



Guiding Questions for Support Groups

Although all support groups for individuals with developmental disabilities have guidelines, they may vary from location or group. Use the following questions to guide discussions with potential support groups that you are interested in in order to better prepare the autistic individual and their supporting team to choose a group and work collaboratively with them to ensure long-term success.

Support Group: _____

County: _____

Phone: _____

Hours: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Address: _____

Specific Contact/Title: _____

Questions	Answers, Related Resources, Suggestions
1. Where does the group meet? What day? What time? How often?	
2. Is there a fee for this support group? How much? Is there any financial assistance/scholarship programs?	

<p>3. What is the focus of the group? Who runs or facilitates the group? Is everyone in attendance a parent of an autistic child?</p>	
<p>4. What types of topics are discussed?</p>	
<p>5. Is everyone that attends this group from this area? Are there any specifications on who can attend this support group?</p>	
<p>6. How many people typically attend this group?</p>	
<p>7. Is this a formal or informal group? Is there a structured routine or is it more conversational?</p>	
<p>8. Will I get to network with other parents?</p>	
<p>9. Is there someone to help me (before or after the group) if I have questions?</p>	
<p>10. Do you provide childcare? If so, is there a cost? What does childcare look like? Is the childcare staff trained to work with autistic individuals?</p>	
<p>11. Is there transportation available? If not, is the location of the group easily accessible by bus?</p>	

