

WARM WELCOME ADDITIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES SIGNPOSTING DOCUMENT



Additional
Needs
Alliance 

There are lots of ways to access further advice, resources and support to help us stand with and support families that include a child, young person, or young adult with additional needs, as well as disabled adults.

If you use Facebook, join the Additional Needs Alliance at:

www.facebook.com/groups/additionalneedsalliance

or visit the website at: www.additionalneedsalliance.org.uk for more information.

For more details about Urban Saints Additional Needs Ministry programme for supporting children, young people and young adults with additional needs, and their families, please visit: www.urbansaints.org/additionalneeds or contact the Additional Needs Ministry Director at marnold@urbansaints.org follow him on Twitter @Mark_J_Arnold or read his blog at www.theadditionalneedsblogfather.com

Other useful websites include:

Care For The Family: <https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk>

A national charity which aims to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties. We focus primarily on the following areas of family life: marriage, parenting (including additional needs parenting) and bereavement. Our aim is to be accessible to every family whatever their circumstances and to create resources and support that are preventative, evidence-based and easy to apply.

Christians Against Poverty: <https://capuk.org>

Poverty just loves to destroy lives. It breaks families apart, isolates people from friends and family, shatters confidence and drives many to think that suicide is the only way out. UK poverty is real, with millions locked in its miserable grip. We're not prepared to sit back and let it wreak havoc across our nation. That's why CAP is on a mission. To restore hope for those who are lost and hurting. In partnership with incredible local churches across the UK, we're bringing life-changing freedom and good news to people in desperate need.

Citizens Advice: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/>

It's important to make sure that you get all the help that you're entitled to. These pages give you information on benefits and tax credits if you are working or unemployed, sick or disabled, a parent, a young person, an older person or a veteran. There is also information about council tax and housing costs, national insurance, payment of benefits and problems with benefits. Invaluable if you are supporting a family in this area.

Count Everyone In <https://www.counteveryonein.org.uk/>

With a breadth of experience across denominations, church groups, ages and abilities, Count Everyone In wants to see all Christians mobilised to use the gifts God has given so that we all live life to the full, as God intended, and give that same invitation to life to those who might otherwise miss out. Count Everyone In challenges, encourages, advises and supports churches to welcome and be accessible for adults with learning disabilities.

Mind and Soul Foundation: <https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org>

We believe in a God who loves us AND cares about our emotional and mental health. Our faith and emotions are often kept separate. Mental health is rarely discussed in churches and Christian spirituality is seen as having little to offer the world of psychology. We want to bridge that gap.

- To Educate: Sharing the best of Christian theology and scientific advances.
- To Equip: Helping people meet with God and recover from emotional distress.
- To Encourage: Engaging with the local church and mental health services.

Reachout Autism Support Consultants: <https://reachoutasc.com>

We are passionate about helping people understand the experiences and

perspectives of autistic young people in schools and building supportive and effective programmes that help them feel safe, learn and thrive in school. We see the whole child, through their whole education and how we can help them make those next steps into further education or training. We now have the ability to look further than this and support autistic people in employment and train managers, employers and co-workers in understanding autism and neurodiversity.

Sibs: <https://www.sibs.org.uk>

Sibs exists to support people who grow up with or have grown up with a disabled brother or sister. It is the only UK charity representing the needs of over half a million young siblings and over one and a half million adult siblings.

Signs of God: <https://www.signsofgod.org.uk/>

Signs of God advance the use of British Sign Language in Christian settings and promote and enable full participation in the Christian faith of people who use British Sign Language. Signs of God training is highly respected in the Christian arena, among BSL tutors and in the interpreting profession. We offer high quality training at affordable prices. We welcome Deaf and hearing people to participate in all our training.

Take 5 And Chat: <http://www.take5andchat.org.uk>

When you have a child who needs a little extra care, or presents more of a challenge, you can easily feel isolated and different. Many other parents can't understand the anxieties and concerns that you live with. We are now encouraging others to set up and run Café Drop-in sessions in accessible community buildings for the sole purpose of providing support and encouragement to those parenting/caring for children with additional needs.

The Dads' Fire Circle: <https://thedadsfirecircle.com/>

A place for Dads of children with additional needs to gather and journey together; where additional needs Dads from anywhere can share stuff, maybe one-off, maybe journeying together for a bit, maybe even meeting up for real sometimes. A bit of a 'Dads' Fire Circle'...

The Pondering Platypus: <https://www.theponderingplatypus.com>

Supporting inclusion, belonging and faith formation for every age and ability. Connect with the ministry of Kay Morgan-Gurr, working alongside, with and for disabled people and those with additional needs, as a speaker, consultant, advisor, trainer and writer.

The Trussell Trust (foodbanks): <https://www.trusselltrust.org>

We support a nationwide network of food banks and together we provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK. There are more than 1,200 food bank centres in our network, about two thirds of the food banks in the UK. We support these food banks to provide a minimum of three days' nutritionally-balanced emergency food to people who have been referred in crisis (for instance by advice agencies, GPs, social services and schools), as well as support to help people resolve the crises they face.

Through The Roof: <https://throughtheroof.org/>

Through the Roof exists to transform lives through Jesus with disabled people. The name comes from the Bible account where some men break through the roof to help their disabled friend meet Jesus (*Luke 5*). We recognise that every person is made in the image of God and has inherent value and worth, which includes people who have personal experience of disability. Many of our dedicated trustees, staff team, volunteers and donors have personal experience of disability and seek to make a positive difference to the lives of disabled people and their families by:

- Providing life-changing opportunities for disabled people
- Equipping the Christian community to fully involve disabled people

Torch Trust: <https://torchtrust.org/>

If you are living with sight loss or support someone who is, Torch is here for you. There is all sorts of help and support available from lots of different sources, but Torch has a unique focus on the spiritual needs of blind and partially sighted people. So, whether it's an accessible Bible or Christian book, encouragement, fellowship or support, we're here to serve you.

Young Carers: <https://carers.org/about-caring/about-young-carers>

A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled, has a mental health condition or misuses drugs or alcohol. Carers Trust helps young carers to cope with their caring role through specialised services delivered by Carers Trust Network Partners across the UK.

