

# **Keansburg Special Education Advisory Group**

**October 8, 2025 Meeting  
Presented by Tara Smith  
Supervisor of Special Education**



# District Demographics

District Special Education Population is 27%

**Pre-K-2 Self Contained (Autism & PSD) & General Education**

**Caruso** -9 Self Contained (3-Autism, 1-MD, 1-BD, 4-LLD), In Class Support ELA & Math, Resource 4th & 5th Grade ELA & Math, General Education

**Bolger** -6 Self Contained (2-MD, 3-LLD, 1 BD) In Class Support ELA & Math, Resource ELA & Math

**KHS** -Self Contained (MD, LLD, BD) In Class Support, Resource ELA, Math, Science, History

**Out of District Placements** -25 Students

# Child Study Team

Pre-K-Kathleen Breden

Caruso-Social Worker Lauren Feinstein  
LDTC Noreen Higgins  
Psychologist Laurie Noch

Bolger-Psychologist Alyssa Drewes  
Social Worker Jeff Johnson

KHS-Psychologist Christine Clark  
LDTC Leanne Wombough

Out of District-Social Worker Lauren Feinstein



# Related Services (Speech, OT, & PT)

**Pre-K** -Speech Therapists-Janice Carfi & Jessica Hansel

OT-John Panassidi, PT-Christine McCaffrey

**Caruso** -Speech Therapists-Sharon Moschetta & Elizabeth Spina

OT-Felicia Higgins, PT-Christine McCaffrey

**Bolger** -Speech Therapist-Jessica Hansel, OT-Dina Shevchenko,

PT-Christine McCaffrey

**KHS** -Speech Therapist-Janice Carfi, OT-Felicia Higgins & Dina Shevchenko,

PT-Christine McCaffrey



# Nurses

**KELC-Shirley Campuzano**

**Caruso-Sara Carroll**

**Bolger-Marie Fiorentino**

**KHS-Lisa Doherty**



# IEP Important Information

- Present Level of Academic Achievement & Functional Performance
- **Goals**
- Modifications
- **Testing Accommodations**
- Related Services
- **After the IEP meeting you will be given a copy of the IEP, you have 15 schools days to review the IEP before it is put in place.**
- If it is your child's first IEP, the school district cannot implement without your approval.



# Conferences

## KHS

- November 20th & 21st/February 12th & 13th

## Bolger

- November 13th & 14th/February 5th & 6th

## Caruso

- December 15th & 16th/March 30th & 31st

## Pre-K

- December 15th & 16th/March 30th & 31st

# Resource-Special Needs Registry



The Monmouth County Special Needs Registry is a voluntary service open to all citizens with disabilities who reside, attend school or are employed in Monmouth County. The registry was created to help police officers and other emergency service personnel to better assist residents with special needs in the event of an emergency by providing those first responders with vital information regarding a registrant's disability, emergency contact information, a physical description and current photograph of the registrant.

**[Monmouth County Special Needs Registry](#)**

# Resource-Project Lifesaver

## Monmouth County Project Lifesaver Information



The mission of Project Lifesaver is to use state of the art technology to find Autistic children who may be prone to wander. A wandering person with Autism represents a critical emergency. They are often unaware of their situation. They may not call out for help and sometimes do not respond to people calling out to them.

The Project Lifesaver participant wears a battery-powered bracelet which emits a radio-tracking signal 24 hours a day and weighs about one ounce. The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office can respond rapidly in the event that the participant becomes missing.

**Monmouth County Project Lifesaver**

# Resource-NJ InCK

## **NJ InCK-NJ Integrated Care for Kids**

NJ Integrated Care for Kids (NJ InCK) is a program that supports children and their families who may have medical, behavioral and social healthcare needs. If eligible, this program will provide a single point of contact to better coordinate care between the patient, primary care physician and other community healthcare partners. This coordination improves health and wellness and gives parents and caregivers a resource that can count on for guidance and help.

**<https://njinck.org/>**

**Call: 855-619-4445**

**Email: [info@njinck.org](mailto:info@njinck.org)**

# Resource-VNA

## Visiting Nurses Association

The VNA supports people of all ages with over 20 programs and services. Families are provided community health services and linkages to additional resources.

### Community Health Centers:

- Asbury Park (732) 774-6333
  - Freehold (732) 294-2540
  - Keyport (732) 888-4149
  - Red Bank (732) 219-6620

**Phone:** (855) 619-4445

**Website:** <https://vnahg.org/>

# Resource-Early Intervention

## NJ Early Intervention System (NJEIS)

NJ Early Intervention System (NJEIS) services any New Jersey family with a child under three years of age that may be eligible for Early Intervention services if the child is not reaching age-appropriate milestones in one or more areas of development. The developmental delay must meet the NJEIS eligibility criteria: Is determined by an evaluation conducted as part of the referral process: Is diagnosed with certain conditions that may result in a developmental delay or disability. Anyone (a parent, doctor, caregiver, teacher, or friend), with concerns about a child's development may call the statewide referral line.

**Phone:** 1-888-653-4463

**Website:** [nj.gov/health/fhs/eis/for-families/when](https://nj.gov/health/fhs/eis/for-families/when)

# Resource-Perform Care

## Perform Care

PerformCare New Jersey, a member of the AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies, is a national, full-service behavioral health administrative services organization. PerformCare New Jersey is the contracted system administrator (CSA) for the State of New Jersey's Department of Children and Families, Children's System of Care (CSOC). PerformCare New Jersey is the single point of access to a wide array of behavioral health, intellectual and developmental disability services, as well as substance use treatment for youth and families throughout New Jersey.

As the CSA, PerformCare New Jersey provides youth and their families with the services, resources, tools, and support they need to optimally participate in treatment within their homes, schools, and community settings. We provide the avenue for families to request clinically appropriate, needs-based services with a single phone call any time of the day or night.

[www.performcarenj.org](http://www.performcarenj.org)

# Resource-Crisis Diversion Program

## NJ Child & Adolescent Crisis Diversion Program

The Monmouth Medical Center's Child and Adolescent Crisis Diversion Program is a brief outpatient program that focuses on meeting the emotional, behavioral and psychiatric needs of children and adolescents between the ages of 5-17 and their families, by providing rapid access to mental health services. Their goal is to provide a safe, compassionate and trauma sensitive environment to youth and their families to decrease the need for a higher level of care and to maintain safety in the community. Their multidisciplinary team will work collaboratively with you and your child to help overcome these challenges so that symptoms can be stabilized and your child can begin to function at their full potential.

<https://www.rwjbh.org/monmouth-medical-center/treatment-care/mental-health-and-behavioral-health/mental-health-services/family-crisis-intervention/>

**Call: 732-922-2860**

# Resource-CPC

## CPC Integrated Health Care

CPC is a private, non-profit organization that supports individuals, families, and the community achieve whole health through an integrated system of care that promotes well-being, recovery, and productive lives throughout Monmouth and Northern Ocean Counties.

**Address:** 270 Highway 35

Red Bank, NJ 07701

**Phone:** (732) 842-2000

**Website:** <https://cpcintegratedhealth.org>

# Resource-DVRS

## New Jersey Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Any individual with a physical, mental, cognitive, or other form of disability who has a substantial impediment to employment may qualify for the following services through the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS).

The mission of the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services is to enable eligible individuals with disabilities to achieve an employment outcome consistent with their strengths, priorities, needs, abilities, and capabilities.

DVRS counselors from each field office are assigned to secondary schools to function as the liaison between the schools and DVRS. DVRS counselors collaborate with child study teams and other school personnel in regard to students' transition plans and offer in-service training to school staff, students, and parents.

**Address:** 60 Taylor Avenue North Neptune, New Jersey 07753-4844

**Phone:** (732) 481-6300, Option 2

**Website:** <https://www.nj.gov/labor/career-services/special-services/individuals-with-disabilities/>

# Resource-POAC

## **Parents of Autistic Children (POAC)**

**POAC Autism Services, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is making life better every day for children and adults with Autism in New Jersey. The organization is committed to providing year long recreational events for the entire family, saving lives and keeping children and adults safe, building awareness and acceptance in schools and offering a multitude of training opportunities.**

**[www.poac.net](http://www.poac.net)**

**[info@poac.net](mailto:info@poac.net)**

# Resource-Stephy's Place

## Stephy's Place

Stephy's Place is a support center for grief and loss which offers support groups and mindful meditation.

210 West Front Street, Ste 209

Red Bank, NJ 07701

**Phone:** 732-797-9739

**Website:** <https://www.stephysplace.org/sp/>

**Email:** [info@StephysPlace.org](mailto:info@StephysPlace.org)

# Resource-Rainbows

## Rainbows Monmouth County

Rainbows is a free support group for children coping with family loss due to separation, divorce, death or other crisis.

**Phone:** Freehold Location-Joanne Mercadante (732) 239-6870

Monmouth Beach Location-Carol Colao (732) 841-8456

**Website:** <https://monmouthrainbows.org/>

**Email:** [monmouthrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:monmouthrainbows@gmail.com)

# Resources-YMCA Services

The YMCA of Greater Monmouth County will work in collaboration with the Keansburg School District to provide children's mental health services to special needs and emotionally challenged youth during the 2025-2026 school year.



# YMCA School Contacts

## **Caruso**

Dana Florio (K-2)

Caitlin McDonald (3-5)

## **Bolger**

Petrina Zwirz (6)

Stefania Kohler (7 & 8)

## **KHS**

Amanda Volturo (A-K)

Kelly King (L-Z)

# Child Find

The Keansburg School District must provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to eligible children living in the Keansburg School District, three through 21 years of age. Individuals and/or families who know of a child within the age range with a suspected or known disability should call the appropriate school listed below: included in the districts “Child Find” are public and nonpublic children from three to five years (preschool) of age, wards of the state and children who are highly mobile, such as migrant and homeless students.

**KELC (Pre-K)-(732) 787-2007 x5000**

**Caruso (Kindergarten-Fifth)-(732) 787-2007 x6000**

**Bolger (Sixth-Eighth)-(732) 787-2007 x2200**

**KHS (Ninth-Twelfth)-(732) 787-2007 x4200**

**Keansburg Pupil Personnel-(732) 787-2007 x3300**

**Project Child Find-1-800-322-8174**



**Proyecto**  
**Child Find**  
Un servicio gratuito de referidos

**1-800-322-8174**  
Todas las llamadas son confidenciales | Sin cargo

¿Le preocupa el desarrollo de su hijo? ¡Llámenos!

Para obtener más información sobre la educación especial en Nueva Jersey, visite [www.nj.gov/education/specialled](http://www.nj.gov/education/specialled)

Para niños desde el nacimiento hasta los 2 años  
Comuníquese con el Sistema de Intervención Temprana de Nueva Jersey  
888-653-4463

El Proyecto Child Find (servicio de evaluación gratuito) fue establecido por el Departamento de Educación de Nueva Jersey en colaboración con el Departamento de Educación de los EE. UU. en cumplimiento de la Parte B de la Ley de 1991.

# SEPAG-Titan Friends of Diverse Learners

## Connect with us:

Email address:

[keansburgsepag@gmail.com](mailto:keansburgsepag@gmail.com)

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2849601131978801/?ref=share>



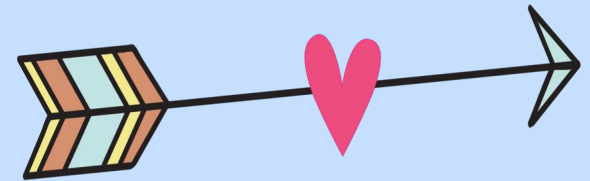
# Questions & Comments

**Contact Me:**

**Email :** [tsmith@keansburg.k12.nj.us](mailto:tsmith@keansburg.k12.nj.us)

**Phone :** x6056

IEP



**I ENCOURAGE PROGRESS**