



Regional Center of Orange County

*In Service to People with
Developmental Disabilities*

Kathleen McFarlin

Manager Family Support & Community Outreach

Regional Centers

- Two programs administered by Regional Centers in California
 - Federal (IDEA Part C) known as Early Start
 - California's Lanterman Act which established Regional Centers and provides regulations
- Network of 21 Regional Centers in California
 - Independent, non-profit organizations
 - Under contract with the State of California
 - Administered by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS)





RCOC: Who We Are

Branch offices of Regional Center Orange County

- East/South – Santa Ana
 - West /North – Cypress
 - Administrative office in Santa Ana
-
- Website: www.rcocdd.com



Population Served by RCOC

- Approximately 23,316 persons in Orange County receive RCOC services
- 3,567 Infants and Toddlers served from ages 0-3 through Early Start Program



*California's Birth to 36
Months Program*

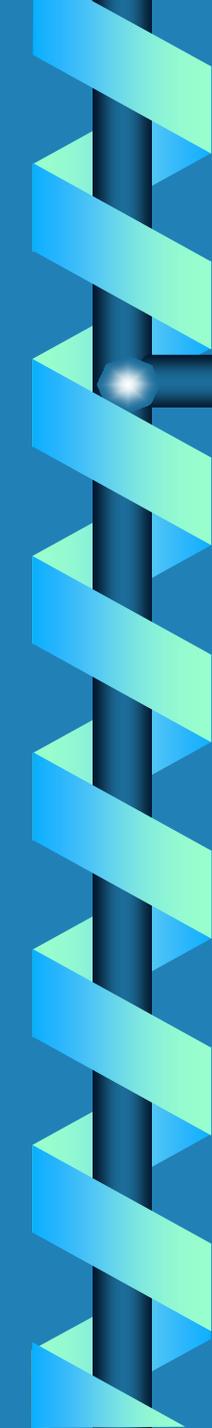
EARLY START



CALIFORNIA

**EARLY
START**

**for Infants
and
Toddlers
with
Disabilities
and Their
Families**



Early Start Eligibility

Part C (birth - 36 months of age)

Developmental Delay

- 33% delay in 1 or more areas of development (cognitive, motor, communication, social and adaptive)

Established Risk

- Condition of known etiology with a high probability of intellectual disability (e.g., Down syndrome)

High Risk or “At-Risk”

- At high risk of having substantial developmental disability due to a combination of biomedical risk factors..

Early Start Eligibility (cont.)

- Solely Low Incidence (SLI) Disability
Hearing, vision, orthopedic
and normal cognition

Served by the Department of Education

LANTERMAN ELIGIBILITY

(over age 3)

RCOC serves persons with developmental disabilities. As defined by law, such persons meet four criteria:

1. Must be a resident of Orange County
2. They have a qualifying diagnosis:
Intellectual Disability/ CP / Epilepsy / Autism / 5th Category.
3. Their disability began **prior to age 18.**
4. They have substantial disabilities in **3 or more of 7 legally mandated areas** that are the result of their qualifying diagnosis.
5. Their disability is expected to last indefinitely.



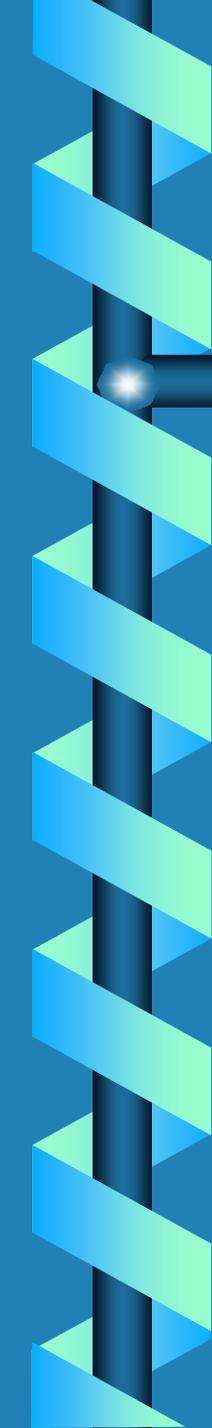
Excluded from Eligibility:

1. Solely learning disabilities.
2. Solely psychiatric disorders where deficits in intellectual or social functioning result from psychiatric disorders or their treatment.
3. Solely physical conditions that are acquired and not associated with neurological impairment resulting in the need for treatment like a person with Intellectual Disability.

7 Areas of Functioning are Reviewed by Age

Substantial Deficits in 3 Areas Need to be Identified

<u>Area</u>	<u>Birth to 5</u>	<u>6 to 18</u>	<u>Over18</u>
Learning	+	+	+
Rec. & Exp. Language	+	+	+
Mobility	+	+	+
Self-Care	+	+	+
Self-Direction	+	+	+
Independent Living		+	+
Economic Self-Sufficiency			+



Lanterman Funding Guidelines

Mandated to be payer of last resort

Use generic resources

Purchase of Service Guidelines

California Children Services

Cal-Optima

IHSS/SSI

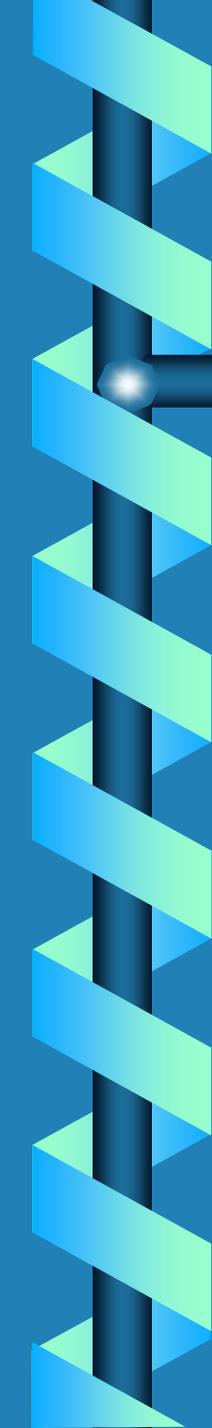
Private Insurance

Local Education Agency

Mental Health

Community Clinics

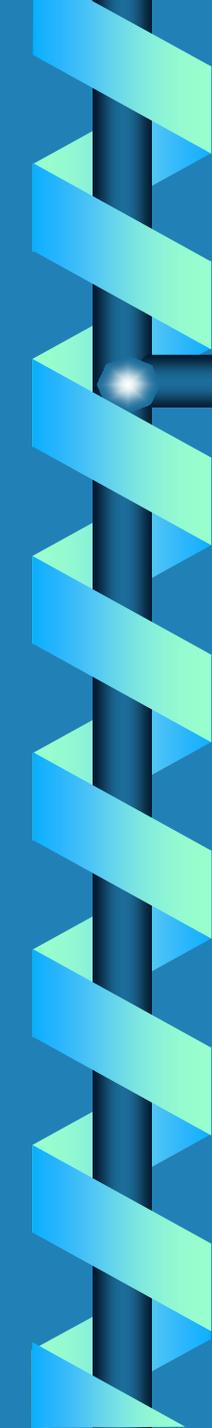
IHO – In home nursing



New Trend at RCOOC

Person-Centered Thinking

A new approach to case management putting the person-served in the center of all decisions – weighing what is important to and important for that individual.



Most Commonly Used Services Youth & Adolescents

This is not a complete listing of available services but just those most often utilized by school-aged individuals, age 3 – 22.

- Service Coordination
- Respite
- In-Home ABA
- Child Care Support
- Educational Support



Most Commonly Used Services Adults

- Service Coordination
- Respite
- Living Options
 - Independent Living Training
 - Independent Living Services
 - Supported Living Services
 - Licensed Homes
- Employment Support
- Adult Day Programs
- Medical & Dental Services (not otherwise covered by insurance)
- Personal Assistance

Comfort Connection Family Resource Center



*Giulia Rodriguez, Nickie Patton, Kaitlynn Truong,
Reina Hernandez, Patricia Garcia &
Kathleen McFarlin*





Comfort Connection Family Resource Center

- One of 47 FRCs throughout the State designated as an Early Start Family Resource Center.
- Comfort Connection is the Orange County Early Start FRC
- Staffed primarily by parents of children with special needs
- Comfort Connection Family Resource Center and Regional Center collaborate to serve families and individuals throughout life



Comfort Connection Family Resource Center

Services Include:

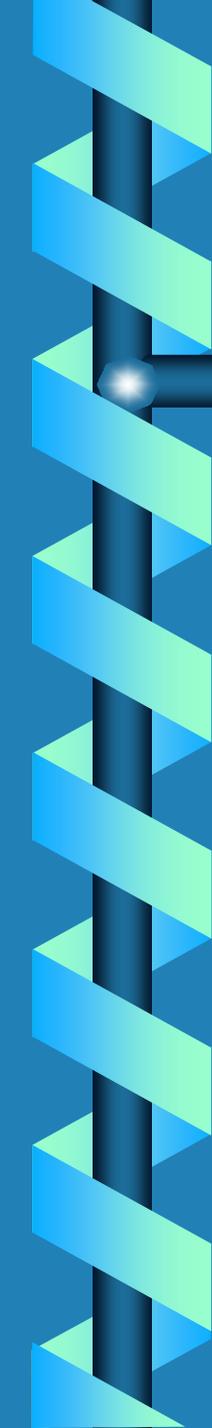
- Emotional Support to Parents by Parents
- Community Resources & Referrals
- Library of articles, books & DVDs
- Activity boxes for loan to Early Start families
- Weekly email blasts regarding O.C. events/workshops
- Monthly Educational Presentations
- Transition Assistance into Part B (Sp. Ed. Preschool)
- A to Z listing of all O.C. Parent Support Groups
- Low Incidence Family Support



Resources for Children

Over 400 weblinks to all types of family resources can be found at:

www.rcocdd.com/frc/ccfrc/resources



Thank You!



Areas of Substantial Disability with an Eligible Diagnosis for Regional Center Eligibility

Self-care—the individual has significant limitations in the ability to acquire and perform basic self-care skills.

Consider:

- Personal hygiene (e.g. toileting, washing and bathing, brushing teeth)
- Grooming (e.g. dressing, undressing, hair and nail care)
- Feeding (e.g. chewing and swallowing, eating, drinking, use of utensils)

Receptive and Expressive Language—the individual has significant limitations in both the comprehension and expression of verbal and/or nonverbal communication resulting in functional impairments. There must be impairment in receptive **and** expressive language.

Consider:

- Standardized measures of receptive and expressive language
- Receptive language includes: significant difficulty understanding a simple conversation, needing information to be rephrased to a simpler level in order to enhance understanding, significant difficulty following directions (not due to general noncompliance), and significant difficulty understanding and interpreting nonverbal communication (e.g. gestures, facial expressions)
- Expressive language includes: significant difficulty communicating information, significant difficulty participating in basic conversations (e.g. following rules for conversation and storytelling, tangential speech, fixation on specific topics)
- Atypical speech patterns (e.g. jargon, idiosyncratic language, echolalia) significantly impair the individual's ability to communicate

Learning—the individual must be substantially impaired in the ability to acquire and apply knowledge or skills to new situations even with special intervention.

Consider:

- General intellectual ability
- Academic achievement levels
- Retention (e.g. short and/or long term memory)
- Reasoning (e.g. ability to grasp concepts, to perceive “cause and effect” relationships, ability to generalize information and skills from one situation to another)

Mobility—the individual has significant limitations with independent ambulation. Mobility does not refer to the ability to operate motor vehicles or use public transportation.

Consider:

- Needing crutches, walker or wheelchair for mobility
- Gait abnormalities and/or coordination problems significantly interfere with mobility (e.g. unable to walk long distances due to fatigue from the significant effort involved in ambulating; difficulty negotiating stairs or uneven ground)

Self-Direction—the individual has significant impairment in the ability to make and apply personal and social judgments and decisions.

Consider:

- Emotional development (e.g. routinely has significant difficulty coping with fears, anxieties or frustrations; severe maladaptive behaviors, such as self-injurious behavior)
- Interpersonal relations (e.g. has significant difficulties establishing and maintaining relationships with family or peers; social immaturity; marked difficulty protecting self from exploitation)
- Personal independence (e.g. significant difficulty maintaining daily schedules, responding appropriately in an emergency, taking medications as directed)

Capacity for Independent Living (ages 6 and up)—the individual is unable to perform age-appropriate independent living skills without the assistance of another person.

Consider:

- Significant difficulty performing age-appropriate, simple household tasks
- Significant difficulty managing multiple-step domestic activities (e.g. grocery shopping, meal planning and preparation, laundry, care and selection of clothing, home repair and maintenance)
- Does not have age-appropriate capacity to be left unsupervised (e.g. lack of safety awareness)
- Significant difficulty with money management (e.g. using bank accounts, making small purchases independently) and budgeting

Economic Self-Sufficiency (ages 18 and up)—the individual lacks the capacity to participate in vocational training or to obtain and maintain employment without significant support.

*Regional Center of Orange County – 4/25/14
Administration (714) 796-5100
Intake (714) 796-5354*



REGIONAL CENTER
OF ORANGE COUNTY

Comfort Connection
Family Resource Center



**Comfort Connection Family Resource Center
Invites you to visit**

RESOURCES For CHILDREN

www.rcocdd.com/frc/ccfrc/resources

Do you need to find help with ...



Child Care?



Dentists?



Toilet Training?



Support
Groups?



Recreation
Activities?



Diagnosis-
Specific
Information?

**Our webpage offers FREE resources to support children and young adults
having special needs in Orange County!**

Or call Comfort Connection at 714-558-5400 for assistance.



Comfort Connection
Family Resource Center



**El Centro de Recursos Para la Family Comfort Connection
Lo Invita a Visitar**

RECURSOS Para NIÑOS

www.rcocdd.com/frc/ccfrc/resources

Necesita encontrar ayuda con ...



¿Cuidado de Niños?



¿Dentista?



¿Diagnosis-
Información Especifica?



¿Grupos de Apoyo?



¿Actividades Recreacionales?



¿Entrenamiento Para Ir al Baño?

¡Nuestro sitio de internet ofrece recursos GRATIS para apoyar a niños y jóvenes que tienen Necesidades Especiales en el Condado de Orange!

Ó llame a Comfort Connection al 714-558-5400 por asistencia.



REGIONAL CENTER
OF ORANGE COUNTY



Trung Tâm Tài Nguyên Gia Đình Comfort Connection
Mời bạn vào thăm trang mạng:

Những Tài Nguyên dành cho Trẻ

www.rcocdd.com/frc/ccfrc/resources

Bạn đang cần tìm thông tin giúp đỡ về ...



Dịch vụ giữ trẻ?



Nha Sĩ?



Tập cho trẻ ngồi bô?



Các nhóm
hỗ trợ?



Thông tin về
các hoạt động
vui chơi giải trí?



Chuẩn đoán
y khoa-
Thông tin cụ thể?

Trang mạng của chúng tôi cung cấp miễn phí các thông tin và tài nguyên nhằm hỗ trợ trẻ em và người trưởng thành có nhu cầu đặt biệt trong quận Cam
Hoặc gọi cho Comfort Connection tại 714-558-5405 để được giúp đỡ.



MEMBERSHIP

Free membership, online at www.ganinfo.org, provides **tools and new resources for grandparents** and their families.

Grandparents are informed about the **medical, educational, legal and social issues** that impact all generations.

Current discoveries are reported regarding the **causes, diagnosis and treatment of autism.**

Autism experts and grandparents share **practical tips and recommendations** that benefit families.

Guides are available for starting **new grandparent support groups**, and for sponsoring **projects and events in other communities** .

“ From its inception, GAN has helped grandparents to increase knowledge, support and resources for their families and the community. ”

Joseph H. Donnelly, M.D.
*Medical Director, The Center for Autism
& Neurodevelopmental Disorders*



Networking together, grandparents are a vital resource for autism ... and each other!

360 E. First St. #202, Tustin, CA 92780
www.ganinfo.org | info@ganinfo.org

Our mission is to promote awareness and understanding of autism and to enhance the resources essential to community responsiveness.



PROGRAMS

GAN encourages the development of new lifetime resources in education, job training, employment, transportation, housing and community integration.

GAN partners with local and national organizations, universities, hospitals and philanthropic groups to increase support for the autism community.

GAN recruits professional, community and student volunteers for projects to promote advocacy.

GAN participates in events that benefit three generations of family members affected by autism.

GAN is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Tax ID#20-5230144

FAMILY AUTISM NETWORK

The Family Autism Network is a program co-sponsored by GAN to increase access to local and national autism resources.

The FAN website, www.faninfo.org, posts autism events in Orange County, California and it shares ideas and resources for grandparents and their families world-wide.



360 E. First St. #202, Tustin, CA 92780
www.faninfo.org | info@faninfo.org

Paula West-Hernandez – Bio



Paula West-Hernandez is a Project Manager at TASK, an Orange County-based nonprofit that serves as the largest Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) in California. She oversees TASK's PTI activities in five counties, including Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Imperial. Additionally, she oversees the programs and services for TASK's major grants, including a PTI grant, Family Empowerment Center grant, Families and Communities Together (FaCT) grant, and a military grant.

Paula completed graduate work in education at Chapman University, earned a B.A. in Social Science from Biola University, and holds a Clear Single Subject Teaching Credential from California State University, Los Angeles. She has developed many workshops on special education and other disability-related topics and has been called upon to present for parent groups, professional agencies, school districts, and at conferences.

As a person who is blind, and the mother of an adult son with a disability, Paula understands the challenges that parents face in trying to navigate disability benefits and educational systems. Helping families who have children with disabilities is her passion and helping them find hope is her greatest reward.

TASK

Helping families navigate:

▲ Special education

▲ Disability services

▲ Assistive technology

taskca.org

Toll-Free in CA: 866.828.8275



TASK is a nonprofit serving:

Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino,
San Diego & Imperial Counties

We are a *Parent Training and Information Center*
and a *Family Empowerment Center*

TASK Office Locations



- Brea (Main Office)**
- Alhambra
- Spring Valley
- Riverside

** TECH Center location



Mission Statement



TASK educates and empowers people with disabilities and their families.

Disclaimer

- TASK staff are not advocates or attorneys. We do not provide recommendations, legal advice, or suggestions.
- Our family support specialists offer peer-to-peer support, information and options to parents of children with disabilities, so they can become informed members of the IEP team and work collaboratively with schools.

Family Support Specialist (FSS) Services

- One-on-one phone consultations
- Virtual IEP consultations and review of documentation
- Assistance with letter writing
- Educational webinars
- Support for Military Families
- Information and resources
- Virtual community outreach

Webinars Include:

- Navigating Early Intervention and Special Education, COVID
- Assessment Process
- Basic Rights & Responsibilities
- Section 504
- Navigating Special Education
- Bullying Prevention: Everyone's Responsibility
- Navigating Special Education During Distance Learning
- Journey Through Adolescence
- Transition to Middle School
- Getting & Keeping Your First Job (Parents)
- Youth Voices Matter: COVID-19 Challenges
- Disability Awareness and Self-Advocacy in the Workplace (Youth)
- Tips & Tricks to Get and Keep a Job (Youth)
- Transition to Postsecondary Life

TASK Online Support Groups

■ Parent Connection

- Support Group for Parents Only
- Led by TASK Staff
- Monthly Topic
- Padlet with Resources sent out after each session
- Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month from 10 -11 a.m.

■ Restorative Connection

- Support Group for Parents Only
- Led by a Mental Health Professional
- Challenging and Sensitive topics
- Meets twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6 -7 p.m.

<https://taskca.org/calendar>

Tech Center Services Include:

- Assistive Technology Webinars
- Individualized Online Lab Appointments
- AT Consultations/Clinics
- TECH Connection (Online)
 - Social/Life Skills Group ages 14+
- AAC Services
 - Project Communicate –
FREE One Hour AAC Consultation
- Information and Resources



ALL SERVICES BY APPOINTMENT

A.T. Webinars Include:

- Apps for Auditory and Visual Skills
- Apps for Early Learning
- Apps for Spelling and Phonics
- Favorite FUN Apps
- Marvelous Math Apps
- Reading Apps
- Social and Life Skills Apps
- Writing Apps
- Assistive Technology for Sensory Difficulties
- Fabulous Freebies: Assistive Technology at No Cost and Adaptation Ideas for Very Low Cost
- Intro to Assistive Technology
- Let's Talk Low Tech AAC Series
 - Let's Talk Low Tech AAC: An Intro
 - AAC Outside the Box



TECH Tidbits from TASK

(Assistive Technology focused E -Newsletter)

TO SUBSCRIBE, visit:

<http://taskca.org/tech-center/>



TASK

3040 Saturn Street, #103, Brea, CA
92821

(866) 828-8275 Toll Free in CA

www.taskca.org

