

UWL's Resource Guide for Families of Children with Exceptionalities

This resource sheet was created in part because of the efforts of students in UWL's SPE 440 class. The resource guide is dedicated to the parents and caregivers in our community who are doing an exceptional job raising their exceptional children! The resource guide is meant to help you refrain from "dumpster diving" for resources and better connect you with resources in our community.

Before navigating this guide, here are some tips.

1. If you are new to needing these services, helpful terms to use when searching for services (outside of this guide) are recreation, therapy, and respite care.
2. Also, consider searching specific disabilities such as Autism or Down Syndrome. The resources from these specific can be beneficial for many disabilities.
3. If organization/business has a Facebook page an "FB" will be listed at the end.

1. Therapy:

- Occupational Therapy
 - Sensory Integration Therapy
<http://www.dsaw.org/data/sites/3/media/resources/sitherapistswi.pdf>
 - Wisconsin Early Autism Project (WEAP)- Multiple locations across Wisconsin <http://www.wiautism.com/seniors.php>
 - Paquette Therapy (MNRI Core Specialist) – paquettetherapy.mnri@gmail.com
- Physical Therapy
 - UWL Motor Development Program- one on one instruction
<https://www.uwlax.edu/CDHAPA/Children-s-Motor-Development-Program/>
 - Physical Activity Mentoring Program- matches college student with person with disability ages five and above
<https://www.uwlax.edu/physical-activity-mentoring/>
 - SMILES: Therapeutic Horseback Riding N2666 County Rd. K Darien, WI 53114 <http://www.smilestherapeuticriding.org/>
 - Horse Sense: Programs that provide multiple benefits for individuals with physical, cognitive or psychological disabilities. Students will also gain

confidence by mastering riding skills and in the process will find new friends in the horses, instructors, volunteers, and other students.
Phone: (608) 791-4868 email: info@hssr.org

- iCan :Provides biking programs for individuals with disabilities.
(Specifically biking in La Crosse, WI) <http://icanshine.org/programs/>
- Music Therapy
 - Wisconsin Chapter for Music Therapy- numerous Wisconsin locations
<http://www.musictherapywisconsin.org/findatherapist/>
 - Life In Harmony Music Therapy, LLC: They offer individual and group therapy sessions, adaptive music lessons, and music enrichment classes and group lessons.
 - 860 N. Mill Street, Suite #2, West Salem, WI 54669
Phone: [\(608\) 799-4860](tel:6087994860) <http://lihmt.com/>
- Feeding Therapy
 - Gundersen Feeding Therapy
<http://www.gundersenhealth.org/outpatient-rehabilitation-services/pediatric-therapies>
- Vision Therapy
 - La Crosse Vision Therapy academy <http://visiontherapyacademy.com/>
- Play Therapy
 - Beyond Boundaries of Autism (BBA)- All disabilities, one on one play therapy teaching daily living skills and social skills
<http://www.agnesian.com/locations/complementary-locations/treffert-center/autism-services/agnesian-beyond-boundaries-of-autism>

2. Social Networks and Opportunities for Children:

- Special Olympics- numerous sports
<http://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org/who-we-are/regions/region-6-south-central/>
- YMCA Miracle League- Baseball team
<http://wcblind.org/index.php/resources?sid=9380:Miracle-League-Baseball-YMCA-La-Crosse->
- YMCA adaptive swim- Swimming lessons <http://www.laxymca.org/>
- Children's Museum of La Crosse: Provides education to children in a fun way. Can provide sensory equipment, picture cards, etc. if requested. 207 5th Ave S, La Crosse, WI 54601 Phone: [\(608\) 784-2652](tel:6087842652) <http://www.funmuseum.org>

3. Academic Supports:

- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/>
- Pre College Tutoring (MARC) (UW-L) <https://www.uwlax.edu/Multicultural-Student-Services/Pre-college-summer-programs/>
- School Express: Has special needs tutoring for various subjects from numerous different tutors. http://www.schoolexpress.com/la_crosse_wi_special_needs_tutors.php

4. Transition to Work:

- Wisconsin transitions services-free seminars and support www.witig.org
- Let's get to work-Education videos and coaching team www.letsgettoworkwi.org
- Enhanced Driving Institute of the Coulee Region: Provides driving experience for those who have autism. 1288 Ruby Street Onalaska, Suit 110, WI 54601
Phone: [\(608\) 406-0231](tel:6084060231) www.edi-wi.com

5. Other Supports for Parents:

- La Crosse Area Autism Foundation-providing resources for families who are touched by autism www.laxautism.org
- Chileda – provide residential and day school for individuals with cognitive challenges and extraordinary behavioral needs www.childea.org
- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Advice Parents (Autism Interviews)-YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLambIxavELhZ972xcpY5bBcgbaSxwdvE>
- This is a great site to explore for numerous support groups within the La Crosse, WI area. On this site, there is a list of medical centers, support groups, emergency resources, employment assistance, financial resources, and so much more. The great thing about this resource is there is contact information and website for every service provided <http://www.adrcww.org/Docs/Community%20Link%20La%20Crosse%202014-4.pdf>
- Catholic Charities of La Crosse - Disability Services- Services to prevent out-of-home placements of participants with developmental disabilities
<http://cclse.org/disability-services/>

- This website is a great resource for viewing the types of resources that parents could access and the vocabulary used to describe the different types of services offered! <https://communicationinnovations.com/>.
- Wisconsin First Step: A 24/7 hotline for parents of children who have special needs. Everyone at this hotline is a parent specialist. Phone: [800-642-7837](tel:8006427837) www.mch-hotlines.org
- Parent to Parent of Wisconsin ([1-888-266-0028](tel:18882660028)) <http://www.p2pwi.org>
- Respite Care www.fcconline.org/seeking-help/for-children/community-respite-program/ (La Crosse area) or www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/humanservices/childrenAndYouthServices.asp

**Questions may be directed to UWL's SPE 440 instructor, Dr. Leslie Rogers (lrogers@uwlax.edu)