



Resources for Children with Intellectual Disabilities

This is a summary of services provided in the community for special needs children. Most resources can be accessed by the family or any health care provider. If a doctor referral is required, I will say so.

1. **Infant Development Program:** www.idpofbc.ca
IDP consultant will assess child's level of function and provide advice to parents
2. **Speech Therapy** – provided through local health units (up to age 5 years)
3. **Day care or preschool** with supported child care. Supported child care placement can be accessed through Centre for Ability (See # 5)
4. **Alan Cashmore Centre** (Vancouver based) Phone # 604-675-3996
Provides services for children (less than age 5 years) with mental health or behavioural problems (not children with ASD). Service includes assessment and family based treatment– therapist, parenting skills, speech therapy, psychiatry consult.
Infant and child psychiatry services are available in Richmond (TRH), N. Vancouver, New Westminister, Surrey, Whistler, Kelowna and Kamloops.
5. **Centre for Ability:** www.bc-cfa.org
Provides services for children (PT, OT, speech therapy, social worker) through 3 programs:
 - a. Early intervention program- for child up to age 5 years with a neuro-developmental disability
 - b. Acquired brain injury program- children up to age 19 years
 - c. Supported childcare program – for children who need additional help in preschool. A parent referral is required.
6. **Centre for Child Development** in Surrey & Langley: www.the-centre.org Phone # 604-584-1361
Services:
 - a. Early intervention program – birth to age 5 years. Includes PT, OT, & speech therapy
 - b. Supported child care program
 - c. School age services – PT, OT
 - d. Psychology service
 - e. Eating skills program – DOCTOR referral required
7. **Sunny Hill CDBC:** www.bcchildrens.ca/our-services/sunny-hill-health-centre Phone # 604-453-8300
DOCTOR referral required. Provides diagnostic assessment for children with significant difficulties over several areas of function. Initial assessment may be done at Sunny Hill, then the child referred to a regional centre for ongoing evaluation e.g. Fraser Valley Development Centre.
8. **Ministry of Children & Family Development:**
MCFD provides services to children with documented intellectual disability, ASD or children with handicaps requiring the At Home Program. Children with developmental delay must have a psychological assessment in order to receive service.
List of services:
 - a. Respite/ parent support
 - b. Behaviour support by professionals- assessment, consultation, training
 - c. Emergency homemaker help e.g. Single parent requires surgery
 - d. Residential services



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9. **Developmental Disability Association** (for Vancouver & Richmond): www.develop.bc.ca
Provides:
 - a. IDP
 - b. Child development centres
 - c. After school programs
 - d. Family support & advocacy
10. **Pacific Community Resources Society**: www.pcrs.ca 604-412-7950
Provides key worker for children with FASD or complex needs (waiting list is about 2 years). Also has parent education/training services.
11. **Family Support Institute**: www.findsupportbc.com
Provide support to families of disabled children. Also tries to arrange peer-to-peer mentors & workshops
12. **Disability tax credit & Disability Savings Plan** info: www.rdsp.com Phone # -1-844-311-7526
13. **Special Olympics** – free!: www.sobcvancouver.org
Begin athletic training for special needs kids as young as age 2 years. Will check vision & hearing of all participants

That is the list for now.

There is more help out there than you'd think!