



November 2014

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## Protections & Safeguards!

Just as highway guardrails are there to help keep us safe, Special Education has safeguards to protect the rights of children and parents. Examples include: timelines, written notices, requirements for parent and professional participation, IEP specifications, and methods to resolve disagreements.

When all goes along smoothly, many parents are not aware of what is written into law so that their children are provided a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) which results in meaningful educational benefit.

- **Focus** on your rights and protections before there is a problem
- **Be proactive** and learn now
- [Sign up now](#) for our Rights and Protections training

[Click here for more information about all of our upcoming trainings.](#)

## Support Groups

[Upcoming Coffee, Conversation & Companionship](#)

[Other Matrix support groups](#)

## Early Years

### California will expand Early Start eligibility

In January 2015, California will expand eligibility for Early Start. More information to come!

[Read article: Development Services Budget Passed](#)

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## Do One Good Thing for Matrix on Giving Tuesday!

Here are two great options:



[MAKE YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE ONLINE GIFT!](#)

Matrix has been helping families of children with special needs in the North Bay for over 30 years by providing information training and support. We have helped thousands of families to find and access the important services their child needs to be successful in school and into adulthood. These families feel more supported and connected. For many, Matrix is **one good thing** that made a big difference in their lives.

### [AMAZON SMILE](#)

Matrix is registered in Amazon's Smile program and ***we can earn a small percentage*** every time someone makes a purchase through Amazon Smile when Matrix is their selected charity. Just log in to your Amazon account, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), and go to "Select Charity". Search for Matrix Parent Network and select Matrix Parent Network and Resource Center.

### Now SHOP!

For every purchase you make through Amazon Smile, Matrix automatically gets a small donation at no additional cost to you. Just think - if you register Matrix as your selected charity and then do your Black Friday and Cyber Monday shopping on [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), that's a lot of little donations that you won't notice--but Matrix sure will! Every little bit helps!

BLACK FRIDAY. CYBER MONDAY.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

DECEMBER 2, 2014

## Community News & Events

### Marin

**The Marin Autism Collaborative is launching a parent support group:**

Thursday, December 4 at 6:30 pm, Corte Madera Community Room, Town Center.

[Click here for event details](#). RSVP to [nla@lifehouseagency.org](mailto:nla@lifehouseagency.org)

**Marin SEAC Parent Panel:** Navigating Special Education, Saturday, December 6.

[Click here for event details](#) .

### Sonoma

**Sonoma County Community Advisory Committee Meeting**

Tuesday November 18, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Santa Rosa School District, 211 Ridgway Ave Santa, Rosa

[Click here for event details](#). No charge.

### Solano

**Friday, December 12, 2014...save the date! 10 a.m. to Noon.**

Silveyville Tree Farm Holiday Party in Dixon for Children with Disabilities

[Click here for event details](#).



Serving families of children with special needs in four counties: Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma.

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