2016
TRANSITION EXPO

Resource Directory of
Local, State, & Federal
Community Agencies Servicing
Individuals with Disabilities

April 6, 2016

Hosted by:
Tempe Union High School District
Mesa Unified School District
With Special Thanks

The Tempe Union High School District and Mesa Public Transition Team Committee acknowledges and thanks the following people and organizations for their generous contributions to this event:

- **Tempe Union High School District** for the use of their facilities, planning meetings and hosting the Transition Expo.
- **Mesa and Tempe Union School Districts** for the collaborative efforts to make this event a reality.
- Thank you to **Costco, Harkins Theater, Albertson’s, Papa John’s Pizza, Sam’s Club, In-N-Out Burger, McDonald’s,** and **Native New Yorker** for their generous donations.

Thank you to all of the following members of the 2014 Transition Expo Planning Committee, we give special recognition for their hard work and dedication on behalf of all students in transition:

- Anne Herold
- Dave Cecil
- Kristin Werth
- Lori Fragoso
- Sarah Maul
- Adrienne Ikeler
- Deborah Goddard
- Elizabeth Elston
- Ginger Brown
- LaNette Lange
- Sheri Wakefield
- Kelly Nelson
- Regina Mayes
- Jennifer Murphy
- Anne Yetter
- Jeffrey Richards
- LaTanya Edinburgs
- Roberto Matiella
- Sherri Hoffman
- Anthony Baio
- Donna Baker
- Esperanza Reyes
- Jon Hendrikse
- Paula Carman
- Joanne Cloutier
- Jennifer Leon
- Kristin Corbett
- Nita Atkins

_The Tempe Union High School District and Mesa Public Schools_ fully support informed selections of transition services. The committee does not necessarily endorse services provided by the presenters listed in this directory.
Breakout Sessions

Tempe Union High School District and Mesa Public Schools are pleased to have five breakout sessions this year that address common areas that families have indicated a need for more information. The guest speakers and their presentation abstracts are listed below. Our breakout sessions are located in Building E (STEM). The breakout session information is as follows:

5:45 PM – 6:15 PM

**Classroom E103**
Voting Rights
*Speaker: Renaldo Fowler, Senior Special Education and Voting Rights Advocate, Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL)*
This session will include a training for persons with disabilities who want to learn about their voting rights. Learn the answers to: How do I register to vote? Where do I go to vote? Can I vote if I have a guardian? Can I vote if I live in a group home? How do I use a voting machine? Who do I call if my polling place is inaccessible to me?

**Classroom E105**
Turning 18 – Legal Options
*Speaker: Leslie Williams, Raising Special Kids*
Learn about the different legal options families should consider when their child becomes an adult at the age of 18. Become familiar with the steps of the guardianship process. Participants will learn how they can stay involved in decision-making with schools, doctors and other professionals.

**Classroom E104**
The Graduation Cliff
*Speaker: Dr. Erica McFadden, researcher at ASU*
In this session, Dr. McFadden will present strategies to overcome barriers to employment. In 2015, Dr. McFadden completed research with several school districts in Arizona. Her research has identified valuable resources to assist students, parents, teachers and community stakeholders in developing a seamless and transparent transition process.
6:20 PM – 6:50 PM

**Classroom E103**  
**Federal Discrimination Laws**  
*Speaker: Jeremy Yubeta, Enforcement Supervisor, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)*  
This session will include a brief overview of the federal discrimination laws in the workplace. Mr. Yubeta will explain what is illegal discrimination in the workplace, with an emphasis on applicant and employee rights and responsibilities. The most important part of this session will be answering questions from the participants.

**Classroom E105**  
**Turning 18 – Legal Options**  
*Speaker: Leslie Williams, Raising Special Kids*  
Learn about the different legal options families should consider when their child becomes an adult at the age of 18. Become familiar with the steps of the guardianship process. Participants will learn how they can stay involved in decision-making with schools, doctors and other professionals.

**Classroom E104**  
**An Overview of Special Needs Planning**  
*Speaker: Cliff Shnier, SilverTree Special Needs Planning*  
This session will cover Legal Documents, including Wills, Family Trusts, Special Needs Trusts, etc.; Guardianship; Social Security and AHCCCS (Medicaid) benefits; Budgeting and Financial Planning for your child’s future; and Instructions to future caregivers for the Lifestyle you want for your child. Attendees will leave with a general understanding of all components of a complete special needs plan, to assure their loved ones and their future caregivers a smooth transition, security, and quality of life. This is the place to start getting answers to the questions that keep you up at night.
A transition checklist can be used to assist you with identifying services. Keep in mind your child is unique, the timeframe and services will need to be adjusted to meet the individual needs of the student.

**Transition Planning Checklist**

**7th-8th grade**

- Introduce and discuss transition services with parents and student.
- Notify parents that transition services will be incorporated into the IEP, beginning at age 15.
- Initiate vocational assessment
- Develop and implement strategies to increase responsibilities and independence at home.
- Identify personal learning styles and the necessary accommodations if the child is to be a successful learner and worker.
- Identify career interests and skills, complete interest and career inventories, and identify additional education or training requirements.
- Explore options for post-secondary education and admission criteria.
- Consider the need for residential opportunities, including completing applications, as appropriate.
- Identify interests and options for future living arrangements including supports.
- Teach the student how to explain his or her disability and the necessary accommodations.
- Investigate assertive technology tools that can increase community involvement and employment opportunities.
- Broader the child's experiences with community activities and help him or her form friendships.
- Pursue and use transportation options such as bus, dial a ride, or light rail.
- Investigate money management and identify necessary skills.
- Acquire identification card and the ability to communicate personal information.
- Identify and begin learning skills necessary for independent living.
- Learn and practice personal health care.

**9th-10th Grade**

- Identify community support services and programs (vocational rehabilitation, county services, centers for independent living, etc.).
- Invite adult service providers, peers, and others to the IEP transition meeting.
- Begin exploring recreation/community leisure activities
- Match career interests and skills with vocational course work and community work experiences.
- Involve state vocational rehabilitation agencies, as appropriate within two years of school exit.
- Gather more information on post-secondary programs and the support services offered, and make arrangements for accommodations to take college entrance exams.
- Assure that copies of work-related documents are available:
  - Social security card
  - Birth certificate
  - Working papers (if appropriate)
  - Identify health care providers and become informed about sexuality and family planning issues.
  - Consider summer employment or volunteer experience.
  - Determine the need for financial support (Supplemental Security Income, state financial supplemental programs, Medicare).
  - Learn and practice appropriate interpersonal, communication, and social skills for different settings (employment, school, recreation, with peers, etc.).
  - Explore legal status with regard to decision making prior to age of majority - wills, guardianship, special needs trust.
  - Practice independent living skills - budgeting, shopping, cooking, and housekeeping.
  - Identify needed personal assistance or enabling supports, and if appropriate, learn to direct and manage these services.
11th/12th Grade

_____ Apply for financial support programs. (Supplemental Security Income, vocational rehabilitation, and personal assistant services).

_____ Identify the post-secondary school plan and arrange for accommodations.

_____ Practice effective communication by developing interview skills, asking for help, and identifying necessary accommodations at post-secondary and work environments.

_____ Obtain driver's training and license.

_____ Develop transportation/mobility strategies such as:
   • Independent travel skills training
   • Public or Para transit transportation
   • Needs for travel attendant

_____ Specify desired job and obtain paid employment with supports as needed.

_____ Investigate SSDI/SSI/Medicaid programs.

_____ Consider and seek guardianship or emancipation.

_____ Develop and update employment plans.

_____ Investigate and apply for post school opportunities (further educational vocational training, college, military, etc.)

_____ Develop a resume

_____ Take responsibility for arriving on time to work, appointments, and social activities.

_____ Assume responsibility for health care needs (making appointments, filling and taking prescriptions, etc.)

_____ Register to vote.

_____ Male students register for the draft (no exceptions).

_____ Review health insurance coverage: inform insurance company of child's disability and investigate rider of continued eligibility.

Prior to Graduation or Aging Out of School

_____ Complete transition to employment, further education or training, and community living needs.

_____ Post-secondary/continuing education

_____ Employment

_____ Legal/advocacy

_____ Personal independence/residential

_____ Recreation/leisure

_____ Medical/health

_____ Counseling

_____ Financial/income

_____ Transportation/independent travel skills
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2014 Transition EXPO Community Resources

Alexander's Abilities Inc.
1116 W. Palo Verde Dr.
Chandler, AZ 85224
(480) 964-7676
Contact: Veronica Flores (Community Access Coordinator)
Phone: (480) 489-9864
Email: vflores@alexandersabilities.com
Website: www.alexandersabilities.com

Alexander's Abilities, Inc. offers programs for individuals of all ability levels who are enrolled through the Division of Developmental Disabilities including, but not limited to, individuals with Autism, Down Syndrome, Cognitive Disability and Cerebral Palsy. Our programs serve high school graduates and individuals age 22 and above. We provide Home & Community Based Services (HCSB) an Artisan Work Skills Program. Where individuals work with instructors to make products. The pieces produced are sold under the name Duncan's Gifts. Individuals are paid on consignment for each piece sold. These products are sold online, at community art walks, and at our store located in Chandler. Please visit us a duncansgifts.etsy.com or call to set up a tour.

Arc of Tempe, The
501 E. Broadway Rd.
Tempe, AZ 85120
(480) 966-8536
(602) 453-0303 (Thrift Store)
Contact: Chris Peterson (Program Director)
Phone: (602) 770-7962
Email: programdirector@tempearc.org
Website: www.tempearc.org

The Arc of Tempe exists because of a very basic, yet profoundly important belief: Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are worthy of love and respect and deserve to be fully valued members of society. It was from that premise that in 1965, a group of loving parents founded an organization that would eventually become The Arc of Tempe. Today, The Arc of Tempe provides a unique life skills and recreation program for those 16 years of age or older with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD). Our mission reflects our founding belief: We empower and enrich the lives of persons with developmental disabilities by teaching self-advocacy, life skills and civic involvement through hands-on learning and recreational activities.

Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL)
5025 E. Washington St., Ste. 200
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602) 296-0535
Contact: Leanne Murrillo (Youth Transition Coordinator)
Email: leannem@abil.org
Website: www.abil.org
Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) advocates personal responsibility – by, and for, people with disabilities – as a means to independence. To help consumers achieve self-sufficiency, ABIL offers comprehensive programs including independent living skills instruction; information and referral; peer support; advocacy; home modification; ADA training and counsel; outreach to rehab centers & early intervention for newly disabled individuals; reintegration from nursing homes; employment services; Social Security work incentives; empowering youth in transition; personal assistant services and social recreational programs. To offer and promote programs designed to empower people with disabilities to take personal responsibility so that they may achieve or continue independent lifestyles within the community. The Empowering Youth with Disabilities into Adulthood Program assists high school students ages 14-22 years old to transition from high school into community life.

**Arizona Center for Disability Law**

5025 E. Washington St., Ste. 202
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602) 274-6287, 1-800-927-2260, TTY (602) 274-6287
Website: [www.azdisabilitylaw.org](http://www.azdisabilitylaw.org)

The Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) is the protection and advocacy agency for persons with disabilities in the state of Arizona. We provide a variety of legal services to people with mental, physical, intellectual, and sensory disabilities regarding disability related legal issues. Assistance that may be provided includes information and referral, community legal education, individual advocacy, legal advice, and in limited cases, legal representation.

**Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC)**

1740 West Adams Street, Suite 410
Phoenix Arizona 85007
(602) 542-8970
Contact: Michael Leyva (Contract/Grants Coordinator)
Phone: (602) 542-8975
Email: mleyva@azdes.gov
Website: [www.azdes.gov/ADDPC](http://www.azdes.gov/ADDPC)

Youth, families, and transition teams should explore a variety of partner agencies to determine which agencies can offer support, services, and resources that will assist to move the youth along the path to postsecondary education and employment. The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) works to support advocacy, bring about systems change and create increased capacity to support persons with developmental disabilities in the community. Through its efforts ADDPC seeks to become a usable resource in the community addressing important issues such as education, employment, housing, self-advocacy, transportation and health care. For more information visit [www.azdes.gov/ADDPC](http://www.azdes.gov/ADDPC).

**Arizona Disabled Sports**

59 E. Broadway Rd.
Mesa, AZ 85210
(480) 835-6273
Contact: Tiffany Wilkinson, Executive Director
Email: tiffany@arizonadasabledsports.com
Contact: Nina Bernardo, Program Supervisor
The Mesa Association of Sports for the Disabled, also doing business as Arizona Disabled Sports (AzDS), is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing sports and recreation opportunities for individuals with all types of disabilities. This can include but is not limited to developmental disabilities, orthopedic impairment, sensory deficit and/or neurological involvement.

The Association provides year round sports training and competition through our Team Mesa adaptive programs for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. In addition, sports and recreation opportunities are provided for individuals with physical disabilities through our Arizona Heat Physically Challenged Programs.

The Association coordinates various resources in a cooperative effort with Mesa Public Schools and the City of Mesa Parks, Recreation and Commercial Facilities to provide a comprehensive program of sports and recreation to individuals with disabilities of all ages.

Arizona Relay Service 7-1-1
5710 West Chandler Blvd, Suite 190
Chandler, AZ 85226
(520) 277-7278
Contact: Ken Arcia (Outreach Manager)
Email: Kenneth.2.arcia@sprint.com
Website: www.azrelay.org

Arizona Relay Service (AZRS) is a public service provided by the State of Arizona and administered by the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing (ACDHH). AZRS makes communication by telephone easy, accessible, reliable and convenient for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, or have difficulty speaking.

Arizona State University Disability Resources Center
Matthew Center, 1st Floor Rm. 145
P.O. Box 873202
Tempe, AZ 85281
(480) 965-1234
Contact: Phyllis Jones
Email: Phyllis.jones@asu.edu
Website: www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) facilitates equal access for qualified students with disabilities through the provision of reasonable and effective accommodations, and serves as an information hub for ASU and the community. Students are encouraged to visit the DRC and make it an integral part of their educational pursuits.
The mission of the Arizona United Spinal Cord Injury Association is to enhance the lives of individuals and family members, statewide as they deal with spinal cord injuries- to ensure the maximum possible physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, and social recovery. The Association’s focus is on the concepts of peer support, family support, education of consumers, families and professionals and providing vocational, social and recreational resource linkages.

**Arizona Technology Access Program (AzTAP)**
Northern Arizona University
300 W. Clarendon Ave., Ste. 475
Phoenix, AZ 85013
(602) 728-9534
Contact: Laura LaFranier
Email: Laura.LaFranier@nau.org
Website: [www.aztap.org](http://www.aztap.org)

AzTAP is Arizona's Assistive Technology Act program and is part of Northern Arizona University's Institute for Human Development. Our mission is to connect people with disabilities with the assistive technology (AT) they need to participate as fully as possible in activities that matter to them. To that end, we offer a range of statewide AT services and employ staff with unique expertise and qualifications. Our activities emphasize direct services to consumers and service providers and include AT demonstrations and consultations, AT device loans, education and training, financial loans, and AT/Equipment Reuse. While our office is located in central Phoenix, our services are available statewide and our staff regularly travels to all regions of the state. Like all Assistive Technology Act Programs, AzTAP is committed to improving the availability of assistive technology (AT) devices and services to individuals with disabilities and their families. To that end, we offer a wide variety of comprehensive, statewide activities that make assistive technology devices and services more available and accessible to anyone who may need it in our state. Our programming emphasizes direct services to consumers (persons with disabilities/family members) and service providers from the fields of education, vocational rehabilitation, health care and human services. We also work to raise awareness about assistive technology to the general public.

We offer a comprehensive set of programs and services including:

- Demonstrating AT devices from our inventories of approximately 4000 AT-related products.
- Lending out devices for short term use.
- Consulting with clients to help them select and obtain technology that matches their unique individualized needs.
- Operating an online equipment re-use program.
- Providing affordable financial loans to help people buy the technology they need.
- Offering training, educational programs and technical assistance.
- Hosting Arizona's only statewide AT conference annually.
AZ Assist
Autism Spectrum Support, Information and Strategies for Transition
East Valley meeting location (3rd Mondays 7-9pm)
2150 E. Southern Ave.
Tempe, AZ 85282
(480) 779-0899
Email: info@azassist.com
Website: www.azassist.com

AZ ASSIST is a community of families of teens and young adults on the autism spectrum where self-advocacy and independence are promoted and encouraged. We have a great group of autistic adults who mentor our youth and a variety of professionals who generously share their time and expertise. Monthly meetings to explore transition issues, as well as social events in the community, provide opportunities for parents and youth to establish a community of support. Join us as we learn about transition, share our experiences, celebrate our successes and support each other on the journey to independence.

AZ Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACDHH)
100 N. 15th Ave, Ste 104
Phoenix AZ 85007
(602) 542-3323
Contact: Vicki Thompson
Email: info@acdhh.az.gov
Website: www.acdhh.org

ACDHH was established in 1977 to improve the quality of life for Deaf and Hard of Hearing residents. ACDHH serves as a statewide information referral center for issues related to people with hearing loss. ACDHH aspires to be a national leader in communication access, support services and community empowerment throughout the state. Our mission is to ensure, in partnership with the public and private sectors, accessibility for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf-Blind and persons with speech difficulties to improve their quality of life.

Benefits 2 Work Arizona
5025 W. Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602) 443-0720
Contact: Nicholas Love (B2W Program Manager)
Phone: (602) 443-0705
Email: nicholasl@abil.org
Website: b2w@abil.org, or www.abil.org

Benefits 2 Work is a statewide program of ABIL that educates and supports individuals receiving Social Security benefits in understanding how employment and benefits work together. Work Incentive Consultants help relieve the confusion of Social Security complex rules. Individuals can empower themselves with some of this knowledge through the Disability Benefits 101 (DB101). DB101 is a user-friendly online tool that helps work through the myths and confusion of Social Security benefits, healthcare, and employment. DB101 can also be used in effective transition planning with or without being on benefits. DB101 can ease fears and empower young people and their parents in making
informed decisions that will lead to a more financially productive life. DB101is available at www.az.db101.org.

**Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona (BIAAZ)**  
5025 E. Washington St., Suite 108  
Phoenix, AZ 85034  
(602) 508-8024  
**Contact:** Janice Podzimek (Director of Community Outreach)  
**Email:** janice@biaaz.org  
**Website:** www.biaaz.org

The Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona is a statewide organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of individuals and their families impacted by brain injury; through education and empowerment events and activities and referral to community sports.

**Centers for Habilitation, The (TCH)**  
215 W. Lodge Dr.  
Tempe, AZ 85283  
(480) 838-8111  
**Contact:** Melinda Winnick (Employment Services Manager)  
**Phone:** (602) 722-5355  
**Email:** melindawinnick@tch-az.com  
**Website:** www.tch-az.com

Welcome to The Centers for Habilitation, where we have been empowering people with disabilities since 1967. At TCH we offer a variety of support services through our Employment Services Department which include center-based employment in our sheltered work center, enclave employment in the community accompanied by a job coach, and community job coaching support. Our ultimate goal is to create meaningful, lasting employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. TCH owns and operates several businesses where our Training Associates have many different employment options from sorting and shredding paper to food preparation, vending and painting services. TCH is contracted to provide janitorial services at Luke AFB, food service at Davis Monthan AFB, and landscaping at Yuma Marine Base. Other services we provide include transportation, job searching, and on-the-job coaching services. We act as liaisons between clients and their employers by attending reviews, counseling sessions, and targeting areas of performance that need improvement.

**Chandler Gilbert Arc**  
3250 N. San Marcos Pl.  
Chandler, AZ 85225  
(480) 892-9422  
**Contact:** Michael Miller  
**Phone:** (480) 892-9707  
**Email:** mmiller@cgarc.org  
**Website:** www.cgarc.org

Chandler-Gilbert Arc is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing teaching and support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. First conceived in 1975 as "Chandler Arc", by a group of parents of who wanted to provide life options for their (8) adult children with disabilities,
CGArc now proudly serves over 500 individuals per year with specialized community-based employment, housing, and adult day programs. Our mission is to facilitate growth for people with disabilities through choice, experience, guidance, and respect. Chandler-Gilbert Arc is licensed and funded by the State of Arizona Department of Economic Security Division of Developmental Disabilities and State of Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration as well as Valley of the Sun United Way and other private funding sources. At the national level, we are affiliated with The Arc of the United States. Please visit our employment page for careers at CGARC.

**Chapel Haven West**  
1701 N. Park Avenue  
Tucson AZ 85719  
(203) 397-1714 x 185  
Contact: Christy Chandler  
Email: cchandler@chapelhaven.org  
Website: www.chapelhaven.org

Chapel Haven West is a two year day or residential program for those 18 years and older with autism spectrum diagnoses and related social disabilities. This co-ed program focuses on Residential Life Skills, Education, College, Employment, Recreation and Social Communicative Competency in a blended curriculum. The University of Arizona faculty and graduate interns assist staff and serve as mentors in the college setting. Students have access to university classrooms and facilities, attend classes and utilize the Disability Resource Center and SALT Center. Chapel Haven staff is highly trained with Speech and Language Pathologists, Special Education Teachers and experienced professionals. Chapel Haven provides community supports for a lifetime.

**Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Disability Resources and Services**  
2626 E. Pecos Rd.  
Chandler, AZ 85225  
(480) 857-5187  
Website: www.cgc.maricopa.edu/disability

The Disability Resources and Services (DRS) office serves students who have documented disabilities that may need accommodations and ongoing support. The DRS staff provides information, individual, and group support, review of documentation, implementation, and monitoring of accommodations, academic progress and advocacy. Information is available to assist students with disabilities in pursuing their academic goals at Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

**Civitan Foundation, Inc.**  
12635 N 42nd St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
(602) 953-2944  
Contact: Dawn Trapp  
Email: DTrapp@campcivitan.org  
Website: www.campcivitan.org

In 1968, Civitan was established in Williams, Arizona as “Camp Civitan” by a group of dedicated volunteers for individuals with disabilities. In 2003, Civitan expanded its program menu to encompass educational and vocational activities. With programs year-round, we offer: Camp Civitan, Respite Care,
Home Based Services, Community Outreach, Day Treatment Program for Children and Adults, Vocational/Job Training and Placement, Nutritional Education, Youth Volunteer programs, and an After-School/Summer Program for at-risk youth. Annually, Civitan serves over 750 children and adults with developmental disabilities. In July 2013, Civitan opened its newest facility, Civitan Village, unveiling five new programs unmatched by other agencies dedicated to the disabled population. Civitan Village is the development of a comprehensive educational strategy to ensure real life experiences are possible every day for those with disabilities. Civitan Village includes: a media center, culinary institute, arts (visual and performing), adaptive sports/health center and technology.

Cortney’s Place
7000 E Shea Blvd, Suite 1430
Scottsdale AZ 85254
(480) 419-5852
Contact: Chasidy Gray (Director)
Email: chasidy.gray@marccr.com
Website: www.CortneysPlace.org

Cortney’s Place provides the physically and mentally challenged persons an array of opportunities through education and programs for life, giving them an ability to further reach their individual goals which elevate their personal potential as members of our community.

Cutty Legacy Foundation, The
215 West Lodge Drive
Tempe, Arizona 85282
(480) 730-4108
Contact: Margaret "Midge" White
Email: mmwhite@tch-az.com
Website: www.tch-az.com

The focus of The Cutty Legacy Foundation is to promote long term solutions for the whole life of individuals with disabilities and their families by being a resource for "Life Planning" by providing education and training. Free Workshops include areas of: General Life Planning - An Overview, Options for Decision Making - Guardianship and Power of Attorney, etc., Wills and Trusts and Health Care Directives. We meet one-on-one with families to provide consultation and training and can facilitate MAPS (Making Action Plans) person centered "life planning" as time permits. We are working in collaboration with PLAN of Arizona to expand the Master Trust from serving people with mental illness to include developmental and physical disabilities. We can provide workshops in your area by request.

Department of Economic Security Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD)
120 W. 1st Avenue
Mesa, AZ 85210
(602) 771-1524
Contact: Steven Marcelo
Email: SMarcelo@azdes.gov
Website: www.azdes.gov/developmental_disabilities
The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) within the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) provides services and programs to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities. The Division believes individuals can best be served in integrated community settings. Thus, the majority of programs and services are tailored to meet individual needs at home and in community-based settings.

**DriveAble Solutions, Inc.**  
4120 N. 20th St. Ste. A  
Phoenix, AZ 85016  
(602) 840-2323  
Contact: Alyssa/Lynn Hedrice  
Email: drsolutions@qwestoffice.net  
Website: www.driveablesolutions.com

We teach people with disabilities to drive or drive again. We enjoy taking new students especially all of the way through the driving process and helping them on their road to independence. This includes everything from permit tutoring to completing driving training and receiving their Driver’s License.

**Driving to Independence**  
1414 W. Broadway Rd. Ste. 218  
Tempe, AZ 85282  
(480) 449-3331  
Contact: Maggie  
Email: Maggie@drivingtoindependence.com  
Website: www.drivingtoindependence.com

As adaptive driving evaluators, Driving to Independence will help to evaluate your potential to be a successful driver as well as train you to be safe and independent on the road. Our company is able to help you with permit and on road licensure in place of testing at the Motor Vehicle Department. Our assessment includes a clinical and on road assessment to determine your current skills with training in our dual controlled vehicles.

**East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT)**  
1601 W Main St.  
Mesa AZ 85201  
(480) 461-4154  
Contact: Susan Chamberlain  
Email: schamberlain@evit.com  
Website: www.evit.com

The East valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) is a public, joint technological education district that serves students from ten east valley school districts. Students spend a half-day at EVIT in a career preparation program and the other half day at their home school. Our mission is to provide a productive, technically-trained workforce that meets the market driven needs of business and industry.
Elite Community Services
3651 E. Baseline Rd. Ste. E-222
Gilbert, AZ 85234
(480) 558-1276
Website: www.ecsaz.org

Elite Community Services
Vocational, Tutoring and Division of Developmentally Disabilities Services HCBS Services include Habilitation, Respite, Attendant Care, Housekeeping, Individualized Supported Employment, and Employment Support Aide. Vocational Rehabilitation Services include Disability Related Employment Services, Work Adjustment Training, Extended Supported Employment, Job Training, Career Exploration, Supported Education, Adult Tutoring, and Rehabilitation Instructional Services.

Educational Tutoring Services include tutoring in Arizona and Nevada school districts for Pre-K through 12th grades, before and after school programs, AIMS Preparation, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Preparation, SAT, ACT, and PSAT Preparation, General Education Diploma, College and graduate school level tutoring for all course content, state certification examinations, Computer skills training, and private pay options available to individuals, small groups and organizations.

Empowerment Research, LLC
10225 E Iris Rd, Suite 1
Mesa AZ 85207
(480) 354-9000
Website: www.empowermentresearch.com

Provide training and technical assistance to parents, schools and communities to EMPOWER them with information and education to support their students with differing abilities so that they can be assured a participatory voice and a higher quality of life. Contracted services through various agencies (e.g., ADE, DES, ADOA, CDC, BIA/BIE) allows us opportunities to provide free, community-based training on disability-related issues, to conduct program evaluation services for agencies serving and supporting youth, and to offer technical assistance to improve those programs/services. We provide education, training, materials, and supports at low or no-cost to youth and families. We also serve as a referral agent to link individuals/families that are seeking needed community resources.

Epilepsy Foundation of Arizona
350 W. Thomas Road
Phoenix AZ 85013
(602) 406-3581
Website: www.epilepsyaz.org

Since 1973, the Epilepsy Foundation of Arizona has developed public education programs that foster community awareness to improve the health care and community support available to all persons affected by epilepsy. Epilepsy is a generic term for a variety of seizure disorders characterized by chronic recurring seizures. One in every ten Americans has had, or will have, at least one seizure at some time in their lives.

Services provided to the epilepsy community include (i) providing information and education on living successfully with epilepsy (ii) conducting professional and lay seminars (iii) providing a one week
camping experience for children with epilepsy (iv) reaching out to populations at risk of developing epilepsy including Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, Seniors, African-Americans, Native Americans and Latino communities (v) training school nurses, law enforcement, first responders, caretakers, and other professionals in seizure recognition, treatment, and response. The Foundation is governed by a board of directors consisting of leaders from the Arizona business and medical communities. The success of the organization and our programs is a direct result of our hundreds of volunteers.

**Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: Phoenix Office (EEOC)**

3300 N. Central Ave, Suite 690  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
(602) 640-4005  
Contact: Krista Watson  
Phone: (602) 640-4995  
Email: krisita.watson@eeoc.gov  
Website: [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov)

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person’s race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. It is also illegal to discriminate against a person because the person complained about discrimination, filed a charge of discrimination, or participated in an employment discrimination investigation or lawsuit.

Most employers with at least 15 employees are covered by EEOC laws (20 employees in age discrimination cases). Most labor unions and employment agencies are also covered. The laws apply to all types of work situations, including hiring, firing, promotions, harassment, training, wages, and benefits.

**Focus Employment**  
150 S. Ash Avenue  
Tempe AZ 85281  
(480) 206-5992  
Contact: Alicia Theis (Rehabilitation Counselor)  
Email: alicia@focusemployment.com  
Website: [http://www.focusemployment.com/](http://www.focusemployment.com/)

The staff at Focus offer their clients many years of placement experience and expertise. We are dedicated to providing quality services that are highly individualized, timely and professional. We strive to make a significant impact on the lives of individuals we serve through helping them improve their overall quality of life through involvement in the community or through gainful employment. Focus serves youth and adults with psychiatric, physical, learning, and developmental disabilities from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Here are some examples of some of the services that Focus Employment provides: Vocational Evaluation and Assessment, Work Exploration, Work Adjustment Training, Job Development & Placement, Resume Development, Employer Diversity Training, Supported Employment, Supported Education, Adjustment to Disability Counseling, Orientation and Mobility Training.
Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries; DES/RSA
1789 W. Jefferson St. 2NW
Phoenix AZ 85007
(602) 542-3354
Website: www.azheadspine.org

The Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries (Council) provides education, training, and information regarding brain and spinal cord injuries for survivors, family members, and professionals. In collaboration with Rehabilitation Services Administration's (RSA) Vocational Rehabilitation Program (VR), we are have a Pilot Transition Program for youth with brain injury to assist with the transition from school to adulthood and the world of work.

Gryphen Specialty Products and Services (GSPS)
2033 E Warner Rd Suite 111
Tempe, AZ 85284
(480) 820-7800
Contact: Brian Lewis (President)
Phone: (480) 320-3601
Email: blewis@gryphensps.com
Website: www.gryphensps.com

Gryphen Specialty Products and Services (GSPS) provides a variety of meaningful day options to each individual with developmental disabilities that we serve. We have four locations providing services including, Tempe, Chandler, Coolidge and Casa Grande and our Gilbert location is coming soon! Our goal is to help each individual strive towards independence to the best of their capabilities and to ensure that everyone is satisfied with services provided. The services we provide on a daily basis consist of supported employment, daily living skills, interactive meaningful activities and job training skills. We also offer paid integrated jobs and structured work opportunities in order to develop positive work attributes allowing each individual to develop to their fullest potential and become more marketable for future employment. We also provide various educational, leisure, and social activities.

Guthrie Mainstream Services
6549 E University Dr.
Mesa AZ 85205
(480) 633-8881
Contact: Michelle Riggs
Email: micheller@gmsaz.org
Website: http://guthriemainstream.org/

Guthrie Mainstream Services LLC, established in July of 2003 by a group of experienced professionals dedicated to educating, enlightening, and enriching the lives of those they serve so well. We are contracted with the State of Arizona as a Qualified Vendor to provide Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) to the Developmentally Delayed population as identified by DES/DDD. Our Services include: Attendant Care, Habilitation, In-home Respite Services, Provider Certified Home Respite Services, Children’s One-on-One Group Habilitation, Day Training and Treatment (DTT) Day Training Summer (DTS), Day Treatment Adult (DTA) Services, License Adult and Child Foster homes on behalf of DES/DDD. (ADH and CDH), Group Home, East Valley locations
GMS offers a variety of social and recreational program opportunities in addition to the individualized programs developed for each family we serve.

For Adults: We offer Day Treatment and Training, habilitation, respite, attendant care services and Adult Development Homes.

For Teens and Children: We have facility based DTT/DTS/Respite services Monday thru Friday and a Saturday Program three Saturday's a month. We also provide home or community-based attendant care, habilitation, and respite.

Hacienda Healthcare Inc.
1402 E South Mountain Ave
Phoenix AZ 85041
(520) 208-7366
Contact: Helen K. Wade (Director of Vocational Services)
Email: hwade@Haciendainc.org
Website: http://www.haciendahealthcare.org/

Vocational Training-GSE-Autism Spectrum Disorder Program. Vocational Training in Dietary, Laundry, Lt. Maintenance/Landscaping, Housekeeping, and Clerical, Each trainee will have the opportunity to experience all 6 work sites located here on Hacienda’s main campus. The training ratio is 1:2 in each area. Each trainee will receive basic training in each area of their choice for 6-weeks prior to moving to the next work site. After completing each site, he/she will have the opportunity to choose one site to receive in-depth training until he/she is ready for the next progressive move to community employment. After or before work, we offer a job readiness/social class where each trainee will learn other aspects pertaining to being successful (social interaction/outings, work expectations etc.) We will assist with Food Handler’s card, bus pass and bus training. This class is available for 2-4 hours per day. We also offer DTA and Group Home services.

HandsOn Greater Phoenix
5151 N. 19th Avenue, Suite 200
Phoenix AZ 85015
(602) 973-2212
Contact: Sophia Biggins (VISTA Team Leader)
Phone: (602) 973-2212 x237
Email: sophia@handsonphoenix.org
Website: www.handsonphoenix.org

Our Mission: HandsOn Greater Phoenix is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that empowers people to become engaged, take action and create positive change in their communities.

Our Vision: We envision a day in which all people realize their power to make a difference and are actively engaged in their communities.

HandsOn Greater Phoenix offers a calendar of 60+ diverse, high-impact, one-time community service projects each month. We also have committed opportunities such as Your Experience Counts, AmeriCorps VISTA, HandsOn Skills and the Disaster Response Corps. You can become a Project Leader or get your company involved through our Business Services program. Or participate in one of our large-
scale special days of service like the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration (January), Serve A Thon for Schools (April), the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance (September) and A Day for Downtown (November). See the impact our programs are making in the community.

About HandsOn Network: HandsOn Greater Phoenix is an affiliate of HandsOn Network, an innovative alliance of volunteer organizations working to build community through service and civic engagement across the United States and abroad.

H. D. Educational Services
3260 N. Hayden Rd, Suite 210
Scottsdale AZ 85251
(480) 612-1963
Contact: Kathleen Harrington
Phone: (480) 612-1963
Email: kathy@hdedaz.com
Website: www.hdedaz.com

H. D. Educational Services supports students with learning challenges to realize their Hopes and Dreams. We offer services tailored to students transitioning beyond high school including career and interest assessments; supervised community internships; our Summer Transition Workshop; and a College Action Plan supporting students in college and vocational training programs (12 hours of individual academic tutoring per month and coaching to provide students insight into each student’s learning profile and self-advocating for any necessary accommodations.) We also offer intensive individualized writing instruction integrating technology and concentrated instruction in foundational math skills. All of H.D. Educational Services instructors and tutors are certified and experienced special education teachers.

Inspire Inc.
4203 E. Indian School Rd., Suite 200
Phoenix AZ 85018
(602) 258-0900
Contact: Lakeisha Adams (Program Coordinator)
Email: lakeishaadams@inspirehsc.org
Website: www.inspirehsc.org

Inspire Inc. is a nonprofit agency. Are three major services we provide are: Habilitation, Attendant care and Respite. Other services may be provided based upon the needs and interests of our members. Inspire members are big on having a say in their services provided and received voting power on issues that matter in and out in the community
We welcome all people interested in our services!

Jewish Family and Children Services
The Real World---Job Development Program, Teens Helping Teens
4747 N 7th St #100
Phoenix, AZ 85014
(602) 279-0084
Website: www.jfcsarizona.org
The program was named by youth participants. The program provides teens and young adults, ages 14-21, with programming and opportunities that will ready them for independence. Job skills training and job development are central to the program, but the approach is considerably more holistic. Assessment includes many life domains and includes: Financial and budgeting skills, job readiness and skill development; personal care/hygiene; physical health care; household care/house cleaning, menu planning; transportation; educational needs; social leisure activities, and connection/knowledge about community resources. The program is housed inside the People’s Treasure Shoppe, a second hand store that is utilized as the base for learning job skills such as customer service, retail, merchandise display, cashiering, sorting, stocking and pricing. In addition, some qualified participants may become JFCS apprentices and can do a 40 hour paid apprenticeship through the program.

Kratu, Inc.
PO Box 88035
Phoenix, AZ 85080-8035
(602) 456-7741
Contact: Niraj Parikh
Email: services@kratu.org
Website: www.kratu.org

"It seems right now that all I've ever done in my life is making my way here to you." This quote exemplifies our life's experience and solidifies in our mind the purpose and passion, which is serving people with disabilities through Assistive Technology and Occupational Therapy Services.

Life Development Institute
18001 N. 79th Ave., Suite E71
Glendale AZ 85308
(623) 773-2774
Contact: Justin Coller (Director of Operations)
Email: jcoller@discoverldi.com
Website: www.discoverldi.com

Located in Glendale, Arizona, LDI offers fully accredited, high school, post-secondary and summer programs (in Flagstaff) for higher education capable young adults age 18+ with LD, ADHD, Asperger’s and similar conditions. LDI embeds adult content & competencies by integrating practical college strategies, refining interpersonal communication skills, determining viable career paths and promoting social responsibility.

Lifewell Behavioral Wellness
262 E. University Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85201
Phone: (602) 808-2012
Email: info@lifewell.us
Website: www.lifewell.us

Lifewell Behavioral Wellness is a non-profit behavioral healthcare agency providing treatment, services and support for low-income clients diagnosed with serious mental illness (SMI), general mental health issues, and substance abuse disorders. Lifewell offers residential, outpatient and community living programs, which are client centered and adapted to address a broad range of needs.
Lifewell programs provide safe and supportive environments that foster recovery, healthy living and personal growth for clients as they build on existing strengths, focus on addressing deficiencies, and learn new social and vocational skills.

Marc Community Resources Inc.
924 N. Country Club Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85201
(480) 969-3800
Contact: Lynnette Seeger
(480) 969-3800 ext. 251
Email: lynnnette.seeger@marccr.com
Website: www.marcccenter.com

Marc Center of Mesa, Inc. is a private not-for-profit corporation that provides educational, therapeutic, rehabilitation and social services to children and adults with developmental, physical and mental disabilities. Our motto is "Marc Center provides opportunities for people to be actively involved in determining where and how they live, learn, work and play." Marc Center has contracts with several different funding sources, including the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), Rehabilitation Services Administration/Vocational Rehabilitation (RSA/VR), Magellan Health Services and several ALTCS/AHCCCS health plans. If an individual does not have a funding source, private pay may be negotiated as well. We have been serving people with disabilities since 1957, and some of our departments include:

Maricopa County WIA Youth Program
735 N. Gilbert Rd. Suite 143
Gilbert AZ 85234
(602) 372-9753
Contact: Serene Carney (Youth Program Supervisor)
Email: carneys001@mail.maricopa.gov
Website: http://myhsd.maricopa.gov/Divisions/Workforce-Development/Youth-Services/WIA-Youth-Program.aspx
http://myhsd.maricopa.gov/

The Maricopa County Youth Program is designed to assist low income, at-risk youth achieve their educational and employment goals. If eligible, participants work with a Youth Career Guidance Specialist to create a personalized plan for a successful future. Participants enrolled in this program can take advantage of the services provided. These services are: Tutoring and Study Skills, GED Preparation, Summer Employment Assistance, Work Experience, Occupational Skills Training, Leadership Activities, Supportive Services, Adult Mentoring, Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling, Community Art and Volunteer Activities

Maricopa Skills Center
1245 E. Buckeye Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602) 238-4301
Website: www.maricopaskillcenter.com
The programs at MSC are designed to serve a variety of students, whether those attending are recent high school graduates and are just beginning the journey into the workforce, or perhaps seasoned employees who are looking to enhance their current skills. MSC strives to accommodate the varying needs of students who seek the education and training that will advance them further in their careers and lives.

Through each program at MSC, students will receive the appropriate tools to enhance their resume, acquire essential job searching techniques, and attain all of the necessary skills employers are looking for. MSC provides the following programs: Cosmetology – Aesthetician and Cosmetologist; Business and Technology – Accounting, Administrative Assistant, Customer Service, Computer Support Specialist, and Legal Administrative Assistant; Health Care – Practical Nursing; Trades – Auto Body, Construction Trades such as Carpentry, Plumbing, and Electrician, Meat Cutting, Precision Machining, and Welding.

**Maricopa Workforce Connections**  
735 N. Gilbert Rd.  
Gilbert, AZ 85234  
(602) 372-9762  
Website: [www.maricopaworkforceconnections.com](http://www.maricopaworkforceconnections.com)

The Maricopa Workforce Connections mission is to promote workforce excellence by developing and providing qualified individuals and other resources to employers. Disability Program Navigators help individuals with disabilities seeking employment to navigate the many systems that provide services and supports needed to get a job and stay employed. They also provide a valuable grass-roots perspective on current barriers to employment, and feedback to the policy forum of the One Stop Career Centers.

**MassMutual Arizona SpecialCare Planning Team**  
17550 N. Perimeter Dr., Suite 450  
Scottsdale AZ 85255  
(480) 538-2950  
Contact: Karen Starbowski  
Email: SpecialCareAZ@massmutual.com  
Website: [www.specialcareaz.com](http://www.specialcareaz.com)

Our SpecialCare Planning Team’s mission is to help make a positive difference in the lives of individuals with special needs, their parents/caregivers and other family members along with the support of their advocates and allies. Our knowledgeable and dedicated SpecialCare Planners, many of whom focus on this field because of close ties to individuals with a disability or other special need in their own lives, assist families with developing valuable financial strategies and creating strategic financial solutions that integrate with Government programs and other community support. Through our network of organizations, professionals and specialists, we can provide referrals to further assist families with their life care planning needs. We also help coordinate family education and communication.

**Mercy Maricopa**  
4350 E. Cotton Center Blvd., Bldg. D  
Phoenix, AZ 85040  
602-586-1841  
1-800-564-5465 (toll-free)  
Hearing impaired TTY/TDD 711
Website: [https://www.mercymaricopa.org/](https://www.mercymaricopa.org/)

Mercy Maricopa is dedicated to providing its members access to care for their behavioral and medical health needs. We focus on the whole-person. We use a holistic approach to care. We want to know your goals, use your strengths and understand your needs. We know how to give access to high-quality, integrated care to people who have complex needs. We work with the community and local health care providers.

**Mesa Community College Disability Resources and Services**
1833 W. Southern Ave.
Mesa, AZ 85202
(480) 461-7447
Contact: Cindy Jepsen (Manager)
Email: cindy.jepsen@mesacc.edu
Website: [www.mc.maricopa.edu/services/disability](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/services/disability)

Disability Resources and Services (DRS) at Mesa Community College (MCC) offers comprehensive services for students with disabilities. We provide equal access to students in their educational and campus experiences through academic accommodations (in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973). Developing personal advocacy and instilling independent, life-long skill acquisition makes us champions for student success.

**Mesa Police Explorers**
130 N Robson St.
Mesa AZ 85201
(480) 644-4000
Contact: Detective Shan Anderson
Email: iain.anderson@mesaaz.gov

The Mesa Police Explorer Program is a young adult career education program for both young men and women who are 14 and graduates of the eighth grade or 15 through 18 years of age. The Explorer Program is a youth development program centered on law enforcement careers. Law enforcement Explorers may choose to take part in crime prevention activities, community policing, traffic control, fingerprinting, ride-alongs, patrol procedures and connecting activities.

**Metro Care Services, Inc.**
22719 S. Ellsworth Rd. Ste. C-104
Queen Creek, AZ 85142
(480) 507-8831
Website: [http://www.metrocareaz.com/](http://www.metrocareaz.com/)

At Metro Care Services, our mission is to provide superior services which enhance the quality of life for every person we support. We offer individualized supports to children and adults with developmental disabilities and/or behavioral health needs and their families, in their homes and in their communities. We believe in using a person-centered approach that is grounded in the strengths, wants and needs, goals and dreams of every person we serve. At Metro Care Services, we welcome a collaborative
partnership and look forward to making a positive difference in each other’s lives. We provide a variety of services including Habilitation, Respite, Attendant Care and Housekeeping.

**Mosaic**
**2226 W. Northern Ave., Suite C140**
Phoenix, AZ 85021
(602) 864-6030
Website: [www.mosaicinfo.org](http://www.mosaicinfo.org)

Mosaic is a non-profit organization providing quality services and supports for people with disabilities in the valley for over 20 years. Respite, Habilitation, Residential Homes, Adult Development Homes and Early Intervention services are available.

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**
**5025 E Washington St Suite 112**
Phoenix AZ 85034
(602) 759-8177
Website: [http://www.namiaz.com/](http://www.namiaz.com/)

NAMI Maricopa County provides education for family members of people living with mental illness as well as for the individuals themselves. We educate the public about mental illness by offering presentations given by individuals with lived experiences and for recovery. Our focus is on hope along with education classes; NAMI also has support groups throughout the valley. NAMI has a commitment to Advocacy for mental health. Their activities include community outreach and educating our elected representatives.

**NorthBridge College Success Program**
**7000 E. Shea Blvd, Suite J-262**
Scottsdale AZ 85254
(480) 991-3686
Contact: Denise Walker, Communications & Admissions Director
Email: [denise@northbridgeaz.org](mailto:denise@northbridgeaz.org)
Website: [http://northbridgeaz.org/](http://northbridgeaz.org/)

NorthBridge supports students with learning differences enrolled in college or vocational programs. We specialize in working with students with a diagnosis of dyslexia, ADHD and high functioning autism. The comprehensive design of the program features a multi-layered support system that focuses on both academic success and personal development. Our holistic approach empowers students to develop confidence, achieve their goals and find success in their future. Go to NorthBridgeAZ.org for more details and to schedule a tour.

**Peer Solutions**
**PO Box 24148**
Phoenix AZ 85074-4148
(602) 225-0942
Website: [www.peersolutions.org](http://www.peersolutions.org)
Peer Solutions is a non-profit organization working with schools, families, and communities to cultivate safety, equality, and respect as norms. STAND & SERVE (S&S) is the positive youth development and violence prevention program offered by Peer Solutions. S&S is a year-round program open to all young people in Phoenix and Tempe. We run weekly lunch meetings for high school students, peer education projects for middle school students, monthly coalition meetings, ongoing service projects and workshops, community events, and a summer program.

**Pima Medical**  
957 S Dobson Road  
Mesa, AZ 85202  
(480) 844-0267  
Website: [http://pmi.edu/locations/mesa.asp](http://pmi.edu/locations/mesa.asp)  
Pima Medical Institute is a highly experienced and proven leader in health care. For 40 years, Pima Medical Institute has offered specialized, quality health care training that is quick and affordable, and we have been serving the Mesa community since 1986. In Mesa, we offer medical training in: Certificate Programs: Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy Technician, Veterinary Assistant. Associate Degree Programs: Nursing, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiography, Respiratory Therapy

**Raising Special Kids**  
5025 E. Washington St., Ste. 204  
Phoenix, AZ 85034  
(602) 242-4366  
Contact: Christopher Tiffany (Director of Family Support and Education)  
Email: christophert@raisingspecialkids.org  
Website: [www.raisingspecialkids.org](http://www.raisingspecialkids.org)  
Raising Special Kids is a full service family resource center that provides information, training and family support to parents of children birth to 26, with the full range of developmental disabilities or special healthcare needs. All of our services are at no charge for families and are offered in English and Spanish.

**Rehabilitation Services Administration, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)**  
120 W. 1st Avenue  
Mesa, AZ 85210  
(602) 771-6544  
Contacts: Betty Schoen or David Moise  
Email: schoen@azdes.gov or dmoise@azdes.gov  
Website: [www.azdes.gov/rsa/vr/](http://www.azdes.gov/rsa/vr/)  
As a program within the DES Workforce Administration, Rehabilitation Services (RS) works with persons with disabilities to achieve their goals for employment and independence. RS oversees several programs designed to assist individuals with disabilities in improving or increasing their independence through employment or enhanced independent living. The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program provides services and supports to assist individuals with disabilities with meeting their employment goals. High school students may apply for VR services at any point in their high school experience when they are ready to begin planning for their employment goals, and VR services are designed to assist students with disabilities in identifying a career goal and the services needed to enter the workforce.
Rise Services Inc.
4554 E. Inverness Ave.
Mesa, AZ 85209
(480) 497-1889
Contact: Sandra Rivera (Director of DDD and Training)
Phone: (480) 371-2250
Email: sandrar@riseservicesinc.org
Website: www.riseservicesinc.org

Rise is a non-profit, “customer driven” organization. We customize our supports to fit the needs of people, from newborns to elderly, with all types of disabilities. We provide the following services: Foster Care and Adoptions, Home Community Base Services, Residential, Managed Care, Early Intervention, and Day Programs.

RMG Imaging Artists, LLC
2450 W. Broadway Rd., Suite 110
Mesa, AZ 85202
(214) 995-1220
Contact: Steve Gary
Email: steve.gary@rmgia.com
Website: http://www.rmgia.com/

RMG Imaging Artists is a training and networking program providing opportunities in Multimedia and Marketing Technology for adults with Special Needs. Throughout the program, artists develop digital technology skills essential in the 21st century workplace. RMG Imaging Artists offers the opportunity for each artist to have their own online storefront, thereby enhancing their economic well-being and career potential. Artists are able to sell a variety of multimedia services and their own custom-made products through the RMG Imaging Artists Market Space network (http://www.shop.rmgia.com/).

Seeds for Autism
1775 E. Ocotillo Rd.
Phoenix AZ 85016
(602) 279-6702
Contact: Mary Ann LaRoche (Director)
Email: maryann.laroche@cox.net
Website: www.seedsforautism.org

Seeds is dedicated to teaching autistic/asperger adults across the spectrum, a multitude of job skills related to the arts. The diverse art skills are taught in a user friendly classroom setting, allowing for each participant to be themselves, among their peers. What makes this program a success is the environment in which our clients learn. Instead of trying to integrate our client into a work environment, where they may become over stimulated, this is a customized program, tailored to the individual needs of each client. Youth and young adults on the spectrum finally have a place to learn and develop at their own pace. We develop skills in metals, glass, wood, paper, painting, ceramics, mosaics, concrete, jewelry making, weaving and sewing.
S.E.E.K Arizona
1848 N. 52nd St
Phoenix AZ 85008
(480) 902-0771
Website: www.SEEKArizona.org
S.E.E.K Arizona strives to maximize the potential of each individual teen and young adult by providing opportunities and support to enjoy a successful and independent lifestyle. The Adult Horizons Transition Program is facilitated by fun, dynamic and experienced instructors who develop curricula specifically for the needs of the participants enrolled. The program meets weekly at S.E.E.K. Arizona’s Life Skills Therapy House where participants focus on two primary objectives: Independent Employment and Independent Living. For this program, S.E.E.K. Arizona accepts DDD, Magellan, Mercy Care, private insurance and private pay options.

S.E.E.K Arizona’s non-profit; The Foundation for Exceptional Kids’ also provides therapeutic opportunities. Each year the foundation hosts a 4 day 3 nights camp where children with special needs participate with camp pals in a variety of exciting activities. S.E.E.K. Arizona provides the opportunity for camp participants ages 13-23 to become Counselors-in-Training.

Scottsdale Training and Rehabilitation Services (STARS)
7505 E. Osborn Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 371-2342
Contact: Krista Anderson (Transition Program Manager)
(480) 371-2342
Email: kanderson@starsaz.org
Website: www.starsaz.org

Founded in 1973, Scottsdale Training and Rehabilitation Services (STARS), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, provides exceptional services to teens and adults with disabilities throughout the metro-Phoenix area. STARS participants include individuals with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, seizure disorders or other cognitive, physical, and sensory challenges. STARS provides: community-based employment opportunities, vocational work centers and adult day programs. Day programs include, STEP, a specialized program for adults on the autism spectrum. In addition, STARS’ Transitions Program provides services to youth and families in need of a stepping stone between school and post-school life. This program offers case management, benefits assistance, and training opportunities. Also included in the Transition Program is the Young Adult Transition Training Program (YATTP). Offered after school and during school breaks, YATTP helps youth develop soft-skills such as grooming, punctuality, and getting along with others, all in a dynamic and interactive learning environment.

SilverTree Special Needs Planning
14555 N. Scottsdale Rd. Suite 200
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
(866) 949-6202
Email: info@silvertreesnp.com
Website: http://www.silvertreesnp.com/

We are a full service special needs planning firm focusing on individuals, professionals and families caring for a loved one living with disabilities or other special needs. We help families coordinate all
aspects of their loved one's lives. Areas covered include, but are not limited to, special needs planning, special needs trusts, guardianship filing, government benefit eligibility, analysis and preservation strategies, investment, estate, retirement, education, insurance and business continuity planning. We are dedicated to the integrity and excellence of every plan we do for clients. We will not recommend any course of action or any type of financial product until we are fully aware of the client’s current situation and the client’s ultimate goal or goals.

**Smiles for Special Needs**  
2424 E. Southern Ave.  
Mesa, Arizona 85204  
(480) 361-1972  
Email: smilesforspecialneeds@gmail.com  
Website: [http://www.smilesforspecialneeds.com/](http://www.smilesforspecialneeds.com/)

Our company provides services to individuals with intellectual and developmental delays. Our staff has over twenty years of combined experience in providing Respite, Habilitation and Attendant Care. Our goal at Smiles for Special Needs is to provide the best care possible with an emphasis on promoting independence. We are located in the East Valley, and currently serve all of Maricopa County.

**Social Security Administration**  
702 W. Jerome Ave  
Mesa, AZ 85210  
16241 N. Tatum Blvd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85032  
253 W. Superstition Blvd.  
Apache Junction, AZ 85220  
250 N. 7th Ave., Ste. 100  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
1-800-772-1213  
Website: [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

Social Security offers monthly cash benefits and medical assistance under the Social Security Act and Supplemental Security Income programs. Medical coverage may be from Medicare and/or AHCCCS. Monthly cash benefits under Social Security are available to retired or disabled workers and their families and survivors of deceased workers. Supplemental Security Income benefits are available to blind or disabled children, blind or disabled adults of any age, and the aged (65 and over). Financial need is the criterion for SSI.

**Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired (SAAVI )**  
3767 E Grant Road  
Tucson AZ 85716  
(520) 795-1331, x 246  
Contact: Roxanne Torres  
Email: rtorres@saavi.us  
Website: [www.saavi.us](http://www.saavi.us)

SAAVI is a rehabilitative service center that helps those who are visually impaired and/or blind transition and adjust to their vision loss. We offer many different types of programs customized for a wide range of various age groups. Services offered include: independent living skills, supported education, job readiness, orientation and mobility, assistive technology, braille, counseling, and many other innovative services designed to promote independence and the continuation of a healthy lifestyle.
Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC)
300 N. 18th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85006
(602) 340-8717
Website: www.autismcenter.org

Mission: To maximize independence, productivity and enjoyment of the lives of young adults and adults with autism and related developmental disorders through ongoing education and training related to vocational and independent daily living skills, supported employment, and interest based career and job development.

Description: The Academy is designed to help young adults and adults with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) express interest in potential careers while learning necessary life skills that will enhance their ability to live and work more independently. The academy will provide pre-vocational, vocational, life and leadership skills development along with instruction, practicum opportunities and training programs for individual’s ages 13 and older.

Southwest Institute for Families and Children; Youth Action Council of Arizona (YAC-AZ)
5111 N. Scottsdale Rd., Ste. 150
Scottsdale, AZ 85250
(602) 492-3741
Contact: George Garcia (Youth Services Manager)
Email: g.garcia@swifamilies.org
Website: www.switoday.com

YAC-AZ provides youth with disabilities a group in which they have the opportunity to interact and work with other youth towards the common goal of promoting self-determination through independence and self advocacy. Meeting once a month, members discuss and learn about issues that affect youth with disabilities such as education, employment, and living independently. The youth governing board works hard to set an agenda in compliance with YAC-AZ goals.

To facilitate the sharing of information, YAC-AZ has developed a social networking site designed for people with disabilities known as www.yakkit.org. Based on existing website designs, such as Facebook, members may create their own profile, add and message friends, upload media content, and create blogs. What sets apart Yakkit.org however, are the built-in features that make it universally accessible. From icon passwords to video prompted website categories, Yakkit.org is designed to be accessible to a variety of disabilities and cognitive abilities.

Special Olympics Arizona Four Peaks Area
2100 S. 75th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85043
(602) 230-9135
Contact: Jamie Heckerman, Area Director
Email: jamie@SpecialOlympicsArizona.org
Website: www.specialolympicsarizona.org

Special Olympics is an unprecedented global movement that, through quality sport training and competition, improves the lives of people with intellectual disability. In turn, the lives of everyone they
touch are improved as well. Special Olympics empower people with intellectual disabilities to realize their full potential and develop their skills through year-round sports training and competition. As a result, Special Olympics athletes become fulfilled and productive members of the communities in which they live. Special Olympics is an experience that is energizing, healthy, skillful, welcoming, and joyful.

**TRANSITIONS for the Developmentally Disabled**
17018 S. 26th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85048
(480) 940-7915
Contact: Pam Karp
Email: [pamela@transitionsaz.org](mailto:pamela@transitionsaz.org)
Website: [www.transitionsaz.org](http://www.transitionsaz.org)

TRANSITIONS was founded by a parent of a special needs daughter to help special individuals transition through life according to their own wants, needs and special gifts – from elementary, middle school, and high school, to Day & Summer Adult and Teen Programs, to Individually Designed Living Arrangements (IDLAs) where individuals learn independence by living with a roommate in their own home with staff support & assistance. We provide employment out in the community through our TRANSITIONS EMPLOYMENT NETWORK which owns & operates businesses where we give individuals different Group & Individual Employment options to go out and “earn a paycheck”.

TRANSITIONS offers many kinds of HCBS Services, including our Respite Activity Program where individuals learn, grow and have fun with such activities as our "Just Friends" Weekend Retreat, cooking classes, arts & crafts, movie nights, and our Cool Jam Sessions.

We treat our clients, their families, and our staff as our family and the results can be seen in the smiles and successes of every individual involved in our organization. As your support team, we take great pride in assisting and guiding your child & family each and every step of the way through life’s transitions.

**Tungland Corporation, The**
4747 N. 7th St., Suite 300
Phoenix, AZ 85014
(602) 606-8136
Contact: Courtney Fastiggi
Email: [courtneyf@tungland.com](mailto:courtneyf@tungland.com)
Website: [www.tungland.com](http://www.tungland.com)

The Tungland Corporation (TTC) offers support services for children, adolescents, adults and elders, ranging from residential community-based services, day treatment programs, in-home respite, habilitation and attendant care, to specialized living arrangements, foster or host homes, counseling, consulting, and employment/vocational support services. Our vision is that every person is capable of growth! TTC is committed to providing every service an individual needs during every part of their life. We are committed to offering every individual, regardless of ability, the best life possible by challenging each individual to become an independent and overall healthy community member.
University of Arizona Project SEARCH  
PO Box 245052  
Tucson, AZ 85724  
(520) 626-0677  
Website: [http://projectsearch.sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/](http://projectsearch.sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/)

Project SEARCH is an employment training program for youth and young adults with disabilities that takes place entirely within a host business. Project SEARCH sites in the Greater Phoenix area include Medtronic (Tempe), Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa (Glendale), and Core-Mark Arizona Distribution Center (Tolleson). In Tucson, program sites are at Banner UMC Tucson, Banner UMC South, and the University of Arizona main campus.

University of Arizona, SALT Center  
Phoenix Admission Office  
714 E. VanBuren Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
602-827-2277  
Website: [www.salt.arizona.edu](http://www.salt.arizona.edu)

The SALT Center is an academic support program that provides a comprehensive range of fee-based services to university students with learning and attention challenges. Services include individualized educational planning, learning strategies instruction, tutoring, writing center, math skill development, assistive technology, workshops, and psychological services. Space is limited in our program and student’s need to apply and be accepted to receive services. Application information is available at [http://www.salt.arizona.edu/undergrad.php](http://www.salt.arizona.edu/undergrad.php)

University of Arizona; Disability Resource Center  
P.O. Box 2100095  
1224 E. Lowell  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0095  
(520) 626-9794  
Email: drc@email.arizona.edu

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) and the University of Arizona are committed to facilitating full access for students with disabilities through consultation with faculty and the provision of reasonable accommodations. This resource is intended for any student with a disability considering higher education. An Access Consultant will be available for any student with a disability to answer questions regarding academic accommodations, understanding financial aid, how to succeed in college, what to look for in a Disability Resource Center, what you can find at the Disability Resource Center, living on the UA campus and much more.

Upper Iowa University  
1025 N. Country Club #313  
Mesa, AZ 85201  
Office: (480) 834-4620  
Website: [www.uiu.edu](http://www.uiu.edu)
The Upper Iowa Center in Mesa, Arizona, was established in September 2012. The center offers eleven majors on site. Additionally, courses can be blended with the distance learning programs to lead to a degree in several other majors. There are six eight-week terms offered each academic year. All classes at the Mesa Public School Student Services Building are offered in the evenings to minimize disruption to working adult learners. Upper Iowa has articulation agreements with the Maricopa Community College District, including Mesa Community College, to assist transfer students. We have also partnered with the City of Mesa, our Armed Forces, and the Fraternal Order of Police, to name a few.

Valley Center of the Deaf
5025 E. Washington St., Suite 114
Phoenix Arizona 85034
(602) 267-1921
Contact: Ellen Holmes
Email: ellenh@vcdaz.org
Website: www.vcdaz.org

Valley Center of the Deaf (VCD) is an agency which provides services for individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing. VCD empowers individuals to live independently and achieve personal goals. Our staffs are bilingual in English and American Sign language and services are free to the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard-of-Hearing. Our services are guided by the community we serve which includes: case management; counseling; client services for job seekers, college students and seniors which includes: help with job search, on the job training, independently living skills training, and teaching how to access community resources; Deaf-tutor-Deaf program for college students where they can receive tutoring in their primary language; Interpreter services for medical, employment, conferences and personal services; video remote interpreting; Deaf-Blind support to help promote independence with community living such as shopping, tending to personal business and appointments, and attending social and professional events. VCD also offers services to the community such as Interpreting workshops, American Sign language classes and we partner with other community groups to provide cultural experiences for our clients.

Valley Metro
101 N. 1st Ave., Suite 1100
Phoenix, AZ 85003
(602) 523-6070
Contact: Dolores Nolan
Email: dnolan@valleymetro.org
Website: www.ValleyMetro.org

Valley Metro, the valley’s transportation system, has a transit education program. We offer classroom presentations to all grade levels which cover all the steps of taking bus and light rail. Using Valley Metro can provide independence to get to school, work, shopping, fun places and other destinations! To plan your bus or light rail trip, find out about fares, individual routes and much more, go to ValleyMetro.org, use the Valley Metro Transit Book or call 602.253.5000. Save money by buying all day passes in advance instead of on the bus. Passes are available online, at a fare vending machine along the light rail route or at one of the many retail locations across the valley. Reduced fares are available for youth (age 6 through 18), seniors (age 65 and over) and persons with disabilities with proof of eligibility.