

# **B.R.A.V.E.** Support Resources

BRAVE is a program at Lakeland Regional Health that is dedicated to pediatric patients who have autism spectrum disorder, sensory processing disorder and any pervasive developmental disorders. BRAVE was created to improve the hospital experience of our patients and provide individualized care for those with sensory conditions.

For more information on the BRAVE program and to watch a resourceful video for those caring for an individual with a sensory condition, please visit:

<https://www.mylrh.org/brave/>

This list is intended to be used as a resource for families seeking out community resources for children with autism and/or other sensory conditions.

## **Autism Diagnostic Testing Centers**

### **Pediatric Neurologist:**

#### **Dr. Vernier**

Capernaum Medical Center  
5129 S Lakeland Dr Suite 1  
Lakeland, FL 33813  
(863) 232-4323

You will need a referral from your Pediatrician.

### **Nemours Autism Center:**

**Dr. Gavin-Devitt (Psychologist) & Dr. Spector (Behavioral Pediatrician)**  
1717 S. Orange Ave.  
Orlando, FL 32806  
(407) 650-7715

# **B.R.A.V.E.** Support Resources

## **Local ABA Providers**

### **Applied Behavioral Learning**

145 E Edgewood Dr

Lakeland, FL 33803

(863) 619-2809

[www.applied-behavioral.com](http://www.applied-behavioral.com)

Provides in-clinic and home-based ABA therapy for children 18 years and under.

### **Autism Learning Partners**

304 E Pine St Suite 1009

Lakeland FL 33801

(855) 295-3276 ext. 276

<https://www.autismlearningpartners.com/services/>

A nationwide company that offers in home ABA services. They have one office in the Lakeland area and work with children of all ages, as well as adults.

### **Holladay Child Development Services**

5302 S. Florida Ave Suite #205

Lakeland, FL 33813

(863) 937-8067

<http://www.hcds.org/>

Provides in-clinic ABA therapy for children 2 -12 years old with an autism diagnosis.

### **Trek Behavioral Services**

Lakeland:

600 Lake Hollingsworth Drive, Lakeland, FL 33803

(863) 665-7300

<https://trekbehavioralservices.com/>

Provides in-clinic ABA therapy for children 2 - 12 years old.

Wauchula:

207 North 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Wauchula, FL 33873

First United Methodist Church of Wauchula - Children's Building

(863) 999-2530

[emily@trekbehavioralservices.com](mailto:emily@trekbehavioralservices.com)

Offers ABA therapy for children 2-12 years old on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

# **B.R.A.V.E.** Support Resources

## **Noble Behavior**

116 Bates Ave SW  
Winter Haven, FL 33880  
(727) 265-5394

<https://www.noblebehavior.com/>

Provides in-clinic ABA therapy services to children 2 - 15 years old with autism.

## **Florida Autism Center**

5454 Lithia Pinecrest Rd  
Lithia FL 33547  
(813) 467-9280

<https://www.flautism.com/locations/fish-hawk/>

In-clinic ABA therapy provider that offers services to children with low functioning to high functioning autism from 2- 12 years old.

## **Alternative Behavioral Concepts**

P.O. Box 1057  
Lake Alfred, FL 33850  
(863) 551-3300

[www.mybehavior.us](http://www.mybehavior.us)

Offers specialized ABA therapy and respite care for families with children with autism and other developmental disabilities of all ages.

## **Sprout Therapy**

122 E Main St  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(813) 638-0859

<https://www.joinsproutherapy.com/>

Provides in home and in-school ABA services for children 10 years and under.

## **Brilliance Therapy Solutions**

(813) 369-5926

<https://www.brillianceets.com/>

Home based ABA therapy services for children 10 years and under.

## **Behavior Analysis Consultants of Mid Florida**

(863) 614-0048

[www.bacmf.com](http://www.bacmf.com)

In home behavioral assessment, programming and parent training for families and children.

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## **Schools/Daycare**

### **Achievement Academy**

716 E Bella Vista St  
Lakeland, FL 33805  
(863) 683-6504

<https://achievementacademy.com/>

Provides education, therapy and family support, and early intervention services to infants and toddlers whose development may be comprised or those with special needs. They serve ages 18 months through age five, with three campus locations: Lakeland, Winter Haven and Bartow.

### **Pathways School of Excellence**

Located at Southeastern University Campus  
1000 Longfellow Campus  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 667-5004

<https://www.seu.edu/pathways/>

Pathways School of Excellence is a middle school and high school program for students with special needs. They offer an individualized curriculum consisting of independent living skills, spiritual development, and academic growth.

### **Lakeland Christian School - The Discovery Program**

11111 Pine St  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 688-2771

<https://www.lcsonline.org/academics/autism-education/>

The Discovery Program is made up of two classrooms offered to students with a specific diagnosis of autism and/or related disabilities. This special education program is available for children 4 to 14 years old with an emphasis on academic skills and independent living skills.

### **Doris Sanders Learning Center**

1201 Enchanted Dr  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(863) 499-2980

<http://dslc.polk-fl.net/>

Doris Sanders Learning Center is an educational center serving students with varying exceptionalities from 5 to 22 years of age, as part of the Polk County Public School system.

# **B.R.A.V.E.** Support Resources

## **Karen M. Siegel School**

935 Evenhouse Rd  
Lake Alfred, FL 33850  
(863) 965-5566

<http://kmsa.polk-fl.net/>

A special needs school that serves students with significant cognitive disabilities. They provide continuous supervision, personal assistance with activities of daily living, complex medical care and supervision, and comprehensive behavior programs. Students range in age from 3 to 22 years old and serve students from grades Kindergarten through 12th grade and have an adult transition program.

## **The Vanguard School**

22000 U.S. 27  
Lake Wales, Florida 33859  
(863) 676-6091

<https://www.vanguardschool.org/>

An independent, co-educational, boarding and day school for students in grades 6-12 who learn differently. Vanguard strives to ensure each student aspires to higher educational opportunities and independent life.

## **The Devereux School**

6147 Christian Way,  
Orlando, FL 32808  
(800) 338-3738 ext. 176422

[https://www.devereux.org/site/SPageServer/?pagename=fl\\_orlando\\_campus](https://www.devereux.org/site/SPageServer/?pagename=fl_orlando_campus)

Provides intensive residential services for children and adolescents who suffer from emotional, behavioral and psychological problems. The campus offers a professional therapeutic environment for children and adolescents facing significant emotional and behavioral disabilities. Our campus offers a safe home-like environment within a community-based setting, along with ABA services.

## **Early Intervention**

### **Early Steps - Children's Medical Services Clinic**

200 N. Kentucky Avenue, Suite 206  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(863) 413-3484

<https://www.elcpolk.org/>

Early Steps is Florida's early intervention system that offers services to eligible infants and toddlers (birth to thirty-six months) with significant delays or a condition likely to result in a developmental delay.

# **B.R.A.V.E.** Support Resources

## **Respite Care**

### **Alternative Behavioral Concepts**

P.O. Box 1057  
Lake Alfred, FL 33850  
(863) 551-3300

[www.mybehavior.us](http://www.mybehavior.us)

Offers ABA therapy and respite care for families with children with autism and other developmental disabilities.

### **Nathaniel's Hope - Buddy Break**

First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland  
175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr  
Lakeland FL 33801

<https://fpclakeland.org/ministries/special-needs-ministry/>

Contact Person: Alyss Ruster (863) 686-7187

[aruster@fpclakeland.org](mailto:aruster@fpclakeland.org)

Offers respite care on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month (except Summer) for children 4 - 12 years with Autism or special needs. Call or email Alyss Ruster to complete an information form and to sign up. Respite care is on a first come, first serve basis. Additional programs include a special needs ministry and summer camp.

For other Buddy Break locations and times:

<https://nathanielshope.org/our-programs/buddy-break/locations-and-dates/>

### **EasterSeals - Camp Challenge**

31600 Camp Challenge Road  
Sorrento, FL 32776  
(352) 383-4711

<https://www.easterseals.com/florida/our-programs/camping-recreation/>

Camp Challenge - a 12 night or 6 night overnight camp that provides respite to families with children with special need.

### **Dream Oaks Camp**

16110 Dream Oaks Place  
Bradenton, FL 34212  
(941) 746-5659

<https://www.foundationfordreams.org/about/>

Camp provides support for children but also acts as a resource and respite for parents and caregivers.

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## **Local Speech/OT/PT Services**

### **Lakeland Regional Pediatric Therapy**

Grasslands Campus  
3030 Harden Blvd  
Lakeland, FL 33803  
(863) 687-1189

<https://www.mylrh.org/pediatric-therapy/>

Lakeland Regional's outpatient therapy center that offers speech, occupational and physical therapy for children of all ages that may have genetic and developmental disorders, traumatic injuries, and sports injuries.

### **Pediatric Therapy Centers**

1215 E Orange St.  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
(863) 802-3800

<https://ptsbeyourbest.com/>

Therapy center that offers speech, occupational therapy and physical therapy for children with various diagnoses, including Autism.

### **First Step Therapy**

900 Orchid Springs Drive, Unit 103  
Winter Haven, FL 33884

OR

400 N. Lake Howard Dr  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
(863) 268-2608

<http://www.firststep-therapy.com/pediatric-therapy-about-us>

Therapy centers that offers individual sessions for speech, occupational therapy and physical therapy for children birth to 21 years old with Autism and other sensory conditions.

### **John Hopkins All Children's Outpatient Care - Lakeland**

3310 Lakeland Hills Blvd  
Lakeland, FL 33805  
(863) 802-6600

<https://www.hopkinsallchildrens.org/locations/outpatient-care/lakeland>

An outpatient therapy center that offers pediatric speech, occupational and physical therapy sessions.

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## **Scholarships and Grants**

### **Gardiner Scholarship**

<https://www.stepupforstudents.org/for-parents/special-needs/how-the-scholarship-works/>

The Gardiner Scholarship directs money towards a combination of programs and approved providers for children with unique abilities. This scholarship is for Florida students 3 years old through 12th grade or age 22, whichever comes first.

### **McKay Scholarship**

<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/mckay/mckay-parent-info.stml>

The McKay Scholarship Program for student with disabilities provides Florida students with special needs the opportunity to attend a participating public or private school of their choice.



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## **Regional & National Resources**

### **Autism Speaks**

1-888-AUTISM2 (1-888-288-4762)

En Español: 1-888-772-9050

[www.autismpeaks.org](http://www.autismpeaks.org)

### **Autism Society of Florida**

<https://www.autismfl.org/>

The Autism Society of Florida is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) comprised entirely of volunteers, parents of people with autism and adults with autism.

### **The Autism Society of Greater Orlando**

(407) 855-0235

contact@asgo.org

<http://asgo.org/>

### **Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)**

200 N. Kentucky Ave

Lakeland, FL 33801

(407) 245-0440

[www.apd.myflorida.com](http://www.apd.myflorida.com)

### **University of South Florida Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (CARD)**

13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. MHC 2113A

Tampa, FL 33612

(813) 974-2532

[www.card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu](http://www.card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu)

CARD is a free community-based program funded by the Florida Department of Education through an annual grant. Services are delivered wherever families, professionals, schools, agencies or businesses are located within our 14-county region in southwest Florida.