



Life happens...and every now and then, you just want to cry for help. My sister looked for help and referred me to Matrix. All my questions and concerns were answered immediately and thoroughly. It was literally as if "the clouds had parted."

—From a parent of two children with mental illness

Dear Friends,

Clouds must part every day for more than 24,000 children with special needs in Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma counties! With help from the community, Matrix makes that happen. Equally important, Matrix empowers parents to make it happen. For example, the clouds parted for...



...Carmen and Pedro* who, faced with their 2-year-old's new autism diagnosis, discovered that a Matrix Parent Advisor, also the mother of a child with autism, had confronted the same issues. She understood their feelings. **They no longer felt entirely alone—still worried, but not alone.**

...Diane and Mike who, empowered with the records Matrix had coached them to create and maintain, **were able to secure a new school placement for their child**, whose needs were not met in the previous school.



...Monique, who was **able to search our website in the middle of the night**. She found information that was critical to advocating for her son, who might otherwise not be able to access the services he needed to overcome his learning disabilities.

...David and Nancy who, based on knowledge gained from a variety of Matrix resources and encouraged by ongoing emotional support from Matrix, were **able to ask the doctor questions** that led to an accurate diagnosis of their son's physical and mental challenges.

Matrix was founded by caring individuals committed to parting the clouds in order to change lives. Almost 30 years later, **they're still parting clouds and changing lives. But Matrix can't do it alone. Matrix needs you, too.** Please use the enclosed envelope or donate online at www.matrixparents.org.

Lynne Wasley

Former Matrix Client and Sr. Parent Advisor
Founder, United Safe Schools Novato

Barbara Tuscany

Coordinator, Healdsburg Special Education Parents' Group
Parent Mentor

**All names changed to protect privacy*

parent network
+ resource center
Matrix

Empowering families of children with special needs to understand and access the systems that serve them

Helpline: 800.578.2592

www.matrixparents.org

Matrix Parent Network & Resource Center • 94 Galli Drive, Ste. C, Novato, CA 94949 • 1615 W. Texas Street, Ste. 4, Fairfield, CA 94533