

# SIERRA SANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Search and Serve

Do you know a child who has one of more of the following disabilities, (or you suspect they have):

- Autism
- Learning disabilities
- Deafness or hearing impairment
- Total or partial blindness
- Speech or language difficulties
- Physical or orthopedic disabilities
- Developmental disabilities
- Mental retardation
- Emotional disturbance
- Multiple disabilities



Any individual that believes they know a child that might require special education intervention may call the Serra Sands *SELPA* office and talk with someone about their concerns. Programs and services from birth until age 21 are available to a child that has a disability. Every call results in a personal contact. The SELPA office will screen each contact and make a referral to the most appropriate source of evaluation and services for the child. Requests for screening and referrals are made to appropriate schools, agencies, and other resources that will assist the child to receive an assessment and recommendations. The referral could be directed to a speech pathologist, the local school district, Kern Regional Center or other educational and community resources. If needed, special education programs and services will also be recommended for the child. There are many programs and services that are available to children that may have a disability and require specialized services to reach the desired outcomes. Search and Serve is an ongoing, cooperative effort that involves state and local agencies of the [Department of Mental Health, Rehabilitation, Health, and Human Services](#), the [County Superintendent of Schools](#), all public and non-public schools, [Kern Regional Center](#) and community agencies that provide services to children. A vital part of the Search and Serve effort is the assistance from the community members, state and local organizations, business firms, social and civic groups, parents, and students themselves. There are no fees and there is no cost to the parents at any time for services that are provided to a student in special education.

**We're here to help!**