Who are we?
We are concerned families and professionals who, since 1993, have provided services to individuals with autism and related disabilities, to their families, and to the professionals who work with them. The Florida State Legislature allocates funds that are administered by the seven regional CARD sites through the state’s Department of Education. The program has grown to include several branch offices. To determine which CARD site serves your area, see the state map inside this brochure.

What is our purpose?
CARD’s purpose is to enhance the lives of the individuals we serve. CARD offers free supports within the natural contexts of all settings including home, child care programs, schools, work, and community businesses and programs.

The Center for Autism & Related Disabilities (CARD) provides support and assistance with the goal of optimizing the potential of people with autism spectrum disorder and related disabilities.
Who do we serve?
CARD serves individuals of any age with...
• Current diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or prior diagnosis of Autistic Disorder, PDD-NOS, Asperger's Disorder, Rett's Disorder, and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder.
• Related Disabilities — deaf-blind (hearing and vision impaired), hearing impaired or vision impaired with other disabling conditions
• Family members, friends and professionals
Referrals are accepted from parents, legal guardians, medical professionals, schools and community agencies. Consent to obtain and review records will be necessary.

How can we help?
CARD can …
• Provide information about an individual’s disability
• Refer families to federal, state and local service agencies
• Help families find support groups
• Support families in planning for the future
• Provide training sessions on how to work effectively with individuals with ASD and related disabilities
• Provide consultation to caregivers and professionals on how best to work with an individual with a disability, in order to:
  • teach new skills
  • understand and resolve challenging behavior
  • include individuals with ASD and related disabilities in typical school and community settings
  • develop meaningful communication skills
  • help individuals with ASD and related disabilities become more socially competent members of society