

# DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

## Programs

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1. Autism Services (fee for service program)
2. Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN)

## Description of Services

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CAFCA's Autism Services Program (developed in 2003) is for parents of children and youth diagnosed with autism. The program provides intervention, social groups, day camps, music therapy, and/or behavioural consultant services to parents of children and youth with autism.

Parents of children and youth between 6 and 19 years of age are able to access the following services: -

- Behavioural Consulting;
- Music Therapy;
- One-to-one Intervention Services;
- Social Groups; and
- Day Camps

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CAFCA's **Children and Youth with Special Needs Program** (CYSN) assists children and youth who are connected to the Ministry of Children and Family Development's CYSN program.

In order to be eligible for the program, the young person must have a cognitive disability (measured by intelligence quotient and functional capacity). CAFCA's CYSN program receives all of its referrals from the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

The program provides children/families with a specialized child care worker who assists the child to learn social, life skills and/or to support the family to learn parenting/child management skills. CAFCA is a community agency contracted to provide direct assistance, based on established goals, to a child, youth and/or family. Assistance may be short-term, ongoing or intermittent depending on family or child need.

CAFCA counsellors also provide support to caregivers and family members of young people with disabilities by assisting them to develop care-giving strategies that will support the young person in the home environment, by making referrals to other community resources such as parent support groups, behavioural consultants, and counselling services, and by providing care giving relief.

The program provides specialized support services by qualified professionals including assessment, counselling, training, planning or other support to children, families and caregivers. Services are provided through contractual arrangements with psychologists and other community professionals.

Respite Services provide intermittent rest/relief for families with children who have special needs. Services are made available in accordance with an individual plan developed by the CLBC social worker and the child's family. Services may be delivered in the child's home, the respite provider's home or in a staff setting.