

# Special Needs Planning: Help and Advice

Parenting a child with special needs has its own unique set of joys and challenges. While you are undoubtedly the foremost expert on your child and his or her needs, desires and future aspirations, it can be a daunting task to undertake special needs planning on your own.

Because of the specialized nature of special needs planning, seek out professionals - attorneys, trust officers, financial advisors - with experience in the special needs planning process. Guidance counselors, special education professionals and other parents who have children with special needs can also be great resources to tap into.

In addition, there are a variety of organizations whose purpose is to provide assistance to people with disabilities and their families. We offer a few here in the hope they will be of assistance to you:

**National Information Center for  
Children & Youth with Disabilities  
(NICHCY)**  
[www.nichcy.org](http://www.nichcy.org)

A national information and referral center providing information on disabilities and disability-related issues for families, educators and other professionals. Available in English and Spanish.

**S.N.A.P. (Special Needs Advocate  
for Parents)**  
[www.snapinfo.org](http://www.snapinfo.org)

A non-profit corporation with the mission of providing information, education, advocacy and referrals to the families of special needs children.

**Exceptional Parent Magazine**  
[www.eparent.com](http://www.eparent.com)

A publication for families of children and young adults with disabilities and special needs.

**Parents Helping Parents**  
[www.php.com](http://www.php.com)

A parental resource center whose mission is to help children with special needs reach their full potential.