

# **AUTISM-RELATED SERVICES**



**Disability Rights Louisiana provides free legal and non-legal advocacy for people with disabilities.**

**For people with Autism, there are a few specific ways in which we frequently help.**

## **Special Education:**

- Children with disabilities have a right to a free and adequate public education;
- Children with Autism often demonstrate behaviors at school that impede their learning. DRLA may be able to provide technical assistance or legal representation when school districts:
  - Fail to provide the services necessary for the child to benefit from their education;
  - Discipline a child for behaviors that are a manifestation of their disability; or
  - Reduce the child's school hours or place them in an alternative school or on homebound.



## **Supported Decision Making:**



Supported Decision making allows individuals with disabilities to make choices about their own lives with support from a team of people they choose. DRLA can provide information about this alternative to Tutorship.

## Medicaid Advocacy:



- For children ages 3-20, who are enrolled in Louisiana Medicaid and are on the waitlist for the Children's Choice waiver, DRLA can provide advocacy to ensure that they receive all medically necessary services in a timely manner, including:
  - Case Management
  - Personal Care Services (PCS)
  - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
  - Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluation (CDE), for conditions like Autism.



- For individuals of all ages who are currently enrolled in a Medicaid Waiver, DRLA can provide individual advocacy to ensure that they receive the services they need to avoid unnecessary institutionalization.
- For individuals living in ICF/DD group homes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, DRLA can provide support and advocacy to ensure that their medical needs are being met.

## Employment:



- DRLA can assist people to access vocational rehabilitation services that will help them obtain and maintain competitive integrated employment, and transition into that employment post-high school.
- For Individuals who receive SSI or SSDI, DRLA may be able to provide legal representation to help

## Need Help?

You can learn more about DRLA and the services we provide and request assistance by visiting our website

[www.disabilityrightsla.org](http://www.disabilityrightsla.org) or calling us at 504-522-5507 or 1-800-960-7705.