

## Identification of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Who Have Been Victims of Sexual, Emotional, and Physical Abuse

To qualify for developmental disability services in California:

- Disability must originate prior to age 18\*
- Disabilities that are solely physical are not eligible conditions.
- Disabilities that are solely psychiatric are not eligible conditions.
- Learning disabilities are not eligible conditions.

*\*Federal regulations go to age 21*

To find a Developmental Services Center (Regional Center) in your county visit:

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/DevCtrs/home.cfm>

For resources on mental illness in children with Developmental Disabilities visit the National Association for Dually Diagnosed: [www.thenadd.org](http://www.thenadd.org)

For resources on dealing with traumatic events visit the Special Populations and Trauma section of the National Traumatic Stress Network:

<http://www.nctsn.org/resources/topics/special-populations-and-trauma>

### **Books and Guides**

- Phenix, A. & Sreenivasan, S. (2009). A practical guide for the evaluation of sexual recidivism risk in mentally retarded sex offenders. *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law*, 37(4), 509-524. Retrieved from <http://jaapl.org/content/37/4/509>.

- Saxton, M. (2009). *Sticks and Stones: Disabled People's Stories of Abuse, Defiance and Resilience*. Berkley, CA: World Institute on Disability.  
<https://www.amazon.com/Sticks-Stones-Disabled-Defiance-Resilience/dp/0942799054>
- Fletcher, R., Loschen, E., Stavrakaki, C., & First, M. (Eds.). (2007). *Diagnostic manual--intellectual disability: A textbook of diagnosis of mental disorders in persons with intellectual disability*. Kingston, NY: National Association for the Dually Diagnosed.  
<http://thenadd.org/products/dm-id-2-is-now-available/>
- Sobsey, D. (1994). *Violence and Abuse in the Lives of People With Disabilities: The End of Silent Acceptance?* Baltimore, MD: Brooks Publishing.  
<https://www.amazon.com/Violence-Abuse-Lives-People-Disabilities/dp/1557661480>
- Schwimmer, M. L. (2017). *Special Needs Children In Trouble With The Law: How To Protect Your Child*. Self-published via CreateSpace.  
<https://www.amazon.com/Special-Needs-Children-Trouble-Law/dp/1542647185>
- National Research Council. 2001. *Crime Victims with Developmental Disabilities: Report of a Workshop*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/10042>
- **Victims with Disabilities: Collaborative, Multidisciplinary First Response: Techniques for First Responders Called to Help Crime Victims Who Have Disabilities**  
*Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice (2011) DVD 72 minutes, guidebook 70 pages, NCJ 231932*

Training DVD and guidebook, developed under the guidance of a national advisory board, demonstrating effective techniques for first responders who have been called to the scene of a crime in which the victim has a disability. It not only provides guidelines for interacting with adult and adolescent victims of crime who have communication and/or intellectual disabilities, but also helps law enforcement personnel gain a deeper understanding of the lives, personal attributes, and abilities of individuals with disabilities.

*Purchase DVD & Guidebook:*

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/App/Publications/abstract.aspx?ID=254011>

*Online PDF of Guidebook:*

<https://ojp.gov/ovc/publications/infores/pdftxt/VictimsGuideBook.pdf>

### **Online Training**

Safe and Strong. (LucasWrites). (2017). *Safety in the Community Personal Safety Strategies for People with Developmental Disabilities* [DVD]. Retrieved from <http://www.safeandstrong.org/>