



**New York State
Office of
Children & Family
Services**

**Commission for the Blind
& Visually Handicapped**

◆ ◆ ◆

**Directory of Services
for
Blind & Visually
Handicapped Children
in New York State**

◆ ◆ ◆

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN NEW YORK STATE

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	2
CBVH District Offices	2
New York State Resources	
American Council of the Blind	4
National Federation of the Blind	4
Care at Home Medicaid Waiver	4
NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities	4
Client Assistance Program	5
Protection and Advocacy Agency	5
NYS Early Childhood Direction Centers	5
NYS Regents Courses and Examinations	7
NYS School for the Blind	7
NYS School for the Blind Outreach Department	8
Early Intervention Program	8
NYS Department of Health	10
NYS Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities	10
Developmental Disabilities Services Offices	11
Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities	13
Care at Home Program for Physically Disabled Children	13
Local Departments of Social Services	13
State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council	16
NYS Office of Mental Health	16
Vocational & Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities (VESID)	16
NYS Technical Assistance Project (NYSTAP)	17
Schools	
NYS School for the Blind	17
Lavelle School for the Blind	17
New York Institute for Special Education	17
National Organizations	
American Council of the Blind, Inc.	18
American Foundation for the Blind	18
American Printing House	18
Association for Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired	18
DB-Link: Information on Deaf-Blindness	19
Hadley School for the Blind	19
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults	19
Howe Press of Perkins School for the Blind	19

National Association for Visually Handicapped	19
National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments	20
National Center for Vision and Child Development	20
National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities	20
National Federation of the Blind	20
Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic	20
Parent Supports	
NYS Commission on Quality of Care & Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities	21
Parent Training and Information Centers	21
Parent Centers	21
Parent to Parent of NYS	21
National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments, Inc.	21
Parents of Blind Children	22
National Parent Support Groups	
Council of Families with Visual Impairment	22
National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments, Inc.	22
Parents of Blind Children Division of the National Federation of the Blind	22
National Family Association for Deaf-Blind	22
Private Agencies for the Blind in New York State	23
Independent Living Centers in New York State	25
Technology Information	
BOCES Technology Resources for Education Center	31
TRAID Project	32
Braille, Tape and Large Print Services	
American Printing House for the Blind	32
Braille Bug	32
Braille International	32
National Braille Press	32
Braille Transcribers of Central New York	33
National Braille Association	33
NYS School for the Blind	33
Southern Tier Braille Transcribers	33
Xavier Society for the Blind	33
Leisure Reading Books	
American Foundation for the Blind	33
NYS Talking Book and Braille Library	33
Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library	33
NYS School for the Blind	34
Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic	34
Glossary of Terms	35

INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth edition of the *Directory of Services for Blind and Visually Handicapped Children in New York State*. The directory is a compilation of schools, organizations, agencies and programs that provide services and information to children who are legally blind and their families in New York State. To make information easier to find, some organizations and resources may be listed more than once in the directory.

Appreciation is expressed to many individuals who provided information for this directory. Special thanks to the CBVH Children's Consultants for their valuable assistance with this project. Call (518) 474-6812 for copies, or download it from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services website at www.ocfs.state.ny.us.

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

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

Capital View Office Park
52 Washington Street
South Building, Room 201
Rensselaer, NY 12144-2796
Telephone: (518) 474-6812
Toll Free: (800) 866-871-3000 (voice)
TDD: (800) 866-871-6000
www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/CBVH

Laurie Munro, Coordinator of Children's Services

CBVH, under the New York State Office of Children & Family Services, is responsible for the administration of programs and services to legally blind individuals. The programs and services enhance independence and facilitate opportunities for participation in the community. CBVH provides a range of services for individuals who are legally blind through the independent living and vocational rehabilitation provisions of the federal Rehabilitation Act, as well as through programs serving children and older individuals who are blind. Each of the CBVH district offices has a Children's Consultant who acts as a case coordinator, provides assistance to parents and family members, and may serve as an advisor in the development of a child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with the school district. The New York City office covers the five boroughs, and has one Children's Consultant responsible for children who are aged birth through 14, two transition counselors responsible for children between the ages of 14 through 21, a counselor who works with children ages 10-14, and a counselor who works with children who are deaf-blind.

CBVH DISTRICT OFFICES

Buffalo CBVH District Office

Len Hanel, District Manager Telephone: (716) 847-3526
Bob Barbera, Children's Consultant Telephone: (716) 847-3533
Rick Little, Children's Consultant Telephone: (585) 238-8112
Katie Christie, Transition Counselor Telephone: (716) 847-4685
295 Main Street, Room 590 Fax: (716) 847-3983
Buffalo, NY 14203 TDD: (716) 847-3500

Counties Served: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans,
Wyoming, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca,
Steuben, Wayne, Yates

Rochester Area - Outstation

259 Monroe Avenue Room 303

Fax: (585) 238-8278

Rochester, NY 14607 TDD: (585) 238-8104

Syracuse CBVH District Office

Dennis Donahue, District Manager Telephone: (315) 423-5425

Carol Hile, Children's Consultant Telephone: (315) 423-5439

John Scott, Transition Counselor Telephone: (315) 423-5437

The Atrium, Suite 150 Fax: (315) 423-5416

2 Clinton Square TDD: (315) 423-5426

Syracuse, NY 13202

Counties Served: Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis,
Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, St. Lawrence, Tioga,
Tompkins

Albany CBVH District Office

Dale Keenan, District Manager Telephone: (518) 473-1675

Lauren Corp, Children's Consultant Telephone: (518) 473-4359

Peter Herring, Transition Counselor Telephone: (518) 473-1098

155 Washington Avenue Fax: (518) 473-9255

Albany, NY 12210-2329 TDD: (518) 473-1698

Counties Served: Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton,
Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Otsego, Rensselaer, Saratoga,
Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington

White Plains CBVH District Office

Tom Maguire, District Manager Telephone: (914) 993-5370

Joanne Russotti, Children's Consultant Telephone: (914) 993-5370

Kelly Rodriguez, Transition Counselor Telephone: (914) 993-5370

445 Hamilton Avenue, Room 503 Fax: (914) 993-0238

White Plains, NY 10601 TDD: (914) 993-5327

Counties Served: Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester

Hempstead CBVH District Office

Janice O'Connor, District Manager Telephone: (516) 564-4311

Arnold Chapman, Children's Consultant Telephone: (516) 564-4319

Florence Holly, Transition Counselor Telephone: (516) 564-4320

50 Clinton Street, Suite 208 Fax: (516) 292-7448

Hempstead, NY 11550 TDD: (516) 564-4325

Counties Served: Nassau, Suffolk, Queens (Vocational Rehabilitation, Independent
Living Only)

NYC CBVH District Office

Arnie Kramer, District Manager Telephone: (212) 825-5719

Paul Geraci, Children's Consultant Telephone: (212) 825-7364

Iris Popkin, Transition Counselor Telephone: (212) 825-7363

Richard Brown, Transition Counselor Telephone: (212) 825-7365

Ed Goldberg, Transition Counselor Telephone: (212) 825-5712

20 Exchange Place, 2nd Floor Fax: (212) 825-7143

New York, NY 10005 TDD: (212) 825-7367

This office serves legally blind children from all boroughs of New York City.

NEW YORK STATE RESOURCES

American Council of the Blind (ACB)

National Number (202) 467-5081
New York State President .. John Farina
37 Twiller Street
Albany, NY 12209
Toll Free: (800) 522-3303
Telephone: (518) 449-1581

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

National Number (800) 356-7713
New York State President .. Carl Jacobsen
471 63rd Street
Brooklyn, NY 11220
Telephone: (718) 567-7821

Care at Home Medicaid Waiver for Children Who Are Medically Frail

New York State Department of Health
Telephone: (518) 486-6562
www.omh.state.ny.us

This waiver enables families to care for children who are medically frail at home. The waiver allows Medicaid eligibility to be calculated without requiring that parental income be spent first when a child is medically frail. The program also provides Medicaid coverage for a variety of services not typically covered by Medicaid, including case management and respite.

New York State Commission on Quality of Care & Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

401 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305-2397
Telephone: (518) 388-2888
Toll Free: (800) 624-4143 (voice and TTD)
www.cqcapd.state.ny.us

The agency's mission is to advise the Governor, the Legislature and other state agencies of the needs and issues facing people with disabilities; initiate and take part in shaping innovative programs to meet these needs; identify possible areas of improvement and coordination among segments of the system that can achieve such change; and assist local government, service providers and the private sector in efforts to achieve the goal of full participation of people with disabilities in community life.

Client Assistance Program (CAP)

NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

401 State Street

Schenectady, NY 12305-2397

Telephone: (518) 388-2888

www.cqcapd.state.ny.us

The CAP program is responsible for assisting disabled individuals (clients receiving services or client applicants requesting services) to secure the benefits and programs available under the Rehabilitation Act. Issues such as types of services offered, policies and procedures, and mediation of problem situations are all services available through the CAP centers.

Protection & Advocacy Agency

NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

401 State Street

Schenectady, NY 12305-2397

Telephone: (518) 388-2888

www.cqcapd.state.ny.us

The Bureau of Protection & Advocacy in the New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities coordinates a statewide protection and advocacy program for people with disabilities and their families. The bureau offers training programs to help parents understand special education laws and regulations.

New York State Early Childhood Direction Centers (ECDC)

www.vesid.nysed.gov/lsn/ecdc

Coordinated by the New York State Education Department, ECDCs provide information about programs and services for young children, ages birth through five, who have physical, mental or emotional disabilities, and help families obtain services for their children. The following is a statewide list of centers:

Albany (Capital District Region)

Counties Served: Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington

Early Childhood Direction Center

Capital Region BOCES

Maywood Elementary School

1979 Central Avenue

Albany, NY 12205

Telephone: (518) 464-6356

Fax: (518) 464-63369

E-mail: eburns@gw.neric.org

Binghamton (Southern Tier Region)

Counties Served: Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins

Early Childhood Direction Center

Southern Tier Independence Center

24 Prospect Avenue

Binghamton, NY 13901

Telephone: (607) 724-2111

Fax: (607) 722-3615

E-mail: ecdc@stic-cil.org

Bronx

County Served: Bronx
Early Childhood Direction Center
2488 Grand Concourse
Room 405
Bronx, NY 10458
Telephone: (718) 584-0658
Fax: 718) 584-0859
E-mail: ecdbronx@yahoo.com

Buffalo (Western Region)

Counties Served: Allegany, Cattaraugus,
Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, Orleans
Early Childhood Direction Center
936 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
Telephone: (716) 888-1450
Toll Free: (800) 462-7653
Fax: (716) 888-1456
E-mail: vrubin@kaleidahealth.org

Nassau

County Served: Nassau
Early Childhood Direction Center
Variety Child Learning Center
47 Humphrey Drive
Syosset, NY 11791-4908
Telephone: (516) 364-8580
Fax: (516) 921-2354
E-mail: nassauecdc@VCLC.org

Potsdam (North Country Region)

Counties Served: Clinton, Essex,
Franklin, Hamilton, St. Lawrence
Early Childhood Direction Center
SUNY Potsdam
Saterlee Hall 104
Sheard Literacy Center
44 Pierrepont Ave.
Potsdam, NY 13676-2294
Telephone: (315) 267-3492
Fax: (315) 267-3409
E mail: bushtm@potsdam.edu

Brooklyn

County Served: Kings (Brooklyn)
Early Childhood Direction Center
160 Lawrence Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11230
Telephone: (718) 437-3794
Fax: (718) 436-0071
E-mail: ksamet@ucpnyc.org

Manhattan

County Served: New York (Manhattan)
Early Childhood Direction Center
New York Presbyterian Hospital
435 East 70th Street, Suite 2A
New York, NY 10021
Telephone: (212) 746-6175
Fax: (212) 746-8895
E-mail: mrubinst@nyp.org

Newburgh (Mid-Hudson Region)

Counties Served: Dutchess, Orange,
Sullivan, Ulster Counties
Early Childhood Direction Center
Independent Living, Inc.
5 Washington Terrace
Newburgh, NY 12550
Telephone: (845) 565-1162 ext. 244
Fax: (845) 565-0567
E-mail: dhovey@myindependentliving.org

Queens

County Served: Queens
Early Childhood Direction Center
Queens Center for Progress
82-25 164th Street
Jamaica, NY 11432
Telephone: (718) 374-0002 Ext. 465
Fax: (718) 380-3214
E-mail: cwarkala@queenscp.org

Rochester Region

Counties Served: Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates

Early Childhood Direction Center

875 East Main Street

Suite 240

Rochester, NY 14605

Telephone: (585) 399-4617

Fax: (585) 271-4228

E-mail: Mike_Reif@boces.monroe.edu

Suffolk

County Served: Suffolk

Early Childhood Direction Center

99 Hollywood Drive

Smithtown, NY 11787

Telephone: (631) 863-2600

Fax: (631) 863-2082

E-mail: ecdc_suffolk@ddiinfo.org

Westchester Region

Counties Served: Putnam, Rockland,

Westchester

Early Childhood Direction Center

Westchester Institute for Human

Development

325 Cedarwood Hall

Vahalla, NY 10595

Telephone: (914) 493-2902

(914) 493-1709

Fax: (914) 493-1973

E-mail: speretz@wihd.org

Staten Island

County Served: Richmond (Staten Island)

Early Childhood Direction Center

Staten Island University Hospital

Spring Building

1034 Targee Street, Room 107

Staten Island, NY 10304

Telephone: (718) 390-4737

Fax: (718) 390-4874

E-mail: Lkennedy@siuh.edu

Syracuse (Central New York Region)

Counties Served: Cayuga, Cortland,

Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison,

Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego

Early Childhood Direction Center

Syracuse University

805 So. Crouse Avenue

Syracuse, NY 13244-2280

Telephone: (315) 443-4444

Toll Free: (800) 962-5488

Fax: (315) 443-4338

E-mail: nssonger@syr.edu

Web address: <http://ecdc.syr.edu>

New York State Regents Courses & Examinations

If you have questions regarding alternative formats, contact:

Barb Miller at (518) 473-2878, or bmiller@mail.nysed.gov

New York State School for the Blind

2A Richmond Avenue

Batavia, NY 14020 Telephone: (585) 343 5384

www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/nyssb Toll Free: 1-877-NYSSFTB (697-7382)

Provides educational programs for children ages 5 through 21 who are blind and have multiple disabilities. Services include orientation and mobility, Braille, speech, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, psychology, behavior management, adapted physical education, recreation therapy, music and art therapy, 24-hour nursing services, adaptive equipment, specialized feeding services, pre-vocational training and assistive technology services. In addition to the school's day program, there is a 5-day residential program.

New York State School for the Blind Outreach Department

2A Richmond Avenue

Batavia, NY 14029

www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/nysseb Telephone: (585) 343-5384

The Outreach Department has three major divisions:

Textbooks and Materials Services Division... administers the annual registration of all students classified as legally blind for the procurement of special media materials produced by the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) under the Federal Quota Program. This division also administers the ordering of APH Braille and large print textbooks and educational materials available through federal quota funds, as well as braillewriter repair and equipment repair through APH. The Textbooks and Materials Services Division also provides technical assistance in locating sources for large print and Braille textbooks that are not available through APH. For book requests, APH federal quota registration or order forms, or information about these services, contact Lisa DeSanti at (585) 343-5384, extension 207, or e-mail ldesanti@mail.nysed.gov

Student Services Division... currently offers four weekend programs and one weeklong program to students who attend public schools statewide. Information about these programs is provided through mailings to school districts each year. For information about these programs, contact Laraine Caton at extension 280.

Parent and Professional Services Division... publishes e-mail updates and resource documents about issues related to students with visual impairments, and offers consultation and specialized training to parents, professionals and paraprofessionals statewide. Three peer consultants are available by phone or e-mail: Sharyl Courter, ext. 240 or scourter@mail.nysed.gov; Judi Piscitello, ext. 427 or jpiscite@mail.nysed.gov; Michelle Ruble, ext. 233 or mruble@mail.nysed.gov.

Early Intervention

Programs for Infants & Toddlers With Disabilities: Ages Birth to 3
Early Intervention Program, Bureau of Child & Adolescent Health
Corning Tower, Room 208

Albany, NY 12237 Telephone: (518) 473-7016
www.health.state.ny.us/community/infants_children/early_intervention

The Early Intervention Program is a statewide program that provides many different types of early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The New York State Department of Health is the lead agency responsible for this program. Addresses and phone numbers of county officials responsible for local programs follow:

County	Early Intervention Agency	Telephone
Albany	Albany County Health Department	(518) 447-4820
Allegany	Allegany County Health Department	(585) 268-7545
Broome	Broome County Health Department	(607) 778-2851
Cattaraugus	Cattaraugus County Health Department	(716) 373-8050
Cayuga	Cayuga County Health Department	(315) 253-1459

County	Early Intervention Agency	Telephone
Chautauqua	Chautauqua County Health Department	(716) 753-4491
Chemung	Chemung County Health Department	(607) 737-5568
Chenango	Chenango County Health Department	(607) 337-1729
Clinton	Clinton County Health Department	(518) 565-4798
Columbia	Columbia County Department of Health	(518) 828-4278 ext.1303
Cortland	Cortland County Health Department	(607) 756-3439
Delaware	Delaware County Public Health Nursing	(607) 746-3166
Dutchess	Dutchess County Health Department	(845) 486-3403
Erie	Erie County Health Department	(716) 858-6161
Essex	Essex County Public Health Nursing Service	(518) 873-3500
Franklin	Franklin County Public Health Nursing	(518) 481-1709
Fulton	Fulton County Public Health Department	(518) 736-5720
Genesee	Genesee County Health Department	(716) 344-8506 ext. 3
Greene	Greene County Public Health Nursing	(518) 719-3600
Hamilton	Hamilton County Public Nursing Service	(518) 648-6141
Herkimer	Herkimer County Public Health Nursing	(315) 867-1176
Jefferson	Jefferson County Community Services	(315) 785-3283
Lewis	Lewis County Public Health Department	(315) 376-5401
Livingston	Livingston County Health Department	(585) 243-7290
Madison	Madison County Public Health Department	(315) 363-1014
Monroe	Monroe County Health Department	(585) 530-4274
Montgomery	Montgomery County Public Health	(518) 853-3531
Nassau	Nassau County Department of Health	(516) 571-3749
NYC	NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene	(212) 219-5213
Niagara	Niagara County Health Department	(716) 278-1991
Oneida	Oneida County Health Department	(315) 798-5249
Onondaga	Onondaga County Health Department	(315) 435-3230
Ontario	Ontario County Community Health Services	(585) 396-4439
Orange	Orange County Health Department	(845) 291-2333
Orleans	Orleans County Health Department	(585) 589-2777
Oswego	Oswego County Health Department	(315) 349-3510
Otsego	Otsego County Health Department	(607) 547-6474
Putnam	Putnam County Health Department	(845) 278-6014 ext. 2170
Rensselaer	Rensselaer County Health Department	(518) 270-2665 ext. 2655
Rockland	Rockland County Health Department	(845) 364-2626
Saratoga	Saratoga County Public Health Nursing	(518) 584-7460 ext 390
Schenectady	Schenectady County Public Health Services	(518) 386-2815
Schoharie	Schoharie County Health Department	(518) 295-8705
Schuyler	Schuyler County Home Health Agency	(607) 535-8140
Seneca	Seneca County Health Department	(315) 539-1920
St. Lawrence	St. Lawrence County Public Health	(315) 386-2325
Steuben	Steuben County Public Health	(607) 664-2146
Suffolk	Suffolk County Health Services	(631) 853-3100

Sullivan . Sullivan County Public Health Nursing Service .	(845) 292-0100 ext 2700
Tioga	Tioga County Health Department (607) 687-8600
Tompkins	Tompkins County Health Department (607) 274-6644
Ulster	Ulster County Social Services Department (845) 334-5251
Warren	Warren County Health Services..... (518) 761-6580
Washington	Washington County Public Health Services (518) 746-2400
Wayne	Wayne County Public Health Service (315) 946-7262
Westchester	Westchester County Health Department (914) 813-5094
Wyoming	Wyoming County Health Department (585) 786-8850
Yates	Yates County Health Department (315) 536-5160

New York State Department of Health

Corning Tower
 Empire State Plaza
 Albany, New York 12237
www.health.state.ny.us

In addition to the Early Intervention Program, the Department of Health is responsible for a wide range of programs and services to promote and protect the health of children and adults residing in New York State. Examples of other programs and services for children and families include the Child Health Plus insurance program, maternal and child health services funded under the Title V block grant (including services for children with special health care needs), universal newborn screening, vaccination informational materials, school-based health centers, and the Women Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program.

New York State Office of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD)

44 Holland Avenue
 Albany, New York 12229
www.omr.state.ny.us

OMRDD operates 13 Developmental Disabilities Services Offices (DDSOs) responsible for arranging and planning for the care, treatment, habilitation, and rehabilitation services to individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities (such as autism, cerebral palsy, seizure disorders, Down syndrome, and children with multiple disabilities). In partnership with consumers, families, staff, private providers, and local governments, the DDSOs provide person-centered assistance to improve the quality of life of individuals and families through the provision of housing, employment, and family support services.

Executive Contacts

Telephone: (518) 473-9689
 Fax: (518) 474-1335
 TDD: (518) 474-3694

New York City Regional Office

75 Morton Street
 New York, New York 10014
 Telephone: (212) 229-3231

The list of DDSOs follows.

Developmental Disabilities Services Offices

Bernard M. Fineson DDSO

80-45 Winchester Boulevard
Building 12
Queens Village, NY 11427
Telephone: (718) 217-4242
Fax: (718) 217-4724
County Served: Queens

Brooklyn DDSO

888 Fountain Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11208
Telephone: (718) 642-6000
Fax: (718) 642-6282
County Served: Kings

Broome DDSO

249 Glenwood Road
Binghamton, NY 13905
Telephone: (607) 770-0211
Fax: (607) 770-8037
Counties Served: Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins

Capital District DDSO

Oswald D. Heck Developmental Center
Balltown & Consaul Roads
Schenectady, NY 12304
Telephone: (518) 370-7370
Fax: (518) 370-7401
Counties Served: Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington

Central NY DDSO

101 West Liberty Street
Rome, NY 13442
Telephone: (315) 336-2300
Fax: (315) 339-5456
Counties Served: Cayuga, Cortland, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Onondaga, Oneida, Oswego

Finger Lakes DDSO

620 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14620
Telephone: (585) 461-8500
Fax: (585) 461-0618
Counties Served: Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates

Hudson Valley DDSO

Administration Building
2 Ridge Road, PO Box 470
Thiells, NY 10984
Telephone: (845) 947-6000
Fax: (845) 947-6004
Counties Served: Westchester, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan

Long Island DDSO

45 Mall Road
Commack, NY 11725
Telephone: (631) 493-1700
Fax: (631) 493-1803
Counties Served: Nassau & Suffolk

Metro NY DDSO

75 Morton Street
New York, NY 10014
Telephone: (212) 229-3000
Fax: (212) 924-0580
Counties Served: Bronx, Manhattan

Staten Island DDSO

1150 Forest Hill Road
Staten Island, NY 10314
Telephone: (718) 983-5200
Fax: (718) 983-9768
County Served: Richmond

Sunmount DDSO

2445 State Route 30
Tupper Lake, NY 12986-2502
Telephone: (518) 359-3311
Fax: (518) 359-2276
Counties Served: Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, St. Lawrence

Taconic DDSO

26 Center Circle
Wassaic, NY 12592
Telephone: (845) 877-6821
Fax: (845) 877-9177
Counties Served: Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam, Ulster

Valley Ridge DDSO

Serving individuals with intensive needs statewide.
Telephone: (607) 337-7000

Western NY DDSO

1200 East & West Road
West Seneca, NY 14224
Telephone: (716) 674-6300
Fax: (716) 674-7488
Counties Served: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans

Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities

1050 Forest Hill Road
Staten Island, NY 10314
Telephone: (718) 494-0600
Fax: (718) 698-3803

Care at Home Program for Physically Disabled Children

The Care at Home Program provides a Medicaid-financed plan of community-based services to enable physically disabled children who might otherwise qualify for hospital or nursing home placement to, instead, live with their families. All Medicaid and additional service, such as case management and home adaptations, are available to assist a family in caring for their child. For additional information, call your county Department of Social Services' At Home Coordinator. Applications are available at county DSS offices (listed below). In New York City, call (212) 360-5444.

Local Departments of Social Services

Albany County DSS

162 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: (518) 447-7300

Broome County DSS

36-42 Main Street
Binghamton, NY 13905-3199
Telephone: (607) 778-8850

Cayuga County DSS

County Office Building
160 Genesee Street
Auburn, NY 13021-3433
Telephone: (315) 253-1011

Chemung County DSS

Human Resource Center
425 Pennsylvania Avenue
Elmira, NY 14902
Telephone: (607) 737-5309

Clinton County DSS

13 Durkee Street
Plattsburgh, NY 12901-2911
Telephone: (518) 565-3300

Cortland County DSS

60 Central Avenue
Cortland, NY 13045-5590
Telephone: (607) 753-5248

Allegany County DSS

7 Court Street
Belmont, NY 14813-1077
Telephone: (585) 268-9622

Cattaraugus County DSS

1701 Lincoln Avenue, Suite 6010
Olean, NY 14760-1158
Telephone: (716) 373-8065

Chautauqua County DSS

Hall R. Clothier Building
Mayville, NY 14757
Telephone: (716) 753-4421

Chenango County DSS

PO Box 590, Court Street
Norwich, NY 13815
Telephone: (607) 337-1500

Columbia County DSS

25 Railroad Avenue, PO Box 458
Hudson, NY 12534
Telephone: (518) 828-9411

Delaware County DSS

111 Main Street
Delhi, NY 13753
Telephone: (607) 746-2325

Dutchess County DSS

60 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-3299
Telephone: (845) 486-3000

Essex County DSS

7551 Court Street
Elizabethtown, NY 12932-0217
Telephone: (518) 873-3441

Fulton County DSS

4 Daisy Lane
Johnstown, NY 12095
Telephone: (518) 736-5640

Greene County DSS

411 Main Street
Catskill, NY 12414-1716
Telephone: (518) 943-3200

Herkimer County DSS

301 North Washington Street, Suite 2110
Herkimer, NY 13350
Telephone: (315) 867-1291

Lewis County DSS

PO Box 193
Lowville, NY 13367
Telephone: (315) 376-5400

Madison County DSS

North Court Street
Wampsville, NY 13163
Telephone: (315) 366-2211

Montgomery County DSS

County Office Building
Fonda, NY 12068
Telephone: (518) 853-4646

New York City

Human Resources Administration
Telephone: (718) 557-1399 or
1-877-472-8411 (Toll free within the
five boroughs of New York City)

Oneida County DSS

800 Park Avenue
Utica, NY 13501-2981
Telephone: (315) 798-5733

Érie County DSS

95 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202-3959
Telephone: (716) 858-8000

Franklin County DSS

355 West Main Street
Malone, NY 12953
Telephone: (518) 483-6770

Genesee County DSS

5130 East Main Street, Suite #3
Batavia, NY 14020
Telephone: (585) 344-2580

Hamilton County DSS

White Birch Lane
Indian Lake, NY 12842-0725
Telephone: (518) 648-6131

Jefferson County DSS

250 Arsenal Street
Watertown, NY 13601
Telephone: (315) 782-9030

Livingston County DSS

3 Livingston County Campus
Mt. Morris, NY 14510-1699
Telephone: (585) 243-7300

Monroe County DSS

111 Westfall Road
Rochester, NY 14620-4686
Telephone: (585) 274-6000

Nassau County DSS

60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard
Uniondale, NY 11553-3656
Telephone: (516) 227-8472

Niagara County DSS

20 East Avenue
Lockport, NY 14095-0506
Telephone: (716) 439-7600

Onondaga County DSS

421 Montgomery Street
Syracuse, NY 13202-2923
Telephone: (315) 435-2985

Ontario County DSS

3010 County Complex Drive
Canandaigua, NY 14424-1296
Telephone: (877) 814-6907

Orleans County DSS

14016 Route 31 West
Albion, NY 14411-9365
Telephone: (585) 589-7000

Otsego County DSS

197 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326-1196
Telephone: (617) 547-4355

Rensselaer County DSS

133 Bloomingrove Drive
Troy, NY 12180-8403
Telephone: (518) 283-2000

Saratoga County DSS

152 West High Street
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Telephone: (518) 884-4140

Schoharie County DSS

County Office Building
Schoharie, NY 12157
Telephone: (518) 295-8334

Seneca County DSS

1 Di Pronio Drive, PO Box 690
Waterloo, NY 13165-0690
Telephone: (315) 539-1800

Steuben County DSS

3 East Pultney Square
Bath, NY 14810
Telephone: (607) 776-7611

Sullivan County DSS

POB 231, 16 Community Lane
Liberty, NY 12754
Telephone: (845) 292-0100

Tompkins County DSS

320 West State Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
Telephone: (607) 274-5252

Orange County DSS

Box Z, 11 Quarry Road
Goshen, NY 10924-0678
Telephone: (845) 291-4000

Oswego County DSS

100 Spring Street, PO Box 1320
Mexico, NY 13114
Telephone: (315) 963-5000

Putnam County DSS

110 Old Route Six Center
Carmel, NY 10512-2110
Telephone: (845) 225-7040

Rockland County DSS

Building L, Sanatorium Road
Pomona, NY 10970
Telephone: (845) 364-3100

Schenectady County DSS

487 Nott Street
Schenectady, NY 12308-1812
Telephone: (518) 388-4470

Schuyler County DSS

105 Ninth Street Unit 3&4
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
Telephone: (607) 535-8303

St. Lawrence County DSS

6 Judson Street
Canton, NY 13617-1197
Telephone: (315) 379-2111

Suffolk County DSS

3085 Veterans Memorial Highway
Ronkonkoma, NY 11788-8900
Telephone: (631) 854-9700

Tioga County DSS

PO Box 240
Owego, NY 13827
Telephone: (607) 687-8300

Ulster County DSS

1061 Development Court
Kingston, NY 12401-1959
Telephone: (845) 334-5000

Warren County DSS

1340 State Route 9
Lake George, NY 12845-9803
Telephone: (518) 761-6300

Wayne County DSS

77 Water Street
Lyons, NY 14489-0010
Telephone: (315) 946-4881

Wyoming County DSS

466 North Main Street
Warsaw, NY 14569-1080
Telephone: (585) 786-8900

Washington County DSS

383 Broadway
Fort Edward, NY 12828
Telephone: (518) 746-2300

Westchester County DSS

112 East Post Road
White Plains, NY 10601
Telephone: (914) 995-5000

Yates County DSS

417 Liberty St. Suite 2122
Penn Yan, NY 14527-1118
Telephone: (315) 536-5183

State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
155 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210

www.ddpc.state.ny.us Telephone: (518) 432-8233

The New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council is a federally funded state agency working under the direction of the Governor. The DDPC is responsible for developing new ways to improve the delivery of services and supports to New Yorkers with developmental disabilities and their families.

Office of Mental Health

44 Holland Avenue

Albany, NY 12229 Telephone: (518) 474-4403
www.omh.state.ny.us Toll Free: (800) 597-8481

The Office of Mental Health (OMH) operates psychiatric centers across the state, and also regulates, certifies, and oversees programs which are operated by local governments and nonprofit agencies. These programs include various inpatient and outpatient programs, emergency, community support, residential and family care programs. For questions about mental health services, to find a mental health service provider, or to make a complaint, call the OMH customer relations at 1-800-597-8481.

Vocational & Educational Services for Individuals With Disabilities: VESID

New York State Education Department
One Commerce Plaza, 16th Floor

Albany, NY 12234 Telephone: (518) 486-3773 (TTY)
www.vesid.nysed.gov Toll Free: (800) 222-JOBS

VESID provides educational, vocational and counseling services to individuals who have physical, mental or emotional disabilities that interfere with their ability to work, and who can be expected to be employed if rehabilitation services are provided. Services

are provided to people with disabilities who are still in school and are beginning to plan for work, and to adults who wish to begin or return to work following a disability.

New York State Technical Assistance Project (NYSTAP)

Madeline Appell, Project Director

St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center

www.tc.columbia.edu/centers/nystap Telephone: (212) 678-4020

The New York State Technical Assistance Project Serving Children and Youth Who Are Deaf-Blind is funded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to provide technical assistance and training which serves children and youth who are deaf-blind. Collaborative relationships are in place among all major state agencies, and a regional network of professionals, parents and organizations work together to provide technical assistance to local school districts and consultative services to families, and to collect and coordinate the gathering of demographic information related to the population. Any child who has dual sensory impairment, no matter what degree, qualifies for services through this project.

SCHOOLS

New York State School for the Blind

Richmond Avenue

Batavia, NY 14020 Telephone: (585) 343-5384

www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/nyssb/home.html .. Toll Free: 1-877-NYSSFTB (697-7382)

Residential school that provides services for deaf-blind and multi-handicapped blind children ages 5 through 21. Services include education, counseling, low vision recreation and low vision services. Educational programs are designed to meet students’ needs at varying developmental levels.

Lavelle School for the Blind

East 221st Street & Paulding Avenue

Bronx, NY 10469

www.lavelleschool.org Telephone: (718) 882-1212

Serves the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau County and lower Westchester County. Provides services for totally blind, legally blind, learning disabled, mentally retarded, neurologically disabled persons with epilepsy and diabetes, and legally blind persons with cardiac and orthopedic illness ages 3 through 21. Educational programs are designed to meet students’ needs at varying developmental levels.

New York Institute for Special Education

999 Pelham Parkway North

Bronx, NY 10469

www.nyise.org Telephone: (718) 519-7000

Educational agency that works with legally blind, emotionally disturbed and learning disabled students, and developmentally delayed preschoolers ages birth through 21.

Provides rehabilitation training, recreational programs, computer training and employment training.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Council of the Blind, Inc. (ACB)

1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 1004

Washington, DC 20005 Telephone: (202) 467-5081
www.acb.org Toll Free: (800) 424-8666

ACB is an information referral and advocacy agency. The goal of the agency is to improve the well-being of people who are blind or visually impaired through legislative advocacy, improved educational and rehabilitation facilities, and through public education to promote a greater understanding of people who are blind.

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)

11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300

New York, NY 10001 Telephone: (212) 502-7600
www.afb.org Toll Free: (800) 232-5463

Provides direct and technical assistance services to blind and visually impaired persons and their families, and professionals in specialized agencies for the blind, community agencies, organizations, schools, and corporations. Acts as a national clearinghouse for information about blindness and visual impairment.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH)

1839 Frankfort Avenue

Louisville, KY 40206 Telephone: (502) 895-2405
www.aph.org Toll Free: (800) 223-1839

Producer of specialized and adapted educational books and materials for children who are blind and visually impaired. Maintains the LOUIS on-line reference catalog of textbooks in accessible media.

Association for the Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind & Visually Impaired (AER)

1703 North Beauregard Street, Suite 440

Alexandria, VA 22311

www.aerbvi.org Telephone: (703) 671-4500

Professional organization that promotes all phases of education and work for blind and visually impaired persons of all ages. Certifies rehabilitation teachers, orientation and mobility specialists, and classroom teachers. Works on local, regional, national and international levels.

DB-Link: Information on Deaf-Blindness

DB-Link's extensive resources and personalized service are available to anyone needing information about, or for, deaf-blind children. Their goal is to help parents, teachers, and others by providing them with information to foster the skills, strategies and confidence necessary to nurture and empower deaf-blind children. DB-LINK is a federally funded service that identifies, coordinates, and disseminates, at no cost, information related to children and youth from birth through 21 years of age.

www.tr.wou.edu/dblink

Hadley School for the Blind

700 Elm Street

Winnetka, IL 60093 Telephone: (847) 446-8111

www.hadley-school.org Toll Free: (800) 323-4238

Provides academic and vocational education through free correspondence courses in Braille reading and writing, elementary school from fifth grade, high school courses, and college courses on an individual basis. Offers courses for the parents of blind children.

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths & Adults

141 Middle Neck Road

Sands Point, NY 11050

www.helenkeller.org Telephone: (516) 944-8900

Serves deaf-blind adults from every U.S. state and territory. Provides technical assistance to facilitate transition of deaf-blind youths from education to community-based adult services.

Howe Press of Perkins School for the Blind

175 North Beacon Street

Watertown, MA 02472

www.perkins.org Telephone: (617) 924-3434

Manufactures and sells the Perkins-Brailler, jumbo Braille cells, slates, styli, mathematical aids, games, and Braille-vision books for children.

National Association for Visually Handicapped

22 West 21st Street

New York, NY 10010 Telephone: 212-889-3141

www.navh@navh.org Telephone: 212-255-2804

Produces and distributes large type reading materials to schools, libraries, senior citizen centers, hospitals and individuals on request. Acts as an information clearinghouse and referral center regarding resources available to the partially sighted.

National Braille Association (NBA)

3 Townline Circle

Rochester, NY 14623

www.nationalbraille.org Telephone: (716) 427-8260

Membership organization of certified Braille transcribers.

National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. (NAPVI)

P.O. Box 317

Watertown, MA 02272 Telephone: (617) 972-7441

www.napvi.org Toll Free: (800) 562-6265

A non-profit organization of, by and for parents committed to providing support to the parents of children who have visual impairments.

National Center for Vision & Child Development

Lighthouse International

111 East 59th Street

New York, NY 10022-1202 Telephone: (212) 821-9200

www.lighthouse.org TTY: (212) 821-9713

Offers information, resources and referrals to parents and professionals, both nationally and internationally. The center has many publications that address the issue of vision impairment and child development.

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities

P.O. Box 1492

Washington, DC 20013

www.nichcy.org Toll Free: (800) 695-0285

NICHCY serves the nation as a central source of information on disabilities in children, IDEA, No Child Left Behind, and research-based information on effective educational practices.

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)

1800 Johnson Street

Baltimore, MD 21230

www.nfb.org Telephone: (410) 659-9314

NFB is a consumer group that can answer questions about blindness, refer people to appropriate resources or adapted equipment, and send a publication list. NFB sponsors JOB, a job listing and referral service.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

20 Roszel Road

Princeton, NJ 08540 Telephone: (609) 452-0606

www.rfbd.org Toll Free: (800) 221-4792

RFBD lends taped educational textbooks at no charge to visually, perceptually, and physically handicapped grammar school, high school, undergraduate and graduate students, and professionals.

PARENT SUPPORTS

New York State Commission on Quality of Care & Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

Parent Advocacy Training

401 State Street

Schenectady, NY 12305 Telephone: (518) 388-2888

www.cqcapd.state.ny.us Toll Free: (800) 624-4143 (voice and TDD)

The New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities provides training for parents of children with disabilities. Workshops are scheduled locally at a parent's request on the topics of early intervention, special education and transition services. Parents learn about state and federal laws and regulations, develop communication and advocacy techniques, and prepare to take the initiative in planning appropriate programs and services for their children with disabilities.

Parent Training and Information Centers are a federally funded program through the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. The program is charged with providing IDEA training, technical assistance, information and referral, and limited educational advocacy to parents and professionals. Additional information can be found at: www.taalliance.org

Parent Centers provide programs and services for parents/families of children with disabilities in New York. The parent centers are administered by the New York State Education Department. The centers offer a wide range of services including: outreach to parents, seminar and training sessions for parents, support group for family members, meetings for local residents, provision of parent "matches": information and dissemination of relevant written materials. Additional information can be found at: www.nysed.gov (search: Parent Centers).

Parent to Parent of New York State

500 Balltown Road (statewide office) Telephone: (518) 381-4350

Schenectady, NY 12304 Toll Free: (800) 305-8817

Parent to Parent connects parents who live in New York State with a trained volunteer to support parents whose child has the same disability, illness, issue or concern, to provide support and share information. They also connect families with local, state or national resources and organizations.

The National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments, Inc. (NAPVI)

NYC NAPVI

Jeannette Christie, President

PO Box 872, Throggs Neck Station

Bronx, NY 10465

LadyJay066@aol.com Toll Free: (800) 562-6265

Parents of Blind Children (POBC) (New York City) - affiliated with NFB

Maria Garcia, President
PO Box 09-0363
Brooklyn, NY 11209
Telephone: (718) 567-7821
Fax: (718) 765-1843
garciaonconvent@earthlink.net

Parents of Blind Children (POBC) (Long Island) - affiliated with NFB

Liz Regan	Leslie Englander
18 Spencer Drive	845 Park Drive
Bethpage, NY 11714	Wantaugh, NY 11793
Telephone: (516) 735-0253	Telephone: (516) 796-3582

NATIONAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

Council of Families With Visual Impairment (CFVI)

c/o American Council of the Blind
1155 15th Street NW, Suite 1004 Telephone: (202) 467-5081
Washington, DC 20005 Toll Free: (800) 424-8666 (from 3:00-5:30 PM, EST)
Support group of parents of blind and visually impaired children.

National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI)

Contact: Susan LaVenture Toll Free: (800) 562-6265
A member organization for parents and agencies committed to providing support to parents and families of visually impaired children and youth. Promotes public understanding of the needs and rights of visually impaired children, and the development of state and local parents' groups.

Parents of Blind Children Division of the National Federation of the Blind

1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
www.nfb.org/nopbc.htm Telephone: (410) 659-9314 ext. 2360
A national membership organization of parents and friends of blind children.

National Family Association for Deaf-Blind (NFADB)

Clara Berg, Regional Director (New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands)
Telephone: (516) 767-1738
Toll Free: (800) 255-0411
NFADB is the largest national network of families who focus on issues surrounding deaf-blindness.

**PRIVATE AGENCIES FOR THE BLIND
IN NEW YORK STATE**

Archdiocesan Catholic Guild

1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022 Telephone: (212) 371-1000

**Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired –
Goodwill Industries, Inc.**

422 South Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14620 Telephone: (585) 232-1111

Aurora of Central New York, Inc.

518 James Street
Syracuse, NY 13203 Telephone: (315) 422- 7263

Elizabeth Pierce Olmsted, M.D. Center for the Visually Impaired

1170 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14209 Telephone: (716) 882-1025

Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment, Inc.

55 Washington Street
Binghamton, NY 13901 Telephone: (607) 724-2428

Catholic Charities Diocese of Rockville Centre

147 Schlegel Boulevard
Amityville, NY 11701 Telephone: (631) 789-5213

Central Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired

507 Kent Street
Utica, NY 13501 Telephone: (315) 797-2233

Chautauqua Blind Association

510 West Fifth Street
Jamestown, NY 14701 Telephone: (716) 664-6660

Dutchess Lighthouse

110 Main Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 Telephone: (845) 473-2660

Glens Falls Association for the Blind

144 Ridge Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801 Telephone: (518) 792-3421

Helen Keller Services for the Blind

57 Willoughby Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Brooklyn Telephone: (718) 522-2122
Long Island Telephone: (516) 485-1234

Association for the Visually Impaired of Jefferson County

321 Prospect Street
Watertown, NY 13601 Telephone: (315) 782-2451

Jewish Guild for the Blind

15 West 65th Street
New York, NY 10023 Telephone: (212) 769-6200

Lighthouse International

111 East 59th Street
15th Floor
New York, NY 10022 Telephone: (212) 821-9200

Northeastern Association of the Blind

301 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12206 Telephone: (518) 463-1211

North Country Association for the Visually Impaired

North Elba Town Hall, PO Box 1338
Lake Placid, NY 12946 Telephone: (518) 523-1950

Association for the Visually Impaired, Inc.

260 Old Nyack Turnpike
Spring Valley, NY 10977 Telephone: (845) 574-4950

Southern Tier Association for the Visually Impaired, Inc.

719 Lake Street
Elmira, NY 14901 Telephone: (607) 734-1554

Visions Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired

500 Greenwich Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10013 Telephone: (212) 625-1616

Westchester Lighthouse

170 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10610 Telephone: (914) 683-7500

Western New York Center for the Visually Impaired

4511 Main Street
Amherst, NY 14226 Telephone: (716) 839-2218

INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTERS IN NEW YORK STATE

Independent Living Centers are organizations that are designed specifically to assist people with disabilities in achieving and maintaining independent lifestyles. The centers are run by people with disabilities who themselves have been successful in establishing independent lives. Independent Living Centers are community-based, consumer-controlled, non-institutional organizations. Centers provide an array of services to assist communities and persons with disabilities to live fully integrated lives within the community. Some of the services offered include peer counseling, information and referral, advocacy, independent living skills instruction, housing transportation, benefits advisement, architectural and communication barrier consultation, and training in attendant care management.

Albany

Capitol District Center for Independence (CDCI)

West Mall Office Telephone: (518) 459-6422

855 Central Avenue- Suite 110 TTY: (518) 459-6422

Albany, NY 12206 Fax: (518) 459-7847

County Served: Albany

Auburn

Options for Independence (OFI) Telephone: (315) 255-3447

75 Genesee Street TTY: (315) 255-3447

Auburn, NY 13021 Fax: (315) 255-0836

County Served: Cayuga

Batavia

Genesee Region Independent Living Center (GRILC) ... Telephone: (585) 343-4524

61 Swan Street TTY: (585) 343-4524

Batavia, NY 14020 Fax: (585) 343-6656

County Served: Genesee

Binghamton

Southern Tier Independence Center (STIC) Telephone: (607) 724-2111

24 Prospect Avenue TTY: (607) 724-2111

Binghamton, NY 13901 Fax: (607) 722-3600

County Served: Broome

Bronx

Bronx Independent Living Services, Inc. (BILS) Telephone: (718) 515-2800

3525 Decatur Avenue TTY: (718) 515-2803

Bronx, NY 10467 Fax: (718) 515-2844

County Served: Bronx

Brooklyn

Brooklyn Center for Independence

of the Disabled (BCID) Telephone: (718) 998-3000

2044 Ocean Avenue - Suite B-3 TTY: (718) 998-7406

Brooklyn, NY 11230 Fax: (718) 998-3743

County Served: Kings

Buffalo

Western New York Independent

Living Project, Inc. (WNYILP) Telephone: (716) 836-0822

3108 Main Street TTY: (716) 836-0822

Buffalo, NY 14214 Fax: (716) 835-3967

County Served: Erie

Buffalo/NAILS

Native American Independent Living Services (NAILS)

c/o Western New York Independent Living Project, Inc. . Telephone: (716) 836-0822

3108 Main Street TTY: (716) 836-0822

Buffalo, NY 14214 Fax: (716) 835-3967

Counties Served: Erie, Cattaraugus

Corning

AIM Independent Living Center (AILC) Telephone: (607) 962-8225

271 East First Street TTY: (607) 962-8225

Corning, NY 14830 Fax: (607) 937-5125

Counties Served: Chemung, Steuben

Cortland

Access to Independence of Cortland County, Inc. (ATI)

26 North Main Street V/TTY: (607) 753-7363

Cortland, NY 13045 Fax: (607) 756-4884

County Served: Cortland

Delaware

Catskill Center for Independence (CCFI) Telephone: (607) 432-8000

PO Box 1247 - Route 23 Southside TTY: (607) 432-8000

Oneonta, NY 13820 Fax: (607) 432-6907

County Served: Delaware

Glens Falls

Glens Falls Independent Living Center (GFILC) Telephone: (518) 792-3537

71 Glenwood Avenue TTY: (518) 792-0505

Queensbury, NY 12804 Fax: (518) 792-0979

County Served: Warren

Glens Falls/Saratoga Springs

GFILC Saratoga Springs Satellite

Saratoga County Options for Independent Living

7 Wells Street #207 Telephone: (518) 584-8202

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 TTY: (518) 584-4752

County Served: Saratoga

Harlem

Harlem Independent Living Center (HILC) Telephone: (212) 369-2371

289 St. Nicholas Avenue, lower level TTY: (212) 369-6475

New York, NY 10027 Fax: (212) 369-9283

RELAY#: 1-800-421-1220

County Served: New York

Ithaca

Finger Lakes Independence Center (FLIC) Telephone: (607) 272-2433

215 Fifth Street TTY: (607) 272-2433

Ithaca, NY 14850 Fax: (607) 272-0902

County Served: Tompkins

Jamestown

Southwestern Independent Living Center, Inc. (SILC) .. Telephone: (716) 661-3010

843 North Main Street TTY: (716) 661-3012

Jamestown, NY 14701 Fax: (716) 661-3011

County Served: Chautauqua

Kingston

Resource Center for Accessible Living (RCAL) Telephone: (845) 331-0541

592 Ulster Avenue TTY: (845) 331-8680

Kingston, NY 12401 Fax: (845) 331-2076

County Served: Ulster

Long Island

Long Island Center for Independent

Living, Inc. (LICIL) Telephone: (516) 796-0144

3601 Hempstead Turnpike - Suite 312 TTY: (516) 796-0135

Levittown, NY 11756 Fax: (516) 796-0529

County Served: Nassau

Manhattan

Center for Independence of the Disabled

in New York (CIDNY) Telephone: (212) 674-2300

841 Broadway - Suite 205 TTY: (212) 674-2300

New York, NY 10003 Fax: (516) 254-5953

County Served: New York

Massena

Massena Independent Living Center (MILC) Telephone: (315) 764-9442
156 Center Street TTY: (315) 764-9442
Massena, NY 13662 Fax: (315) 764-9464
County Served: St. Lawrence

Middletown

Action Toward Independence (ATI) Telephone: (845) 343-4284
130 Dolson Avenue TTY: (845) 343-4284
Middletown, NY 10940 Fax: (845) 342-5269
Counties Served: Orange, Sullivan

Newburgh

Independent Living, Inc. (ILI) Telephone: (845) 565-1162
5 Washington Terrace TTY: (845) 565-1162
Newburgh, NY 12550 Fax: (845) 565-0567
County Served: Orange

Niagara Falls

Niagara Frontier Center for Independent
Living, Inc. (NFCIL) Telephone: (716) 284-2452
1522 Main Street TTY: (716) 284-2452
Niagara Falls, NY 14305-2522 Fax: (716) 284-0829
County Served: Niagara

Olean

Directions in Independent Living (DIL) Telephone: (716) 373-4602
512 West State Street TTY: (716) 373-4602
Olean, NY 14760 Fax: (716) 373-1382
County Served: Cattaraugus

Plattsburgh

North Country Center for Independence (NCCI) Telephone: (518) 563-9058
102 Sharon Avenue TTY: (518) 563-9058
Plattsburgh, NY 12901 Fax: (518) 563-0292
County Served: Clinton

Plattsburgh/Ray Brook

NCCI Ray Brook Satellite
TriLakes Center for Independence Telephone: (518) 891-5295 V & TTY
PO Box 280 Fax: (518) 891-5293
Ray Brook, NY 12977 Toll Free (USA): 1-866-891-5295
County Served: Franklin

Poughkeepsie

Taconic Resources for Independence (TRI) Telephone: (845) 452-3913
82 Washington Street - Suite 214 TTY: (845) 485-8110
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 Fax: (845) 485-3196
County Served: Dutchess

Queens

Queens Independent Living Center (QILC) Telephone: (718) 658-2526
140-40 Queens Boulevard TTY: (718) 658-4720
Jamaica, NY 11435 Fax: (718) 658-5295
County Served: Queens

Rochester/RCIL

Rochester Center for Independent Living (RCIL) Telephone: (585) 442-6470
1641 East Avenue TTY: (585) 442-6470
Rochester, NY 14610 Fax: (585) 271-8558
County Served: Monroe

Rochester/CDR

Center for Disability Rights, Inc. (CDR)
412 State Street Telephone: (585) 546-7510 V & TDD
Rochester, NY 14608 Fax: (585) 546-5643
County Served: Monroe

Rockland

Rockland Independent Living Center (RILC) Telephone: (845) 426-0707
230 North Main Street TTY: (845) 426-1180
Spring Valley, NY 10977 Fax: (845) 426-0989
County Served: Rockland

Staten Island

Staten Island Center for Independent Living (SICIL) ... Telephone... (718) 720-9016
470 Castleton Avenue TTY: (718) 720-9870
Staten Island, NY 10301 Fax: (718) 720-9664
County Served: Richmond

Suffolk

Self Initiated Living Options, Inc. (SILO) Telephone: (631) 654-8007
745 Waverly Avenue TTY: (631) 654-8076
Holtsville, NY 11742 Fax: (631) 654-8077
County Served: Suffolk

Suffolk/Central Islip

SILO Central Islip Satellite
745 Waverly Avenue Telephone: (631) 348-0207
Holtsville, NY 11742 TTY: (631) 348-7655
County Served: Suffolk

Syracuse

ARISE Telephone: (315) 472-3171
635 James Street TTY: (315) 479-6363
Syracuse, NY 13203 Fax: (315) 472-9252
County Served: Onondaga

Syracuse/Oswego

ARISE/Oswego Satellite Telephone: (315) 342-4088
253 East 10th Street Fax: (315) 342-4107
Oswego, NY 13126
County Served: Served: Oswego

Troy

Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley (ILCHV)
Troy Atrium Telephone: (518) 274-0701
Broadway & 4th Street TTY: (518) 274-0701
Troy, NY 12180 Fax: (518) 274-7944
County Served: Rensselaer

Troy/Hudson

ILCHV Hudson Satellite Telephone: (518) 828-4886
Fairview Plaza Fax: (518) 828-2592
160 Fairview Avenue
Hudson, NY 12534
County Served: Columbia

Utica

Resource Center for Independent Living (RCIL) Telephone: (315) 797-4642
PO Box 210 TTY: (315) 797-5837
409 Columbia Street Fax: (315) 797-4747
Utica, NY 13502
County Served: Oneida

Utica/Amsterdam**RCIL Amsterdam Satellite**

Resource Center for Independent Living Telephone: (518) 842-3561
2540 Riverfront Center TTY: (518) 842-3593
Amsterdam, NY 12010 Fax: (518) 842-0905
County Served: Montgomery

Utica/Herkimer**RCIL Herkimer Satellite**

Resource Center for Independent Living Telephone: (315) 866-7245
401 East German Street TTY: (315) 866-7246
Herkimer, NY 13350 Fax: (315) 866-7280
County Served: Herkimer

Watertown

Northern Regional Center for

Independent Living (NRCIL) Telephone: (315) 785-8703

165 Mechanic Street TTY: (315) 785-8703

Watertown, NY 13601-2711 Fax: (315) 785-8612

Counties Served: Jefferson. Lewis

White Plains

Westchester Independent Living Center (WILC) Telephone: (914) 682-3926

200 Hamilton Avenue - 2nd Floor TTY: (914) 682-0926

White Plains, NY 10601 Fax: (914) 682-8518

County Served: Westchester

White Plains/MOP

WILC Minority Outreach Project (MOP) Telephone: (914) 682-3926

200 Hamilton Avenue - 2nd Floor Fax: (914) 682-8518

White Plains, NY 10601

County Served: Westchester

White Plains/Carmel

WILC Carmel Satellite

Putnam Independent Living Services Telephone: (845) 228-7457

1961 Route 6 Fax: (845) 228-7460

Carmel, New York 10512

County Served: Putnam

Yonkers

Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc. (WDOM) Telephone: (914) 968-4717

984 North Broadway TTY: (914) 968-4717

Yonkers, NY 10701 Fax: (914) 968-6137

County Served: Westchester

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady BOCES

TRE Center

Maywood School

1979 Central Avenue Telephone: (518) 456-9290

Albany, NY 12205 Toll Free: 800) 248-9873

The Technology Resources for Education (TRE) Center is a resource for the New York State SETRC network, educators, and parents of students with disabilities who want to learn more about assistive technology. It is supported by a grant from the New York State Education Department.

TRAID Project

NYS Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities

401 State Street

Schenectady, NY 12305 Telephone: (800) 522-4369

Through a federal grant from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), the Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities provides statewide coordination of assistive technology activities for people with disabilities; fosters development of state and federal policies and programs to enhance availability of assistive technology; and provides information, training, technical assistance and advocacy on how to obtain and use assistive technology services and devices. The TR Aid project provides partial funding to 13 regional TR Aid centers, which have equipment loan lending libraries for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The project also operates and maintains the TR Aid-IN Equipment Exchange program, which is a service for individuals who are looking to sell, donate or obtain used assistive devices for people with disabilities.

BRAILLE, TAPE AND LARGE PRINT SERVICES

American Printing House for the Blind

P.O. Box 6085

1839 Frankfort Avenue

Louisville, KY 40206

www.aph.org Telephone: (502) 895-2405

Publishes Braille books, music, and magazines; large type textbooks; talking books and magazines; microcomputer software. Manufactures special educational aids for blind and visually impaired persons. Maintains an educational research and development program concerned with educational procedures and methods and the development of educational aids.

Braille Bug

Braillebug@afb.net

Created by the American Foundation for the Blind to promote Braille awareness as well as give sighted children the opportunity to learn how Braille works.

Braille International

3142 S.E. Jay Street

Stuart, FL 34997 Telephone: (800) 336-3142

Publishes a series of children's stories with raised dot pictures that use animals and mythical characters to teach ethical values.

National Braille Press

88 St. Stephen Street

Boston, MA 02115 Telephone: (617) 266-6160

Offers a variety of books for young children and adults. The Children's Braille Book Club produces a Braille-print book each month for readers from preschool to 4th grade.

Provides Braille printing services for organizations, including the Library of Congress.
Sponsors a children's Braille Book-of-the-Month Club.

Braille Transcribers of Central New York

154 Homewood Drive
Clinton, NY 13323 Telephone: (315) 853-2679

National Braille Association

3 Townline Circle
Rochester, NY 14623 Telephone: (585) 427-8260

New York State School for the Blind

2A Richmond Avenue
Batavia, NY 14020 Telephone: (585) 343-5384
(See New York State Resources)

Southern Tier Braille Transcribers

P.O. Box 392
Big Flats, NY 14814 Telephone: (607) 936-3883

Xavier Society for the Blind

154 East 23rd Street
New York, NY 10010 Telephone: (212) 473-7800

LEISURE READING BOOKS

American Foundation for the Blind

Northeast Regional Center
11 Penn Plaza, Suite 300 Telephone: (212) 502-7600
New York, NY 10001 Toll Free: (800) 232-5463

New York State Talking Book and Braille Library

Cultural Education Center
Albany, NY 12230 Telephone: (518) 474-5935
www.nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl/ Toll Free: (800) 342-3688

The New York State Talking Book and Braille Library provides recorded and Braille books to adults and children who are unable to read standard printed materials because of a physical disability. People qualify for this free, public library service if they have a permanent or temporary visual, physical or learning disability.

Andrew Heiskell Braille & Talking Book Library

40 West 20th Street
New York, NY 10011 Telephone: (212) 206-5400
<http://talkingbooks.nypl.org/> or (212) 206-5425

New York State School for the Blind

2A Richmond Avenue

Batavia, NY 14020 Telephone: (585) 343-5384

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

20 Roszel Road Telephone: (609) 452-0606

Princeton, NJ 08540 Toll Free: (800) 221-4792

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

What Do These Terms Mean?

20/200: This person sees at 20 feet what the normally sighted person sees at 200 feet.

In better eye: The eye that has the greater visual acuity.

With best correction: With corrective lenses.

Visual field: Entire area that can be seen without moving the gaze.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability.

Assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, or system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

Association for Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind & Visually Impaired (AERBVI) is a membership organization that promotes all phases of education and work for the blind and visually impaired of all ages. Operates a job exchange and reference information center.

Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) is a public organization that was created by the New York State Legislature in 1948 to provide shared educational programs and services to school districts.

Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE): Unlike the system in place for school-age children (5-21), the parents select the evaluator for their child from a list of state-approved evaluators. The results of the evaluation are sent to the CPSE, and the CPSE recommends an appropriate program for the child. That recommendation is then sent to the board of education that selects the program.

Committee on Special Education (CSE): Each local board of education is required to appoint a committee on special education that must “identify, review and evaluate at least annually the status of each child with a handicapping condition and each child thought to be handicapped who resides within the school district.” [Education Law section 4402 (1)(b)(2)]

Early Childhood Direction Centers: The New York State Education Department coordinates and supports a network of Early Childhood Direction Center projects. The centers, located in local education agencies, private agencies and hospitals, provide information and assistance to parents and professionals about programs and services for young children, ages birth through five, who have physical, mental or emotional disabilities, and help families obtain services for their children. This includes assistance in securing evaluation and assessment services, preschool programs, transportation, medical services, funding, social services and parent education programs.

Early Intervention Services: In 1987, New York State elected to participate in a new federal program established under Part H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to assist states to develop a statewide, family-centered system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers up to three years of age with disabilities and their families. The New York State Department of Health is the lead agency responsible for this program. The address and phone numbers of county officials responsible for local programs are listed earlier in this directory.

Eligibility for Vocational Rehabilitation services through the Commission for the Blind & Visually Handicapped is determined by the following criteria: the individual has a disability (such as legal blindness) that results in a substantial impediment to employment, and he/she can benefit in terms of an employment outcome from vocational rehabilitation services. The individual requires vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for, enter, engage in, or retain gainful employment.

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) is a major standard set forth in the “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act” which states that students with disabilities are entitled to a free, appropriate public education which often includes supportive services and highly individualized education programs.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is civil rights legislation that guarantees students with disabilities a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and authorizes appropriations in funding to states and school districts to assist them in providing special education and related services.

Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a legal document that sets goals and objectives for students with disabilities, and describes the programs and services that will be offered to help the student reach those goals. The IEP is formulated by a team of professionals employed by the school district and the parents or guardians of the students.

Local Education Agency (LEA) is typically a school district, but may be a cooperative district or set of districts which are funded as a single unit.

Least Restricted Environment is a major principle of IDEA which states that students with handicaps should be integrated and receive their education in the most normal setting.

Legal Blindness is defined as an acuity of no more than 20/200 in the better eye with best correction, or restriction of the field of vision to 20 degrees or less.

Low Vision is bilateral reduced visual acuity or visual field. When this reduction in vision interferes with the person’s normal functioning in his or her environment, it is known as low vision. Low vision most often results from a visual disorder that cannot be corrected with ordinary prescription glasses or contact lenses.

Low Vision Specialist: Professional (ophthalmologist or optometrist) specializing in treating people who have low vision.

Ophthalmologists are medical doctors trained to diagnose and treat diseases of the eye, to perform surgery, and to provide total eye care, including prescription of medications and corrective lenses.

Optometrists, or doctors of optometry, are primary health care providers who do comprehensive examinations of the eye's internal and external structures. They also perform tests to evaluate a patient's vision, analyze the findings, make diagnoses, and provide evaluations leading to prescription of corrective lenses or other optical devices to best satisfy the particular vision problem.

Orientation and Mobility Instructors teach persons who are legally blind to travel independently in a safe and effective manner. Consumers are taught to travel wherever they need or want to go in both indoor and outdoor areas. This includes training in the use of the remaining senses to gather information about the environment for orientation purposes.

Rehabilitation Teachers are specially trained professionals who provide instruction, adaptive methods and resource information to legally blind individuals. The goal of rehabilitation teachers is to assist persons with visual impairment to achieve maximum independence in their home, school, or place of employment.

Regional Associates are employees of the State Education Department assigned to specific school districts and special education programs. Regional associates oversee preschool and school-age special education services, and serve as a resource to parents, school district personnel and private providers. They are responsible for conducting Quality Assurance Reviews of public and private special education programs to determine compliance with federal and state special education laws and regulations. Regional associates also provide technical assistance to parents, school district personnel and special education programs, and provide general information regarding services for students with disabilities to parents, school district personnel, private providers, and other stakeholders.

Related Services are services that may or may not be part of the classroom curriculum, but support classroom instruction, such as transportation, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language therapy.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a broad civil rights law that requires local school districts receiving federal funds of any kind to provide an appropriate education to all handicapped children within their jurisdiction.

Social Security Income (SSI): The SSI program is administered by the federal Social Security Administration (SSA). A child under 18 may be found disabled if he/she has a physical or mental impairment or combination of impairments that causes marked and severe functional limitations, and that can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least 12 months or can be expected to result in death. Individuals 18-22 years old are evaluated as adults. The Social Security Administration considers parental income and resources in determining financial eligibility. Some types of income and

resources are not applied. In New York State, all SSI recipients receive Medicaid. Call 1-800-772-1213 for more information.

Special Education Training and Resource Centers (SETRCs) provide coaching and technical assistance to school districts based on the district's needs. Many of the SETRCs have resource centers housing materials that can be borrowed on a variety of topics related to disabilities.

Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI) can include someone who is an itinerant teacher or resource room teacher who has state certification to teach students with vision impairment.

Transition Services refers to a coordinated set of activities for a student with a disability, designed within an outcome oriented process, that promotes movement from school to post-school activities, including, but not limited to: post-secondary education, vocational training, integrated competitive employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, and community participation.

New York State Office of Children & Family Services

Capital View Office Park
52 Washington Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Visit our website at:
www.ocfs.state.ny.us

For information about services for the blind,
call:

1-866-871-3000
1-866-871-6000 (TDD)

To report child abuse and
neglect, call:

1-800-342-3720

For information on the Abandoned Infant
Protection Act, call:

1-866-505-SAFE (7233)

For child care, foster care, and adoption
information, call:

1-800-345-KIDS (5437)

*“...promoting the well-being and safety of our
children, families, and communities. ...”*



State of New York

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the New York State
Office of Children and Family Services will make this material
available in large print or on audiotape upon request.

Pub. 504 (Rev. 01/07)
