

■ **The Staten Island Special Olympics** is an all-volunteer organization whose primary purpose is to enhance the lives of mentally retarded and disabled children and adults — ages 8 to 80 — on Staten Island. Its goal is to improve the physical, social and psychological development of these special children and adults through the implementation of sports, sports training and competitive programs. Staten Island Special Olympics does this by providing experiences in both Olympic-style games and year-round training programs.

These programs and activities foster independence and individuality. Sports training helps Special Olympics athletes in all aspects of their daily living. They gain confidence and build a positive self-image associated with success which carries over into the classroom, home and job.

Staten Island Special Olympic's training clubs for various sports meet daily; however, the organization does not provide transportation to and from activities. The organization's office is located on the grounds of the Staten Island Developmental Center at 930 Willowbrook Rd., Building G., 10314. For more information, contact Elizabeth Fromkin at 983-5351.

■ **The Association for Children with Retarded Mental Development** at 930 Willowbrook Rd. offers a day habilitation program, a sheltered workshop and day training for mentally and developmentally disabled adults. The agency can be reached at 494-7542. Office hours are Monday to Friday, from 8:45 to 4:30 p.m.

■ **The Association for the Help of Retarded Children** operates two adult group homes at 55 Galloway Ave., Westerleigh (273-7555), and 200 Tysen St., New Brighton (448-1112).

It also has a respite center at 105 Houston St., Westerleigh, which provides a planned overnight respite for up to two weeks for individuals living with their parents or guardian. And it offers supportive apartments on Hamilton Avenue in St. George for higher-functioning individuals.

The association sponsors a siblings program and a children's recreation program at the Connelly Center, 930 Willowbrook Rd. Additionally, Sunday bowling takes place at Bowling On the Green, 55 Mill Rd., New Dorp, from 2 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$4.50 for two games and shoes. The association runs a parents' assistance committee and parent support group. The group also sponsors a weekend hotel recreation program for those 16 and older, and a two-week summer day program for ages 3 to 15. Applications are being accepted until the fall for the program. For information on all of the association's services, call Daniel Brewer at (212) 780-2584.

■ **A Very Special Place**, 1429 Hylan Blvd., Dongan Hills, operates day treatment programs that include clinical and support services for people age 21 and over, and a supported employment program for those 18 and older. It also has a community center that provides recreation and social activities for those 18 and older. Day treatment programs are offered at sites on Nelson Avenue in Great Kills and on New Dorp Lane in New Dorp.

A senior citizen program on Seaview Avenue, Dongan Hills, includes transportation for people 55 and older. A TeleRide service provides clients with transportation to functions at A Very Special Place and elsewhere on the Island.

A Very Special Place also offers supervised as well as semi-independent residential living to those over 18 at a number of locations throughout Staten Island. Call, 987-1234.

■ **The Catholic Guardian Society** operates a geriatric group home for developmentally disabled seniors at 46 Dresden Pl., Todt Hill. Phone: (212) 371-1000, ext. 2339.

■ **The Child Study Center of New York**, 285 Clove Rd., West Brighton, is a special-education facility for preschoolers (442-8588).

■ **Children at Play Early Intervention Center** at 40 Merrill Ave., Graniteville, offers a program for infants and toddlers with developmental needs from birth to 3 years. Evaluations, services and transportation are offered at no cost to the family. Ann Avino is the director of the early intervention center.

A preschool for children age 3 to 5 with special needs is also available at the center. The director is Analla Gerard.

Led by Stacey Briggs, the center's community services division provides special education in a community setting to pre-schoolers, as well as physical, occupational and speech therapy, plus counseling and nursing.

Psychological and support services are available for families and include parent workshops, support groups, counseling, and play therapy. For more information, call 370-7529 (PLAY).

■ **Committee on Special Education (CSE)**, is part of the Board of Education's office of Special Education Clinical Service. It offers evaluation and school placement for physically and mentally disabled children from kindergarten to age 21. The office is in New Dorp High School and also provides services, ranging from a full-day program, to occupational and physical therapy, for children from ages 3 to 5. Call, 351-3557.

■ **Eden II School for Autistic Children**, located at 150 Granite Ave., Elm Park, provides classroom instruction, adaptive physical education, speech therapy, psychological, social and residential services, parent training and adult training. There is a preschool program for those age 3 to 5 and a school program for those age 5 to 21; the adult program serves clients over 21 (816-1422).

■ **First Foot Forward**, at the Jewish Community Center, 475 Victory Blvd., Tompkinsville, sponsors a preschool program for children ages 3 to 5 with special needs. Half-day or full-day programs are available.

In addition to a nursery school, therapists work one-on-one with children on such abilities as speech, cognitive skills, socialization and movement. There is no fee for the service. Transportation and a membership to the JCC are included (727-8257).

■ **The Muscular Dystrophy Association** provides patient services through its Manhattan office, (212) 689-9040.

■ **North Richmond Community Mental Health Center's Community Treatment Clinic**, based at Bayley Seton Hospital in Clifton, addresses mental health needs of mentally, developmentally, and learning disabled people 16 and older. Clients are seen individually and in group sessions, and families are also offered support (354-5255).

■ **On Your Mark**, 645 Forest Ave., West Brighton, is community-based and provides therapeutic recreation, family support services, holiday trips and respite getaways, residential services, supportive employment and day habilitation (720-9233).

It serves persons with special needs, from preschoolers through adults. Activities are scheduled after school, evenings and on weekends at several sites on Staten Island.

The agency opened a day habilitation facility in July for those 18 and older at 120 Victory Blvd., Tompkinsville. Call 815-0768.

■ **Our P.L.A.C.E. School**, located at 329 Norway Ave., South Beach, is a preschool for speech-impaired, developmentally delayed and learning-disabled children, ages 2½ through 5. It also serves the hearing-impaired, mentally retarded and children with other disabilities through speech, occupational, physical, as well as creative dramatics. Full-day and half-day services are available. Call 987-4900.

■ **PS 37**, at 15 Fairfield St., Great Kills, serves autistic, developmentally disabled and emotionally disturbed children age 5 to 21, as well as those with multiple disabilities (984-9800).