



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

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**Commission for the Blind  
& Visually Handicapped**

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

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

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## 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](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us).

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## **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  
TDD: (800) 866-871-6000  
[www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/CBVH](http://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

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**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.

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## 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](http://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](http://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.



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## **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](http://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 Bureau**

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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:ecdc@stic-cil.org)

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## **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

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**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](mailto: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](http://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.

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## **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 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:

<b>County</b> .....	<b>Early Intervention Agency</b> .....	<b>Telephone</b>
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

<b>County</b>	<b>Early Intervention Agency</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
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	(607) 746-3166
Dutchess	Dutchess County Health Department	(845) 486-3403
Erie	Erie County Health Department	(716) 858-6161
Essex	Essex County Public Health	(518) 873-3500
Franklin	Franklin County Public Health	(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	(518) 719-3600
Hamilton	Hamilton County Public Health	(518) 648-6141
Herkimer	Herkimer County Public Health	(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	(518) 584-7460 ext 390
Schenectady	Schenectady County Public Health	(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

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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](http://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](http://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.

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## 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

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**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



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## **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

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**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

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**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

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**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](http://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](http://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](http://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

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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](http://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

[www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/nyssb/home.html](http://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](http://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](http://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.

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## 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

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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

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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.



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## 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](http://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](http://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.

### **National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired, Inc. - NAPVI NYC NAPVI**

Jeannette Christie, President

PO Box 872, Throggs Neck Station

Bronx, NY 10465

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

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**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.

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**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 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

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**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

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## 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

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## 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

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## **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

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## 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



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## **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

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## **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**

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

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## **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.

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## **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.

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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/](http://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

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**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

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## 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.

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**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.



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**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

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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.



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# **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](http://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)

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