



Information on Supports & Services for Children with Developmental Disabilities and their families (Birth to 5 years)

Would You Like Information On...?	Community Supports & Services
Development	
There may be support available to help with your child's development in areas including: communication, play skills, hand function, movement, feeding/nutrition, cooperation and listening skills, and emotional regulation	• Call the SmartStart Hub through the John McGivney Children's Centre to be connected with the services that best meet your child's needs. www.jmccentre.ca • Chasing Hazel Foundation (Speech Support) Programs – Chasing Hazel Foundation Shop
Financial Assistance	
The Ontario government offers a partial reimbursement benefit for travel to medical/therapy appointments, medical supplies, respite and more.	• Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities(ACSD) - income-based www.ontario.ca/page/assistance-children-severe-disabilities-program
The Federal government offers a Disability Tax Credit or Child Disability Benefit (based on your income)	• Disability Tax Credit or Child Disability Benefit www.canada.ca
Financial assistance to help with the cost of diapers for children ages 3 years and older	• Incontinence Government Grant administered through Easter Seals igprogram.easterseals.org/ig/
Easter Seals runs a program for people of all ages and types of permanent disabilities who require the assistance of a support person to attend participating entertainment venues such as movie theatres.	• Access2 Card Apply First Time – Access2
Play Groups & Meeting Other Parents	
Free play group and opportunities to meet other parents specific to children with Down Syndrome	• Up About Down 0-5 Group www.upaboutdown.org/news-events/news/
Free play groups, most run inside child-care centres or schools, located at various locations in Windsor and the county	• Early On Child & Family Centres EarlyON@citywindsor.ca

Parent Supports	
Looking to connect with other parents for support and hear from other families about what has worked for them? Maybe you are looking to get connected with a peer support program, professional counselling, respite or information on raising a child with special needs.	• Up About Down Windsor Essex www.upaboutdown.org • Windsor Essex Family Network windsorsexfamnet.ca • Ensemble Understands ensembleunderstands.com • Ontario Caregiver Organization www.ontariocaregiver.ca (peer support & counselling) • Family Respite Services Windsor www.familyrespice.org • Community living Essex County (respite) www.communitylivingessex.org • Partners4Planning (P4P) Partners for Planning
Preschool Programs & Transition to School Support	
Additional support in your child's Child Care Centre Transition to Elementary School Support	• Have your child's Child Care Provider contact Contact Children First children-first.ca/services-for-child-care-centres/ • Windsor-Essex Family Network windsorsexfamnet.ca • Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board www.wecdsb.on.ca/programs/special_education/transitions/kindergarten • Greater Essex County District School Board www.publicboard.ca/en/programs-and-learning/special-education.aspx • Children First & JMCC offer Transition Support if receiving their services