness and fitness
- Sports
- Educational workshops
- Family social groups

### **Contact**

Desiree Jomant, Program Coordinator, [desiree.jomant@dsaj.org](mailto:desiree.jomant@dsaj.org)

630 May Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32204

Website- <http://www.dsaj.org/index.html>



The mission of Angelwood is to improve the quality of life for children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families. Angelwood Inc. assists families in caring for the special needs of their loved ones across their lifespan through a variety of programs suited to each person's individual goals. They help children and adults with developmental disabilities such as:

- Autism
- Cerebral palsy
- Down syndrome
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Prader-Willi
- Spina Bifida

Often other concerns such as behavioral issues, physical limitations, and seizure disorders may accompany a developmental disability. Regardless of what specific service is offered, the agency is built upon the experience and the high quality care that has become their hallmark.

#### **Programs Offered:**

- Summer camp
- Housing
- Residential Respite
- Behavior Analysis Services
- Holiday Kids Camp
- Adult Day Training
- Supported Employment & Vocational Rehabilitation

#### **Contact**

4674 Hood Road  
Jacksonville, Florida 32257

Website: <http://angelwoodjax.org/cms2/>

Diane Tuttle, Executive Director

Phone: (904) 288-7259

# Education





Life Work is a St. Johns County School District Post-Secondary Program for students between the ages of 18-22 years old. Currently the program is housed at St. Augustine High School; there is 1 teacher and 1 job coach. Students work at various places in the community as a part of Community Based Work Experience (CBWE), while also working individually with the job coach to find competitive employment. Students work on job applications, resumes, and interview skills. Students' social emotional, self-determination, self-advocacy, and daily living skills are also targeted through functional curriculum and transition assessments and planning.

**Requirements:**

- Students must be enrolled in a St. Johns County Public School
- Students must be between the ages of 18-21 and graduating with a Special or Standard (ACCESS Points Track) Diploma at the end of the current school year
- Student/parent/guardian must have a goal for employment and have an active Transition Individual Education Plan (IEP) with a need for post-secondary transition instruction
- Be willing to learn and take advantage of independent community transportation as appropriate for community participation
- Be able to perform job training skills a minimum of 6 hours per week
- Have applied, be willing to apply, or be a current client with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
- Be able to function in the work place with minimal supervision and natural supports
- Have no issues with attendance, discipline, or behavior

**Contact**

Adam Ringwood, Teacher, [adam.ringwood@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:adam.ringwood@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

(904) 547-8530

Leigh Ann Hale, ESE Program Specialist for Transition, [leigh.hale@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:leigh.hale@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

(904)547-7712

Ami Brennan, Job Coach, [ann-marie.brennan@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:ann-marie.brennan@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

St. Johns Community Campus



The Community Campus is a Charter School of the St. Johns County School District and an affiliate program of The Arc of the St. Johns. The Community Campus is designed to mimic a 4 year extended educational track. Our belief is that every person can make informed choices with positive exposure to interesting experiences. The unique learning styles of the students are taken into consideration in all lessons. The student's personal goals become the focus of every step in the process.

Student work on:

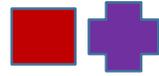
- Financial planning and money management
- Functional academics and technology
- Self-determination
- Building relationships
- Communication
- Travel and mobility
- Community living
- Home living
- Health and safety
- Employability skills

**Contact**

Lynne Funcheon- Director, [lfuncheon@arcsj.org](mailto:lfuncheon@arcsj.org)

62 Cuna Street  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
Phone: (904) 209- 6842

## *On Campus Transition (OCT) - University of North Florida*



[The Arc Jacksonville](#) (Arc) and UNF partnered to create this innovative program, to provide young adults with intellectual disabilities the unique opportunity of having a transformational college experience as an integral part of their transition to independence. Students participate in all aspects of college life by auditing UNF courses, joining campus organizations and clubs, and participating in recreational/leisure activities that are enjoyed by all UNF students. Students are mentored in academic, social, and recreation activities through mentoring programs with UNF student peers.

### **Services**

- 18-22-year-old students transitioning from high school to college
- Housing
- Daily living
- Peer mentoring and role models
- Academics and tutoring
- On-campus experiences including recreation, leisure, clubs, and organizations

### **Contact**

Shannon Griffin, Program Director, [sgriffin@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:sgriffin@arcjacksonville.org)

University of North Florida, College of Education and Human Services  
Building 57, Room 2800  
(904) 620-3890

Website- <https://www.unf.edu/oncampustransition/>

## VERTICAL at FSCJ

Providing employment readiness instruction to students with disabilities enrolled in vocational workforce certificate programs at FSCJ.

Adults with intellectual, developmental and/or other disabilities can often times experience more challenges when it comes to finding a job, becoming integrated into the community or even attending college. V.E.R.T.I.C.A.L (Vocational and Employment Readiness Training in Comprehensive Adult Learning) provides these students enrolled in vocational workforce certificate programs with the support and employment skills training needed to succeed in the competitive workforce and lead a productive life. Students in this program will learn life skills and core academics, receive vocational training, and graduate with the ability to work in high-skilled, high-wage jobs. In addition to gaining new skills and training, each student is matched with a mentor to help build the college campus experience and a peer-to-peer relationship.

Training areas include:

- Automotive Collision Repair
- Child Care
- Diesel Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Facials Specialty
- Massage Therapy
- Welding

Students with disabilities have specific transition, education, instruction, employment and life skills needs that must be met to succeed in the competitive workforce.

VERTICAL training will provide employment readiness instruction

Students that successfully complete VERTICAL training will complete an FSCJ training course and enter the workforce with an industry specific skill and the employment skills

### **Contact**

Rachel Rippey- [rrippey@fscj.edu](mailto:rrippey@fscj.edu)

(904) 633-8456

Website- <http://www.fscj.edu/academics/vertical>

## University of South Florida Project Sting Ray



Project 10 STING RAY (Students Transitioning Into the Next Generation, Recognizing Alternatives for Youth) is a partnership of the Pinellas County School District, Project 10, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, the Florida Department of Education, and the Florida Governor's Commission on Disabilities. It offers young adults with intellectual disabilities, ages 18 to 22, an opportunity to experience life on a college campus while developing self-determination, independent living, and employability skills.

STING RAY's mission is to provide an innovative and transformational postsecondary learning experience that will empower young adults with significant cognitive disabilities to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to become independent and productive citizens.

Located on the University of South Florida (USF) St. Petersburg campus, the innovative STING RAY program emphasizes

- development of self-determination skills,
- independent living in the community,
- employment preparation,
- community-based work experience,
- on-the-job training,
- placement in competitive integrated employment,
- preparation for continuing higher education, and
- establishment and maintenance of positive social and work relationships

### **Contact**

L. Danielle Roberts-Dahmn, STING RAY Project Coordinator  
University of South Florida St. Petersburg  
(727) 873-4654 or [lroberts@usfsp.edu](mailto:lroberts@usfsp.edu)

<http://project10.info/StingRay.php?PageCategory=StingRay>

*University of South Florida STAGES*



STAGES is a partnership between the School District of Hillsborough County and the University of South Florida College of Education Department of Special Education. Training and support is provided to young adults with disabilities including opportunities to experience college life, explore career options, utilize public transportations, learn self-advocacy skills, interact with age appropriate peers, and reach their potential as independent community members.

Applicant must:

- Meet the qualifications of a Special Diploma or Standard Diploma Access Track
- Schedule an appointment with the program instructor to visit the program and to receive an application
- Participate in an interview with program instructor, a district employee from the Adult Education Department, and a supervisor/manager from USF

**Contact**

Georgie Collins, Transition Facilitator

University of South Florida, Tampa

[georgie.collins@sdhc.k12.fl.us](mailto:georgie.collins@sdhc.k12.fl.us), (813) 974-3632

Website- <http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/stages/stages.html>

## *Florida Atlantic University- The Academy for Community Inclusion*



The FAU Academy for Community Inclusion is a comprehensive higher education transition program for individuals with developmental disabilities. Students will have the opportunity to develop their academic, vocational and social skills at the post-secondary level. Student programming is based on the strengths and needs of the individual participant. The program is housed on the Jupiter Campus of Florida Atlantic University.

Applicants must:

- Have a documented significant developmental disability
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have graduated from high school
- Be capable of meeting personal needs without assistance
- Be able to self-administer any necessary medication
- Have no behavior difficulties
- Have the capability to participate in 50 to 90 minute classes
- Navigate the campus independently
- Have a desire to participate in a college program

Application Process

1. The Application packet is available online
2. Qualified applicants will be contacted for a student and family interview.
3. Applicants will be notified by mail of their acceptance.

### **Contact**

Dr. Mary Louise Duffy, [mduffy@fau.edu](mailto:mduffy@fau.edu)  
Professor, Department of Exceptional Student Education  
Jupiter Campus: EC 207C  
Phone: 561-799-8715

Website- <http://www.coe.fau.edu/academicdepartments/ese/aci/index.php>



The mission of the EAGLE Connections program at Tallahassee Community College is to provide a course of study that includes career exploration, work experience, and social activities while empowering young adults with significant cognitive disabilities to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to become independent and productive citizens.

The program offers young adults with disabilities an opportunity to experience life on a college campus while developing self-determination, independent living, and employability skills. Students that are accepted into the program will be involved in orientation activities throughout the summer term, to begin coursework in the fall. If interested in applying, please print, fill out, and return the application and recommendation forms.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Have an intellectual and or developmental disability that impacts progression in a standard curriculum in pursuit of a post-secondary degree or certificate
- Graduated, or is graduating within (1) semester, with a special diploma, after at least 4 years of high school attendance
- Is at least 18 years old
- Has employment as a goal on a transition IEP
- Has community participation as a goal on a transition IEP
- Is capable of mobility on adult campuses
- Displays a level of social maturity conducive to an adult environment (i.e. employment and educational settings)
- Is able to maintain self-care and personal hygiene independently
- Has no discipline referrals for aggressive behavior

## **Contact**

Cayle Sullivan, [sullivac@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:sullivac@tcc.fl.edu)  
(850) 201-8432  
Tallahassee Community College  
444 Appleyard Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Website- <http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/stages/stages.html>

## Santa Fe College- Project SAINT



Project SAINT is a complete 1-2 year 'wrap-around' program addressing a student's life plans for independence. Employment is a central goal. Students receive up to 10 hours weekly of academic and social mentorship from other SF students as supervised by a Mentor Coordinator. In addition, students receive ongoing individual and group counseling and advisement. Project SAINT has fees that cover the costs of all mentorship, staffing, class participation, student activity fees, books and materials. Some financial support may be available and can be discussed individually.

Originally started with a mini-grant from the Florida Consortium on Post-Secondary Education and Intellectual Disabilities, Project SAINT continues to be on the vanguard of a nation-wide movement for greater post-secondary inclusion and opportunities for all. An exciting addition to a long standing on campus program for adults with developmental disabilities, Project SAINT is named after the Santa Fe College team, 'The Saints'. Project SAINT stands for "Student Access and Inclusion Together".

To apply:

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for Project SAINT. The SAINT application procedure includes a questionnaire, documentation of disability, a student essay, references and an interview. A committee will then decide on acceptance.

### **Contact**

Linda Mussillo, Program Administrator, [linda.mussillo@sfcollge.edu](mailto:linda.mussillo@sfcollge.edu)

(352) 381-3818

Link to program information:

[http://dept.sfcollge.edu/cied/cwe/content/media/ProjectSaint\\_trifold.pdf](http://dept.sfcollge.edu/cied/cwe/content/media/ProjectSaint_trifold.pdf)

## Florida Keys Community College- Project ACCESS



Project ACCESS (Accessing Community College Educational experiences, Social experiences and Skills for careers) is a comprehensive transition and post-secondary program designed to support students with intellectual disabilities who are seeking to continue academic, career and technical, and independent living instruction at an institution of higher education in order to prepare for gainful employment.

Opportunities include:

- On-Campus housing option
- Certificate options
- Access to a learning environment with appropriate peers
- Work focus
- Tailored instruction
- Job support
- Assistance in securing paid employment
- A network of supports between education, families, employers and service providers
- Access to college resources and expertise

### **Contact**

Karla Malsheimer, Senior Staff Assistant for Project ACCESS

(305) 809-3292

[karla.malsheimer@fkcc.edu](mailto:karla.malsheimer@fkcc.edu)

Website: <https://www.fkcc.edu/current-students/advising-disabled-student/project-access/>

*Pensacola State College- The Arc Gateway Program for Adult Learning  
and Support*



The Arc Gateway Program for Adult Learning and Support (PALS) is a two-year post-secondary program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities made possible by an appropriation from the State of Florida. The program gives students the opportunity to go to college, learn new skills, explore new careers, prepare for employment and ultimately gain more independence. Our goal is to provide substantial and relevant learning experiences, within an inclusive educational setting, that lead to meaningful employment.

PALS consists of a total of four semesters, plus summer practicums. Students take courses in career exploration, vocational training, independent living skills and workplace readiness academics along with one regular college course per semester. The program is designed to prepare students for the workforce, increase independence and become lifelong learners connected to the community. Graduates will exit the program ready to live and work independently.

*The specific areas of study include:*

- Academics where students participate in at least one regularly scheduled college level or post-secondary adult vocational class. These may be taken for credit or audited for non-credit. Students' interests and career ambitions would determine that selection of specific courses, in addition to workplace readiness academics.
- Independent Living Skills address the desire of students to function as independent adults. Structured course work would include but not limited to: Money and basic financial literacy skills, problem solving, cooking and food shopping, community awareness, computer and internet skills, safety, personal health, and exploring recreational activities.
- Customized Career Exploration and Technical Training where students will initially complete career exploration activities designed to refine their interests and career goals by direct contact with industry and business partners in the form of field trips, job shadowing and short-term internships. During the second portion, students select their career path for specific targeted training.

## **Contact**

Dondie Roper, Director of PALS, [droper@arc-gateway.org](mailto:droper@arc-gateway.org)  
1000 College Boulevard Building 1, Room 3  
Pensacola, Florida 32504 850-484-1185

Website- <http://www.arc-gateway.org/pals/>



Inclusive Education Services strives to deliver an innovative and distinctive post-secondary educational experience, by offering individuals with intellectual disabilities immersive campus and vocational opportunities to achieve excellence at UCF and beyond.

### **Curriculum Proposal**

- 21st Century Inclusive Education Academic Track- focus of curriculum is to develop 21st century skill-sets in communication, technology, problem solving, collaboration, creativity, innovation, and personal wellness
- 2 courses per term (12 courses total, 36 credits)
- Enrollment lasts 2- 3 years based on student preference for attending in summer
- Plan of study is developed in collaboration with the Director of Inclusive Education Services.
- Inclusive Education Services at UCF will foster student success through establishing partnerships with the academic units and faculty of UCF to deliver a curriculum that meets the needs of each student.

### **Employment Opportunities**

Students will also be encouraged to hold a campus work position of 10 – 20 hours per week starting the first year of participation. Students will engage with the Inclusive Education Services staff and student mentors to become prepared for on-campus employment and future internship experiences.

### **Mentoring Services**

Mentoring services are an essential element to student success and UCF will provide comprehensive mentoring support for students with intellectual disabilities to ensure they are fully engaged in campus life. UCF aims to create a multifaceted mentor program based on the individual needs and interests of the student. The proposed mentoring plan will include peer and professional mentor support in the areas of academics, housing, orientation, employment, social and wellness.

### **Contact**

Dr. Adam Meyer  
Director Inclusive Education Services, Director Student Accessibility Services  
[adam.meyer@ucf.edu](mailto:adam.meyer@ucf.edu)  
407-823-2371

Website- <http://ies.sdes.ucf.edu/>

*Local College and University Disability Office Contacts*



**Flagler College- Office of Services for Students with Disabilities**

Lynn Francisco, [efrancisco@flagler.edu](mailto:efrancisco@flagler.edu)

(904) 819-6460

Website- <http://www.flagler.edu/academics/academic-services/disability-services/>

**University of North Florida- Disability Resource Center**

Tom and Betty Petway Hall, Building 57 Room 1500

(904) 620-2769

[drc@unf.edu](mailto:drc@unf.edu)

Website- <https://www.unf.edu/drc/>

**St. Johns River State College- Disability Services**

Palatka Campus

(386) 312-4035

5001 St. Johns Avenue

Palatka, Florida 32177

St. Augustine Campus

(904) 808-7402

2990 College Drive

St. Augustine, Florida 32084

Orange Park Campus

(904) 276-6855

283 College Drive

Orange Park, Florida 32065

Gina Denning, [ginadenning@sjrstate.edu](mailto:ginadenning@sjrstate.edu)

<http://www.sjrstate.edu/disabledstudents.html>

## Florida State College at Jacksonville

<http://www.fscj.edu/admissions-aid/services-for-students-with-disabilities/locations-and-contact-information/>

Denise Giarrusso, Director of Services for Students with Disabilities

601 W. State St., Room U413  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
(904) 632-5007  
Fax: (904) 633-8304

Downtown Campus  
[Mya Smith](#), Disabilities Services Manager  
101 W. State St., Room A1020  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
(904) 633-8488  
Fax: (904) 633-8110

Kent Campus and Cecil Center  
[Robin Woolbright](#), Disabilities Services Manager  
3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Room B102C  
Jacksonville, Florida 32205  
(904) 381-3500  
Fax: (904) 381-3511

North Campus and Nassau Center  
[Michelle McLamb](#), Disabilities Services Manager  
4501 Capper Rd., Room E154  
Jacksonville, Florida 32218  
(904) 766-6784  
Fax: (904) 713-6002

South Campus and Deerwood Center  
11901 Beach Blvd., Room U130  
Jacksonville, Florida 32246  
(904) 646-2191  
Fax: (904) 646-2014

## Jacksonville University- Disability Support Services

Kristie Gover, [studentlife@ju.edu](mailto:studentlife@ju.edu)  
(904) 256-7067

<http://www.ju.edu/campuslife/PagesDisabled-Student-Support.aspx>

## First Coast Technical College

Students with a disability and in need of special accommodations must meet with the FCTC Student Advisor and identify themselves as having the disability prior to the beginning of classes and at the beginning of each grading period. It is the student's responsibility to inform the Student Advisor about his/her disability and to provide current, written documentation from a qualified professional, which validates the student's eligibility for academic accommodations. Documentation of a learning disability should be provided in the form of a report from a qualified professional that includes a diagnostic interview, specific assessment of aptitude, academic achievement, information processing, and a diagnosis. It is recommended that the diagnostic report also include specific recommendations for academic accommodations. The provision of reasonable accommodations and services will be based upon an assessment of the impact of the student's disabilities on his or her academic performance. Therefore, it is in the student's best interest to provide recent and appropriate documentation relevant to the learning environment.

Website- <http://fctc.edu/>

Main Campus: 2980 Collins Ave St. Augustine, Florida 32084 (904)547-3282

Palatka Campus: 146 Comfort Rd, Palatka, Florida 32177 (386) 326-9000

Barge Port Campus: 102 Port Rd, Palatka, Florida 32177 (386) 326-9000

### **University of Florida- Disability Resource Center**

If you would like to meet with a Disability Resource Center (DRC) staff member to review what accommodations and services are available or offered by the DRC, what documentation is required to register with the DRC, or to acquaint yourself with the office, please call our office at 352-392-8565 to schedule an inquiry appointment.

Jim Gorske  
Assistant Dean, Director  
Disability Resource Center  
[JimG@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:JimG@dso.ufl.edu)

Disability Resource Center  
001 Reid Hall  
(Located 1/8 mi. north of the intersection of SW 13th Street & Museum Road)

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>

## **Sante Fe College**

Building S, Room 229  
3000 NW 83rd St., Gainesville, FL 32606  
Voice/TTY (352) 395-4400; Fax (352) 395-4100  
**E-mail:** [disability.info@sfcollge.edu](mailto:disability.info@sfcollge.edu)

<http://www.sfcollege.edu/student/drc/>

## **Florida State University**

By providing support services at no cost to students with disabilities, the Student Disability Resource Center offers an opportunity for students to achieve their academic and personal goals. Students who are interested in receiving accommodations through the Student Disability Resource Center can access the application at [dos.fsu.edu/sdrc/registering-for-services/application](https://dos.fsu.edu/sdrc/registering-for-services/application).

Dr. Shelley Ducatt, Assistant Dean/Director, [sducatt@fsu.edu](mailto:sducatt@fsu.edu)  
(850) 644-9566

874 Transitions Way  
108 Student Services Building (first floor)  
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-4167

<https://dos.fsu.edu/sdrc/>

## University of Central Florida

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) views disabilities as an integral part of the rich diversity at the University of Central Florida. To that end, we work collaboratively with students, faculty, and staff to create an inclusive educational environment for students.

SAS acknowledges that classroom and campus accessibility needs and considerations are expanding as more classes and campus experiences incorporate online and technological components. We are happy to discuss any course or campus barriers that may be preventing access to education and an equitable campus experience for students.

### Contact

Adam Meyer, Director, [adam.meyer@ucf.edu](mailto:adam.meyer@ucf.edu)

4000 Central Florida Blvd.  
Ferrell Commons 7F Room 185  
Orlando, Florida 32816-0161

<http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/>

## Valencia College

East Campus	West Campus	Osceola Campus	Winter Park Campus
Bldg. 5, Rm. 216 Ph: 407-582-2229 Fax: 407-582-8908 TTY: 407-582-1222	SSB, Rm. 102 Ph: 407-582-1523 Fax: 407-582-1326 TTY: 407-582-1222	Bldg. 2, Rm. 102 Ph: 407-582-4167 Fax: 407-582-4804 TTY: 407-582-1222	Bldg. 1, Rm. 212 Ph: 407-582-6887 Fax: 407-582-6841 TTY: 407-582-1222

<http://valenciacollege.edu/osd/>

- *For additional schools that are not listed, disability resource office information is typically easily located on the college, university, or technical schools' websites.*

*Division of Blind Services Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library*

*Services (BBTBL)* ▲ ★

The Bureau of Braille and Talking Books Library is a free service for individuals who cannot use standard print reading materials as the result of a visual, physical, or reading disability. It is the largest library of its kind in the U.S., with a collection of more than 2.4 million items in braille and audio format, including cassette and digital recordings. In addition, the library also provides adaptive equipment, accessories, and other types of players on loan. Overall annual loans exceed 1.9 million items.

For local assistance, contact Sonia Howley, ESE Program Specialist  
(904) 547-7712, [sonia.howley@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:sonia.howley@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

The library is located at:

420 Platt Street  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114  
Phone: (800) 226-6075

Website- <http://dbs.myflorida.com/library>

A national non-profit dedicated to helping blind, visually impaired and dyslexic students succeed in education. Started in 1948 in the New York Public Library as Recording for the Blind, the organization utilized volunteers to record books for blinded veterans returning from WW II. We now offer the world's largest collection of human-narrated audio textbooks and literature as well as solutions, support and community for parents, teachers and students.

Test prep, popular fiction, classic literature, textbooks and study aids are a download away. Listen on computers, smartphones and other devices using accessible technology with page-level navigation, text highlighting and audio or speed adjustments.

Parents, school-aged students, college students, and teachers can all benefit from the resources of Learning Ally. There is no charge for Learning Ally in the K-12 setting. If a person is blind or visually impaired, call the 800 number below for a membership at no charge. If the student has a Learning Disability and is going to a college or university, check with the student services office to see if there is an agreement between the institution and Learning Ally. Additionally, you can check with Learning Ally to see which institutions of higher education have a contract with them for services at no charge.

## **Contact**

Mailing address:

20 Roszel Road  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

(800) 221-4792

<http://www.learningally.org/Home.aspx>

## High School High Tech



Florida High School High Tech (HSHT) is designed to provide high school students with all types of disabilities the opportunity to explore jobs or postsecondary education leading to technology- related careers. HSHT links youth to a broad range of academic, career development and experiential resources and experiences that will enable them to meet the demands of the 21st century workforce.

HSHT is a community-based partnership made up of students, parents and caregivers, businesses, educators and rehabilitation professionals. It has been shown to reduce the high school dropout rate and increase the overall self-esteem of participating students.

St. Johns County High School High Tech is based in one of our high schools every year. The location may change. Check the district's website for updates.

### **High School High Tech Staff Contact**

Susan Hamilton, HSHT Program Manager  
[shamilton@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:shamilton@arcjacksonville.org)

Janet Cunningham, HSHT Program Coordinator  
[jcunningham@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:jcunningham@arcjacksonville.org)

1050 N Davis Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32209  
Phone: (904) 355-0155

*DeafTEC- Technological Education Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Students* 

DeafTEC provides resources for high schools and community colleges that educate deaf and hard-of-hearing students in STEM-related programs.

Resources include:

- STEM career awareness
- Best practices for teaching students who are deaf/hard of hearing
- Instructional strategies and materials for teaching English and math
- Employer development

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

# Family Resources





Hope Haven's multi-disciplinary team provides excellence in educational, psychological and related therapeutic services for children, families and young adults with special needs.

### **Services**

- Counseling and Mental Health services
- Tutoring
- Occupational, physical, and speech/language therapy
- Assistive technology
- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Unique programming for students with Autism, Down Syndrome, ADD/ADHD

### **Contact**

Barbara Brutschty, [barbarab@hope-haven.org](mailto:barbarab@hope-haven.org)  
Director of Intake Services

4600 Beach Blvd  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: (904) 346-5100

Website- <http://www.hope-haven.org/>

University of Florida- Jacksonville Florida Diagnostic and Learning  
Resources System- Multidisciplinary Center 

*(UF- Jacksonville FDLRS-MDC)*

**UF- Jacksonville FDLRS is one of only six multidisciplinary centers in the state that provides:**

- Full psychological and developmental pediatric evaluations for children who have complex behavioral, developmental, medical, or social histories and are struggling in school
- Group trainings for educators, students, and other professionals
- Individual consultations for parents, educators, and other professionals

**UF- Jacksonville FDLRS services individuals who meet the following criteria:**

- Between the ages of 3-22
- Struggling in school due to complicated medical, behaviors, developmental and/or social histories
- Yet to complete high school
- Reside in Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, or St. Johns counties

**Contact**

Stephanie B. Holmes Kinnare, Ph.D  
Clinical Director  
(904)633-0113

UF College of Medicine- Jacksonville  
Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources System Multidisciplinary Center (UFJAX-  
FDLRS-MDC)  
6271 St. Augustine Road, Suite 1  
Jacksonville, Florida 32217  
Phone: (904) 633-0770

Website- [hscj.ufl.edu/pediatrics/diagnostic-and-learning-resources](http://hscj.ufl.edu/pediatrics/diagnostic-and-learning-resources)

**Core Services include:**

*Independent Living* - The ILRC assists consumers who have disabilities with skill development in areas such as money management, goal setting, accessing community transportation, utilization of equipment, and employment readiness. They can adapt skills training to meet the individual's goals and desires for achievement or continuation of independent living.

*Advocacy* - The ILRC assists consumers in self, individual, and systems advocacy. They have staff, which are knowledgeable, ADA Trainers. They can assist individuals, businesses, and other interested organizations in learning more about the American's with Disabilities Act in order to become ADA Compliant and Disability Friendly.

*Information Referral* - The ILRC acts as a clearing house for information to be provided to consumers to assist in living independently. The ILRC furnishes disability related information for consumers and the general public.

*Peer Counseling* - The ILRC offers ongoing peer support opportunities for groups and individuals with disabilities to support each other with information and experiences in order to facilitate independent living.

**Programs**

BROOKS Temporary Loan Closet  
Career Development  
Deaf Consumer Program  
Disabled Victims Advocate Program  
Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc.  
Interpreter Services  
Nursing Home Transition  
Peer Mentoring  
Work Incentives Planning and Assistance  
Youth Services

**Contact**

Margarita Maldonado, [margaritam@theilrc.com](mailto:margaritam@theilrc.com)

2709 Art Museum Drive  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Phone: (904) 399-8484

Website: <http://www.theilrc.com/Home.aspx>

## Jacksonville Health and Transition Services (Jax HATS)



The JaxHATS clinic is a "Medical Home" for youth, ages 16-26 with chronic medical or developmental problems in the counties of Duval, Nassau, Baker, Clay, and St. Johns in Florida. JaxHATS has a multi-disciplinary staff that includes a pediatrician, adult internal medicine specialist, nurse care coordinators and a transition specialist who provide primary medical care to address the young person's immediate medical needs. The JaxHATS team also works with youth over time, to help them gain the knowledge and skills they need to achieve their long term life goals. Services provided by JaxHATS are covered by Medicaid, Children's Medical Services and most other health insurance plans.

### **Services**

- Comprehensive intake, evaluation, health care planning
- Assistance securing health insurance coverage and other funding resources
- Referral to a reliable network of adult medical and surgical specialists
- Linkages to community providers in the following areas
  - High School, College and other secondary education
  - Vocational transition services
  - Community Integration
  - Social/recreational
  - Employment
- Training that
  - Supports the shift of responsibilities from parents to young adults
  - Prepares young adults to be active members of the health care team
  - Promotes the development of self-care skills and independence
- Collaborating Agencies
  - Duval County and other County Public Schools
  - State of Florida, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
  - Florida Community College in Jacksonville
  - ARC of Jacksonville
  - Hope Haven

### **Contact**

Chanda Jones, Transition Coordinator, [chanda.jones@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:chanda.jones@jax.ufl.edu)  
904-244-9233

Website- <http://hscj.ufl.edu/jaxhats/>

*SEDNET- The Multiagency Network for Students with  
Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities* 

Florida's statewide network of SEDNET projects serve as a collaborative resource for school districts, agencies, and families working to promote positive educational and community-based outcomes for children with E/BD.

**Services**

- Capacity Building
- Technical Assistance and Training
- Interagency Collaboration
- Education and Systems of Care; Legislation and Policy
- Parent and Youth Development and Involvement
- Trauma informed care

**Contact**

Carl Coalson, [cvcoalso@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:cvcoalso@volusia.k12.fl.us)

Atlantic High School, EDC Portable 3  
1250 Reed Canal Road  
Port Orange, Florida 32129  
Phone: (386) 255-6475  
Ext. 38332

Website- <http://www.sednetfl.info/Index.aspx>

## *Social Security Administration (SSA)*

The Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs are the largest of several Federal programs that provide assistance to people with disabilities. While these two programs are different in many ways, both are administered by the Social Security Administration and only individuals who have a disability and meet medical criteria may qualify for benefits under either program.

SSA helps individuals with disabilities achieve independence by helping them to take advantage of employment opportunities through:

- Ticket to Work
- Earned Income Exclusion
- Student Earned Income Exclusion
- Work incentive programs
- Working Incentive Planning and Assistance (WIPA)
- Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE)
- Individual Development Accounts (IDA)
- Plans to Achieve Self-Support (PASS)

### **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

The SSI program pays benefits to disabled adults and children who have limited income and resources.

### **Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)**

SSDI is not income based; monthly payments to people who have a disability that began before they became 22 years old.

#### **Contact**

2428 Old Moultrie Road  
St. Augustine, Florida 32086  
Phone: 1-877-405-5867

Website: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/>

Applications can be completed by appointment, online, or by telephone.

- The Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) can assist with benefits planning, especially related to employment.

## Medicare and Medicaid Services



There are 2 government funded medical insurance programs:

- **Medicare**- available to some individuals who receive Social Security Benefits
- **Medicaid**- is a federal medical insurance program administered by the state, designed to assist people with low income and little to no resources.

When you apply at the Social Security Administration office for Supplementary Security Income (SSI), they will help you enroll in the Medicaid program.

### **Contact**

Justin Senior, Deputy Secretary for Medicaid  
2727 Mahan Drive, Mail Stop #8  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308  
Phone: (850) 412-4000

### **Other Medicaid related links:**

Department of Children and Families- ACCESS

<http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/access-florida-food-medical-assistance-cash/medicaid>

Agency for Health Care Administration

<http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/>

## *The Family Cafe*

The Family Café exists to provide individuals with disabilities and their families with an opportunity for collaboration, advocacy, friendship and empowerment by serving as a facilitator of communication, a space for dialogue and a source of information.

The Family Café puts on an annual conference. Since 1998, The Annual Family Cafe has brought together thousands of individuals with disabilities and their family members for three days of information, training and networking each June.

Family Cafe has been able to affect the lives of over 100,000 individuals across the state through education, training and networking. Attendees enjoy the opportunity to collaborate with other families and state agency personnel to discuss their concerns, share best practices and gain a better overall understanding of how to utilize the service delivery system. Additionally, due to the participation of WellCare, Disability Rights Florida, AT&T, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Department of Education, The Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Division of Emergency Management, The Florida Department of Health/Big Bend Health Council, The Department of Health/Children's Medical Services Network, Workforce Florida, Publix Super Markets Charities, Amerigroup, United Health Care, and U.S. Military, the Family Café is able to offer free registration to the conference. Furthermore, attendees are able to apply for financial assistance to offset the cost of attending.

### **Contact**

The Family Café

519 North Gadsden Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Phone (850) 224-4670 - Toll Free (888) 309-CAFE - Fax (850) 224-4674

[info@familycafe.net](mailto:info@familycafe.net)

Website- <http://www.familycafe.net/>



Created by the Florida Legislature in 1990 (FS 413.615), the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, parent organization of The Able Trust, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public/private partnership. Its mission is to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment.

Vocational rehabilitation is the focus of The Able Trust's programs and grants. For every dollar invested in vocational rehabilitation, thirteen to twenty-six dollars are infused into the economy. Making funds available to persons with disabilities helps not only them, but also local and state economies.

The Able Trust supports a diversity of projects, including on-the-job coaching, supported employment, job skills-training, job development, employer outreach, ADA facility compliance, skills evaluation and programs leading to employment. The positive impact of The Able Trust's grant awards has been felt by non-profit agencies serving people with various disabilities, community colleges and individuals with documented disabilities.

### **Contact**

Allison Chase, VP of Youth Programs, [allison@abletrust.org](mailto:allison@abletrust.org)

3320 Thomasville Road  
Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308  
850-224-4493 Voice  
850-224-4496 Fax

Website- <http://www.abletrust.org/>

*Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC)*



The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council helps to plan individual and family-centered supports for persons with disabilities in Florida. The Council also guides the development and administration of services for people with developmental disabilities by planning and funding research, innovations, and programs designed to improve the quality of their lives.

The Council engages in state and national advocacy activities in support of legislation, policies, and programs responsive to the needs of people with developmental disabilities. As a member of the Consortium of Developmental Disabilities Councils, the Council is also committed to representing the diverse interests of Developmental Disabilities Councils and the people with disabilities that the councils were created to serve.

**Contact**

Sylvia James-Miller - Council Chair & Parent Advocate

124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-2981  
Phone: (850) 488-4180 or (800) 580-7801  
Fax: (850) 922-6702

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

## Family Network on Disabilities (FND)

Family Network on Disabilities is a national network of individuals of all ages who may be at-risk, have disabilities, or have special needs. The mission of FND is to strive for the complete integration and equality of persons with disabilities in a society without barriers and to serve families of children with disabilities, ages birth through 26, who have the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA. FND is a parent organization as defined in section 671(a)(2) of IDEA 2004.

### **Programs under FND**

- Parent Education Network (PEN),
- Family STAR (Support, Training, Assistance, Resources)
- The Jan La Belle Scholarship Program
- The Youth Advocacy and Action Project
- Special Needs Trust
- DADVOCATES
- Parent to Parent Support

### **Contact**

Marilyn Ruiz, [marilyn@fndfl.org](mailto:marilyn@fndfl.org)  
Director of Family Support, Training, Assistance, and Resources (STAR)  
P h o n e : (727) 523-1130

Nikki Torres, [nikki@fndfl.org](mailto:nikki@fndfl.org)  
Assistant Director, PSN- Parent Support Network  
Phone: 727-216-6961

Clara Alevy, [clara@fndfl.org](mailto:clara@fndfl.org)  
Parent Resource Specialist -Parent Education Network (PEN)  
P h o n e : 727-216-6961

Website- <http://fndusa.org/>

## Project 10- Transition Education Network

Project 10: Transition Education Network is Florida's statewide discretionary project supporting the secondary transition of youth with disabilities. It is funded by the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), within the Florida Department of Education. Project 10's primary charge is to assist school districts in providing appropriate planning and timely transition services and programs to assist youth with disabilities in their transition to adulthood. Project 10 also serves as a collaborative resource for other state agencies, discretionary projects, non-profit organizations, and families in the provision of transition services for students served in exceptional student education.

Transition representatives from Project 10 work closely with school district personnel within their region to identify the programmatic and training needs of each district, and assist them with meeting their goals in the area of secondary transition. 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology is used for on-going electronic communications via a transition listserv, "Transition Wheel" topics, the Project 10 website, and timely products and updates on transition issues. Project 10 collaborates in related state activities and provides support to the State Transition Steering Committee and District Interagency Councils. It also produces a number of products, supports pilot transition activities across the state, provides training and technical assistance services, and develops research-supported activities.

Project 10 is currently focusing on four major initiatives:

- Capacity building to implement secondary transition services
- Interagency collaboration
- Transition legislation and policy, and
- Student development and outcomes

These initiatives will help provide the training, technical assistance, and resources for personnel throughout the state who are working to improve the future success of students with disabilities.

### **Contact**

Carly Detlefsen, M.Ed, Regional Transition Representative, Region2

[cdetlefsen@usfsp.edu](mailto:cdetlefsen@usfsp.edu)

Project 10: Transition Education Network

University of South Florida - St. Petersburg

Mailing: 140 7th Ave. South - SVB 108

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Project 10 Main Number: 727-873-4654

## *Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Johns County*

Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers "Bigs" and children "Littles". They help develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

### **Services**

- School based mentoring
- Community based mentoring
- Forum for community ideas and activities for Bigs and Littles
- Various community activities and fundraisers

### **Contact**

Program Manager- Melissa R. – [melissar@bbbsstjohns.org](mailto:melissar@bbbsstjohns.org)

1400 Old Dixie Highway  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
Phone: (904)829-9986

## *Best Buddies Jacksonville*

Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

The IDD community that Best Buddies serves includes, but is not limited to, people with Down syndrome, autism, Fragile X, Williams syndrome, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and other undiagnosed disabilities.

Best Buddies is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with IDD. For individuals within this community, Best Buddies helps them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communications skills, and feel valued by society.

St. Johns County has several Best Buddies Chapters at our local middle and high schools. Contact your local school's chapter for more opportunities and information.

### **Contact**

Erika Hatch, Area Director, [ErikaHatch@bestbuddies.org](mailto:ErikaHatch@bestbuddies.org)

Mary Pippin and Jessica Gray- Program Managers, School Friendship

[MaryPippin@bestbuddies.org](mailto:MaryPippin@bestbuddies.org) [JessicaGray@bestbuddies.org](mailto:JessicaGray@bestbuddies.org)

4130 Salisbury Road, Suite 2200

Jacksonville, Florida 32216

Phone: 904.296.0510|Fax: 904.296.0511

Website- <https://bestbuddies.org/find-programs/florida/>

## *Children's Medical Services (CMS)*

Children's Medical Services is a collection of special programs for eligible children with special needs. We have a variety of services for expecting moms, newborn babies, infants and toddlers, school-aged children, adolescents and young adults. All of our services are provided by highly qualified physicians, nurses, social workers and other health care providers around the state. Through our family-centered programs, we make sure your child gets the care he or she needs.

Our specialty programs fall within several categories:

- Child Protection & Safety - for infants, children, and adolescents who have been alleged to be abused or neglected
- Child & Family Information - for families seeking information about parenting, family care and support, and overall well-being of your child
- Early Intervention / Child Development - for eligible young children whose development is behind their peers and the families of those children
- Newborn Screening - for expectant parents and parents of newborn babies

### **Contact**

Jacksonville Area Office

910 North Jefferson St.  
Jacksonville, Florida 32209-6810  
(800) 340-8354  
(904) 360-7070  
Fax: (904) 798-4568

Counties Served: Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns Counties

Website- <http://www.floridahealth.gov/AlternateSites/CMS-Kids/>

*Florida Diagnostic and Resource Learning System- Northeast Florida  
Educational Consortium (FDLRS-NEFEC)* 

The FDLRS network provides diagnostic and instructional support services to district exceptional student education programs statewide. FDLRS/NEFEC is an integral part of district efforts to provide quality services to the educational community through implementation of state educational goals and priorities.

Center activities focus on enhancement of learner outcomes, increased student achievement, partnerships between families and professionals, early childhood identification and evaluation, professional development, assistive and instructional technology and interagency collaboration. Services are available to district, agency, community and other personnel working with students with disabilities and their families.

FDLRS provides services under the following four functions:

- Child Find - Early Childhood Screening and Service Planning
- Human Resource Development (HRD) - Professional Development and Support for Teachers
- Parent Services - Partnerships between Families and Schools Training and Support
- Technology - Instructional, Assistive and Communication Technology Support and Training

Serving Baker, Bradford, Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns, and Union Counties, and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB).

**Contact**

Jennifer Middleswart, [middleswartj@nefec.org](mailto:middleswartj@nefec.org)

Website- <http://www2.nefec.org/fdlrs/>



Resources directly from the FDOE regarding secondary transition include:

- What transition planning is
- Contact information
- State laws and regulations
- Florida and national resources
- Technical assistance
- Related projects
- Employment first

Website- <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/secondary-transition.stml>

*Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf/Hard of  
Hearing (R/MTC-D/HH)* 

A statewide discretionary project of the FLDOE-BEESS, serves as the coordinating unit for accessible materials including captioned and signed videos, professional development books, and other reference materials. On-site training and technical assistance to school districts, families, and other professionals working with students who are deaf/hard of hearing. Services provided by request and at no cost to the school, district, or organization.

**Websites**

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

**Contact**

Cara Wilmot, [cara.wilmot@rmtcdhh.org](mailto:cara.wilmot@rmtcdhh.org)

1-800-356-6731

207 San Marco Avenue

St. Augustine, Florida 32084

# Employment





The Disability Resource Coordinator helps you access the services and programs that impact your ability to gain, return to, or retain employment and meet your career objectives. When you connect with a Disability Resource Coordinator, we can assist by:

- Giving you access to services at career centers
- Connecting you with other resources for disabled workers in the community
- Providing opportunities to meet with employers who are committed to hiring people with disabilities

### **Services**

- Career exploration
- Ticket to Work Employment Network
- Trainings/workshops
- Job search
- Resume writing
- Internships and job shadowing
- Summer employment

### **Connect with a Disability Specialist:**

[disabilityspecialist@careersourcenefl.com](mailto:disabilityspecialist@careersourcenefl.com)

### **Or visit the local office:**

CareerSource Northeast Florida  
525 SR 16, Ste 109  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
(904) 819-0231

Website: <http://www.careersourcenortheastflorida.com/Home.aspx>

## *Florida Abilities Work and Employ Florida Marketplace*



The goal of these two agencies is to assist adults with disabilities in finding quality jobs in the community. Job seekers are able to receive information on:

- Finding a job
- Creating a resume
- Education and Training
- Youth Services
- Senior Services

Collaboration occurs with:

- CareerSource
- Vocational Rehabilitation,
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities,
- Division of Blind Services,
- The Able Trust
- Brain Injury Association of Florida
- Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology
- Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
- Florida Department of Children and Families
- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Florida Department of Exceptional Student Education and Student Services
- Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
- Florida Independent Living Council
- Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc
- and other national resources for adults and youth with disabilities...

### **Websites:**

<https://www.employflorida.com/vosnet/Default.aspx>

<https://abilitieswork.employflorida.com/vosnet/Default.aspx#>

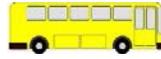
## Agencies and Employment



Please refer to the “Agencies” section for more information on employment. The agencies identified with the “  ” symbol also assist with helping adults and youth with disabilities train for and find various types of employment.

# Transportation





## **Sunshine Bus**

The Sunshine Bus, St. Johns County's public transportation service, operated in partnership with the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners. Please call Sunshine Bus Manager George Hesson at (904) 209-3716.

<http://www.sunshinebus.net/>

## **Mobility Resources**

The COA transportation department offers mobility resources and information regarding transportation services, direction on connecting with public transit networks throughout Northeast Florida, planning for driving retirement, travel training and driver safety courses. Please call George Hesson at (904) 209-3716 for more information.

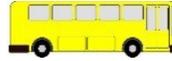
<http://www.coasjc.com/>

## **Para- Transit**

Paratransit services for residents who are transportation disadvantaged and/or are over 60 years of age. Call COA Transportation Services Manager Christy Sandy at (904) 209-3714 for more information.

<http://www.coasjc.com/>

## Jacksonville Transportation Authority



The Jacksonville Transportation Authority, an independent state agency serving Duval County, has multi-modal responsibilities. JTA designs and constructs bridges and highways and provides varied mass transit services. These include express and regular bus service, community shuttles for a neighborhood ride, a downtown Skyway monorail, the Trolley service, the Stadium Shuttle for various sporting events at Jacksonville Stadium, Paratransit for the disabled and elderly, and Ride Request on demand services.

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

### **JTA ADMINISTRATION**

121 W. Forsyth St., Suite 200

Jacksonville, FL 32202

**Phone** (904) 630-3181

**Fax** (904) 632-5218

### **Regional Travel Training**

The On the Move Regional Travel Training Program is a FREE service that will help you learn how to use the transportation options that are available to you.

The Travel Trainer will work with you in either a one-on-one or small group setting to teach you the travel skills that you will need to get where you need to go safely and independently. The Travel Trainer will work with you until you are capable and confident to travel your route on your own.

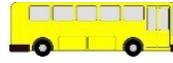
### **For more information and to sign up for travel training:**

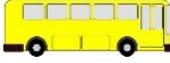
Call: 904-265-8940

Email: [jperez@mtm-inc.net](mailto:jperez@mtm-inc.net)

Website: <http://www.jtafla.com/riding-jta/getting-started/regional-travel-training/>

*Agencies and Transportation*



Please refer to the “Agencies” section for more information on transportation. The agencies identified with the  symbol also assist with helping adults and youth with disabilities plan for and utilize public transportation

# Housing



*St. Augustine Center for Living* 

St. Augustine Center for Living is a well-maintained facility situated on 14 wooded acres in beautiful St. Augustine, Florida that has provided lodging and activities for developmentally disabled adults since 1980.

The St. Augustine Center for Living's mission is to address all aspects of the personal, social and emotional development of the residents we serve with the assistance of professionals and direct care staff. It is our goal to provide each resident with the opportunity to attain as much personal independence and self-reliance as possible in the least restrictive environment, thus assuring that each resident reaches his/her maximum functioning potential.

The St. Augustine Center for Living is committed to delivering programs and services of a habilitative and rehabilitative nature that addresses the individual needs of developmentally disabled adults, who require supervision because of a demonstrated dependence concerning their inability to perform independent life-skills or social functions.

**Contact**

Bill and Karen Walters  
Phone: (904) 797-5027

E-Mail: [SACL01@bellsouth.net](mailto:SACL01@bellsouth.net)

Mailing Address:  
5155 U.S. 1, South  
St. Augustine, Florida 32086

Website- <http://staugcenterforliving.com/>



Persons with disabilities and their caregivers face many challenges in finding assistance. The Aging and Disability Resource Center ADRC HelpLine will work with you to find in-home care or community assistance programs. We have relationships with a number of agencies to give you support including, but not limited to, these listed below:

- Centers for Independent Living Resources such as Independent Living Resource Center Jacksonville and the Center for Independent Living in Volusia County
- The ARCs
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- National Council on Independent Living

### **Contact**

Susan Alevy, Director of Planning and Programs  
[Susan.alevy@myeldersource.org](mailto:Susan.alevy@myeldersource.org)

ADRC HelpLine Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Call: Local: 904.391.6699 Toll Free: 888.242.4464  
Hearing or visually impaired call Florida Relay Services at 7-1-1

Website - <https://www.myeldersource.org/>

## *The ARC Jacksonville Villages*



The Arc Jacksonville Village, located within eight miles of Atlantic Ocean beaches and 14 miles from the Jacksonville urban core, is surrounded by suburban leisure facilities, schools, libraries, public transportation and a bustling commercial corridor with a wide variety of job opportunities. This vibrant environment cultivates optimal independent living where residents are seen, treated and respected as adults. Residents determine their daily activities, coming and going as they please. The Arc Jacksonville Village lifestyle encourages independent living, promotes socializing and sharing among community members AND promotes community engagement to enjoy the educational, employment and recreational opportunities found in the thriving metropolitan Jacksonville area. The Arc Jacksonville Village provides residents opportunities to be a part of the Jacksonville community in a way that has previously not been possible. The Arc Jacksonville has several additional residential options available to suit the needs and lifestyles of residents.

### **Contact**

Dr. Crystal Makowski, C.R.C., Ed.D.  
Vice President, The Arc Jacksonville Village  
904.355.0155  
[cmakowski@arcjacksonville.org](mailto:cmakowski@arcjacksonville.org)

Website- <http://www.arcjacksonville.org/thearcvillage/>

## *The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition*



Founded in 2001, the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition is a statewide organization dedicated to fostering the development of supportive housing for various special needs populations, including: the elderly, veterans, young people aging out of the foster care system, persons with a disability, persons with mental illness, those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, ex-offenders, and other special needs populations.

The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition provides advocacy and education in order to increase housing opportunities for extremely low income persons with special needs. Over forty leading Florida organizations, providers and advocates of housing and services to special needs populations have come together as the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition (FSHC). Founded in 2001, the Coalition is committed to creating long-term, independent housing solutions for people with special needs in Florida.

### **Contact**

Debi Redding, Program Coordinator

Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition of St. Johns County, Inc

PO Box 3422

St Augustine, Florida 32085-3422

Phone 904-824-6623

Fax 904-824-6361

[homelesscoalition@comcast.net](mailto:homelesscoalition@comcast.net)

**Website-** <http://fshc.org/wp2/>

## *Other Housing Information*



### ❖ **U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development**

An agency that oversees federal programs designed to help Americans with their housing needs. HUD seeks to increase home ownership, support community development, and increase access to affording housing free from discrimination.

**Website-** <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states/florida>

### ❖ **St. Johns Housing Partnership**

The St. Johns Housing Partnership is committed to promoting safe, decent and affordable housing in north Florida. We do this by creating links between the public and private sectors on projects that create low- and moderate-income housing, rebuild neglected homes and neighborhoods, thus benefiting disadvantaged areas and enhancing community economic and social development.

Located at: 525 West King Street St. Augustine, FL 32084

**Website-** <http://www.sjhp.org/>

### ❖ **Habitat for Humanity, St. Johns County**

Equal housing opportunity for all persons, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, marital status, or disability, is a fundamental policy of Habitat for Humanity of St. Augustine/St. Johns County. Habitat for Humanity is committed to diligence in assuring equal housing opportunities and nondiscrimination to all aspects of its housing financing activities.

**Website-** <http://www.habitatstjohns.org/projects/>

## *Agencies and Housing*



Please refer to the “Agencies” section for more information on housing. The agencies identified with the “” symbol also assist with helping adults and youth with disabilities plan for their living needs.

<b>Student Services</b>			
Kelly Battell	Director for Student Services	904-547-7536	<a href="mailto:kelly.battell@stjohns.k12.fl.us">kelly.battell@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Jessica DeVoe	Executive Secretary	904-547-7797	<a href="mailto:jessica.devoe@stjohns.k12.fl.us">jessica.devoe@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Lin Biller	Coordinator for Student Services	904-547-7679	<a href="mailto:lin.biller@stjohns.k12.fl.us">lin.biller@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Dana Chapman	Confidential Staff Secretary	904-547-7598	<a href="mailto:dana.chapman@stjohns.k12.fl.us">dana.chapman@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Chris Stone	A.S.S.I.S.T. Liaison	904-547-7589	<a href="mailto:christopher.stone@stjohns.k12.fl.us">christopher.stone@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Jan Caban	Family Services Facilitator	904-547-7587	<a href="mailto:jan.caban@stjohns.k12.fl.us">jan.caban@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Kim McNickle	Family Advocate	904-547-7593	<a href="mailto:kim.mcnicke@stjohns.k12.fl.us">kim.mcnicke@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Yvonne Ross	District Social Worker	904-547-7513	<a href="mailto:yvonne.ross@stjohns.k12.fl.us">yvonne.ross@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Christina McKendrick	District Social Worker	904-547-7720	<a href="mailto:christina.mckendrick@stjohns.k12.fl.us">christina.mckendrick@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Leslie Shugart	Safe & Drug Free Schools/ Extended Day	904-547-7574	<a href="mailto:leslie.shugart@stjohns.k12.fl.us">leslie.shugart@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Laura Barkett	Mental Health Counselor	904-547-7757	<a href="mailto:laura.barkett@stjohns.k12.fl.us">laura.barkett@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Holly Arkin	Mental Health Counselor	904-547-7719	<a href="mailto:holly.arkin@stjohns.k12.fl.us">holly.arkin@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>

<b>Exceptional Student Education</b>		
<b>Staff</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Email</b>
Lisa Bell	Director for Exceptional Student Education, Legal Concerns/Cases, Budget/IDEA Grant Management, Purchasing/Contracted Service Billing, District Staffing Committee	<a href="mailto:lisa.bell@stjohns.k12.fl.us">lisa.bell@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Tina Kennon	ESE Department Coordinator, Legal Resolution Coordinator, DRC, 504 Issues, Discipline Committee/Manifestations, McKay Scholarship, OT/PT, AT	<a href="mailto:tina.kennon@stjohns.k12.fl.us">tina.kennon@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Lisa Thacker	Progress Monitoring, Access Points Curriculum, DRC, ASD, Brigance Fidelity Checks	<a href="mailto:lisa.thacker@stjohns.k12.fl.us">lisa.thacker@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
George Freeman	EBD, DRC, Restraint/Seclusion Reporting, Discipline Reporting, Behavior Specialists, Mental Health Counselors	<a href="mailto:george.freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us">george.freeman@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Helen Dimare	Gifted Services, Gifted Evaluation Coordination, Gifted Parent Advisory, Gifted Professional Development, Evaluation of Gifted Itinerant Teachers	<a href="mailto:helen.dimare@stjohns.k12.fl.us">helen.dimare@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Leigh Ann Hale	Transitions Services, CBI, InD, FSAA, SJCC, Diploma Options/Deferrals, Access Points Curriculum	<a href="mailto:leigh.hale@stjohns.k12.fl.us">leigh.hale@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Avery Greene	Hospital Homebound, VI, Extraordinary Exemptions from assessments, Private Instructional Personnel, OI, TBI, Virtual School, Surrogate Parents, Parent Advisory Committee	<a href="mailto:avery.greene@stjohns.k12.fl.us">avery.greene@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Sonia Howley	Speech/Language Impaired, Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Sign-language Interpreters	<a href="mailto:sonia.howley@stjohns.k12.fl.us">sonia.howley@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Lydia Yeoman	SLD, OHI, Instructional Programming for SWD, Accommodations, Learning Strategies, FSA, FSAA, EOC Waivers	<a href="mailto:lydia.yeoman@stjohns.k12.fl.us">lydia.yeoman@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Jill Bullard	ESE Executive Secretary	<a href="mailto:jill.bullard@stjohns.k12.fl.us">jill.bullard@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Sarah Coffin	ESE Confidential Staff Secretary	<a href="mailto:sarah.coffin@stjohns.k12.fl.us">sarah.coffin@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>
Lindsey Cooper	ESE Confidential Staff Secretary	<a href="mailto:lindsey.cooper@stjohns.k12.fl.us">lindsey.cooper@stjohns.k12.fl.us</a>