This guide is not intended to be exhaustive of the programs available in Charlotte County. If you know of a youth program that should be included, please contact us at the address below. The programs listed are provided for information purposes only and inclusion here does not represent an endorsement of the program by the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners or the Department of Human Services, Family Services Division. While every effort has been made to include accurate information, programs change from time to time. Parents are advised to contact programs to ensure information is current. Please note that there is a fee for services for many of the programs listed. Parents should inquire about any costs when considering a program for their child or family.

This guide was compiled by Charlotte County Human Services, Family Services Division. Thank you to the many community partners who assisted in providing information for this edition of the Community Resource Guide and especially to Charlotte County 2-1-1 for sharing their database upon which much of this information is based.

This project was supported by Award no. 2009-SU-B9-0021 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice.

Charlotte County Department of Human Services  
Family Services Division  
21450 Gibralter Drive, Suite 1  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
Phone: 941.235.0159  
Website: www.CharlotteCountyFl.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alphabetical Listing of Agencies &amp; Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AARP Grandparent Information Center         7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACLU of Florida                             7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy Center for Persons With Disabilities 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcoholics Anonymous                        7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al-Anon &amp; Al-Ateen                          8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Cancer Society                     8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americorps – Florida State Parks           8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annette Fiedler Counseling                  8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARC / Florida                               9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autism Society of America                   9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Brothers &amp; Big Sisters of Charlotte County 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth Defect Research for Children, Inc.    9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Club of Charlotte County, Inc. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bread of Life Ministries                     10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges Counseling and Educational Services 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candlelighters of SW FL, Inc.               10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Abuse &amp; Rape Emergencies, Inc.   10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Independent Living of SW Florida 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Disease Control and Prevention   11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Autism and Related Disabilities  11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Behavioral Health Care, Inc.      11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Computer Group Corporation 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Court Administration       12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Family Services Center      12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Family YMCA                 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Fire &amp; EMS                 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity       13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Health Department          13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Health Plus Community Action, Inc. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Homeless Coalition, Inc.   14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Human Services Department  14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Parks, Recreation &amp; Cultural Resources 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Public Schools             15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office           16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte County Library System             16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Charlotte Harbor Diabetes Center
Child Abuse Hotline
Child Protection and Education of America
Child Support Enforcement Office, Department of Revenue
Child Welfare Information Gateway
Children’s Advocacy Center of SW Florida
Children’s Home Society of Florida
Children’s Network of SW Florida
Children’s Rights Council of Florida
Children’s Wish Foundation International, Inc.
Community Presbyterian Church
Community Resource Center
Cultural Center of Charlotte County

Department of Children & Families, Charlotte County Office
Dial-A-Ride
Drug Free Charlotte County

Early Learning Coalition of Florida’s Heartland
Easter Seals Florida, Inc.
Eckerd Youth Alternative, Inc.
Epilepsy Services of SW Florida
Englewood Four Square Church
Englewood Helping Hand, Inc.
Englewood Meals on Wheels

Family Law Self Help Program
Family Health Centers of SW Florida
Family Network on Disabilities of Florida, Inc.
Fathers for Equal Rights National Organization, Inc.
First Baptist Church of Punta Gorda
FISH of Englewood
Florida Directory of Early Childhood Services
Florida KidCare
Florida Network of Youth and Family Services
Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA)
Florida Rural Legal Services – Charlotte County Office
Florida Sheriff’s Youth Ranches
Florida Virtual School
Florida Youth ChalleNGe Academy
For the Love of Kids, Inc.  26

G
Girls and Boys Town National Hotline  26
Good Samaritans of Charlotte County, Inc.  26
Grand Court of North Port  26
Guardian Ad Litem  27

H
Hampton Point Apartments  27
Health Planning Council of SW Florida, Inc.  27
Healthy Families of Charlotte County  27
Hearing Impaired Persons of Charlotte County  28
Heart of Mercy Ministry  28

J
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation  28

L
Lions Club of Englewood  28
Lions Club of Port Charlotte  29
Lions Club of Punta Gorda  29
Learning Disabilities Association of Florida  29

M
MADD of SW Florida  29
Make a Wish Foundation  29
Missing Children Information Clearinghouse  30
Mission Unity, Inc.  30
Murdock Circle Apartments  30

N
NAB (Neighborhood Accountability Board) Program  30
Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Gulf Coast Area  31
NATHAN  31
National Alliance on Mental Illness  31
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children  31
National CHADD Organization  31
National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities  32
National Parents of Murdered Children  32
National Resource Center for Child Traumatic Stress  32
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Runaway Switchboard</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Creation Ministries</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Operation Cooper Street, Inc.</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>O</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oasis Youth Shelter</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Tabernacle Ministries</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Helpline / The Family Source of Florida</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Lutheran Church</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer Helpful Answers</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical Research &amp; Manufactures of America</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pines at Punta Gorda</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poison Information Center (Florida)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Athletic League (PAL) Program</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Charlotte Girl Scout House</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnancy Crisis Careline, Inc.</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Linus</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punta Gorda Housing Authority</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>R</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reentry Board of Charlotte County</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remnant Seed Ministries</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley Chase Apartments</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodeheaver Boy’s Ranch, Inc</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>S</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Heart- St. Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio Catholic Church- St. Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDNET / Severely Emotionally Disturbed Network</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Day Adventist Church/ Community Services</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Day Adventist Church/ Community Services</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shriners Hospitals for Children – Tampa</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDS Alliance</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Administration</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South County Family Health Center</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Florida Addiction Services (SWFAS)</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Florida Safety Council</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Florida Works</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Olympics Charlotte County</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Training and Rehabilitation of Charlotte County 41
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church 41
St. Maximillian Kolbe Catholic Church 41
Suncoast Worship Center 41
Sunshine Ride 41
Survivors of Incest Anonymous, Inc. 42
Sylvan Learning Center 42

T
Teen Challenge International 42
TideWell Hospice & Palliative Care 42
Time Out Respite Care, Inc. 43

V
Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic/ Pharmacy 43
Virginia B. Andes Community Pharmacy 43
Visually Impaired Persons of Charlotte County 43
VR – Helps 43

W
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) 44
Woodbury Health Products 44

2-1-1 Charlotte is an easy-to-dial number to connect with health & human services information as well as community and government agency contact numbers. For information on programs and services not provided in this resource guide, please call 211. Cell phone, TTY users and Charlotte County residents in Englewood, call (941) 205-2161.
Programs and Services

✦ AARP Grandparent Information Center

Phone: 1-800-424-3410  
Website: www.aarp.org/grandparents/

Information and referral for grandparents raising grandchildren.

✦ ACLU of Florida

Phone: (786) 363-2700  
(305) 576-1106  
Website: www.aclufl.org

Protect the civil liberties/civil rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, especially the principles contained in the Bill of Rights.

✦ Advocacy Center For Persons With Disabilities

Phone: (800) 342-0823 Toll Free: Tallahassee  
(800) 346-4127 TTD  
(850) 488-8640 Fax  
Website: www.advocacycenter.org/

Provides information, protection and advocacy services and is mandated to ensure and expand the legal rights of individuals with disabilities.

✦ Alcoholics Anonymous

Phone: (941) 426-7723 24/7 Hotline – Call for nearest location  
(941) 426-7655 North Port  
(941) 951-6810 24/7 Sarasota  
Website: www.aa.org

Fellowship for men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism
Al-Anon & Al-Ateen  
Phone: (888) 425-2666  
Website: www.al-anon.alateen.org  
Provides mutual support and fellowship for people who have been or are affected by a friend or family member with a drinking problem. Member anonymity is maintained.

American Cancer Society  
992 Tamiami Trail, C-2  
Port Charlotte, FL 33953  
Phone: (941) 627-3000 Option 2 – Ext. 110  
Website: www.cancer.org  
An organization that fights cancer through research, education, advocacy and patient services.

AmeriCorps – Florida State Parks  
District 4 AmeriCorps – Oscar Scherer State Park  
1843 S. Tamiami Trail  
Osprey, FL 34229  
Phone: (941) 483-5948  
Website: www.floridastateparks.org/americorps/App.cfm  
Provides a work experience for youth age 18 or older within the state parks of Florida. Participants commit to 11 months / 1700 hours of service for which they receive a stipend. Upon completion of service they are eligible for a monetary award for college or vocational school tuition or repayment of student loans. January / February start dates each year.

Annette Fiedler Counseling  
3432 Depew Ave.  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952  
Phone: (941) 255-0616  
Provides substance abuse counseling program for qualified persons.
ARC/Florida

Phone: (800) 226-1155 Toll Free-Call for local groups  
     (850) 921-0460  (Main Headquarters)  
     (850) 921-0418  Fax  
Email: arcoflorida@comcast.net  
Website: www.arcflorida.org

National Advocacy Agency Provides Services to reduce the incidence and limit the consequences of mental retardation and other developmental disabilities through education, awareness, research, advocacy and support of families, friends, and community.

Autism Society of America

Phone: (800) 328-8476 Toll Free Hotline  
     (301) 657-0881 National Headquarters  
     (941) 380-4676 Maureen Morris (Outreach Chair for Autism Speaks)

Website: www.autism-society.org

Society offers support groups, quarterly newsletter, help in fund raising efforts, and assistance in securing information for families touched by autism.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Florida

1441 Tamiami Trail #357  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Phone: (941) 625 – 6164  
Website: www.hereforthekids.org

Provides volunteer mentors, family support and youth development programs for at-risk children.

Birth Defect Research for Children Inc.

Phone: (407) 566-8304  
Website: www.birthdefects.org

Provides services to parents and professionals caring for children with disabilities.
Boys & Girls Club of Charlotte County, Inc.
21450 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 10
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 235-2472
Website: www.bgcofcc.org

Provides positive youth development programs and services including education, character development, arts and recreation.

Bread of Life Ministries
6454 Scott Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Phone: (941) 575-4440

A homeless shelter. Provides services to the indigent.

Bridges Counseling and Educational Services
992 Tamiami Trail, Suite B
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Phone: (941) 889-7800
(941) 889-7796 Fax
Email: www.Bridges4u.com

Candlelighters of SW FL, Inc.

Phone: (800) 738-3588 Toll Free
(239) 432-2223
(239) 432-1032 Fax
Email: info@candlelightersswfl.org
URL: www.candlelightersswfl.org

Assistance provided for families who have children diagnosed with cancer or blood-related disease.

Center for Abuse & Rape Emergencies, Inc.
Punta Gorda, Florida

Phone: (941) 627-6000
Website: www.carefl.org
Provides counseling, shelter and advocacy to victims of abuse and/or rape and other violent crimes.

**Center for Independent Living of SW Florida**  
4300 Kings Highway, Unit 402  
Port Charlotte, FL 33980  
Phone: (888) 343-6991  
Website: [www.cilfl.org](http://www.cilfl.org)  

Helps people with disabilities achieve and maintain their independence.

**Center for Disease Control and Prevention**  
Phone: (800) 232-4636  
(888) 232-6348 TTY  
Website: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)  

U.S. agency that protects health and safety of all Americans, information on disease and related topics.

**Center for Autism and Related Disabilities**  
Phone: (813) 974-2532  
(800) 333-4530 Toll Free for Florida only  
(239) 590-7771 Fort Myers  
Email: card-usf@fmhi.usf.edu  
Website: [http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu](http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu)  

Provides support and assistance for people with autism and related disabilities.

**Charlotte Behavioral Health Care, Inc.**  
1700 Education Avenue  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
Phone: (941) 639-8300  
(941) 575-0222 24 Hour Crisis Line  
(941) 347-6444 Recovery Center  
Website: [www.CBHCfl.org](http://www.CBHCfl.org)  

Provides mental health services.
Charlotte County Computer Group Corporation
2280 Aaron Street
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone:  (941) 625-4175, ext. 244
Website:  www.cccgc.net

Promotes computer literacy and education in Charlotte County.

Charlotte County Court Administration
350 E. Marion Avenue, 2nd Floor
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

PROGRAMS:
- Charlotte County Court Mediation Programs
- Juvenile Arbitration Program
- Domestic Violence/Spouse Abuse

Phone:  (941) 637-2199
Website:  www.co.charlotte.fl.com

Clerk of Courts office provides various recording services and handles probate and support payments.

Charlotte County Family Services Center
21450 Gibralter Drive
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone:  (941) 235-0668
Website:  www.Charlottecountyfl.com

Provides family support services including after school programs, parenting classes, adult and family literacy, volunteer recruitment and placement, neighborhood revitalization, social services, juvenile diversion and reentry, mental health counseling and referrals.

Charlotte County Family YMCA
1777 Tamiami Trail, Suite 501
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone:  (941) 629-0909
Website:  www.charlottecountyymca.com
Provides affordable child care that meets the fundamental needs for growth and development common to all children.

**Charlotte County Fire & EMS**  
26571 Airport Road  
Punta Gorda, FL  33982

**PROGRAM:**  
- *Child Safety Seat Program*

Phone:  (941) 833-5600  
Website:  [www.charlottecountyfl.com](http://www.charlottecountyfl.com)

Provides fire and emergency medical services in Charlotte County.

**Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity**  
1750 Manzana Avenue  
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

Phone:  (941) 639-3162  
Website:  [www.charlottecountyhfh.org](http://www.charlottecountyhfh.org)

Builds houses for homeownership for low to very low income families.

**Charlotte County Health Department**  
1100 Loveland Blvd.  
Port Charlotte, FL  33980

**PROGRAMS:**  
- *Communicable Disease Control & Epidemiology*  
- *WIC Nutrition Program*  
- *Health Dept. Clinic in Englewood:*  
- *Health Dept. Clinic in Port Charlotte*  
- *Health Dept. Clinic in Punta Gorda*

Phone:  (941) 624-7200  
Website:  [www.charlottechd.com](http://www.charlottechd.com)

Provides preliminary medical care and services for free or according to sliding scale by income.
Charlotte County Health Plus Community Action Inc.
3082 Tamiami Trail
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 625-4343

Provides services to the indigents and homebound seniors in Port Charlotte and Punta Gorda.

Charlotte County Healthy Start Coalition Inc.
17940 Toledo Blade Blvd., Unit A
Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Phone: (941) 764-9700
Website: www.charlottecountyhealthystart.com

Provides care coordination to high-risk pregnant moms and babies. Serves young children who are at-risk of poor health outcomes.

Charlotte County Homeless Coalition, Inc.
Lighthouse Meals/ Soup Kitchen
1476 Kenesaw Street
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Phone: (941) 627-4313
Website: www.cchomelesscoalition.org

Provides services for almost homeless and homeless people. Also offers pregnancy and parenting youth support.

Charlotte County Human Services Department
512 East Grace Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Phone: (941) 833-6500
Website: www.charlottecountyfl.com

Provides temporary assistance for eligible Charlotte County residents in the areas of electric, water, food, medical or crisis stabilization.
Charlotte County Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources
2300 El Jobean Road
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone:  (941) 625-7529
Website:  www.charlottecountyfl.com

Provides recreational activities through parks, libraries, sports complex, historical center and recreational centers throughout Charlotte County.

Charlotte County Public Schools
1445 Education Way
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone:  (941) 255-0808
Website:  www.ccps.k12.fl.us

  Adult & Community Education
  1441 Tamiami Trail, Ste 365, Port Charlotte, FL  33948
  Phone:  (941) 255-7555

  Charlotte County Early Head Start Program
  311 E. Charlotte Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL  33950
  Phone:  (941) 575-5470

  Charlotte County Even Start
  311 E. Charlotte Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL  33950
  Phone:  (941) 575-5470

  Charlotte County Head Start
  311 E. Charlotte Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL  33950
  Phone:  (941) 575-5470

  Child Diagnostic & Learning Resources System
  1445 Education Way, Port Charlotte, FL  33948
  Phone:  (941) 255-0808

  Children & Families First
  3131 Lakeview Boulevard, Port Charlotte, FL  33948
  Phone:  (941) 255-7480

Charlotte Technical Center
18300 Cochran Boulevard, Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Phone: (941) 255-7500

**Encore! Job Readiness Workshops**
18300 Toledo Blade Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Phone: (941) 255-7500

**Exceptional Student Education**
1445 Education Way, Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Phone: (941) 255-0808

**Family Literary Program @ Baker Head Start Center**
311 E. Charlotte Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Phone: (941) 575-5470

**Nurturing Dads Initiative @ Family Services Center**
21450 Gibraltar Drive, Ste #4, Port Charlotte, FL 33952
Phone: (941) 764-7070

Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office
7474 Utilities Road
Punta Gorda, FL 33982

Phone: (941) 639-2101
Website: www.ccsso.org/divisionsandfacilities/district3.cfm

**PROGRAMS:**
- *Crime Prevention*
- *Finger Printing Program*
- *Fresh Start*
- *Victim’s Assistance Program*

Provides prevention programs targeting at-risk youth and first-time offenders. Program exposes youth to conditions associated with living incarcerated. Also provides safety education promoting safe practices and crime prevention.

Charlotte County Library System
2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd.
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Phone: (941) 613-3160
Website:  www.charlottecountyfl.com

Provides youth and family activities and resources. Also provides homework help for teens and events calendar on library web page.

Charlotte Harbor Diabetes Center
4369 Tamiami Trail
Port Charlotte, FL  33980

Phone:  (888) 342-2383
Website:  www.diabetes.org

The Association’s mission is to prevent and cure diabetes, and to improve the lives of all affected by diabetes.

Child Abuse Hotline
Phone:  1-800-96-ABUSE or 1-800-962-2873
Website:  www.dcf.state.fl.us/abuse/

Receives reports of child abuse and neglect. Provides information and referrals to enhance the safety and well-being of children and vulnerable adults. Florida law requires certain professionals that know or have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is abused or neglected to report this information to the Department of Children and Families.

Child Protection Education of America Inc.

Phone:  (866) 872-2445 (866) USA-CHL- Toll Free
(813) 626-3001
(813) 626-7511
Website:  http://www.find.missing-children.org/

Coordinating agency serving missing children, their parents and law enforcement. Assists families in efforts to find missing children.

Child Support Enforcement Office, Department of Revenue

Phone: 1-800-622-KIDS or 1-800-622-5437
Website:  www.myflorida.com/dor/childsupport

Assists in locating missing parents, determining paternity, establishing medical and financial support orders, and enforcing
support.

+ **Child Welfare Information Gateway**

Phone:  (800) 394-3366  Toll Free
       (703) 385-5685
       (703) 385-3206  Fax

Email:  info@childwelfare.gov
Website:  [www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov)

Promotes safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families by connecting them to resources that will address the needs of the children and families in the community.

+ **Children’s Advocacy Center of SW Florida**

Phone:  (239) 939-2808
        (239) 939-4794 Fax

Website:  [http://www.cac-swfl.org/](http://www.cac-swfl.org/)

Child-friendly center for child victims of abuse, prompt access to appropriate services.

+ **Children’s Home Society of Florida**

Phone:  (800) 940-0102  Toll Free
        (239) 334-0222  24/7 Emergency Pager

Email:  info@chsfl.org
Website:  [www.chsfl.org](http://www.chsfl.org)

Programs focused on prevention and intervention of child abuse and neglect.

+ **Children’s Network of SW Florida**

Phone:  (239) 226-1524
        (239) 226-1115  Fax

Email:  info@childnetswfl.org
Website:  www.childnetswfl.org

Coalition that works with the community in building and maintaining a child protective system and promotes safety and stability

**Children’s Rights Council of Florida**

Phone:  (800) 787-5437  Toll Free
Email: info@crckids.org
Website: www.crckids.org

National non-profit organization based in Washington, DC that works to assure children meaningful and continuing contact with both their parents and extended family regardless of the parents’ marital status.

**Children’s Wish Foundation International, Inc**

Phone:  (800) 323-9474  Toll Free
Email: wish@childrenswish.org
Website: www.childrenswish.org/

The purpose of the foundation is to fulfill the favorite wish of a terminally ill child. All arrangements are made and expenses covered by the foundation. Ex: airline tickets, rental cars, expense money and parental salary lost, as a result of taking time off from work while wish is fulfilled.

**Community Presbyterian Church**

405 South McCall Road
Englewood, FL  34223

Phone:  (941) 474-9579

Provides workshop for pre-school children.

**Community Resource Center**

Phone:  (941)276-1240   24/7
     (941) 639-3189   Fax
Email: crc5400@yahoo.com
Provides monthly food distribution for all in need. Days and hours vary, call for information.

**Cultural Center of Charlotte County**  
2280 Aaron Street  
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone: (941) 625-4175  
Website:  [www.theculturalcenter.com](http://www.theculturalcenter.com)

Offers various activities, interactive opportunities and classes to the residents of Charlotte County.

**Department of Children & Families, Charlotte County**  
19500 Cochran Boulevard  
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone: (941) 613-2000  
Website:  [www.myflorida.com/cf_web](http://www.myflorida.com/cf_web)

Provides multiple services and assistance to individuals and families in need. Public guardian referrals.

**Dial-A-Ride**

25490 Airport Road  
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

Phone: (941) 575-4000

Provides transportation services at low cost to residents of Charlotte County.

**Drug Free Charlotte County**  
1445 Education Way, Room 250  
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone: (941) 255-0808, Ext. 3205  
Website:  [www.drugfreecharlottecounty.org](http://www.drugfreecharlottecounty.org)

A Coalition dedicated to eliminating substance abuse in Charlotte County.
Early Learning Coalition of Florida’s Heartland
3028 Caring Way, Suite #4
Port Charlotte, FL  33952
Phone:  (941) 255-1650
Website:  www.elcfh.org

Assist parents in locating a legally operating childcare program, financial assistance for childcare (called Scholarship Child Care), and technical assistance to childcare providers.

Easter Seals Florida Inc

Phone:  (800) 221-6827  National Toll Free
URL: www.fl.easterseals.com

Provides services to children/adults with disabilities or other special needs and support to families.

Eckerd Youth Alternative, Inc

Phone:  (800) 914-3937  Toll Free- Program Admissions
(800) 554-4357  Toll Free- Headquarters

Services provided for boys and girls 10-17 with emotional and/or behavioral problems Therapy is conducted in an outdoor setting.

Epilepsy Services of SW Florida

Phone:  (941) 953-5988
       (941) 366-5890  Fax
Email:  manager@seizuredisorders.org

Provides Direct Services as well as important education and prevention programs to those with Epilepsy, their families, and the general public.

Englewood Four Square Church “Blessing Shop”
180 Langsner
Englewood, FL  34223
Phone:  (941) 475-7161
Provides food, clothing and necessities to person in need.

**Englewood Helping Hand, Inc.**  
700 East Dearborn Street  
Englewood, FL 34295

Phone: (941) 474-5864  
(941) 460-2791 Fax  
Website: [http://englewoodhelpinghand.org](http://englewoodhelpinghand.org)

Provides emergency aid with food and payments for rent, utilities on a ONE time basis when referrals to government programs are not available.

**Englewood Meals on Wheels**  
400 Loma Linda  
Englewood, FL 34223

Phone: (941) 474-4445

Volunteers prepare and deliver hot, well-balanced meals to homebound residents.

**Family Law Self Help Program**

Phone: (941) 637-2399  
(941) 833-3064  
Website: [www.ca.cjis20.org](http://www.ca.cjis20.org)

Assists individuals who are representing themselves in family law matters (pro se).

**Family Health Centers of SW Florida**

Phone: (866) 355-2348 Toll Free-Port Charlotte Office

Family Network on Disabilities of Florida Inc

Phone: (800) 825-5736  toll Free
Email: fnd.@fndfl.org
Website: www.fndfl.org

Provides information, resources and advocacy training for individuals with disabilities and/or parents of children w/disabilities.

Fathers for Equal Rights National Organization Inc

Phone: (305) 335-9077  
(305) 259-0084
(305) 234-4156
(305) 823-9984
Email: info@ffermiami.org
Website: http://ffermiami.org

Assistance provided to fathers in family court.

First Baptist Church of Punta Gorda – “Horn of Plenty”
459 Gill Street
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

Phone: (941) 639-3857
(941) 639-0045 Fax
Website:  www.fbcpuntagorda.org

Provides utility and water bill assistance for the very needy. Food pantry available.

FISH of Englewood

Phone: (941) 475-4494

Provides transportation for anyone unable to drive locally to doctor’s appointments, stores, banks, etc.
Florida Directory of Early Childhood Services
Phone: (800 654-4440
Website: www.centraldirectory.org/

Provides information and referral for children with disabilities or special healthcare needs.

Florida KidCare
Phone: (888) 540-5437 (toll free)
(877) 316-8748 TTY
(941) 235-0159 Charlotte County hotline
Website: www.floridakidcare.org

Offers affordable, low cost health insurance for uninsured children in Florida.

Florida Network of Youth and Family Services

Phone: (850) 922-4324
Website: www.floridanetwork.org

A non profit statewide association that represents several agencies which serve homeless, runaway and troubled youth ages ten and older and their families. Provides many support tools online for parents who are struggling with their children’s behavior.

Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA)

Phone: (877) 275-3732
(321) 872-6620
Website: www.fpea.com

Offers support to families who home school to promote the highest quality home education programs. Provides information for families considering home schooling and contacts for local support groups.

Florida Rural Legal Services – Charlotte County Office
350 E. Marion Ave., Ste. A1017 & A1018
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Phone: (941) 505-9007
(800) 476-8937
Free legal representation is provided to those below poverty level in matters related to housing, civil rights, public benefits, income maintenance, health care and consumer law.

**Florida Sheriff’s Youth Ranches**  
P.O. Box 2000  
Boys Ranch, FL 32064

Phone: (941) 776-1777 (local)  
(800) 765-3797 Toll free  
(386) 842-5501  
Website: [www.youthranches.org/](http://www.youthranches.org/)

Provides a week-long summer camp for youth ages 10-18. Provides residential programs for at-risk youth ages 8-18. Call the above phone number to determine eligibility. Applications must be approved by the local sheriff.

**Florida Virtual School**  
Website: [www.flvs.net/](http://www.flvs.net/)

Provides a statewide, internet-based public school that offers an online curriculum for middle and high school students.

**Florida Youth ChalleNGe Academy**  
5629 State Road 16 West, Bldg. 3800  
Starke, FL 32091

Phone: (904) 682-4032  
(866) 276-9304  
Email: flyca-all@ng.army.mil  
Website: [www.ngycp.org/state/fl/](http://www.ngycp.org/state/fl/)

A 17 ½ month quasi-military training and mentoring program. Assists high school dropouts, expellees and at-risk youth to develop life skills, complete education goals, and develop employment potential.
For the Love of Kids, Inc.
Phone: (941) 626-4345
Provides children with diapers, wipes, clothes, food, etc.

Girls and Boys Town National Hotline
Phone: (800) 448-3000 Toll Free Hotline
(800) 842-1488 Toll Free Business Line
(800) 448-1838 Toll Free TTD
Email: hotline@girlsandboystown.org
Website: www.girlsandboystown.org
Short-term Crisis Intervention Hotline for Children and families but will serve all ages and situations. Offers referrals to anyone with problems, anytime.

Good Samaritans of Charlotte County, Inc.
1105 Taylor Road, Unit M,
Punta Gorda, FL  33950
Phone: (941) 639-3335
(941) 639-3353 Fax
Website: www.goodsamaritanscc.org
Provides emergency assistance to Charlotte County families/individuals in financial need by offering food and financial assistance with utilities, prescription medications.

Grande Court of North Port
Phone: (941) 426-6554
(941) 426-6728 Fax
Email: northport@calexgroup.com
Website: http://grandecourtnorthport.com
Affordable housing (apts). This is not subsidized housing option. Eligible renters must make gross monthly income of at least 2X the monthly rent. Section 8 from Sarasota County may also apply.
Guardian Ad Litem
21450 Gibralter Drive, Suite 5
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 627-0643

Assigns volunteers to represent abused, neglected and abandoned children in court proceedings.

Hampton Point Apartments
2511 Luther Road
Punta Gorda, FL 33983

Phone: (941) 979-1001
Website: www.hamptonpointapthomes.com

Provides rental units for low to moderate income families in an “access gated” community.

Health Planning Council of SW Florida Inc

Phone: (239) 433-6700
Website: www.hpcswf.com

Provides temporary housing assistance for persons with AIDS, including rental, utilities and transitional housing for HIV/AIDS positive individuals

Healthy Families of Charlotte County
21450 Gibralter Drive, Suite 9
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 629 – 6477

Provides in-home parenting programs, family support services and parenting classes aimed at preventing child abuse.
Hearing Impaired Persons of Charlotte County
25250 Sandhill Boulevard
Punta Gorda, FL  33983

Phone:  (941) 743-8347

Provides services to individuals who cope with hearing or speech loss by offering information, referral, educational seminars, interpreter services and advocacy.

Heart of Mercy Ministry
Port Charlotte, Florida

Phone:  (941) 763-2244
Website:  www.hmercy.com

Provides free food, clothes and some household items for anyone in need.

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Phone:  (239) 992-3840  Local # for Charlotte County Residents
(941) 929-0621
(941) 929-0602
Email:  kmaloney@jdrf.org
URL:  www.jdrf.org/swflorida

Primary goal of agency is to raise money for diabetes research and provide support for people affected by the disease, especially families and children.

Lions Club of Englewood

Phone:  (941) 698-7508
(941) 474-3932  Englewood

Regional chapter that provides vision, hearing and other services to the community
Lions Club of Port Charlotte

Phone: (941) 235-9740 John Mann  
Email: jjohnniejam@comcast.net  
Website: www.portcharlottefl.lionwap.org

Provides hearing and vision services to persons with need.

Lions Club of Punta Gorda

Phone: (941) 637-9979  
Email: biljeanr@embarqmail.com  
Website: www.puntagordafl.lionwap.org 

Provides multiple services to the Punta Gorda community.

Learning Disabilities Association of Florida

Website: www.Ida-fl.org

Make referrals to local chapters in order to help parents of young adults with learning disabilities.

MADD of SW Florida

Phone: (800) 438-6233 National Office  
(877) 623-3435 24 hr. Victim Services Help Line  
Email: maddswfl@aol.com  
Website: http://madd.org

The mission of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is to stop drunk driving and support victims and prevent under age drinking.

Make a Wish Foundation

Phone: (800) 722-9474  
(800) 691-2881  
Email: jennifer.misiewicz@suncoastwish.org  
Website: www.wishcentralfl.wish.org

Wishes granted to children with life threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.
Missing Children Information Clearinghouse
Phone: 1-888-FL-MISSING (356-4774)
Website: www.3.fdle.state.fl.us/MCICSearch/

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) operates a state clearinghouse that provides a centralized file to collect, store and disseminate information on missing children.

Mission Unity, Inc.
3512 Depew Circle
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 624-3748 Housing
(941) 286-2861 Drug assessment and treatment center

Website: www.missionunity.org

A transitional living facility for single adults who are homeless due to substance abuse. Also provides low cost outpatient drug and alcohol assessments and counseling.

Murdock Circle Apartments
17800 Murdock Circle
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Phone: (941) 627-3900
Website: www.mymurdockcircle.com

Provides affordable housing for low-income families.

NAB (Neighborhood Accountability Board) Program
21450 Gibraltor Drive, Suite 1
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 623-3149
(941) 286-7085
(941) 235-0159
Email: Denan.Abbott@charlottefl.com
Betzy.Toro@charlottefl.com

A juvenile diversion program that utilizes volunteer community
members as well as victims to create restorative-based case plans for juvenile offenders.

**Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Gulf Coast Area**  
Phone: 1-866-389-1344  
Website: [www.nagulfcoastfla.org](http://www.nagulfcoastfla.org)

Support groups are offered for those recovering from drug addiction.

**NATHHAN**  
Phone: (800) 266-9837 Toll Free  
(208) 267-6246  
Email: [nathanews@aol.com](mailto:nathanews@aol.com)  
URL: [www.nathhan.com/](http://www.nathhan.com/)

Equipping parents to raise their children with special needs or disabilities confidently through home schooling.

**National Alliance on Mental Illness**  
Phone: (800) 950-6264 Toll Free  
Website: [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

Assists individuals with mental illness, their families and the community. Provides peer-to-peer counseling and support groups.

**National Center for Missing & Exploited Children**  
Phone: (800) 843-5678 Toll Free 24 hour Hotline  
Website: [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)

Offers information and referral for situations involving missing children and child exploitation.

**National CHADD Organization**  
Phone: (800) 233-4050 Toll Free  
(239) 940-2578 (Local chapter)  
Website: [www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)
National organization provides support and information for adults and parents of children that are Attention Deficit or Hyperactive, as well as professionals in the Community. Teachers earn in-service credit.

National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities

Phone: (800) 695-0285 Voice and TTY
Email: nichcy@aed.org
Website: www.nichcy.org

National information center provides information on disabilities and disability-related issues. Anyone can use services—families, educators, administrators, journalists, students. Special focus is children and youth, (birth to 22).

National Parents of Murdered Children Inc.

Phone: (888) 818-7662 Toll Free (National)
Website: www.pomc.com

Provides ongoing emotional support, education, advocacy, prevention and awareness to all survivors of homicide victims.

National Resource Center for Child Traumatic Stress

Phone: (919) 682-1552
Website: www.nctsnet.org

The center provides relevant, practice information and resources to professionals and the public, including survivors of childhood trauma, their families, and communities.

National Runaway Switchboard

Phone: (800) 786-2929 hotline
(800) 621-0394 TDD
Email: info@1800runaway.org
Website: www.1800runaway.org

Offers crisis intervention information and referral, message services between the youth and parent and mediated conference calls. Administers Greyhound’s Home Free Program for youth between
the ages of 12-20. One-way tickets may be issued for youth who wish to return to parents or legal guardians.

+ **New Creation Ministries**
  2321 Sophia Lane
  Punta Gorda, FL  33983
  Phone:  (941) 627-4141
  Provides Christian counseling services.

+ **New Operation Cooper Street, Inc.**
  650 Mary Street
  Punta Gorda, FL  33950
  Phone:  (941) 639-3034
  Email: info@cooperstreetcenter.org
  Website: www.cooperstreetcenter.org
  Provides recreational facilities in cooperation with Charlotte County Parks & Recreation Department. Recreational facilities and programs for youth aged 4 to 18. Computer room, children’s reading room, library, recreation room, and basketball courts available. Also provides educational, career/college readiness and counseling services.

+ **Oasis Youth Shelter**
  3634 Central Ave.
  Fort Myers, FL 33901
  Phone:  (239) 278-1030
  Youth Hotline:  1-800-329-8336
  Website:  www.lsfnet.org
  Provides temporary shelter for troubled, runaway or homeless youth ages 10 – 17.

+ **Palm Tabernacle Ministries**
  390 Flamingo Boulevard
  Port Charlotte, FL  33954
  Phone:  (941) 255-5544
  Fax:  (941) 764-1288
Website:  www.palmtab.com

Provides pre-school and social services for Charlotte County residents.

Parent Help Line / The Family Source of Florida
Phone:  1-800-352-5683 or 1-800-FLA-LOVE

Provides a toll-free telephone line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Family Source staff and specially trained volunteers help parents explore the options available to help them solve their problems and to give them referrals for ongoing assistance. All calls are confidential.

Peace Lutheran Church
21500 Gibralter Drive
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone:  (941) 625-4969
Email:  info@peacelutheranpc.org
Website:  www.peaceportcharlotte.org

Provides human services to the community.

Pfizer Helpful Answers

Phone:  (866) 706-2400  Toll Free
Website:  www.pfizerhelpfulanswers.com

Programs to help people without prescription coverage save or qualify on Pfizer medicines.

Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America

Phone:  (888) 477-2669  Toll Free
Email:  EHubbard@phrma.org
Website:  www.phrma.org

Interactive website designed to help patients find assistance programs for free medicine.
Pines at Punta Gorda
1200 Slash Pine Circle
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

Phone:  (941) 637-1932

Provides affordable housing for low-income families.

Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida
8595 College Parkway, Suite 250
Fort Myers, FL 33919

Phone:  (239) 481-9999
Website:  www.ppswcf.org

Gynecological exams, bladder/urinary tract infections, pregnancy testing, sexually transmitted disease testing / treatment, and counseling. Services available to Charlotte County residents.

Poison Information Center (Florida) – Tampa General Hospital
Phone:  1-800-222-1222
Website:  www.poisoncentertampa.org/

Provides expert advice in poisonings 24-hours a day including information on poisonings from bites, stings, household products, chemicals, food poisoning, plants, medicines and substance abuse.

Police Athletic League (PAL) Program
21450 Gibralter Drive, Suite 8
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone:  (941) 235-4751  (Port Charlotte)
        (941) 473-3500  (Englewood)

Offers at-risk youth ages 10 – 17 the opportunity to participate in youth development, sports and homework assistance. The program is led by the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office and is aimed at creating a positive relationship between the youth and law enforcement.

Port Charlotte Girl Scouts
165 McGuire Avenue
Port Charlotte, FL  33952
Phone:  (941) 625-2220  
Website:  www.girlscoutsgulfcoastfl.org

Programs offered to girls ages 5 to 17 years old. Promotes strong attitudes and values.

Pregnancy Crisis Careline, Inc.  
1685 Tamiami Trail, Unit 4  
Murdock Medical Park  
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone:  (941) 625-5576

Provides medical care for those unable to afford health care during pregnancy.

Project Linus (held at New Day Christian Church)  
20212 Peachland Boulevard  
Port Charlotte, FL  33983

Phone:  (941) 625-4947  
Website:  www.projectlinus.org

Provides blankets to area hospitals and organization for neo-natal and terminally ill children.

Punta Gorda Housing Authority  
340 Gulf Breeze Avenue  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Phone:  (941) 639-4344  
Website:  http://puntagordaha.org

Provides the only Public Housing available in Charlotte County. Also has the Section 8 Voucher Program for Charlotte County.

Reentry Board of Charlotte County  
21450 Gibralter Drive, Suite 1  
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone:  (941) 235-0159
Provides transitional planning for youth returning to the community from commitment programs.

- **Remnant Seed Ministries**  
  21202 Olean Boulevard, #B-1  
  Port Charlotte, FL  33952  
  Phone: (941) 625-3490

  Provides food from its food pantry to those in need.

- **Riley Chase Apartments**  
  1015 Riley Chase Drive  
  North Port, FL  34289  
  Phone: (941) 429-9799  
  Email: rileychase@wrhrealty.com

  Provides affordable housing for persons of all ages.

- **Rodeheaver Boy’s Ranch Inc. Since 1950**  
  Phone: (386) 328-1281  
  Email: rodeheaverboys@aol.com

  Working residential ranch for boys with behavioral problems.

- **Sacred Heart- St. Vincent de Paul**  
  25200 Airport Rd  
  Punta Gorda, FL 33950  
  Phone: 941-575-0767  
  Website: [http://sacredheartfl.org/poor_stvin.html](http://sacredheartfl.org/poor_stvin.html)

  Offers food pantry, clothing, furniture and household items, limited assistance with rent and utilities.

- **Salvation Army**  
  2120 Loveland Blvd.  
  Port Charlotte, FL  33980  
  Phone: (941) 629-3170  
  (941) 629-5950
Website:  www.salvationarmyflorida.org

Provides emergency social services, food pantry, disaster assistance and spiritual counseling.

San Antonio Catholic Church- St. Vincent de Paul
24445 Rampart Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL  33980

Phone:  (941) 624-3799
Website: www.sanantoniocatholicchurch.com

Offers food pantry and emergency financial assistance with rent and utilities.

SEDNET / Severely Emotionally Disturbed Network
5775 Osceola Trail
Naples, FL 34109

Phone:  (239) 377-0131
(239) 337-0084
Website: www.yourcharlotteschools.com/employees/ESE/sednet.htm

A multi-agency service network for emotionally disturbed youth and their families. Facilitates the coordination of services provided by education, mental health, juvenile justice and child welfare agencies.

Seventh Day Adventist Church/ Community Services
2036 Loveland Boulevard
Port Charlotte, FL  33980

Phone:  (941) 629-0398

A wheelchair accessible facility that provides food, clothing and financial assistance in a given emergency.

Seventh Day Adventist Church/ Community Services
1555 Taylor Rd.
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

Phone:  (941) 505-1658 Community services
(941) 575-2146 Church
Provides non-perishable food to the needy.

**Shriners Hospitals for Children – Tampa**

Phone: (800) 237-5055 Toll Free patient referral line  
(813) 972-2250  
Website: [www.shrinershq.org/hospitals](http://www.shrinershq.org/hospitals)

Provides specialized care for orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate.

**SIDS Alliance**

Phone: (800) 221-7437  Toll Free  
Website: [www.firstcandle.org](http://www.firstcandle.org)

Voluntary health organization dedicated to support families that experience an infant death, public education and medical research.

**Social Security Administration**

Phone: (800) 772-1213  Toll Free  
(800) 325-0778  TTY  
Website: [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

Administers Federal Social Security Programs: Disability, Survivor Benefits, Medicare and SSI, Medicaid, etc.

**South County Family Health Center**

Phone: (941) 861-2900 Main number  
(941) 861-3343 Dental clinic  
Website: [www.sarasotahealth.org](http://www.sarasotahealth.org)

Provides emergency dental services and dentures to residents of Charlotte County that are on Medicaid. All other services are for Sarasota Residents.

**Southwest Florida Addiction Services, Inc. (SWFAS)**

3763 Evans Ave. 1105 Cultural Park Blvd.  
Fort Myers, FL 33901 Cape Coral, FL 33990
Provides services to those trying to get off drugs or alcohol and their families. Offers a full continuum of care for adolescents and adults.

**Southwest Florida Safety Council**  
1714 Evans Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL  33901

Phone: (239) 332-3008  
(800) 437-3008 Toll Free  
Website: [www.safedrivingschool.com/index.htm](http://www.safedrivingschool.com/index.htm)

Offers live and online traffic schools. Provides Drug Alcohol Traffic Education (D.A.T.E.) course, which is a pre-requisite for getting one’s first drivers license.

**Southwest Florida Works**  
1032 Tamiami Trail, Unit 9  
Port Charlotte, FL  33953

Phone: (941) 235-5900  
Website: [www.swflworks.org](http://www.swflworks.org)

Provides services that will help out-of-school youth, dislocated workers, displaced homemakers, and anyone else who needs assistance to find work or to obtain job training.

**Special Olympics Charlotte County**  
172 Baldwin Court  
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone: (941) 624-4055  
Website: [www.soflcharlotte.org](http://www.soflcharlotte.org) or [www.sofl.org](http://www.sofl.org)

Provides year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for people with intellectual disabilities who wish to participate.
Special Training and Rehabilitation of Charlotte County

Phone: (941) 629-5655
Email: starbl@embarqmail.com

Rehabilitation services provided for developmentally disabled people and provide a way for integrating into the local community.

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church- St. Vincent de Paul
21505 Augusta Avenue
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone: (941) 625-9784

Offers food pantry, clothing and limited assistance with rent and utilities.

St. Maximillian Kolbe Catholic Church- St. Vincent de Paul
1441 Spear Street
Port Charlotte, FL  33948

Phone: (941) 258-3398

Offers food pantry, clothing and limited assistance with rent and utilities.

Suncoast Worship Center
881 S. River Road
Englewood, FL  34233

Phone: (941) 474-5045
Website: www.suncoastworship.com

Provides food pantry and support services.

Sunshine Ride
25490 Airport Road
Punta Gorda, FL  33950

Phone: (941) 575-4000

Provides transportation services to disadvantaged residents of
Charlotte County.

Survivors of Incest Anonymous, Inc

Phone: (410) 893-3322
Website: www.siawso.org

Self-help groups for survivors of child sexual abuse (who are not abusing any child) guided by a set of 12 suggested steps and traditions, slogan and serenity prayer. Provides support groups, pen pals, and literature.

Sylvan Learning Center
1700 Tamiami Trail, Suite F3
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Phone: (941) 743-1080

Provides learning skills assessment, individualized learning program, and tutoring.

Teen Challenge International
5646 7th Ave.
For Myers, FL 33907

Phone: (239) 275-1974
Website: www.teenchallengeusa.com

Various centers throughout Florida helping youth, adults, and families with life-controlling problems including substance abuse.

TideWell Hospice & Palliative Care
1144 Veronica Street
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: (941) 627-0848
Website: www.tidewell.org

Offers bereavement services for children, teens, adults, and families regardless of whether or not the person who died was a hospice patient.
**Time Out Respite Care, Inc.**
24246 Harborview Road
Port Charlotte, FL  33980

Phone:  (941) 743-3883

Provides relief to family and caregivers from daily challenges associated with caring for a disabled child or adult. Also provides temporary care for children whose family is in crisis situations.

**Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Clinic/Pharmacy**
21450 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 14
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone:  (941) 766-9570 Port Charlotte

Free healthcare clinic for indigent and working poor. Also provides medication assistance to Charlotte County residents.

**Virginia B. Andes Volunteer Community Pharmacy**
6868 San Casa Drive
Englewood, FL 34224

Phone: (941) 475-9019

Provides medication assistance to Charlotte County residents.

**Visually Impaired Persons of Charlotte County**
3459 Depew Ave.
Port Charlotte, FL  33952

Phone:  (941) 625-8501

Provides independent living/rehabilitation classes, referral to the Division of Blind Services, a service chapter for social/business activities, counseling and other needed services.

**VR – Helps**

Phone:  1-800-451-4327
Website: www.rehabworks.org
A Department of Labor and Employment Security, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation help line to assist with information and referral for all disability needs and those challenged in becoming independent.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
1100 Loveland Blvd.
Port Charlotte, FL  33980

Main WIC Phone:  941-624-7210
Fax:  941-624-7211

- Health Dept. Clinic in Englewood:  Mondays & Tuesdays
  6868 San Casa Rd.
  941-681-3750
- Health Dept. Clinic in Punta Gorda:  Thursdays
  514 Grace St.
  941-833-3511

WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children. WIC provides the following at no cost: healthy foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and referrals for health care.

Woodbury Health Products
1090-B Technology Avenue
North Port, FL  34289

Phone: (941) 764-9566
Website:  www.woodburyhealthproducts.com

Provides medical equipment and supplies to residents of Charlotte County who have Medicaid/ Medicare assignments.
Web Sites

- Charlotte County Family Services Center – http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.com
- Charlotte County Human Services – http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.com
- Charlotte County Public Schools Parent Website – www.yourcharlotteschools.net/students/parentconnect.cfm
- Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office - http://www.ccso.org/
- Department of Education – http://www.fldoe.org
- FDLE Florida Sexual Offenders & Predators - http://offender.fdle.state.fl.us/offender/homepage.do
- Florida Children’s Campaign – http://www.iamforkids.org/ (child advocacy organization)
- Florida Prepaid College Plan – http://www.florida529plans.com
- GirlsAllowed.org – http://www.girlsallowed.org (helps girls develop healthy relationships)
- National Endowment for Financial Education – http://www.nefe.org/pages/educational.html (focuses on increasing financial literacy among high school age youth; may be helpful for parents too)
- NetSmartz – http://www.netsmartz.org (interactive educational resource for children and teens on internet safety; resources for parents and teachers)
- Not My Kid, Inc. – http://www.notmykid.org/ (promotes parent awareness about youth behavioral and mental health issues)