Patient and Family Resources: Autism

Introduction:
This resource guide brings together websites and support resources that have been recommended by patients and families who have faced an autism diagnosis, together with resources recommended by department staff.

“Don’t give up! Every day I would wake up and say, ‘We are going to find something today.’ Even if it’s a small victory, like having him put his shoes on, that got me to the next day. Every stage has given us hope. There’s always something you can do. They are so worth it!” –Suzanne, parent of two children with autism

Websites & Services:

- Mott Autism Department Website

- University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic

- State of Michigan Insurance Reform
  [http://michigan.gov/autism](http://michigan.gov/autism)

- University Center for Child and Family
  [http://mari.umich.edu/university-center-child-family](http://mari.umich.edu/university-center-child-family)
- HanenTalkAbility Program for Parents of Verbal Children on the Autism Spectrum (available through Washtenaw Intermediate school district
  http://aadl.org/node/234133)
  http://hanen.org/Programs/For-Parents/TalkAbility.aspx

- Autism Center: Children’s DMC
  http://childrensdmc.org/Autism

- Creating Brighter Futures
  http://creatingbrighterfutures.com

- Ann Arbor Center for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics
  http://aacenter.org

- PLAY Project
  http://playproject.org

- Sunfield Center for Autism, ADHD and Behavioral Health
  http://sunfieldcenter.com

- Judson Center
  http://judsoncenter.org/programs-and-services/autism-connections/services

- Spectrum Therapy Center Ann Arbor
  http://a2spectrumtherapy.com

- Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living
  http://annarborcil.org/about/
• Building Bridges
  http://bridgestherapy.com

• Kaufman Children’s Center for Speech, Language, Sensory-Motor, and Social Connections, Inc.
  http://kidspeech.com

• Kennedy Krieger Institute
  http://kennedykrieger.org

Support:
• Eastern Michigan University Autism Collaborative Center Parent Share Support Group http://emich.edu/acc

• Facebook Autism Discussion Page
  http://facebook.com/autismdiscussionpage?_rdr

• Michigan Autism Conference (Annual)
  http://michiganautismconference.org

• Ann Arbor Families for Autistic Children (A2FACES) Yahoo Support Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/A2FACES

Advocacy & Education:
• Autism Speaks
  http://autismspeaks.org

• Autism NOW
  http://autismnow.org
- Autism Alliance of Michigan  
  http://autismallianceofmichigan.org

- Autism Society of Michigan  
  http://autism-mi.org

- Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee for Special Education (AAPAC)  
  http://facebook.com/profile.php?id=188517707886408&_rdr

**Mobile Apps:**
- Tap to Talk  
  http://taptotalk.com

- My Job Chart  
  http://myjobchart.com/cobrand/autismspeaks

- Pyramid Educational Consultants (PECS) Apps  
  http://pecsusa.com/apps.php

- Boardmaker  
  http://boardmakeronline.com

- Autism Speaks Apps Database  
  http://autismspeaks.org/autism-apps

**UMHS Resources:**
- Patient Education Clearinghouse  
  http://www.careguides.med.umich.edu
  Type “autism” and hit “search”.

“Try to find parents to talk to! Through your school district, word of mouth or otherwise. And do not neglect your own need for support. It's overwhelming and heartbreaking and frustrating – take care of yourself.”

–Laura, parent of a child with autism