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

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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 (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
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

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
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 Herrig, Transition Counselor ................ Telephone: (518) 473-1098
155 Washington Avenue Fax: (518) 473-9255
Albany, NY 12210-2329 TDD: (518) 473-1698

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.
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.
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.

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)

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)**
- 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: ecdcbronx@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: nassauecd@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@ucpny.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: ecddcnsuffolk@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
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.
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 DeSantis 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 Program**

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
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<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Early Intervention Agency</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chautauqua</td>
<td>Chautauqua County Health Department</td>
<td>(716) 753-4491</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemung</td>
<td>Chemung County Health Department</td>
<td>(607) 737-5568</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chenango</td>
<td>Chenango County Health Department</td>
<td>(607) 337-1729</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinton</td>
<td>Clinton County Health Department</td>
<td>(518) 565-4798</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>Columbia County Department of Health</td>
<td>(518) 828-4278 ext. 1303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cortland</td>
<td>Cortland County Health Department</td>
<td>(607) 756-3439</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>Delaware County Public Health</td>
<td>(607) 746-3166</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dutchess</td>
<td>Dutchess County Health Department</td>
<td>(845) 486-3403</td>
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<td>Erie</td>
<td>Erie County Health Department</td>
<td>(716) 858-6161</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>Essex County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 873-3500</td>
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<td>Franklin</td>
<td>Franklin County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 481-1709</td>
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<td>Fulton</td>
<td>Fulton County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 736-5720</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genesee</td>
<td>Genesee County Health Department</td>
<td>(716) 344-8506 ext. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>Greene County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 719-3600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>Hamilton County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 648-6141</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herkimer</td>
<td>Herkimer County Public Health</td>
<td>(315) 867-1176</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>Jefferson County Community Services</td>
<td>(315) 795-3283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewis</td>
<td>Lewis County Public Health</td>
<td>(315) 376-5401</td>
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<td>Livingston</td>
<td>Livingston County Health Department</td>
<td>(585) 243-7290</td>
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<td>Madison</td>
<td>Madison County Public Health</td>
<td>(315) 363-1014</td>
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<td>Monroe</td>
<td>Monroe County Health Department</td>
<td>(585) 530-4274</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Montgomery County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 853-3531</td>
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<td>Nassau</td>
<td>Nassau County Department of Health</td>
<td>(516) 571-3749</td>
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<td>NYC</td>
<td>NYC Department of Health &amp; Mental Hygiene</td>
<td>(212) 219-5213</td>
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<td>Niagara</td>
<td>Niagara County Health Department</td>
<td>(716) 278-1991</td>
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<td>Oneida</td>
<td>Oneida County Health Department</td>
<td>(315) 798-5249</td>
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<td>Onondaga</td>
<td>Onondaga County Health Department</td>
<td>(315) 345-3230</td>
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<td>Ontario</td>
<td>Ontario County Community Health Services</td>
<td>(585) 396-4439</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Orange County Health Department</td>
<td>(845) 291-2333</td>
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<td>Orleans</td>
<td>Orleans County Health Department</td>
<td>(585) 589-2777</td>
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<td>Oswego</td>
<td>Oswego County Health Department</td>
<td>(315) 349-3510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Otsego</td>
<td>Otsego County Health Department</td>
<td>(607) 547-6474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Putnam</td>
<td>Putnam County Health Department</td>
<td>(845) 278-6014 ext. 2170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rensselaer</td>
<td>Rensselaer County Health Department</td>
<td>(518) 270-2665 ext. 2655</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockland</td>
<td>Rockland County Health Department</td>
<td>(845) 364-2626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saratoga</td>
<td>Saratoga County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 584-7460 ext 390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schenectady</td>
<td>Schenectady County Public Health</td>
<td>(518) 386-2815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoharie</td>
<td>Schoharie County Health Department</td>
<td>(518) 295-8705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuyler</td>
<td>Schuyler County Home Health Agency</td>
<td>(607) 535-8140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>Seneca County Health Department</td>
<td>(315) 539-1920</td>
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<td>St. Lawrence</td>
<td>St. Lawrence County Public Health</td>
<td>(315) 386-2325</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steuben</td>
<td>Steuben County Public Health</td>
<td>(607) 664-2146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>Suffolk County Health Services</td>
<td>(631) 853-3100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

**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
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) 737-8065

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

Erie 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
Mr. 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) 227-8411

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 Pulntney 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warren County DSS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1340 State Route 9</td>
<td>383 Broadway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake George, NY 12845-9803</td>
<td>Fort Edward, NY 12828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: (518) 761-6300</td>
<td>Telephone: (518) 746-2300</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wayne County DSS</th>
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<tr>
<td>77 Water Street</td>
<td>112 East Post Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyons, NY 14489-0010</td>
<td>White Plains, NY 10601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: (315) 946-4881</td>
<td>Telephone: (914) 995-5000</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wyoming County DSS</th>
<th>Yates County DSS</th>
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<tr>
<td>466 North Main Street</td>
<td>417 Liberty St. Suite 2122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warsaw, NY 14569-1080</td>
<td>Penn Yan, NY 14527-1118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone: (585) 786-8900</td>
<td>Telephone: (315) 536-5183</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

**New York State 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  
Sr. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center  
www.tc.columbia.edu/centers/nystap  
Telephone: (212) 678-4020

The New York State Technical Assistance Project 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  

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

Parent Advocacy Training
401 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

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)
Schenectady, NY 12304

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.

National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. - NAPVI
NYC NAPVI
Jeannette Christie, President
PO Box 872, Throgs Neck Station
Bronx, NY 10465
LadyJay066@aol.com

NYC NAPVI
Jeannette Christie, President
PO Box 872, Throgs 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
18 Spencer Drive
Bethpage, NY 11714
Telephone: (516) 735-0253

Leslie Englander
845 Park Drive
Wantaugh, NY 11793
Telephone: (516) 796-3582

garciaonconvent@earthlink.net

NATIONAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

Council of Families With Visual Impairment (CFVI)
c/o American Council of the Blind
1155 15th Street NW, Suite 1004
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone: (202) 467-5081
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.
174 Court Street
Binghamton, NY 13901 ............................................... Telephone: (607) 724-2428

Catholic Charities Diocese of Rockville Centre
147 Schleigel 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: 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
2540 Riverfront Center .................................................. Telephone: (518) 842-3561
Amsterdam, NY 12010 TTY: (518) 842-3593
County Served: Montgomery Fax: (518) 842-0905

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

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**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.
The 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 TRAID project provides partial funding to 13 regional TRAID centers, which have equipment loan lending libraries for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The project also operates and maintains the TRAID-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

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**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
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 a results-oriented process that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student with a disability to facilitate the student’s movement from school to post-school activities including, but not limited to, post-secondary education, vocational education, integrated competitive employment (including employment with support services), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or 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)