



# Empower Autism

## 2013 WNC Resource List

**\*Disclaimer:** This list is for reference purposes only. Empower Autism is not necessarily endorsing any of these providers, nor have we checked anyone's credentials. This list is a work-in-progress. Please contact us if you'd like to add something, or if a listed service is no longer available.

THANK YOU.

Sylvia van Meerten

Empower Autism

Sylvia@empowerautism.com

### Adulthood

1. WNC Asperger's Adults United: Aspergers/Autism meetup group for adults.  
828-319-1017  
[www.meetup.com/AspergersAdultsunited](http://www.meetup.com/AspergersAdultsunited)
2. GRASP: Global and Regional Asperger's Syndrome Partnership. We have a branch in Asheville that meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at the Firestorm Café at 3pm.  
[www.grasp.org](http://www.grasp.org)  
[www.meetup.com/GRASPAshville](http://www.meetup.com/GRASPAshville)
3. Empower Autism: coaching and mentoring for people who want help with college, job hunting or job changing, or want some support with their living arrangements and other adulthood logistics.  
828-458-0313  
[www.EmpowerAutism.com](http://www.EmpowerAutism.com)
4. Talisman Transitions: education and vocational training, college support, daily and independent living skills for people 18-24 years old.  
828-697-1113
5. TEACCH: Adult Diagnostics, Individual Counseling and some support groups.  
828-251-6319
6. LaunchPad: Linda Tatspaugh does young adult coaching.  
828-779-2635  
[www.yacoach.net](http://www.yacoach.net)
7. Catherine Faherty: works with adults in their homes on organizational strategies, communication support, and self-advocacy training  
[www.catherinefaherty.com](http://www.catherinefaherty.com)

### Assessments (Diagnostic and Developmental)

1. Olson Huff Center: Offers integrated medical, behavioral and rehabilitation services  
828-213-1780  
[www.missionchildrenshospital.org/huffcenter](http://www.missionchildrenshospital.org/huffcenter)

2. North Carolina Early Intervention Branch (NCEI) has 18 Children's Developmental Services Agencies (CDSA's) that help families with young children with special needs (birth to 3 years old). CDSA's vary by county.  
Buncombe County: 828-251-6091  
<http://www.beearly.nc.gov/index.php/>
3. TEACCH: Treatment and Education of Autism and related Communication-handicapped Children—A Diagnostic and Education Center.  
828-251-6319  
[www.teacch.com](http://www.teacch.com)
4. Martha Perry, PhD  
[spectrumDr@yahoo.com](mailto:spectrumDr@yahoo.com)

### **Early Intervention**

1. TEACCH: Treatment and Education of Autism and related Communication-handicapped Children—A Diagnostic and Education Center.  
828-251-6319  
[www.teacch.com](http://www.teacch.com)
2. North Carolina Early Intervention Branch (NCEI) has 18 Children's Developmental Services Agencies (CDSA's) that help families with young children with special needs (birth to 3 years old). CDSA's vary by county.  
Buncombe County: 828-251-6091  
<http://www.beearly.nc.gov/index.php/>
3. St. Gerard House: a non-profit ministry in Hendersonville, NC, that offers evidence-based treatment for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), learning disabilities, developmental delays, and behavioral health needs. ABA Preschool.  
(828) 693-4223  
<http://stgerardhouse.com/>
4. Centering on Children: in addition to a lot of other cool things, they make Shoe Box Tasks for cultivating pre-academic task and organization skills.  
[www.shoebotasks.com](http://www.shoebotasks.com)
5. Interact Speech Therapy: intensive early intervention, individual and group therapy  
[www.interactspeechtherapy.com](http://www.interactspeechtherapy.com)

### **Family Support**

1. Autism Society of North Carolina: Provides free workshops for families, parent support groups, free parent advocacy, as well as state funded and private pay services  
[www.autismsociety-nc.org](http://www.autismsociety-nc.org)  
828-236-1547
2. Family Support Network: offers a free library, one-to-one family mentoring, parent workshops and support groups  
828-213-0033  
[www.familysupportnetworkWNC.org](http://www.familysupportnetworkWNC.org)

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3. TEACCH: Treatment and Education of Autism and related Communication-handicapped Children—A Diagnostic and Education Center.  
828-251-6319  
[www.teacch.com](http://www.teacch.com)
4. F.I.R.S.T: a community parent resource center offering unique education and support for families of children with disabilities for all the stages of life, from preschool to school age to young adult to adult.  
828-277-1315  
<http://www.firstwnc.org/>
5. Autism Consulting and Training, Inc: provides in-home educational services to children affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders in Asheville, NC and provides parent training and support throughout the United States.  
305-793-8280  
[www.AshevilleAutism.com](http://www.AshevilleAutism.com)
6. ECAC (Exceptional Children's Assistance Center): lots of parent info, IEP partners, behavior support, all free of charge.  
828-225-1972  
[www.ecac-parentcenter.org](http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org)
7. Suzanne Hosch, Consultant and Special Ed teacher:  
828-215-3625

**In-Home Programs:** Many families with autism find that creating systems at home can organize life for them and their child. Several practitioners can help you design a home program.

8. Empower Autism: a high quality, affordable option for home-programs, mentoring, and tutoring that fit your family patterns.  
828-458-0313  
[www.EmpowerAutism.com](http://www.EmpowerAutism.com)
9. Autism Consulting and Training, Inc: provides in-home educational services to children affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders in Asheville, NC and provides parent training and support throughout the United States.  
305-793-8280  
[www.AshevilleAutism.com](http://www.AshevilleAutism.com)
10. Catherine Faherty: Works in homes with children, parents, and autistic adults on with communication, self-understanding, self-advocacy, and organizational strategies  
828-251-6319  
[www.CatherineFaherty.com](http://www.CatherineFaherty.com)
11. The P.L.A.Y project: This Home Consultant Program provides training and support for families of young children (18 months to 6 years) with autism right in their home. Our trained consultants teach parents techniques that are effective, fun, and useful in day-to-day interactions with their child with autism.  
[www.firstwnc.org/projectPlay](http://www.firstwnc.org/projectPlay)  
828-277-1315
12. WNC Best: a private organization whose goal is to provide science based intervention for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.  
828.778.BEST  
[www.wncbest.org](http://www.wncbest.org)

13. Autism Society of NC: Offers private pay direct care (one to one) services in the home  
[www.autismsociety-nc.org](http://www.autismsociety-nc.org)  
828-236-1547

**In-Office Therapy (Talking, Behavioral, Occupational, Physical and Speech):**

6. Olson Huff Center: Offers integrated medical, behavioral and rehabilitation services, including behavioral, occupational, physical, and speech therapy.  
828-213-1780  
[www.missionchildrenshospital.org/huffcenter](http://www.missionchildrenshospital.org/huffcenter)
7. Asheville Counseling & Wellness Center: biofeedback, neurofeedback, massage, chiropractic etc  
828-254-0749  
[www.ashevillecounselingandwellnesscenter.com](http://www.ashevillecounselingandwellnesscenter.com)
8. Skyland Behavioral Health: offers evaluations, psychotherapy and medication management services for individuals, couples, and families with learning, attentional, emotional, relationship, and behavioral issues.  
(828) 252-2501  
[www.skylandbha.com/site/](http://www.skylandbha.com/site/)
9. Interact Speech Therapy: intensive early intervention, individual and group therapy  
[www.interactspeechtherapy.com](http://www.interactspeechtherapy.com)
10. Laurie Kozar, MS, LPCA, NCC: Counseling Individuals with special needs and their families. Life concerns, transitions, grief and loss.  
828-785-2067  
[lakozar@gmail.com](mailto:lakozar@gmail.com)
11. Martha Perry, PhD: Individual and family therapy with specialization in ASD's, school performance, behavioral issues, parenting, and advocacy.  
[SpectrumDr@yahoo.com](mailto:SpectrumDr@yahoo.com)

**State Funded Services and Innovations Waiver** (one-to-one help, respite, crisis care etc). Call these places first, and they explain your options and potentially authorize you for specific services. They will put you in touch with other agencies called 'providers' who actually perform the one-to-one help etc.

1. Western Highlands (for ages 3 and up in Buncombe and surrounding counties)  
1-800-951-3792  
[www.westernhighlands.org](http://www.westernhighlands.org)
2. Smoky Mountain Center (for ages 3 and up in western counties)  
1-800-849-6127  
<http://smokymountaincenter.com/>
3. Autism Society of NC: provides a variety of one-to-one services, staff training etc.  
828-236-1547  
[www.autismsociety-nc.org](http://www.autismsociety-nc.org)
4. Turning Point Services: direct care services in the community and in the home  
828-298-2100  
<http://www.turningpointservicesinc.com/>
5. NC Mentor: The Mentor Network. Intensive In-Home services, Day Treatment, and other direct care services.  
828-258-0031  
[www.nc-mentor.com](http://www.nc-mentor.com)

## Recreation

1. Dragonfly Forest: After-school recreation clubs designed to be accessible for kids with autism  
828-458-0313  
[www.dragonflyforest.org](http://www.dragonflyforest.org)
2. Blue Ridge Treks: Blue Ridge Treks is an experiential program designed to enhance physical and psychological health and wellness.  
828-707-5751  
<http://www.blueridgetreks.com/>
3. City of Asheville Therapeutic Recreation: City-run recreation programs including day camp, dances, clubs, and more.  
(828) 259-5483, 828-775-3153  
[www.ashevillenc.gov/Departments/ParksRecreation/Recreation/TherapeuticPrograms.aspx](http://www.ashevillenc.gov/Departments/ParksRecreation/Recreation/TherapeuticPrograms.aspx)
4. Buncombe County 'Every Child' After-School: offers inclusive small group afterschool supervision to 5-12 year olds with intellectual/developmental differences.  
828-243-6033  
[www.arcnc.org/everychild](http://www.arcnc.org/everychild)
5. Camp Lakey Gap: Overnight camp for children and adults with autism  
828 669-8977  
<http://www.christmount.org/camplakeygap/>
6. Talisman Summer Camp: overnight camp for high-functioning autism and aspergers  
828-697-6313  
[www.talismancamps.com](http://www.talismancamps.com)
7. For other summer camp ideas, please see the Family Support Network's summer camp guide

## School

1. Asheville City Schools, Exceptional Children Department: provides special education and related services for eligible children, ages 3 to 21.  
828-350-6129  
<http://www.ashevillecityschools.net/depts/ec/Pages/default.aspx>
2. Buncombe County Schools, Special Services: provides special education and related services for children ages 3 through 21 who have been determined eligible for special education services by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team.  
828.255.5971  
<http://www.buncombe.k12.nc.us/Page/181>
3. St. Gerard House: St. Gerard House is a non-profit ministry in Hendersonville, NC, that offers evidence-based treatment for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), learning disabilities, developmental delays, and behavioral health needs. ABA Preschool.  
(828) 693-4223  
<http://stgerardhouse.com/>
4. Talisman Academy: Boarding school for students in 7th-12<sup>th</sup> Graders with Asperger's Syndrome. Also includes Talisman Transitions: Young Adult independent living for ages 18-24.  
828-697-1113  
[www.talismanacademy.com](http://www.talismanacademy.com)
5. Catherine Faherty: Classroom and School consultation and training  
[www.catherinefaherty.com](http://www.catherinefaherty.com)

**Medical**

1. Olson Huff Center: Offers integrated medical, behavioral and rehabilitation services  
828-213-1780  
[www.missionchildrenshospital.org/huffcenter](http://www.missionchildrenshospital.org/huffcenter)
2. Skyland Behavioral Health: offers evaluations, psychotherapy and medication management services for individuals, couples, and families with learning, attentional, emotional, relationship, and behavioral issues.  
(828) 252-2501  
<http://skylandbha.com/site/>

**Other**

- 1 Autism Pride Week Event: The first in the world, right here in Asheville. June 16-22, 2013. Pig roast, film fest, speakers, etc.  
[www.autismprideweek.org](http://www.autismprideweek.org)
- 2 Social Story Writing Support and Training from Catherine Faherty  
828-683-8484  
[www.CatherineFaherty.com](http://www.CatherineFaherty.com)
- 3 Special needs child care and adult care (potentially including overnights). 10 years of experience, great at visual communication, not afraid of meltdowns.  
Jen Oskins  
760-333-6620