

## **Special Education Referral List**

### **1. Disability Rights California (non-profit)**

Provides a range of special education related services, including counsel and advice, representing clients in IEPs, compliance complaints and due process hearings to counties in the following areas:

Sacramento Regional: (916) 504-5800

Bay Area Regional: (510) 267-1200

Fresno Satellite Office: (559) 476-2000

Los Angeles Regional: (213) 213-8000

San Diego Regional: (619) 239-7861

### **Mostly provide advice over the phone, but sometimes take clients.**

Client is the person with the disability.

Note: services are free.

Best way to contact DRC is to call the toll-free number: (800) 776-5746 (Fridays from 9-5 or leave a voicemail and they will call you on Monday). They will direct the client to the appropriate regional office.

They start with providing people with counsel and advice (after they complete an over the phone intake) and then we may provide additional services depending on the client's resources, the issues involved, and other factors, including the merits of the case and staff availability. During the counsel and advice process, we help parents understand their children's rights and their administrative and legal options and we provide them with advocacy tips, resource materials and referrals as needed.

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/about/index.htm>

### **2. Counsel of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)**

This is a national member network of attorneys, advocates, parents and professional.

Does NOT provide direct legal services (i.e. individual advocacy or representation) to children or parents.

Is not able to accept or return calls regarding legal representation or advice.

Has a directory for parents to search and find lawyer near them at

<http://www.copaa.org/search/default.asp> -- but is not user friendly.

<http://www.copaa.org>

### **3. Exceptional Parents Unlimited (EPU) serves the counties of: Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, San Benito, Kern, Kings, Monterey, & Tulare.**

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

Phone: (559) 225-1102 or TOLL FREE (888) 774-8981

EPU serves as the Parent Training and Information Center for ten Central California counties and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs.

Assistance is available to families whose children receive or who may be eligible for special education services.

4. **Matrix Parent Network & Resource Center** serves the counties of Solano, Napa, Sonoma, and Marin by:

- Offering a Help Line at (800) 578-2592 Monday-Thurs (9am-2pm)
- Referrals of agencies and professionals and other useful information found at: <http://www.matrixparents.org/resources/referrals-2/>
- Parent Advisors that are parents of children with special needs that provide mentoring and support to help the parent calling build his or her advocacy skills.
- Email: [info@matrixparents.org](mailto:info@matrixparents.org)

5. **Parents Helping Parents (PHP)** provides Special Education Training and Information to the counties of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Joaquin.

Phone: (408) 727-5775 or TOLL FREE at (800) 578-4040 Email: [info@php.com](mailto:info@php.com)

6. **Rowell Family Empowerment of Northern CA (RFENC)** serves the counties of Tuolumne, Calaveras, Sacramento, Amador, Alpine, El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sutter, Colusa, Lake, Mendocino, Glenn, Butte, Yuba, Sierra, Plumas, Tehama, Trinity, Humboldt, Del Norte, Siskiyou, Shasta, Lassen, and Modoc.

Provides trainings and tools to help educate on disability rights

Phone: 530-226-5129 or Toll Free 877-227-3471

**NOTE:** They have a Redding office and a Chico office.

7. **Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK)** serving the counties of Imperial, San Diego, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Inyo, Mono.

Phone: 714-533-8275 or Toll Free at 866-828-8275; Email: [taskca@yahoo.com](mailto:taskca@yahoo.com)

TASK provides legal rights information, individual telephone assistance and peer support.

**Other Bay Area Resources:**

County	Organization	Number	Services
San Francisco	Community Alliance For Special Education serving members of the Bay Area special education community e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@caseadvo">info@caseadvo</a>	415-431-2285 ext. 2100	CASE provides these basic services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Free technical assistance consultations to families and professionals on special education rights, responsibilities and services regarding specific special education students or issues;</li> <li>•Direct representation by attorney and non-attorney advocates at Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings, due process mediations, and administrative</li> </ul>

	<p><a href="http://caseadvocacy.org">cacy.org</a> Other Locations: 1. Santa Rosa California Parenting Institute 3650 Standish Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95407 707/585-6108 Ext. 116 2. Hayward 680 West Tennyson Road, Rm 4 Hayward, CA 94544 510/783-5333 3. Fremont Youth &amp; Family Services 39155 Liberty Street, #E500 Fremont, CA 94537 510/574-2140 Map</p>		<p>hearings if necessary on behalf of students with disabilities and their parents; and,  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Training on special education rights and services to parents so they to can better advocate for appropriate special education programs and services on behalf of children with disabilities. For more detailed info go to:  <a href="http://caseadvocacy.org/services.html">http://caseadvocacy.org/services.html</a>  Their website has link for 10<sup>th</sup> edition of SERR at  <a href="http://caseadvocacy.org/2011_handbook_pdfs/504001Ch01.pdf">http://caseadvocacy.org/2011_handbook_pdfs/504001Ch01.pdf</a></li> </ul> </p>
<p><b>San Francisco</b></p>	<p>Support for Families of Children with Disabilities</p>	<p>Phone Line: 415-920-5040  E-Mail: <a href="mailto:info@supportforfamilies.org">info@supportforfamilies.org</a>  Location: 1663 Mission Street 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103</p>	<p>Phone Line and Drop-In Center Families and providers are encouraged to call, e-mail, or drop by our office to talk with Support for Families trained staff, Family Resource Specialists, to get information and referrals addressing their child’s needs. Because they are parents themselves, staff have experience dealing with systems and providing information and peer support.</p>

		<p>Hours of Operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.</li> <li>•Tuesday, Thursday: 12:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.</li> </ul>	<p>Assistance is available in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin.</p> <p>Also has an extensive lending library called the Joan Cassel Memorial Resource Library</p> <p>Located: 1663 Mission Street 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103</p>
<b>Alameda</b>	RCEB-Regional Center of the East Bay	<p><b>San Leandro Main Office</b> Creekside Plaza 500 Davis Street, Suite 100 San Leandro, CA 94577 (510) 618-6100</p> <p><b>Concord Office</b> Salvio Pacheco Square 2151 Salvio Street, Suite 365 Concord, CA 94520 (925) 691-2300</p>	<p><b>Eligibility:</b> An individual is eligible for regional center services if he or she has a developmental disability. Children - from birth to age three - who are experiencing or are at risk for a developmental delay / disability are also eligible, as are individuals believed to have at high risk of parenting a child with a developmental disability.</p> <p><b>Assessments for children and adults:</b> -call #, send application, family must send back with medical and school records stating disability, from there RCEB determines if assessment is needed.</p>
<b>Alameda (Fremont)</b>	CASE- Youth and Family	(510) 574-2140 or 2100	<p>Youth &amp; Family Services 39155 Liberty Street, #E500 Fremont, CA 94537</p> <p><b>Services provided:</b> Counseling for youth 18 and under and their families to help improve family relationships in times of stress of crisis. ◦Crisis intervention is available for Fremont and Newark youth and their families with issues of running away, truancy, and incorrigible behaviors.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦School-site counseling is available at over twenty Fremont Unified School District school sites.</li> <li>◦Counseling at the Fremont Police Department is available for Fremont youth involved with crisis or traumatic events, as well as for first-time juvenile offenders.</li> <li>◦Counseling for youth on probation and their families.</li> <li>◦Infant Toddler Program for families with children under 5 years of age.</li> <li>◦Alcohol and drug early intervention services are available to support youth ages 12-18 and their families struggling the impact of substance use and abuse.</li> <li>◦Parenting education</li> </ul>
<b>Marin</b>	<p>Matrix Parent Network Helpline serving counties of <b>Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma</b></p> <p>Their referral list: <a href="http://www.matrixparents.org/resources/referals-2/">http://www.matrixparents.org/resources/referals-2/</a></p>	<p>94 Galli Drive, Ste. C. Novato, CA 94949</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> (415) 884-3535</p> <p><b>Toll Free:</b> (800) 578-2592 (this is a helpline for referrals in addition to the link provided in the other column).</p>	<p>They offer person to person consultations, information packets, Help! sheets, workshops/trainings, support groups, a resource library, links to resources of other agencies, and more! For information about a specific disability, issue, or process, please start with our Information by Topic menu.</p> <p>By facilitating parent – professional partnerships, we work to improve educational results for all children.</p> <p>For families of children birth to three, our Family Resource Center serves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families whose little ones are in Early Intervention</li> <li>• Families whose children are eligible for PRRS – Prevention Resource and Referral Services</li> <li>• Anyone concerned about an infant’s or toddler’s development</li> </ul>
<b>San Mateo/</b>	Stanford Clinic	<b>e-mail:</b> youth.education@law	Represents youth and families in

<p><b>Santa Clara/ Alameda</b></p>	<p>(Youth and Education Law Project)</p>	<p>.stanford.edu <b>phone:</b> 650 723 4336</p>	<p>special education and school discipline matters, school reform litigation, policy research and projects, and other education-related advocacy.</p>
<p><b>County of San Mateo</b></p>	<p>Family Resource Center at Community Gate Path</p>	<p>650-259-0189</p>	<p>Provides parent-to-parent support, outreach, information, and referral services to families of children with special needs and disabilities.</p> <p>Facilitate support groups, prevention programs, parent mentors, education training and assistive technology support.</p>
<p><b>County of San Mateo</b></p>	<p>Legal Aid of San Mateo County (only serves San Mateo County) (non-profit)</p>	<p>To schedule an appointment to see a Legal Aid lawyer please call (650) 558-0915 or toll free (800) 381-8898. Office hours: Monday-Friday 9a.m. - Noon, 1p.m.-5p.m.</p> <p>(NOTE: They are not a hotline, no advice is given over the phone; just call to set up walk-in consultation).</p>	<p>We help parents that have children with disabilities and special needs access essential services including:</p> <p>Denial of CCS, Medical, and IHSS</p> <p>Giving advice and appointment based consultation for IEPs (note does not represent all IEPs)</p> <p>Sometimes file due process complaints of valid and able (did not want this listed since parents often demand this to be done when the merits are not there).</p> <p>See here for all of their legal services: <a href="http://www.legalaidsmc.org/getting-legal-assistance.html">http://www.legalaidsmc.org/getting-legal-assistance.html</a></p> <p>They also list other parent-support organizations in the south bay in this document under "Parent to Parent": <a href="http://www.legalaidsmc.org/uploads/1/6/5/5/16559712/resources_for_famili">http://www.legalaidsmc.org/uploads/1/6/5/5/16559712/resources_for_famili</a></p>

			<p><a href="#">es of children with special needs sept 2013.pdf</a></p> <p>Note:-Calling about IEPs, behavioral plans, alternative placements, etc.</p> <p>-Generally, if it is not a school discipline issue we will refer</p> <p>-Special Ed Law gives rights to parents. We do not represent parents.</p>
<p><b>Alameda/ Contra Costa/ Yolo</b></p>	<p>Disability Rights Education &amp; Defense Fund (DREDF)</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 510.644.2555 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:info@dredf.org">info@dredf.org</a></p>	<p>Will provide advice over the phone to guide parents through SPED process, but they don't take cases</p> <p>Offer bi-monthly workshops in Berkley for parents on SPED process and rights</p> <p><a href="http://dredf.org/programs/PTI.shtml">http://dredf.org/programs/PTI.shtml</a></p> <p>website has a lot of information that could be useful to caregivers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="http://dredf.org/">http://dredf.org/</a></li> <li>2. <a href="http://dredf.org/special_education/index.shtml">http://dredf.org/special_education/index.shtml</a></li> </ol> <p>List via county of CA parent training and info centers at: <a href="http://dredf.org/programs/PTI_CA_090108.pdf">http://dredf.org/programs/PTI CA 090108.pdf</a></p>