



# 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)

# The Autism Response Team

**Through one-to-one conversations by phone and/or online, the ART team, including bilingual (Spanish/English) associates and a Financial Access Specialist, provide a wide array of support and information on autism and autism-related programs and services.**

## ART – just a call, chat, email away

- Local community services and resources from an online Autism Speaks Resource Guide.
- Clinical and professional resources and best practices on important topics including early diagnosis, autism-related medical conditions, transition to adulthood, employment, financial planning, and more.
- Sign-up assistance for any online presentations on topics of major concern.
- Financial tools regarding disability rights, benefit eligibility, insurance coverage, future planning and direct communication with an ART financial specialist.

## ART by the numbers

- ART has responded to over 535,000 requests for assistance since 2007.
- ART responded to more than 70,000 inquiries in 2021 alone.
- ART is comprised of 10 associates, including four bilingual associates and one specialized financial access associate.
- 100% of all phone calls and emails receive personalized responses with up-to-date information and resources.
- Associates are available from 9am – 5pm local time zone nationwide.

## About Autism Speaks

### OUR MISSION

Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the life span, for the needs of people with autism and their families. We do this through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions. Through partnerships and collaboration, we are committed to:

- Increasing global understanding and acceptance of people with autism
- Being a catalyst for life-enhancing research breakthroughs
- Increasing early childhood screening and timely interventions
- Improving the transition to adulthood
- Ensuring access to reliable information and services throughout the life span