



# The Autism Response Team

(ART) is specially trained to connect people with autism, their families and caregivers to information, tools and resources. Contact ART for information on topics including:

[NEWLY DIAGNOSED](#) | [SCHOOL SUPPORT](#) | [TRANSITION TO ADULthood](#) | [LOCAL REFERRALS](#)

## Financial Planning

- Special Needs Financial Planning Tool Kit** is a comprehensive guide related to planning for the future
- Financial Planning App**
- List of additional **financial resources**, including information on ABLE accounts

## School Resources

- Guide to Individualized Education Program (IEP)** is an interactive, mobile-friendly, video-based resource for families in the community
- School Community Tool Kit** provides information about students with autism to promote understanding and acceptance at school
- Advocacy Tool Kit** includes information about advocacy at school and in the community and the importance of teaching self-advocacy skills to people with autism

## Transition to Adulthood

- Transition Tool Kit** provides information to help your child find their unique path to adulthood
- Community-based Skills Assessment** reviews the current skill levels and abilities of students with autism to help develop a unique, comprehensive plan
- Transition Roadmaps to Postsecondary Education, Housing and Residential Supports and Meaningful Employment**

## Safety Resources

The Autism Safety Project provides information, expert advice and resources on topics including:

- Safety in the Community** and in the Home
- Wandering Prevention** Resources
- Information for **First Responders** and Other Professionals

## Health, Behavior & Insurance

- Sleep, fitness and nutrition resources** provide strategies to improve sleep or fitness and help address feeding or other eating-related challenges
- Behavior Health Tool Kits** cover topics such as introduction to behavioral health treatments, applied behavior analysis (ABA) and challenging behaviors
- Medical Resources** cover strategies and information to consider when managing medication decisions, co-occurring decisions or medical visits and tests
- Insurance Tool Kits and Resources** aid in understanding of insurance options and access to coverage for autism services

## Adult Services

- Employment Resources** for job seekers, employers and parents
- Workplace Inclusion Now (WIN)** is our evidence-based employment system that builds and supports inclusive workplace culture
- Guide for Adults** provides an overview of autism, adult diagnosis resources and critical information about your rights as an adult on the spectrum
- Housing and Residential Supports Tool Kit** provides the tools needed to make housing choices

## Other Resources

- Community Integration Supports** on topics such as recreation activities, travel, dining out, religious communities and holidays/celebrations
- Family Supports** for parents, grandparents, siblings as well as friends
- Technology Resources** including tips for getting started with and using assistive technology devices
- Natural Disaster information**
- Grief and Bereavement** Supports
- And more at [autismspeaks.org](https://autismspeaks.org)

# 10 Ways the Autism Response Team Can Help

## 1. When you don't know where to start:

The Autism Response Team (ART) is specially trained to connect people with autism, their families and caregivers, as well as professionals, to information, tools and resources. Call, email or chat online at [autismspeaks.org](https://autismspeaks.org).

## 2. Find local services:

Do you need help finding local autism service providers in your area? ART can help you access the Autism Speaks Resource Guide, our online national database of service providers and resources searchable by state and zip code.

## 3. Learn the signs:

Are you concerned your child has a developmental delay? Trust your instincts and contact ART to learn how to connect with local Early Intervention resources. Early intervention services can make extraordinary differences in your child's development.

## 4. Find the right tools:

Contact ART to learn more about our Tool Kits! Autism Speaks Tool Kits provide information, timelines, strategies, and more on many topics relevant to the autism community. Examples include the *Challenging Behaviors Tool Kit*, *School Community Tool Kit*, *Special Needs Financial Planning Tool Kit* and more! Visit [autismspeaks.org/tool-kit](https://autismspeaks.org/tool-kit).

## 5. Newly diagnosed children:

Learn how to make the best use of the first 100 days after receiving a diagnosis! Families who have a child that has been diagnosed with ASD in the last 6 months can call ART to request a complimentary copy of our *100 Day Kit for Young Children or for School Age Children*.

## We're here to help.

Specialists are available by phone, email and chat from Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm all time zones in both Spanish and English.

(888) AUTISM2 | En Español (888) 772-9050

[help@autismspeaks.org](mailto:help@autismspeaks.org)

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## 6. Know your child's rights:

Looking for more information on your child's educational rights? Contact ART to learn more about the rights and entitlements of children and adults with autism. Resources are also available to help you prepare for your child's IEP meeting.

## 7. Stay informed:

ART can help you locate a wide variety of autism-related resources on our website. Resources are searchable by age group and topic, and cover everything from the first developmental concern to employment in later adulthood.

## 8. Parent support:

Sometimes managing the day-to-day challenges of living with autism is overwhelming and can be isolating! Today, it is estimated that 1 in 44 children is diagnosed with autism in the United States. Contact ART for help connecting with other families affected by autism.

## 9. Transition to adulthood:

Wondering how to start planning for your child's future? Contact ART to learn about our Transition Tool Kit and other resources to explore as you and your child with autism begin to plan for adulthood.

## 10. Adult services:

Connecting adults with autism to support services, resources and information is a priority for Autism Speaks. Contact ART for more information on local resources for adults with autism, including employment and housing information.