



# **Agencies & Services for People with Disabilities**

Erie County Office for People with Disabilities  
95 Franklin Street, Room 651  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
(716)858-6215  
[www.erie.gov/ecopd](http://www.erie.gov/ecopd)

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Executive Director

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# ADVOCACY SERVICES

## **Center for Self-Advocacy Inc.**

[www.center4sa.org](http://www.center4sa.org)

1021 Broadway St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Buffalo, NY 14212 (716) 768-1795

Helping people with developmental disabilities work, advocate within their community and have an independent, productive lifestyle.

## **Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY (DDAWNY)**

[www.ddawny.org](http://www.ddawny.org)

1219 North Forest Rd. Williamsville, NY 14221 (585) 794-0408

A collaborative group of member voluntary agencies that deal with developmental disabilities and advocacy issues.

## **Disability Rights NY (DRNY)**

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

44 Exchange Blvd., Ste. 110, Rochester, NY 14614 (518) 432-7861

DRNY provides free legal and advocacy services to individuals with disabilities.

Working tirelessly to protect and advance the rights of children and adults with disabilities, DRNY is committed to enabling those we serve to exercise their own life choices and fully participate in community life.

## **Epilepsy Association of WNY**

[www.epilepsywny.org/services](http://www.epilepsywny.org/services)

339 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222 (716) 883-5396

A nonprofit organization that offers professional services to individuals with Epilepsy and other seizure disorders, and their families.

## **Headway of Western New York, Inc.**

[www.headwayofwny.org](http://www.headwayofwny.org)

2495 Main St., Ste. 446 Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 408-3120

Support and advocacy agency for survivors of brain injury and their families. Services include recreational programs, support groups, training and educational programs and a resource library.

## **Ican (Independent Consumer Advocacy Network) [www.icannys.org](http://www.icannys.org) (844)**

614-8800 TTY 711

Program for people with Medicaid who need long-term care services. Will answer questions related to Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care, and your managed care plan.

### **Institute on Disability Awareness**

<https://ida.niagara.edu/>

Niagara University, NY (716) 286-8139

Educating all disciplines of first and emergency responders on how to properly interact, respond, and address all matters relative to individuals with disabilities.

### **LiNK**

<https://buffalojewishfederation.org/belonging/>

338 Harris Hill Rd., Ste. 108B, Williamsville, NY 14221

Mike Steklof [mike@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:mike@buffalojewishfederation.org)

An outreach and advocacy organization that promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities through activities, events and programs in the Jewish community.

### **Medicare Rights Center**

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

(800) 333-4114

The Medicare Rights Center works to ensure access to affordable health care for older adults and people with disabilities through counseling and advocacy, educational programs, and public policy initiatives.

### **NY START**

<https://opwdd.ny.gov/crisis-services>

(844) 567-8278, WNY liaison (716) 608-2670

Offers crisis prevention and response for individuals with developmental disabilities and complex mental/behavioral health needs. Also offers related clinically based consultation and training to organizations throughout the community.

### **New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs**

[www.justicecenter.ny.gov](http://www.justicecenter.ny.gov)

Information: (800) 624-4143; to report abuse and neglect: (855) 373-2122

Aids callers who have questions or concerns regarding disability issues and connect individuals to appropriate services.

### **Parent to Parent of New York State**

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

Parent to Parent of New York State builds a supportive network of families to reduce isolation and empower those who care for people with developmental disabilities or special healthcare needs to navigate and influence service systems and make informed decisions.

## **Pride Ability of WNY**

[advocacydept@people-inc.org](mailto:advocacydept@people-inc.org)

2128 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo, NY 14201 (716) 322-7070

Group focus -- people who are LGBTQ and developmentally disabled coming together to make friends, learn about resources in the gay community, and to increase advocacy skills.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month from 5-6 p.m. We will be meeting in person and virtually.

Light refreshments provided. (Hybrid)

NOTE: New York State PrideAbility Coalition to expand LGBTQIA advocacy meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6-7 p.m. (Virtual only)

## **Self-Advocacy Association of New York State (SANYS)**

<https://sanys.org/region/western-buffalo>

Western Region, 1021 Broadway St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Buffalo, NY 14213 (716) 560-

9307 Sophia Roberts, Regional Coordinator

Run by, and for, people with developmental disabilities. This organization supports self-advocates and self-advocacy groups and encourages them to speak for themselves individually and collectively.

## **Self-Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center**

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

The mission of SARTAC is to strengthen the self-advocacy movement by supporting self-advocacy organizations to grow in diversity and leadership.

## **Western New York Developmental Disabilities Regional Offices (DDRO)**

[www.opwdd.ny.gov](http://www.opwdd.ny.gov)

1200 East & West Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224 (716) 517-2000

Provides services for the developmentally disabled.

- **Front Door Access to Services** (800) 487-6310

## **Western New York Independent Living, Inc. (WNYIL)**

[www.wnyil.org](http://www.wnyil.org)

3108 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 836-0822

## **21 Connect**

<https://21connect.wordpress.com/>

716-427-3575

A not-for-profit advocacy group focused on educating the community about individuals with Down Syndrome.

# AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

## **Accessibility Services**

[www.accessibility-services.com](http://www.accessibility-services.com)

33 Leocrest Ct., West Seneca, NY 14224

Dominic Marinelli (718) 803-3782 ext. 7502

Provides consulting services devoted exclusively to making our built environment accessible to people with disabilities.

## **Job Accommodation Network**

<https://askjan.org/>

(800) 526-7234 (VOICE) OR (877) 781-9403 (TTY)

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues.

## **New York State Division of Human Rights**

<https://dhr.ny.gov/complaint>

If someone feels they have been discriminated against they can file a complaint with the Division of Human Rights. Once a complaint is filed, the Division of Human Rights will investigate and may present the case in a public hearing. 716-847-7632

## **Northeast ADA Center**

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

Employment and Disability Institute, Cornell University, ILR School

201 Dolgen Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853 (800) 949-4232

Provides information, referrals, resources and training on equal opportunity for all and on the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## **U.S. Department of Justice Americans with Disabilities Act**

[www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)

Toll-Free information line (800) 514-0301; TTY (800) 514-0383

Information and Technical Assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act.

# DEAF/HARD OF HEARING & SPEECH SERVICES

## **Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center**

[www.askbhsc.org](http://www.askbhsc.org)

50 East North St., Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 885-8318

Offering innovative services to children and adults with communication and educational needs.

## **Buffalo Implant Group**

[www.buffaloimplantgroup.com](http://www.buffaloimplantgroup.com)

P.O. Box 350, Clarence Center, NY 14032

The Buffalo Implant Group is made up of individuals that Have already had cochlear implants, those waiting to be implanted, and those who have friends or loved ones that are implanted, along with professionals that just want to help.

## **Deaf Access Services (DAS)**

<http://www.wnydas.org/>

2495 Main St., Suite 446, Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 833-1637

TTY 833-5234; videophone (716) 335-9192

Community and client services, job placement services, advocacy services, community awareness, e-newsletter, community lending library, and interpreter services.

## **Hearing and Speech of WNY**

<https://hearingandspeechwny.com/>

2980 William St. Cheektowaga, NY 14227 (716) 892-2060

Our highly skilled and experienced staff of therapists, teachers, and evaluators offer services to children between birth and five years old who have speech, hearing, feeding, communication, motor, sensory, challenging behaviors and special education/learning needs.

## **St. Mary's School for the Deaf**

<https://www.smsdk12.org/>

2253 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14214

(716) 834-7200: Videophone (716) 239-4171

St. Mary's School for the Deaf is committed to providing equitable access to exemplary educational programs that prepare Deaf Students to be self-directed, lifelong learners, who are productive members of society.

## **Service Bridges**

<https://www.servicebridges.com/>

560 Delaware Ave., Ste. 101, Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 371-1390

The team at Service Bridges aims to offer sweeping reform in providing the Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened communities across Western New York access to ASL interpreters in support of the vision of a truly inclusive communication experience.

# INTELLECTUAL / DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES

## **ARC Erie County**

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

30 Wilson Rd., Williamsville, NY 14221 (833) 272-3743

Programs include Allentown Industries (prepares individuals for a place in the workforce), educational programs for children, and in-home support services. Full-time attorneys offer consultation representation and advocacy to the developmentally disabled and their families regarding SSD, SSI, Medicaid/Medicare, eligibility services through the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, legal guardianship, supplemental needs and consumer debt.

## **Aspire**

[www.aspirewny.org](http://www.aspirewny.org)

2356 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068 (716) 838-0047

Adult day services, children's services, employment services, school to adult life transition, healthcare, housing service coordination, recreation.

## **Aurora Adult Day Services**

[www.auroraadultdayservices.org](http://www.auroraadultdayservices.org)

101 King St.-Suite B, East Aurora, NY 14052 (716) 652-4269

Professionally supervised program that provides social, educational & recreational activities.

## **Beyond Support Network**

<https://beyondwny.org/>

2495 Main St., Ste. 342, Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 874-7200

Beyond offers a multitude of services for children and adults with disabilities, including School Age, Preschool, Daycare, Day Habilitation Services, Employment Services, Contract Services and so much more.

## **Bornhava**

<https://bornhava.org/>

25 Chateau Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14226 (716) 839-1655

Early intervention & preschool program for children with developmental disabilities.



### **Community Services for Every1**

[www.csevery1.com](http://www.csevery1.com)

180 Oak St., Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 883-8002

Provides assistance regarding employment, housing, emergency shelter, in-home services, community-based services, specialty services (i.e., family services, senior services).

### **Continuing Developmentally Services (CDS Life Transitions, Inc.)**

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

860 Hard Rd., Webster, NY 14580 (585) 341-4600

We offer a magnitude of opportunities to empower people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live and thrive in their communities.

### **DD Info Link**

[www.ddinfo.org](http://www.ddinfo.org)

(888) 696-9211 or 2-1-1

This website provides information about all non-profit and government agencies that provide services for people with developmental disabilities, their families, and the professionals who work with them. Search by keyword, category, or program/agency name.

### **EPI (Empowering People's Independence) formerly PRALID**

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

2 Townline Circle, Rochester, NY 14623 (585) 442-6420

Provides programs that are developed to address the unique needs of everyone served. EPI serves the Finger Lakes, Western, Southern Tier, Central New York regions. We are headquartered in Rochester and have offices in Syracuse and Binghamton.

### **Heritage Christian Services**

<https://heritagechristianservices.org/>

103 John Muir Drive, Suite 106

Amherst, NY 14228 (716) 743-2020

Serves children and adults with developmental disabilities through its homes, day programs, and respite care and service coordination.

### **Lord of Life Adult Day Health Center**

<https://lordoflife.us/>

1025 Borden Rd., Depew, NY 14043 (716) 668-8000

Social day program for adults which provides nursing, nutrition, transportation, personal care and caregiver services. The Adult Day Health Center provides care for adults aged 21 and older. We participate in a variety of contracts including Erie County Senior Services, and Managed Long Term Care contracts through Medicare and Medicaid.

### **OLV Human Services**

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

790 Ridge Rd., Lackawanna, NY 14218 (716) 828-9500

Provides a wide range of services to children, youth & families in need, which include educational, residential, outpatient, adoption, foster care & dental services.

### **OPWDD Region 1**

<https://opwdd.ny.gov/>

Western Front Door Contact (800) 487-6310

For Individuals new to OPWDD services, individuals with an approved eligibility determination who has never received OPWDD services, and OPWDD eligible individuals that receive only MSC and/or FSS services.

### **People, Inc.**

[www.people-inc.org](http://www.people-inc.org)

1219 North Forest Rd., Williamsville, NY14231 (716) 817-7400

Provide children's services, senior services, disabilities services, health services, community outreach, employment services, day services, residential services.

### **Person Centered Services**

[www.personcenteredservices.com](http://www.personcenteredservices.com)

560 Delaware Ave. Ste. 400, Buffalo, NY 14202 (888) 977-7030

Person Centered Services provides Care Coordination for over 17,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in 18 counties, reaching throughout the Western New York, Finger Lakes, and Southern Tier regions. Our job is to help individuals and families navigate a very complex system.

At the heart of Care Coordination are connections and referrals. Care Coordinators work with individuals, families, community providers and other organizations to make sure the dots are connected between all aspects of a person's care.

### **Prime Care Coordination**

<https://primecareny.org/>

(844) 347-3168, Marissa Brinkman, regional contact, (716) 374-0092

Provides care coordination services to individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities. We build on the foundation of Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) services previously offered by an estimated 50+ agencies in region 1.

### **Ralph C. Wilson Adult Day Services**

<https://www.vnawny.org/care/Adult-Day-Services>

3780 Commerce Ct., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 (716) 243-7888

Our services are designed to meet the needs of adults 18 and over, with two locations in Erie and Niagara counties. Clients can attend as many or as few days per week as they would like between Monday and Friday, for as many hours each day as they prefer. A wide variety of services and activities help individuals maintain their independence and promote feelings of self-worth.

### **Robert Warner Center for Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation**

<https://www.kaleidahealth.org/care/Robert-Warner-Center-for-Developmental-Pediatrics-and-habilitation>

Oishei Children's Outpatient Center (Conventus)

1001 Main St. Floor 2, Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 323-6410

Provides comprehensive rehabilitation services consisting of diagnostic, evaluative and therapeutic services to children in Western New York and surrounding areas with known or suspected disabilities.

### **SKIP of NY (Sick Kids Need Involved People)**

[www.skipofny.org](http://www.skipofny.org)

2711 Transit Rd., Ste. 119-121, Elma, NY 14221 (716) 626-2222

Helps developmentally disabled children get home from hospitals and institutions to live with their families and participate in their schools and communities.

### **Suburban Adult Services, Inc. (SASi)**

[www.sasinc.org](http://www.sasinc.org)

960 West Maple Court. Elma, NY 14059 (716) 805-1555

Not for profit organization which provides physically and mentally challenged individuals programs which include employment training & placement, clinical and habilitation services, 24-hour residential care facilities, recreation & therapeutic horsemanship.

### **Western New York Independent Living, Inc. (WNYIL)**

[www.wnyil.org](http://www.wnyil.org)

3108 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 836-0822

Assists in enhancing quality of life with programs that offer independent living skills, advocacy, peer counseling, self-help, leadership development and family support. They also offer a Client Assistance Program (CAP) which offers support and advocacy regarding vocational rehabilitation, and a transportation program.

# EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

## **Aspire Center for Learning**

<https://www.aspirewny.org/educational-services/>

2356 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068 (716) 838-0047

Provide home based early intervention, integrated preschool and a school age program, before and after school services. Also provide adaptive equipment, Orthotics Clinic, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech and vision services.

## **Bornhava**

<https://bornhava.org/>

25 Chateau Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14226 (716) 839-1655

Early intervention & preschool program for children with developmental disabilities.

## **Center for Handicapped Children (CHC Learning Center)**

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

1085 Eggert Rd., Amherst, NY 14226 (716) 831-8422

Funded by NYS Education Department, provides health, educational, and therapeutic services for children (0-21 years) with multiple disabilities. Also provides occupational therapy, an early intervention program and home-based services.

## **The Children's League**

<https://www.tclny.org>

393 North St., Springville, NY 14141 (716) 592-9331

Serves children in a center-based program as well as therapeutic and special education services in their homes or in other community-based settings.

## **Neurodiversity Network of WNY**

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

640 Ellicott St., Suite 37, Buffalo, NY 14203 (716)-992-0402

Our goal is to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their neurodivergent status, can reach their fullest potential. We provide education and training programs, community outreach, and support groups for neurodivergent individuals and their families. We believe in a world that values and celebrates neurodiversity and where all individuals are supported to reach their full potential.

### **The Summit Center**

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

150 Stahl Rd., Getzville, NY 14068 (716) 629-3400

Serves to educate Western New York children with autism and other developmental disabilities; also offers services which include training and consulting parents and professionals, advocacy services, support groups, and employment services.

## **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

### **Ace Employment Services**

<https://rsiwny.org/what-we-do/ace-employment.html>

327 Elm St., Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 884-5216

Offer a range and continuum of vocational rehabilitation services that assist customers to choose, get and maintain preferred competitive employment positions.

### **Adult Career and Continuing Education Services- Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)**

[www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/](http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/)

Buffalo District Office 508 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14202 (888) 652-7062

Provides vocational counseling and rehabilitation services to assist in obtaining successful employment outcomes for people with disabilities and their employers.

### **Goodwill Industries of Western New York, Inc.**

[www.goodwillwny.org](http://www.goodwillwny.org)

1119 William St., Buffalo, NY 14206 (716) 854-3494

Helps individuals and families achieve a better life through work and independence.

### **Innovative Placements**

<https://www.ipswny.com/>

PO Box 801, Buffalo, NY 14201; Andrea Todaro (716) 566-0251

Placement service which matches clients to the hiring requirements of area employers and human resource professionals.

### **Job Accommodation Network**

<https://askjan.org/>

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues.

**New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH)**

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/nyscb/programs/vocational-rehab.php>

295 Main St., Ste. 590 Buffalo, NY 14202

(716) 847-3516; (866) 871-3000

Services include a Vocational Rehabilitation Program and a Business Enterprise Program.

**VIA Workforce Development**

<https://viawny.org/education-workforce-training/>

1170 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14209 (716) 882-1025

Provide training for the blind, visually impaired and physically disabled individuals. Students learn technology and business skills for meaningful employment.

## FOOD SERVICES

**Big Big Table**

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

272 Hudson St., Buffalo, NY 14201

Big Big Table meaningfully contributes to the dignified response to hunger in Buffalo and Western New York by providing restaurant quality meals to Everybody who comes in for lunch. With generous community support, pay-as-you-can pricing, and significant volunteer contributions to day-to-day operations, everyone is given a chance to earn what they need by giving what they can.

**FeedMore WNY**

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

100 James E. Casey Dr., Buffalo, NY 14206 (716) 822-2002

Provides home delivered meals along with nutrition counseling, information and referral, and a daily check on the well-being of elderly and disabled clients. Two meals a day (hot noon meal and cold supper) are delivered five days a week. Special diets are accommodated, and frozen weekend meals are also available.

Offers a subsidized donation program for those over 60 years old with medical issues. Offers a fee-for-service program, "Meals Express", to meet the nutritional needs of homebound persons ages 18 and over and those individuals needing short-term or respite care.

Title XX program has limited funding for those under 60 with medical disabilities.

# HOUSING SERVICES

## **Belmont Housing Resources for WNY**

[www.belmonthousingwny.org](http://www.belmonthousingwny.org)

2393 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 884-7791

Assists low- and moderate-income households in Western New York in obtaining housing: by producing and preserving housing units, and by professionally managing affordable housing.

## **Erie County Social Services Emergency Housing Unit**

<https://www3.erie.gov/socialservices/>

158 Pearl St., Buffalo, NY (716) 858-6265

Coordinate emergency shelter with local community partners, for eligible individuals. Also assists eligible individuals with personalized housing plans, apartment searches, transportation expenses, storage of personal items, and the acquisition of items needed to establish a household.

## **Habitat for Humanity Home Repair Program**

<https://www.habitatbuffalo.org/programs/homerepair/>

1675 South Park Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222 (716) 204-0740 x110

Our Repair Program helps low- and moderate-income homeowners keep their homes safe and livable. Habitat Buffalo completes needed repairs and helps homeowners access an affordable loan to pay for the costs.

## **Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc. (HOME)**

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

1542 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14209 (716) 854-1400

Helps to ensure that the people of Western New York have an equal opportunity to live in the housing and communities of their choice-through education, advocacy, enforcement of fair housing laws, and the creation of housing opportunities. They provide an online form on their website to report discrimination.

## **New York State Division of Human Rights**

<https://dhr.ny.gov/>

(888) 392-3644

Contact to file housing or lending discrimination complaints under the New York Executive Law.



### **NYHousingSearch.gov**

[www.nyhousingsearch.gov](http://www.nyhousingsearch.gov)

(877) 428-8844

A FREE public service provided by New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) to list and find affordable, accessible homes and apartments across New York.

### **People, Inc.**

<https://www.people-inc.org/affordable-apartments/>

(716) 880-3890

People Inc. Affordable Apartments provide those who are income-eligible and meet the qualifications for our set-aside units, based on our funding sources.

### **United States Department of Housing and Urban Development**

<https://www.hud.gov/>

Buffalo Field Office 300 Pearl Street, Suite 301, Buffalo, NY, 14202

(716) 551-5755

HUD provides housing support and uplifts communities.

## **LEGAL SERVICES**

### **Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project Inc.**

<https://ecbavlp.com/>

438 Main St. 7<sup>th</sup> Fl., Buffalo, NY (716) 847-0662

VLP's dual mission is to provide quality, free, civil legal services for low-income people and smaller not-for-profit groups; and to effectively involve volunteers in the delivery of those services.

[www.LawHelp.org/NY](http://www.LawHelp.org/NY)

Legal information for New Yorkers who cannot afford an attorney.

This on-line agency provides information regarding consequences of criminal charges, consumer issues, disability issues, discrimination, education, family & juvenile services, housing, immigration, internet fraud, public benefits, seniors, taxes, veterans and military, and workers' rights.



**Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc.**

<https://legalaidbuffalo.org/>

290 Main St. Ste. 400, Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 853-9555

It is the mission of the Legal Aid Bureau to provide quality legal representation and advice to persons in need residing in Erie County. The Bureau's Civil Legal Services Unit represents low-income individuals in a variety of civil matters that have a direct impact on their quality of life.

**Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled or Disadvantaged of WNY Inc.**

<https://elderjusticenw.org/>

438 Main St., Ste. 1200, Buffalo, NY (716) 853-3087

We provide free civil legal services to seniors, people with disabilities and low-income populations in nine Western New York counties. Our goal is to protect the essentials of life, such as housing, income, access to health care and protection from abuse.

**Mental Health Advocates Legal Services**

<https://mhawny.org/program/legal-services/>

1021 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Buffalo NY (716) 886-1242

Legal Services provides pro bono (free) civil legal services and advocacy for mental health consumers and their families, including representation in Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, Medicare, housing, family, and consumer matters.

**Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc.**

<https://nls.org/>

237 Main St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Buffalo, NY (716) 847-0650

Handicapped rights, legal advice/representation to developmentally disabled, housing problems-landlord/tenant, housing discrimination, entitlements, protection advocacy for mentally ill individuals.

**New York State – Mental Hygiene Legal Service**

<https://www.nycourts.gov/courts/ad4/MHLS/index.shtm>

438 Main St., Ste. 400, Buffalo, NY (716) 845-3650

Established to provide legal services and assistance to persons within the mental health and developmental disability systems who need advocacy.

## **WNY Law Center Inc.**

[www.wnylc.com](http://www.wnylc.com)

37 Franklin Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 210, Buffalo, NY  
(716) 855-0203

To ensure all members of our community receive the full range of civil legal services including “non-traditional” legal assistance like policy advocacy and legal education.

## **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

### **9-8-8**

<https://988lifeline.org/>

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

### **APIC**

[www.apicout.org](http://www.apicout.org)

928 French Rd. Cheektowaga, NY 14227 (716) 406-7005

Mobile psychiatric care and case management to individuals across the lifespan with developmental and intellectual disabilities or those with autism spectrum disorders who are at risk of avoidable hospitalization, residential placement, arrest, polypharmacy, or other unnecessary system penetration who cannot be treated in a traditional setting.

### **Compeer**

[www.compeerbuffalo.org](http://www.compeerbuffalo.org)

1179 Kenmore Ave., Buffalo, NY 14217 (716) 883-3331

Recruits, screens, trains, and matches adult volunteers and mentors for one-on-one friendships with children and adults receiving mental health services.

### **Crisis Services, Inc.**

<http://crisisservices.org/>

24-hour hotline (716) 834-3131; Kids Helpline (716) 834-1144

Addiction Hotline (716)-831-7007

Staffed with professionals who are trained to assist callers that are for crisis situations.

### **Endeavor Health Services**

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

1526 Walden Ave., Suite 400, Cheektowaga, NY (716) 895-6700

Promote mental health by offering child and adult mental health services and chemical dependency services.

### **Envision Wellness**

<https://www.envisionwellnesswny.com/>

2495 Elmwood Ave., Kenmore, NY, 14217 (716) 877-6763

Envision Wellness WNY Behavioral Health is dedicated to establishing nurturing and sustained relationships with individuals, families and community stakeholders to foster growth, self-efficacy and independence by providing innovative evidenced based treatment focused on a whole person recovery model.

### **Erie County Department of Mental Health**

<https://www2.erie.gov/mentalhealth/>

95 Franklin St., Rath Building, Rm. 1237 Buffalo, NY (716) 858-8530

Plans, administers, and coordinates a countywide system of community-based programs for mental health, mental retardation, alcohol and substance abuse.

Services are provided on a contract basis by other agencies, County departments, or directly by the department's Forensic Mental Health Division.

### **Hillside Children's Center**

[www.hillside.com](http://www.hillside.com)

70 Jewett Parkway 14224 (585)256-7500

Dedicated to serving the needs of youth through providing mental health, child welfare, developmental disabilities, youth and family development, safety net, juvenile justice, and special education services.

### **Horizon Health Services**

<https://www.horizon-health.org/>

(716) 831-1800

Not-for-profit Corporation that provides an array of comprehensive services to assist individuals with mental health and/or substance abuse issues.

### **Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County**

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

70 Barker St., Buffalo, NY 14209 (716) 883-1914

Multifaceted agency which delivers services by highly qualified professionals in psychiatry, psychology, nursing, social work and rehabilitation counseling.

### **Mental Health Advocates of WNY**

<https://mhawny.org/>

1021 Broadway St., Buffalo, NY 14212 (716) 886-1242

Promotes mental health of the community through education, public information, prevention programs and training while supporting individuals and families living with mental illness.

### **Mental Health Peer Connection**

<https://wnyil.org/Mental-Health-PEER-Connection>

3108 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 836-0822 (voice/TDD)

An agency of the WNY Independent Living that serves those who have been diagnosed with mental illness and/or substance abuse.

They assist the individual through genuine peer mentoring in getting and staying out of institutions, maximizing community living, and/or becoming employed.

### **NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness in Buffalo & Erie County)**

[www.namibuffalony.org](http://www.namibuffalony.org)

737 Delaware Ave., Ste 217, Buffalo, NY 14209 (716) 226-6264

A volunteer membership organization that supports families coping with a loved one who has a serious mental illness, advocates for improved mental health services and programs and works to end the stigma associated with mental illness.

### **Restoration Society**

66 Englewood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 832-2141

<https://rsiwny.org/>

Their mission is to assist all persons with mental health conditions be successful and satisfied in the environment of their choice. Services include Homelessness, Housing, Community Integration and Wellness, Benefits advisement, Parenting Support, Financial Literacy, Work Support, and an Amity Club.

### **Spectrum Human Services**

<https://shswny.org/>

PO Box 631, Orchard Park, NY 14127 (716) 662-7040

Services offered include a 24/7 Crisis Response for Families & Youth (C.A.R.E.S.), mental health counseling, chemical dependency counseling, mental health and skills-building.

## **PHYSICALLY DISABLED SERVICES**

### **Buffalo Wheelchair**

<https://buffalowheelchair.com/>

80 French Rd. Cheektowaga, NY 14227 (716) 675-6500

Serving West Seneca, Buffalo and the surrounding communities, we supply standard wheelchairs, power chairs, patient lifts, lift chairs, hospital beds and more to get you up and mobile as safely and comfortably as possible.

### **Motion Project Foundation**

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

4820 Genesee St., Cheektowaga, NY, 14225 (716)668-4724

Motion Project inspires those with spinal cord injuries to rise above their challenges by promoting physical independence; and providing emotional support and spiritual healing to foster hope for a successful and fulfilling life.

### **National Seating & Mobility**

[www.NSM-Seating.com](http://www.NSM-Seating.com)

19 Ransier Dr., Suite 5B West Seneca, NY 14224 (716) 674-0783

Providing rehab seating & mobility solutions that help people move through life.

### **People First Mobility**

<https://www.peoplefirstmobility.net/>

800 Hertel Ave., Ste 103, Buffalo, NY 14207 (716)674-0783

We offer in-home evaluations, free delivery, equipment setup and training, equipment repair, certified Assisted Technology Professionals (ATPs), certified repair technicians, free loaner equipment and hands-on trials.

### **United Access Williamsville**

<https://www.braunability.com/unitedaccess/us/en.html>

5375 Transit Rd., Williamsville, NY 14221 (716) 759-6811

Offer a full line of wheelchair accessible vans and conversions.

## **RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS**

### **Cradle Beach**

<https://cradlebeach.org/>

8038 Old Lake Shore Rd., Angola, NY 14006 (716) 549-6307

Serves the needs of children with disabilities and those who come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Summer Camp, Respite Program among services offered.

### **Danceability Inc.**

<http://danceabilityinc.org/>

2365 George Urban Blvd., Depew, NY 14043 (716) 651-0094

***Danceability*** is an individualized dance, fitness and movement program serving the special needs community.

### **Excalibur Leisure Skills**

<https://excaliburl.com/>

90 North Dr., Buffalo, NY 14216 (716) 831-3188

COST-FREE Boating & Fishing Opportunities for the Disabled and Disadvantaged.

### **Fantastic Friends of WNY, Inc.**

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

1286 French Rd., Depew, NY 14043 (716) 608-6234

Every month they host a fun social event for individuals of all abilities. The events are fun and creative; and members are paired with a 1:1 volunteer.

### **Gliding Stars of Western New York**

<http://www.glidingstars.org/>

1307 Military Rd., Buffalo, NY 14217 (716) 608-8345

The Gliding Stars organization provides individuals with disabilities the opportunity to increase their personal potential through the development of ice-skating skills in a regular program of instruction, utilizing our specialized adaptive equipment while practicing in their own local community.

### **Graceful & Gifted Dance Program**

<https://timetodancestudios.com/graceful-gifted/>

2423 Hyde Park Blvd., Niagara Falls, NY 14305 (716) 946-7909

Offers day and evening programs for individuals with special needs, ages 3-adult, with developmental disabilities. Programs are beneficial to those with autism, learning disabilities, and mental retardation, as well as those who are deaf & hearing impaired, blind & visually impaired, and physically handicapped.

### **Greater Buffalo Adaptive Sports**

<http://www.gbaspports.org/>

The Sled Hockey Foundation is now Greater Buffalo Adaptive Sports! We continue to provide the opportunity for individuals with disabilities to participate in adaptive sports and, through this participation, develop the social, emotional and physical confidence necessary to become leaders in the community.

### **High Hurdles Therapeutic Riding Program of Suburban Adult Services, Inc. (SASi)**

<https://www.sasinc.org/creative-opportunities/high-hurdles/>

960 West Maple Court, Elma, NY 14059 (716) 805-1555

Offer a therapeutic riding program for emotionally and physically challenged individuals.

### **Inclusive Theater of WNY (ITOWNY)**

<https://inclusivetheaterofwny.com/>

The Foundry, 298 Northampton St. Buffalo, NY 14208 (716) 218-8129

Inclusive Theater of WNY seeks to reimagine our society through producing original scripts in our ongoing writing group and writing workshops, and through the production and performance of those scripts with actors who are chosen solely on their ability—whether they have a disability or not.

### **Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Center**

[www.lothlorientrc.org](http://www.lothlorientrc.org)

15 Reiter Rd., East Aurora, NY 14052 (716) 949-1335

Provide horsemanship and horse-back riding opportunities for individuals of all ages with cognitive, physical, emotional and learning disabilities.

### **Miracle League of WNY**

<http://www.miracleleaguewny.org/>

P.O. Box 833, Grand Island, NY 14072 (716) 773-9600

Provide an opportunity for anyone with mental and/or physical challenges to play baseball.

### **People and Places**

[www.people-and-places.org](http://www.people-and-places.org)

PO Box 117, Marilla, NY 14102 (716) 937-1813

Vacations for adults with developmental disabilities.

### **SABAH**

<https://sabahinc.org/>

2607 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 362- 9600

Offer skating programs that serve the developmental and recreational needs of children, youth and adults with all types of disabilities.

### **Sensational Fun, INC**

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

2881 Southwestern Blvd Orchard Park, NY 14127 (716) 674-7001

Empowers children and Adults to embrace their different intellectual, social, and physical abilities and achieve their dreams through diverse play, activities, and exercise.



## **SCORE-STRIDE Center for Outdoor Recreation and Education**

[www.stride.org](http://www.stride.org)

4482 NY Highway 150, West Sand Lake, NY 12196 (518) 598-1279

STRIDE's focus is youth programming in individual lifetime sports, and a belief that it is possible to remove boundaries, fulfill dreams, enhance self-esteem, and empower youth with disabilities through participation in sport and recreational activities.

## **Special Olympics New York**

<https://www.specialolympics-ny.org/>

2821 Wehrle Dr., Suite 12, Williamsville, NY 14221 (716) 580-3346

Provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-style sports for all children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Also, volunteers of all ages, abilities and interests are needed year-round.

## **Unique Theatre Company**

[www.UniqueTheatreCompany.com](http://www.UniqueTheatreCompany.com)

99 Hartwell Rd., Buffalo, NY 14216 (716) 982-7755

A company of artists that aspire to promote community integration through the arts.

## **Western New York Adaptive Water Sports**

<https://wnyadaptivewatersports.org>

3621 Stony Point Rd., Grand Island, NY 14072 (716) 553-7670A chapter of Disabled Sports USA, whose mission is to provide recreational and therapeutic experiences in and on the water for people with disabilities.

# SUPPORT GROUPS

## **Bornhava Men's Forum**

[www.bornhava.org](http://www.bornhava.org)

25 Chateau Terrace, Buffalo, NY 14226 (716) 839-1655

The Men's Forum is open to fathers and male caregivers of children with special needs. The forum meets in the evening once a month throughout the school calendar year. Meetings usually begin at 7:30 p.m. on one Tuesday each month. Even though the group meets at Bornhava, those who attend do not need to have a child who attends Bornhava.



### **Caregiver Action Network**

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

(855) 227-3640

Caregiver Action Network (CAN) is the nation's leading family caregiver organization working to improve the quality of life for the more than 90 million Americans who care for loved ones with chronic conditions, disabilities, or disease, as well as those supporting the living needs of older adults. CAN serves a broad spectrum of family caregivers ranging from the parents of children with significant health needs, to the families and friends of wounded soldiers; from a young couple dealing with a diagnosis of MS, to adult children caring for parents with Alzheimer's disease. CAN (the National Family Caregivers Association EIN 52-1780405) is a non-profit organization providing education, peer support, and resources to family caregivers across the country free of charge.

### **Down Syndrome Parents Group of WNY**

<https://dspgwny.org/>

547 Englewood Ave., Kenmore, NY 14223 (716) 832-9334

Our mission is to inform, educate, and create awareness of Down syndrome throughout our community while improving the lives and supporting the families of those persons with Down syndrome.

### **LD Parents Connect**

<http://www.ldonline.org/parents>

An on-line community service for New York State parents and family members of individuals with learning disabilities, to assist in seeking information and support to deal with school, community, and family issues. LD OnLine is a national educational service of WETA-TV, the PBS station in Washington, D.C. WETA also offers four other comprehensive educational sites: [ReadingRockets](#), [Start with a Book](#), [ColorinColorado](#), and [AdLit.org](#).

### **The Parent Network of WNY**

[www.parentnetworkwny.org](http://www.parentnetworkwny.org)

1021 Broadway St., Buffalo, NY 14212 (716) 332-4170

Provides parents and caregivers of children with special needs information on workshops and conferences, resource material, and acts as a referral service.

### **Parent to Parent of New York State**

<http://parenttoparentnys.org/offices/western/>

Finger Lakes DDSO 620 Westfall Rd., Rochester, NY 14620 (585) 424-7211

Parent to Parent of New York State builds a supportive network of families to reduce isolation and empower those who care for people with developmental disabilities or special healthcare needs to navigate and influence service systems and make informed decisions.

### **Sibling Support Project and GKS (Grandparents of Kids with Special Needs)**

<https://siblingssupport.org/>

Founded in 1990, the Sibling Support Project is the first national program dedicated to the life-long and ever-changing concerns of millions of brothers and sisters of people with special health, developmental, and mental health concerns.

[Grandparents of Kids with Special Needs](#) (GKS) is an online community hosted by the Sibling Support Project where grandparents can connect with others who “get it.” Our work with grandparents began around the same time that Sibshops were created, in 1982.

## **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

### **Boulevard Van City**

<https://vancitymobility.com/>

2708 Niagara Falls Blvd., Wheatfield, NY 14304 (716) 731-4335

Specializes in providing mobility solutions for the physically challenged.

### **Buffalo Transportation**

<https://www.buffalotransportation.com/>

289 Ramsdell Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216 (716) 877-5600

Serves senior citizens, people in wheelchairs and those with special needs.

### **Mobility Works**

<https://www.mobilityworks.com/>

3560 Sheridan Drive, Buffalo, NY 14226 (716) 427-5268

Accessible vehicles and modifications to enhance the independence of physically challenged individuals.

### **NFTA-Metro**

<https://metro.nfta.com/special-services>

181 Ellicott St., Buffalo, NY 14203 (716) 855-7211; TTD (800) 662-1220

Special services for people with disabilities include Paratransit Access Line (PAL) and the Reduced-Fare Card Program.

Call (716) 855-7268 for more information.

## **United Access**

[Wheelchair Vans & Handicap Vehicles in Williamsville, NY | Sale & Rent \(braunability.com\)](http://braunability.com)

5375 Transit Rd., Williamsville, NY 14221(716) 759-6811

United Access Buffalo offers an extensive line of new and used BraunAbility wheelchair vans for sale or rent as well as mobility lifts, transfer seating, driving aids and scooters. Our Service Department performs install, preventative maintenance, repair and parts ordering for mobility vehicles and equipment.

## **Western New York Independent Living, Inc. (WNYIL)**

<https://wnyil.org/Independence-Express>

3108 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 836-0822

WNYIL operates grant and fee-based transportation services for community activities in five of the Western New York Counties.

# VISUALLY IMPAIRED SERVICES

## **National Federation of the Blind (Buffalo Office)**

Chris Minkler, Buffalo Chapter President (716) 688-5849

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

Provide public education about blindness, information and referral services, scholarships, literature and publications about blindness, aids and appliances for the blind, advocacy services and emotional support.

## **NFB Newslines**

NFB-NEWSLINE is a free audio news service for anyone who is blind, low-vision, deafblind, or otherwise print-disabled that offers access to more than 500 publications, emergency weather alerts, job listings, and more. Anyone who cannot read printed publications due to vision loss, dyslexia, or a physical disability is eligible to receive NFB-NEWSLINE. Please register by calling New York State Talking Book and Braille Library (518) 474-5935; or the National Federation of the Blind at 866-504-7300 to request an application.

**New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH)**

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/cb/>

295 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 847-3516

Services include Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Business Enterprise Program, Children's Program, Transition Program, Summer Recreation Program, Equipment Loan Fund, and Independent Living Program.

**New York State Education Dept. (NYSED) Talking Book & Braille Library**

[www.nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl)

The New York State Talking Book and Braille Library (TBBL) is a free library service for eligible residents of upstate New York who are unable to use standard print materials due to a visual, physical or reading disability.

**Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service**

<https://nfradioreading.org/>

1199 Harlem Rd., Cheektowaga, NY14227 (716) 821-5555

Giving people who are blind or have a print disability a chance to read – every day! Your Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service gives thousands of people throughout Western New York and Southern Ontario who are blind or have a print disability access to a variety of print publications.

**VIA**

<https://viawny.org/>

1170 Main St., Buffalo, NY (716) 882-1025

Since 1907, VIA has empowered and supported people who are blind/visually impaired in the eight counties of Western New York to lead more independent lives. We have specialized low vision optometry clinics, provide early intervention screenings, offer in-home vision rehabilitation services (such as orientation and mobility, vision rehabilitation therapy, and social work services), provide a wide variety of adaptive equipment specific to vision loss, employment services, senior vision services (including technology training for seniors), summer youth programming, and more.

**Western New York Center for the Visually Impaired**

<http://wnycvi.org/>

3070 Transit Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224 (716) 668-1166

Provide low vision evaluation and assistive products, in-home rehabilitative services, computer training, and counseling.

# OTHER SERVICES

## **2-1-1**

<https://www.211wny.org/>

211 WNY is your free and confidential link to health and human services. Every day, across Western New York, people just like you are looking for help. 211 WNY is here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## **Becoming rentABLE**

<https://www.becomingrentable.com/>

Becoming rentABLE was founded in 2021, after years of struggling to find truly accessible short-term rental properties. To have an accessible property means that there are no barriers to entry for anyone; elderly relatives, a family member with a physical disability or a friend who has been temporarily disabled. Each would have access to something that everyone should have access to, a place where memories can be made and a chance to live their best life.

## **Center for Assistive Technologies**

<https://publichealth.buffalo.edu/cat.html>

Center for Assistive Technology

210 John Glenn Dr., Suite 14, Buffalo, NY 14228 (716) 836-1168

We help people of all ages with various disabilities, illnesses and functional impairments apply AT for daily living, school, work, recreational and leisure activities. Our services can help people live more independent lives and also facilitate improved health, wellness and disease prevention.

## **Erie County Fair Housing Partnership**

<https://www3.erie.gov/environment/fair-housing>

Each City, Town, and Village within Erie County has a local Fair Housing Officer who has been trained on Fair Housing related matters. If you would like to contact your designated Fair Housing Officer call HOME directly at (716)854-1400.

## **Erie County Senior Services**

<https://www2.erie.gov/seniorservices/>

95 Franklin St, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 858-8526

Promotes the well-being of all older adults through coordinated and cost-effective services which enhance their independence, dignity and quality of life.

### **Erie County Veterans Service Agency**

[www.erie.gov/veterans](http://www.erie.gov/veterans)

95 Franklin St., Suite 800 Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 858-6363

Offers free services to veterans that will help with gathering information and presenting claims for veteran benefits.

### **Hearts and Hands**

[www.hnhcares.org](http://www.hnhcares.org)

518 Bewley Building, Lockport, NY 14094 (716) 406-8311

For people aged 60 years and older or qualified as disabled. Services such as transportation for medical appointments & local errands, yard work & snow removal assistance, respite services, minor handyman services, and more at no expense to the care recipient.

### **Jewish Community Center**

[www.iccbuffalo.org](http://www.iccbuffalo.org)

2640 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068 (716) 688-4033

Its mission is to build and strengthen the Jewish and Western New York communities by providing recreational, educational, cultural and social programs and services that are consistent with Jewish values.

### **Journey's End Refugee Services. Inc.**

[www.jersbuffalo.org](http://www.jersbuffalo.org)

2495 Main St., Suite 317, Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 882-4963

Provides refugees with the resources and support they need to become healthy, independent, contributing members of the community.

### **Native American Community Services**

[www.nacswny.org](http://www.nacswny.org)

1005 Grant St., Buffalo, NY 14207 (716) 874-4460

Provide services for the off-reservation Native American community that include the following services: family services, economic self-sufficiency, health and wellness, youth services and community support services.

### **New York Department of Public Service**

<https://www.dps.ny.gov/>

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223-1350

Inquiries and complaints (800) 342-3377

Disconnection or threat of disconnection (800) 342-3355.

The NYS Department of public service will investigate and resolve complaints about residential electric and natural gas services.

### **St. Luke's Mission of Mercy**

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

325 Walden Ave., Buffalo, NY 14211 (716) 894-4476

St. Luke's Ministries include serving lunch and dinner to those in need, providing housing for homeless, structured programs for people with addictions, Catholic education for pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grades, clothing, small appliances and household wares to those in need.

### **Becoming rentABLE**

<https://www.becomingrentable.com/>

Becoming rentABLE was founded in 2021, after years of struggling to find truly accessible short-term rental properties. To have an accessible property means that there are no barriers to entry for anyone; elderly relatives, a family member with a physical disability or a friend who has been temporarily disabled. Each would have access to something that everyone should have access to, a place where memories can be made and a chance to live their best life.

### **Venture Forthe**

[www.ventureforthe.com](http://www.ventureforthe.com)

Venture Forthe Inc. "*Personalized Home Care Services*"

3343 Harlem Road

Buffalo, NY 14225

**Referral Line:** 716-285-8204

**Fax:** 866-779-4832

Venture Forthe is a premier licensed homecare services agency headquartered in Western New York. We advocate for the needs of our clients and provide services to elders, people living with disabilities, individuals with traumatic brain injuries, and community members seeking extra help to keep you or your loved one at home in a safe and comfortable environment