Where to Seek Help

A **Bright Futures**
Referral Tool for Providers

Creating a Referral Network

Developmental, behavioral, and family support services are best provided through the coordinated efforts of a variety of professionals, agencies, and other resources.

Many providers find it valuable to identify and develop collaborative relationships with other local providers to create a community-based referral network.

Locating Community-Based Services to Support Children and Families

The first step toward creating an effective network is to identify a broad-based contact and referral list. The listings in this referral tool have been designed specifically for use with the Maternal and Child Health Library's online knowledge path, *Community Services Locator* at:

http://www.mchlibrary.info/Knowl edgePaths/kp_community.html

Presenting current, credible, and accessible sources, the knowledge path provides immediate access to the Web sites of national organizations that list state or local contacts. We also urge you to:

- Ask families for the names and phone numbers of their primary providers (health care, education, child care, social service).

- Network with colleagues to identify experienced providers. Talk with professionals who

provide other services for children and families in your community.

- Meet the Special Services/Special Education Director in your school district. This person can provide specific contacts for the child study team, school psychologist, Child Find and early intervention programs, special schools, and other special services available in your school district.

- Become familiar with the resources available through local faith-based organizations.

- Contact your local social service agency and police outreach department for lists of domestic violence or abuse hotlines and programs.

- Ask for help at your local library or check the county government listings in your phone book for social service agencies, childcare, and education resources.

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Your Referral and Contact List

Your referral and contact list might include the following:

Education/Special Needs

Special Services/Special Education Director in your local school district _____

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Early Intervention/Child Find Services _____

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Health and Wellness

Local Health Department _____

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Primary Health Care _____

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_____

Oral Health Care _____

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Genetics Services _____

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Children's Hospitals _____

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Home Health Care _____

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Health Insurance _____

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Poison Control Centers _____

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Professional Associations _____

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_____

Mental Health and Well-Being

Community Mental Health Center _____

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Mental Health Professionals _____

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Family Support/Parenting

Family Support Groups/Parent Organizations _____

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Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention Services _____

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Community Violence Prevention and Intervention Services _____

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Domestic Violence Prevention and Intervention Services_____

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Faith-Based Support Services _____

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Marriage and Family Therapists _____

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Services for Military Personnel and their Families _____

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Respite Care for Caregivers or Families of
Individuals with Disabilities or Other Special Needs _____

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Child Care/Early Childhood Education

Early Head Start _____

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Head Start _____

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Local Child Care Resource and Referral Organizations _____

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Financial Assistance for Child Care _____

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Other

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