

# Agencies/Community Resources

This section features programs and services that support local families of students with disabilities in their efforts to provide special education and related services. The focus of these programs and services is support resources, student achievement, and post-secondary outcomes.

## **ABBA List**

[www.ABBAlist.com](http://www.ABBAlist.com)

(757) 573-7362

Lists free support resources available in the churches and in the communities of Hampton Roads.

## **ARC of Virginia**

[www.thearcofva.org](http://www.thearcofva.org)

(804) 649-8481

The ARC of Virginia promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

## **Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**

<http://www.cec.sped.org/>

(888) 232-7733

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) works to improve the educational success of children and youth with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

## **Endeppendence Center, Inc. (ECI)**

[www.endeppendence.org](http://www.endeppendence.org)

(757) 461-8007

The Endeppendence Center provides an array of independent living services to individuals with disabilities in South Hampton Roads.

## **Local Education Agency (LEA) School division information**

Chesapeake

<http://www.cpschools.com>

**Social Security Administration (SSA)**

<https://www.socialsecurity.gov/>

**Benefits for Children with Disabilities Booklet**

<http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10026.pdf>

**Apply for Disability Benefits - (Child under 18)**

<http://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/child.htm>

**Understanding Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for Children - 2014 Edition**

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/text-child-ussi.htm>

**Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)**

<http://www.dss.virginia.gov/>

(800) 552-3431

The Virginia Department of Social Services can assist individuals with disabilities who are Medicaid eligible. Local office contact information is available on the website.

**Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS)**

<http://www.vats.org/>

(804) 662-9990

<http://www.lions.odu.edu/org/vats/>

(757) 683-3639

VATS ensures that Virginians of all ages and abilities can acquire the appropriate, affordable assistive and information technologies and services they need to participate in society as active citizens.

**Virginia Association of Community Services Board (VACSB)**

<http://www.vacsb.org/>

(804) 330-3611

VACSB's provide the premier mental health, intellectual disability and substance use disorder services management and delivery in Virginia's Communities.

# Parent Resource Centers (PRCs)

Parental involvement has proven to be a key factor in the success of children in school. Not every parent knows how to be involved. Connecting the dots of communication between home and school is an important focus of the PRCs.

## **Chesapeake City Public Schools Parent Resource Center (PRC)**

LaEunice Brown, Information Specialist  
369 South Battlefield Blvd., Chesapeake, VA 23322  
(757) 482-5923 phone (757) 546-0990 fax

**Email:** [laeunice.brown@cpschools.com](mailto:laeunice.brown@cpschools.com)

**Website:** <http://www.cpschools.com/departments/prc/index.php>

### **Hours of Operation**

Monday & Tuesday:

9:00-5:00

Wed. thru Friday:

8:00-4:00

Evening and Saturday hours available by appointment

## **Are you moving?**

Find the PRC in your new area.

[www.vaprcs.org](http://www.vaprcs.org)

# Parent Organizations

This section features organizations with resources and programs designed to engage and support parents and caregivers around their child's education/services.

## **Center for Family Involvement (VCU)**

[www.centerforfamilyinvolvement.org](http://www.centerforfamilyinvolvement.org)

(877) 567-1122

The Center for Family Involvement works with families to increase their skills as advocates, mentors and leaders so that families, children and young adults with disabilities can lead the lives they want.

## **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**

[www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

(800) 869-6782.

Dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.

### **PACER – Champions for Children with Disabilities**

[www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org)

(952) 838-9000

Parent training and information for families of children with disabilities from birth through 21.

### **Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC)**

[www.peatc.org](http://www.peatc.org)

(800) 869-6782

Building positive futures for Virginia’s children with and without disabilities through family, school and community partnerships

### **Virginia Board for People with Disabilities**

[www.vaboard.org](http://www.vaboard.org)

(804) 786-0016

To create a Commonwealth that advances opportunities for independence, personal decision-making and full participation in community life for individuals with developmental and other disabilities.

### **Virginia Family Special Education Connection**

[www.vafamilysped.org](http://www.vafamilysped.org)

and

[www.doe.virginia.gov/special\\_ed/parents/](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/parents/)

A one-stop-shop for community, educational, family life, and legislative resources to support families and caregivers.

## **Special Education 101**

There are many resources in your school division and community to assist families as they journey with their child to successful educational outcomes. The following information is provided to help families along the way.

### **POWERBook**

The Parent Organizer With Educational Resources, created with 2012-13 VDOE sub grant funding and assistance from T-TAC ODU, was provided to parents as a resource guide.

## **Special Education Websites**

Virginia Dept. of Education – Special Education  
[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special\\_ed/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/index.shtml)

# **Local Education Agency (LEA) School Division Special Education Sites**

## **Chesapeake**

[http://www.cpschools.com/departments/special\\_education/index.php](http://www.cpschools.com/departments/special_education/index.php)

## **Transition (Life after high school)**

In the Commonwealth of Virginia transition planning begins at 14 years of age - or sooner, if deemed necessary by the IEP committee. Transition plans should address post-secondary outcomes in the areas of employment, education and independent living. Linkages to outside agencies and organizations that assist individuals with disabilities once they reach the age of majority (18 years of age) should be part of the plan as well.

## **Center on Transition Innovations**

<http://www.centerontransition.org/>

(804) 828-1851

Established by the Virginia Department of Education, the Center on Transition, Innovations seeks to assist students with disabilities transitioning to the world of work or postsecondary education.

## **i'mdetermined**

<http://www.imdetermined.org/>

i'mdetermined is a program for students with disabilities and their families seeking to develop their advocacy skills as they prepare for

## **Social Security Administration**

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/> (888) 377-5237

The Social Security Administration provides information on programs such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) that assists eligible individuals with disabilities.

### **Training and Technical Assistance Centers (T-TAC)**

<http://ttac.odu.edu/>

(888) 249-5529

TTACs are a system of support centers established to provide information and resources to improve educational outcomes for students with disabilities throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### **U.S. Department of Education**

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/index.html>

(202) 245-7468

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) is committed to equal educational access and inclusive policies for students with disabilities.

### **Virginia Board for People with Disabilities (VBPD)**

<http://www.vaboard.org/>

(804) 786-0016

The Virginia Board for People with Disabilities emphasizes independence and autonomy for individuals with disabilities. They provide a summer workshop for high school students entitled the *Youth Leadership Forum* which fosters advocacy and networking.

### **Virginia Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

<http://www.vadrs.org/>

(800) 552-5019

DARS provides services and resources for individuals with disabilities seeking employment and community involvement in the work place.

### **Virginia Department of Education**

[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special\\_ed/transition\\_svcs/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/transition_svcs/index.shtml)

(804) 225-2932

The Virginia Department of Education has established a website with transition resources for students and their families. It can be accessed from the link above.

**Virginia Department of Social Services**

<http://www.dss.virginia.gov/>

(800) 552-3431

The Virginia Department of Social Services can assist individuals with disabilities who are Medicaid eligible. Local office contact information is available on the website.

**Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center**

<http://www.wwrc.net/>

(800) 345-9972

The Center falls under the direction of the DARS and provides vocational assessments, training and other services for individuals with disabilities