

# Programs: Children Who Require Additional Support

RichmondKids.ca

## BC Centre for Ability

Provides early intervention therapy, rehabilitation and vocational services for young children with physical, neurological and developmental challenges.

### Program Information

The BC Centre for Ability wants to help you and your family with giving your child the best life possible. If your child has a disability, developmental delays, or you just have questions, they're here to help.

What they do:

- Brain Injury Services
- Social Emotional Services
- Therapy Services
- Vocational Services
- Family and Professional Resources

Download a [referral form for the Early Intervention Therapy Program](#).

#### BC Centre for Ability Main Office

2805 Kingsway  
Vancouver, BC V5R 5H9  
Tel: (604) 451-5511  
Web: [www.bc-cfa.org](http://www.bc-cfa.org)

#### BC Centre for Ability Richmond Office

Richmond Caring Place  
154 - 7000 Minoru Boulevard  
Richmond, BC V6Y 3Z5  
Tel: (604) 272-7322

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 604-451-5511

**Alternate Phone:** Therapy Services (Richmond):  
604-272-7322

**Website:** <http://www.bc-cfa.org>

## Family Resources and Coordination

Provides information, resources and/or support to family members who face the extraordinary circumstances that come with having a family member with a developmental disability.

### Program Information

Services include:

- Refers families to services and programs offered by community partners
- Can act as an advocate for the family to ensure appropriate continuum of care
- Assists with life transitions such as from services for children to services for adults
- Family networking
- Training and information sessions

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 604-279-8245

**Website:** <http://www.rscl.org/family-respite/>



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## Family Support Institute

Strengthen and supports families who have a family member with a disability.

### Program Information

The Family Support Institute is run by families like yours. They provide information, resources, and training. All of their workshops are written, and run by families. Some workshops include:

- Key roles for families in ensuring good lives
- Families leading the way
- Preschool transitions
- Registered disability savings plan

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 1-800-441-5403

**Website:** <http://www.familysupportbc.com>

## Infant Development Program

Provides support for children birth to 3 years of age who may have or are at risk of a delay in development.

### Program Information

This program is for families whose child has a developmental delay, at risk for one, or has a diagnosis which could lead to a developmental delay. Services are available in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

Program services include:

- Home visits to encourage your child's progress through play-based activities
- Parent/caregiver support in your first language
- Assistance in understanding and responding to your child's needs
- Education in typical and atypical development, and disabilities
- Screening tools such as questionnaires and developmental assessments to determine your child's strengths and needs
- Written reports and records documenting your child's ongoing progress
- Toy and book-lending library
- Connections with other available services and community professionals
- Help including your child in community activities
- Support for families in advocating for their child

Download a copy of their [handbook!](#)

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 604-279-7016

**Website:**

<http://www.rscl.org/infant-development-program/>

## PACE

Pace is a healing and learning centre for children with significant emotional and/or behavioural challenges and their families.

### Program Information

Pace offers general and child-specific support to preschools and child care centres through Outreach Support Services. Programs and services they offer are:

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 604-266-3141

**Website:** <https://thepaceprogram.ca/>

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- Outreach support services
- Supporting healthy transitions
- PACE Family Program (therapeutic preschool)
- Therapy for children (Play, Art, and expressive Arts)

## Respite Care

Respite care providers give families a break by spending a few hours or an over-night period with their child with developmental disabilities.

### Program Information

Sometimes you just need a few hours to yourself, or even a night. The respite care program can do that for you, whether it's to get things done around the house, or if you just need to rest and renew.

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 604-279-8245

**Website:** <http://www.rscl.org/family-respite/>

## Supported Child Development

Helps families with children with developmental disabilities to access childcare.

### Program Information

Provides you with information, resources, and helps you access appropriate child care services. If your child needs additional supports when it comes to child care, they will be able to help you find preschool, day care, and out of school care.

Program Services Include:

- Planning
- Training
- Resources
- Hands on support

Download a copy of their [handbook!](#)

### Get in Touch:

**Phone:** 604-279-7010

**Website:**

<http://www.rscl.org/supported-child-development>

## Autism Information Services British Columbia (AIS BC) Get in Touch:

Provides information and supports for autism and related disorders to families, service providers, and community professionals across the province.

### Program Information

Autism Information Services British Columbia (AIS BC) is a provincial information centre for autism and related disorders that provides information and supports to families, service providers, and community professionals across the province. AIS BC can assist by providing information on assessment and diagnosis; best practice treatment options; learning about and navigating the Autism Funding Program; paperwork; finding and hiring professionals; identifying and accessing provincial and local-level community supports and services; and managing transitions across infancy, preschool, school-age and emerging adulthood.

**Phone:** 1 844 878-4700

**Email:** [AutismInformation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AutismInformation@gov.bc.ca)

**Website:** <http://autisminfo.gov.bc.ca>

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

## The C.O.D.E. Initiative

The C.O.D.E. Initiative is at the forefront of empowering youth, particularly neurodivergent and autistic youth, through tailored STEM workshops and coding classes.

### Program Information

The C.O.D.E. Initiative is a female-founded non-profit organization that stands for Creating Opportunities and Defining Education.

**In 2021, The C.O.D.E Initiative was awarded a grant from the BC Tech Association's Digital Lift program.** This funding has allowed the organization to create the codewithCODE bursary program. The aim is to increase access to inclusive coding education, by breaking down cost barriers for those with financial need. Close to 200 workshop bursaries will be distributed through the application process, **allowing neurodivergent students to register for courses at no cost** to their families.

The codewithCODE program is open to children aged 6 to 17, who are diagnosed or self-identify as *neurodivergent*.

### What is meant by neurodivergent?

Neurodivergent means students who are diagnosed or self-identify as being on the **Autism Spectrum** or having **ADD/ADHD, Dyslexia, GAD, or any other special needs or intellectual or developmental disabilities**. It also mean any student who has any sort of exceptionality or **learning difference** that would benefit from 1:1 teaching.

### Get in Touch:

**Email:** [engagement@thecodeinitiative.ca](mailto:engagement@thecodeinitiative.ca)

**Website:** <http://thecodeinitiative.ca/codewithcode>