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Empowering families of children with special needs since 1983

Helpline 800.578.2592

January 2016 Express

Turn the Page. Parents' Rights and Protections.

As a parent of a child in special education, it's important to know your rights and protections. You are your child's cheerleader in this complex but essential process.

It's important to use your power wisely, calmly, and collaboratively. With your rights come responsibilities.

- **Get to know your various timelines**, as there typically are many.
- **Learn about the Prior Written Notice Policy.** This states that any request for services for your child must be accepted or rejected in writing, clearly stating the reasons for the decision.
- **Collect data to document your concerns** before bringing them to the team. When disagreements do arise (which they will), you will be less likely to cede your decision-making authority if you are well prepared.

Your child has many people working in their interest but

**DONATE
to Matrix**

[En Español](#)

Upcoming Matrix Events

Embrace the Child You Have



no one is better interested or qualified than you.

Turn the Page. Parents' Rights and Protections in the Early Years

As an Early Years parent, you may well be overwhelmed dealing with medical professionals, therapists, insurance companies, and your (and other family members') emotions around having a little one with a disability.

You have several rights and protections as a parent of small child with a disability. Ask for help and learn:

- **Who provides the services you need**
- **How these services are provided**
- **When they're provided**
- **How you can access them**

Professional assistance is available to help you understand eligibility decisions, dispute frequency and duration for eligible services, and deal with other challenges.

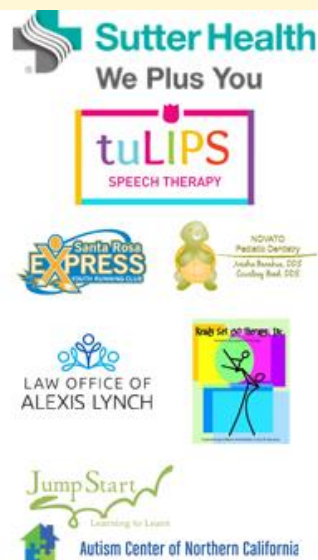
[Contact Matrix](#) for help and direction if you think your little one is not getting appropriate services.

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Upcoming Matrix Training, Workshops, & Events

TRAINING

Independent Living: Preparing Your Student for Adult Life*



Thank You Sponsors!

Hops & Harmonies



Hops & Harmonies
Thank You to our
Sponsor!

Survey on Services by



Is your child receiving mental health services from your school district? Do you see a difference in the services since county mental health services

Monday, January 25

Vallejo JFK Library
505 Santa Clara Street

**A Spanish translator will be present at this training.*

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

TRAINING

On Regional Center Services and Eligibility

Thursday, January 28

Suisun City Library
601 Pintail Drive

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

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EVENT

Embrace the Child You Have

A conversation with Erik Weber and Sandy Weber.



Sunday, January 24, 4pm
The Lark Theater, Larkspur

Please join us for this incredibly inspiring speaking event which will feature Erik Weber and Sandy Weber as they share their journey with Autism.

Tickets for the speaking event are \$35.

For \$125, attend the speaking event AND be one of 10 other guests who will enjoy an intimate dinner with the

delivered services?

Western Center on Law and Poverty would like to hear from you! [More...](#)

Upcoming Matrix Trainings & Workshops

[Independent Living: Preparing Your Student for Adult Life](#)

(A Spanish translator will be present)

[Abogando por su Estudiante con Necesidades Especiales](#)

[On Regional Center Services and Eligibility](#)

Matrix News

Matrix welcomes two new Board Members, Lilea Duran and Rhonda DuCharme. [More...](#)

Ways To Give



[Join Our Kitchen Table](#)

Community Events

Webers. ***This is an extremely limited opportunity to speak directly with Erik and Sandy!***

[Click here for Ticket information](#)

Thank you to our sponsors for making this event possible!

[Sutter](#), [tuLIPS Speech Therapy](#), [Santa Rosa Express Youth Running Club](#), [JumpStart Learning to Learn and Autism Center of Northern California](#), [Law Office of Alexis Lynch](#), [Novato Pediatric Dentistry](#), [Ready Set Go Therapy, Inc.](#)

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EVENT

Hops & Harmonies

Come out for a fun night of good music, food, and beer at Lagunitas in Petaluma.



Hops & Harmonies

Tuesday, January 26, 5:30pm

\$15 in advance

\$20 at the door

[Click here for Ticket information](#)

To purchase a ticket in person call
1-415-475-2188

- Enjoy our local music—Vardo and O Happy Dagger
- Taco bar dinner included
- Support Matrix

All proceeds from beer sales go directly to Matrix.



Common Core for the Parents of Students with Special Needs, presented by Marin County Office of Education, SELPA and SEAC.

[Tuesday, January 19](#)

Family Resource Meeting - Occupational Therapy, presented by

Bev Bruce OTR/L, CHT.

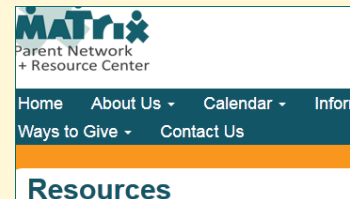
[Wednesday, January 20](#)

Special Needs Community Forum on Child Care, sponsored by the Children's Nurturing Project.

[Thursday, January 21](#)

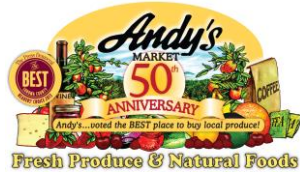
[Visit our Calendar](#) for more community events

Explore Our Resources



- [Information by topic](#)
- [Matrix Newsletters](#)
- [Links to Key Public Agencies](#)
- [Matrix Libraries \(in our offices\)](#)

[Thank you Andy's Market](#)



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Ways to Give

Matrix Kitchen Table



Your \$20 a month provides support to 12 families a year. Join us at [Our Kitchen Table.](#)

Matrix News

Matrix Welcomes Two New Board Members

Matrix Parent Network Board of Directors welcomes **Lilea Duran** and **Rhonda DuCharme** and bids a fond farewell to **Gwenda Simms** and **Sandy Coury**.

Thank you Gwenda and Sandy, for serving on our Board!

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Connect Online!

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[Join our Matrix Big Tent](#)
A safe online community for Matrix parents/guardians only



[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)



[Flickr](#)

[Big Tent](#)

Check out our *three* Facebook support groups!

Sonoma

Marin

Solano/Napa

En Español

Pasar la pagina. Derechos y Protecciones de los padres.

Como padre de un niño en la educación especial, es importante que conozca sus derechos y protecciones. Usted es animadora de su hijo en este proceso complejo pero esencial.

Es importante usar su poder con sabiduría, con calma, y en colaboración. Con los derechos vienen las responsabilidades.

- **Conozca a sus diversas líneas de tiempo**, ya que por lo general son muchas.
- **Aprender sobre el Prior Política notificación por escrito.** Este establece que cualquier solicitud de servicios para su niño debe ser aceptado o rechazado por escrito, indicando claramente los motivos de la decisión.
- **Recopilar datos para documentar sus preocupaciones** antes de llevarlos al equipo. Cuando surgen desacuerdos (que ellos), que serán menos propensos a ceder su autoridad en la toma de decisiones si usted está bien preparado.

Su hijo tiene muchas personas que trabajan en su interés, pero nadie es mejor interesada o cualificado como usted.

Pasar la pagina. Derechos y protecciones de los padres en los primeros años.

Como padres con hijos de los primeros años, que bien puede ser abrumado tratando con profesionales médicos, terapeutas, compañías de seguros, y sus (y otros miembros de la familia) emociones de todo quien tiene uno con una discapacidad.

Usted tiene varios derechos y protecciones como un padre de un niño pequeño con una discapacidad. Pida ayuda y aprender:

- **Quién proporciona los servicios que necesita**
- **Cómo se proporcionan estos servicios**
- **Cuando están proporcion**
- **Cómo puede acceder los servicios**

Asistencia profesional está disponible para ayudarle a entender las decisiones de elegibilidad, la frecuencia de conflictos y la duración de los servicios elegibles, y hacer frente a otros retos.

Póngase en contacto con Matrix para ayuda y dirección si usted piensa que su pequeño no está recibiendo los servicios apropiados.

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Próximos Entrenamientos y Talleres de Matrix

Vida Independiente: Preparo su Student para la Vida Adulta

Lunes, 25 de Enero

Vallejo JFK Library
505 Santa Clara Street

[Haga clic aquí para mas información y para registrar](#)

Abogando por su Estudiante con Necesidades Especiales

Lunes, 27 de Enero

Novato Matrix Office
94 Galli Drive, Suite C

Un traductor español estará presente en este entrenamiento.

[Haga clic aquí para mas información y para registrar](#)

Orientación sobre el Centro Regional Norte de la Bahía

Jueves, 28 de Enero

Suisun City Library
601 Pintail Drive

[Haga clic aquí para mas información y para registrar](#)

[Volver arriba](#)



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