



## Atonia Green Worley

On this episode of the Black I/DD Podcast we talk with Atonia Green Worley. Atonia is the mother of an adult son who has a disability, and she volunteers her time to help families access disability related services.

### Show notes:

- COSAC has now become Autism NJ – Autism NJ (COSAC) is dedicated to ensuring that all people with autism receive appropriate, effective services to maximize their growth potential and to enhancing the general public's overall awareness of autism.

<https://autismnj.org/>

- Early Intervention – Early intervention services are designed to address a problem or delay in development as early as possible.

<https://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/eis/for-families/when/#:~:text=The%20first%20three%20years%20of,takes%20a%20slightly%20different%20course.>

- IEP - Individualized Educational Plan

[https://www.nj.gov/njyrs/education/iep/#:~:text=The%20term%20IEP%20is%20an,with%20special%20needs%20or%20disability\).](https://www.nj.gov/njyrs/education/iep/#:~:text=The%20term%20IEP%20is%20an,with%20special%20needs%20or%20disability).)

[https://www.rwjbh.org/documents/csh/kohls/NJ-Parent-IEP-Reference-Guide-English\(1\).pdf](https://www.rwjbh.org/documents/csh/kohls/NJ-Parent-IEP-Reference-Guide-English(1).pdf)

- Out of District Placement

<https://njcdd.org/wp-content/uploads/InclusiveEd/outofdistrictissues.pdf>

- ABA Program (Applied Behavior Analysis)

- Garden Academy - At Garden Academy, we Provide individuals with autism with high-quality education informed by behavior analysis.

<https://www.gardenacademy.org/>

- Mom2Mom - We offer peer support counseling, a place to vent, reassurance, a sounding board, advocacy skill building, and access to expert advice and reliable resources to help improve the lives of moms.

<https://mom2mom.us.com/>

- DDD - The Division of Developmental Disabilities assures the opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to receive quality services and supports, participate meaningfully in their communities and exercise their right to make choices.

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/about/division/>

<https://njcdd.org/wp-content/uploads/Accessing-Developmental-Disability-Services-in-NJ-English.pdf>

- NJ PerformCare - Through the New Jersey Children's System of Care, PerformCare connects young people and their families statewide to the care they need to be well.

<https://www.performcarenj.org/>

- SPAN Parent Advocacy Network - Empowering families as advocates and partners in improving education, health/mental health and human services outcomes for infants, toddlers, children, youth and young adults.

<https://spanadvocacy.org/>

- Guardianship

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/individuals/guardianship/>

- The Family Resource Network – A comprehensive group of community-based programs and service organizations designed to meet the growing needs of individuals and families with disabilities.

<https://www.familyresourcenetwork.org/>

- Care Management Organizations (CMOs) - CMOs are county-based, nonprofit organizations that provide face-to-face care management for youth with complex needs and their families.

<https://www.performcarenj.org/families/cmcs.aspx>

- Nassan's Place – Nassan's Place is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that is helping to make a difference in the lives of children and families affected by autism in and around under-served communities by providing educational and recreational programs, social outings, and resources.

<https://www.nassansplace.org/>

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- Children's System of Care - The Children's System of Care (CSOC) is New Jersey's public behavioral health system. CSOC serves youth under age 21 with emotional and mental health care needs, substance use challenges, and/or intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families. CSOC provides community-based, culturally competent services and supports based on the needs of the youth and family.

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/divisions/dcsc/>

- Application for Intellectual and Developmental Disability (I/DD) Services Through the New Jersey Children's System of Care

<https://www.performcarenj.org/families/idd-application.aspx>

- IEP - The term IEP is an acronym for “Individualized Educational Plan.” In New Jersey an IEP is a written document that outlines a young person’s education (ages 3-21 with special needs or disability).

<https://www.nj.gov/njyrs/education/iep/>

[#:~:text=The%20term%20IEP%20is%20an,with%20special%20needs%20or%20disability\).](#)

- Aging Out of the School System

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/individuals/transition/>

[#:~:text=Students%20receiving%20services%20through%20school,IEP\)%20Team%20and%20transition%20coordinator.](#)

- DVR or DVRS - 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).

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

- The Arc of NJ – The Arc of New Jersey is the state's largest organization advocating for and serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

<https://www.arcnj.org/>

- Supported Housing - What is Supportive Housing?

<https://www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org/resources/community-housing-and-supports.html>

- Advice: Find a support group, you have to advocate for your child – don't think the school system has your back, and connect with organizations.

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