

I am here for you,  
as your Family Resource  
Specialist (FRS).

I have served thirty years with  
Early Steps and understand the  
importance of family  
involvement with early  
intervention services.  
I have experienced the joy and  
concerns that go with caring  
for my child with special needs  
and I'm here to provide you  
with activities, support  
connections, and other  
community resources.

Serving: Escambia,  
Santa Rosa, Okaloosa and  
Walton Counties.

**Please email to RSVP for  
activities!**

[icofield@ascension.org](mailto:icofield@ascension.org)

**850-377-9991**

**Irma Cofield,  
Family Resource  
Specialist**



## Early Steps Western Panhandle



Join in the Fun Activities... [Playgroups](#)

**CRESTVIEW LIBRARY STORY-TIME: Thursday, August 3rd @ 10:15am**  
**1445 Commerce Dr., Crestview.** Led by Heather, Child Librarian  
***Children learn from listening and active play through stories.***

Doors open at 10:00 for social time then the playgroup begins at 10:15am.  
This story time is designed for you and your child to engage in story, music, and  
movement. Join in the fun !!! Please RSVP to Irma.

**MUSIC & MOVEMENT PLAYGROUPS: Tuesday, August 15th, 22nd, 29th @**  
**10:00 am.** Join our virtual musical playgroup from the comfort of home! Led by  
Elizabeth "Lizzy" Johnson, Instructor. This is a time for parent and child interaction  
using music & movement. We will follow instructions from our leader throughout  
the playtime. In order to fully participate, you will need wooden spoons or rhythm  
sticks, egg shaker, maracas, (empty spice jar filled with rice or dry beans), or  
bells, a bowl or drum, and a scarf or other lightweight material for movement time.  
We need you to put you or your child's names on your device for identification  
purposes. This is a safe and private space for our little ones to enjoy time  
together. We hope that you will join in the fun! You must RSVP to Irma for our  
attendance list.

\*If you attend two playgroups with intentions to continue, we will give you a gift  
bag with the instruments that we use.\*

<https://ascension.zoom.us/j/3176684962?pwd=OG4reGpvekFndU9QUVdVdkkvbk1Jdz09>

Meeting ID: 317 668 4962 Passcode: EarlySteps

**LIBRARY SOCIAL & SENSORY PLAYGROUP: Monday, August 14th**  
**@10:30 6425 Mobile Hwy., Pensacola 32526** with Kimberlee Spencer,

ITDS-PhD and Hosted by Irma Cofield, Family Resource Specialist  
Join us for a sensory filled play group! Jumping, climbing, scooping, and  
pouring provide safe sensory input that supports communication skills and  
brain development. Follow your child's lead while bonding over bubble  
tubes and fairy lights and promoting early play skills. There will be an air  
track (an inflatable track for jumping), a crash pad, infant soft mats, toys,  
books, a sensory table, a tent with fairy lights, a bubble tube, parachute and  
fiber optic lights. We hope you will join in the fun!

**GROW YOUR GIFT MUSIC PLAYGROUP: Thursday, August 17th&24th**  
**@ 11:30am-12:30 pm. 105-B Lewis St., FWB** Join in our circle-time  
playgroups with a variety of rhythm instruments for music, movement,  
singing and more. This is a parent/child interactive developmental playtime  
using music led by Ms Alisha White and Hosted by Irma-Family Resource  
Specialist. Please RSVP to Irma for your place.

View Early Steps webpage for more info at [earlystepsatsacredheart.org](http://earlystepsatsacredheart.org)

Also on Facebook **Early Steps Western Panhandle**



# Support Connections



## Escambia & Santa Rosa Counties

**Amora's Mission:** Our mission is to ensure no family feels alone following a diagnosis of a child with Down Syndrome: Stephanie 850-287-6773 [amorasmission321@gmail.com](mailto:amorasmission321@gmail.com)

**Autism Pensacola Inc.:** 850-434-7171 Website: [www.autismpensacola.org](http://www.autismpensacola.org) Email: [info@autismpensacola.org](mailto:info@autismpensacola.org)

**Emerald Coast Exceptional Families:** 850-396-1008 or [admin@emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org](mailto:admin@emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org)  
<https://www.emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org/>

**Epilepsy Support:** 850-433-1395 Website: [www.epilepsyfl.org](http://www.epilepsyfl.org)

**Genes of Joy:** Parents of children with Down Syndrome, Christi 850-377-0018 [genesofjoy@gmail.com](mailto:genesofjoy@gmail.com);  
website: <https://www.genesofjoy.org/>

**Mended Little Hearts of Pensacola: On Facebook** Parents of children with heart conditions:  
Ashley Baxley [AshleyBaxley@mendedlittlehearts.us](mailto:AshleyBaxley@mendedlittlehearts.us)

**Pediatric Stroke Warriors of Pensacola:** Rebecca Scherer 352-572-9018 or  
[rebeccascherer84@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccascherer84@gmail.com) for meetings and Facebook.

**Pensacola Exceptional Parents Connection:** Parents of Children with various exceptionalities:  
including Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Spina Bifida and intellectual and developmental  
disabilities. Tammy Lunsford [countrygirlt2@hotmail.com](mailto:countrygirlt2@hotmail.com) 850-910-3745, Angela [abeddy01@gmail.com](mailto:abeddy01@gmail.com)  
850-384-7330 or Amy [amylmaxwell@att.net](mailto:amylmaxwell@att.net) 850-393-8808

**Pensacola Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and other Relatives:** Call 850-432-1475 ext.175  
to confirm meeting date & location, child care provided, Reservations requested!

**Pensacola Parents of Multiples:** Parents of twins, triplets and multiple births:  
[PensacolaParentsofMultiples@hotmail.com](mailto:PensacolaParentsofMultiples@hotmail.com) or 850-384-1231 Find on Facebook too.

**Preemies of Pensacola on Facebook:** [Facebook.com/Groups/PreemiesOfPensacola](https://www.facebook.com/Groups/PreemiesOfPensacola) To connect with  
other families from the NICU at Sacred Heart Children's Hospital

**Rockin' the 21/Rockin' 321 Social:** Down Syndrome support connection on Facebook for activities and  
social events. Nicole Smith 251-458-0779 or [Nnrenner@gmail.com](mailto:Nnrenner@gmail.com)

## Okaloosa & Walton Counties

**Emerald Coast Exceptional Families:** 850-396-1008 or [admin@emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org](mailto:admin@emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org)  
<https://www.emeraldcoastexceptionalfamilies.org/>

**Epilepsy Parent Support Group:** 850-433-1395 Website: [www.epilepsyfl.org](http://www.epilepsyfl.org)

**EPIC- Exceptional Parents Incredible Children, Inc.:** 229-854-1180 [rand.fernandez@gmail.com](mailto:rand.fernandez@gmail.com)  
Website: <https://clicktime.symantec.com/3VqHLUkWc1zwCVozLcH5gwU7Vc?u=www.epicnwfl.org>

**Rockin' the 21/Rockin' 321 Social:** Down Syndrome support connection on Facebook for activities and  
social events. Nicole Smith 251-458-0779 or [Nnrenner@gmail.com](mailto:Nnrenner@gmail.com)

*If you are unable to connect with a group contact me, Irma, Family Resource Specialist  
for assistance by emailing [icofield@ascension.org](mailto:icofield@ascension.org) or 850-377-9991*

