

Wisconsin Resources for Families of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Regional Centers for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Wisconsin has five Regional Centers dedicated to supporting families with children and youth with special health care needs and the providers who serve them. Free and confidential services include information, referral and problem solving, parent support, help understanding insurance coverage and applications, transition planning and connections to community resources.

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cyshcn/regionalcenters.htm

- Northern Regional Center: 866-640-4106
- Northeast Regional Center: 877-568-5205
- Southern Regional Center: 800-532-3321
- Southeast Regional Center: 800-234-5437
- Western Regional Center: 800-400-3678

Alianza Latina Aplicando Soluciones (ALAS)

ALAS promotes the independence of people with disabilities by providing information and support to them, their families and their service providers in areas related to education and health. In English or Spanish, parents and families are supported with information and connections to community resources.

www.alianzalatina.org/ALAS.htm, 414-643-0022

Birth to Three Program

B to 3 is part of the Bureau of Children's Services at the Department of Health Services and is a federally-mandated program providing early intervention services to support families of children with delays or disabilities under the age of three. www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/birthto3/index.htm , 800-642-7837

Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW)

DRW is a private non-profit organization designated by the Governor to ensure the rights of all state citizens with disabilities through individual advocacy and systems change. DRW helps people across Wisconsin gain access to services and opportunities through its advocacy and legal expertise. www.disabilityrightswi.org
Madison 608-267-0368, Milwaukee 414-773-4646, Rice Lake 715-736-1232

Family Voices of Wisconsin - FVofWI is a statewide network of families who have children with special health care needs and disabilities and those who work on their behalf. FVW provides information, training and leadership opportunities so that families can be informed and effective partners in their child's care and in influencing the systems that support them. www.familyvoicesofwisconsin.com
608-220-9598

Mental Health America of Wisconsin - is a community-based network dedicated to helping all Americans live mentally healthier lives through advocacy, education, and the delivery of urgently needed programs and services. www.mhawisconsin.org,
866- 948-6483

NAMI Wisconsin - works to improve the quality of life of people affected by mental illness and promotes recovery by providing education, advocacy, and support. www.namiwisconsin.org, 800-236-2988

Parent 2 Parent of Wisconsin - provides support to parents of children with special needs through a one-to-one connection with another parent who has similar experience and who knows firsthand about the feelings and realities that come with having a child with special needs. www.p2pwi.org, 888-266-0028

Supporting Families Together Association - is Wisconsin's statewide member association for organizations and individuals committed to making every early childhood a great one. SFTA has ten Child Care Resources and Referral Agencies that assists families in finding child care that meets the needs of each family. supportingfamiestogether.org, 888-713-KIDS

Waisman Center, University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities- supports the full inclusion and self-determination of people with developmental disabilities and their families. The Waisman Center promotes and strengthens the participation of families with disabilities in partnerships with professionals and providers, community members and elected officials. www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/family.php, 800-532-3321

Well Badger Resource Center - is a statewide information and referral hotline to assist Wisconsin families and providers working with children and youth with special needs. The line is operational 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. www.wellbadger.org
800-642-7837

WI FACETS (Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support)- has a mission to provide and broaden opportunities that enhance the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities and their families, with an emphasis on educational support for underserved families in the community. www.wifacets.org, 877-374-0511

Wisconsin Board for People with Development Disabilities- advocates on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities to foster welcoming and inclusive communities, and improve the disability service system. The Board's mission is to help people with developmental disabilities become independent, productive and included in all facets of community life. www.wi-bpdd.org, 888-332-1677

Wisconsin Family Ties- is a statewide not-for-profit run by families for families that include children with emotional, behavioral and mental disorders. Parent Peer Specialists provide support, education, advocacy, and information and referral for families. Parent representatives are also involved on the local, state and national level to build awareness of family needs. www.wifamilyties.org, 800-422-7145

Wisconsin Foster and Adoptive Parent Association, Inc.- is a peer and volunteer-based organization that supports and advocates for foster and adoptive parents by offering training, support programs and helps to create and support different legislative measures with our fellow representatives in Madison. www.wfapa.org,

Wisconsin Head Start - is a Federal program for preschool children from low-income families. Non-profit organizations, schools, community action commissions or other local grantees operate the Head Start program. Head Start supports Parent Affiliates to help guide the work of Wisconsin Head Start. whsaonline.org, 608-442-6879

Wisconsin Medical Home Initiative - promotes the concepts of medical home for primary care clinicians, families, and service providers throughout Wisconsin. Training, technical assistance and resources are provided to support medical home implementation with a focus in the areas of early identification of and timely referrals for children with developmental concerns, and behavioral health integration into pediatric primary care. wismhi.org

Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative (WSPEI)- experienced CESA-based family liaisons work with families, educators and school districts to promote positive partnerships and provide technical assistance and information to parents in their CESA area wspei.org , 715-682-2363 x112

Wisconsin Sound Beginnings Program- is part of the Maternal and Child Health Program at the Department of Health Services, promotes and supports universal newborn hearing screening and follow-up services statewide. Sound Beginnings also helps connect families to Parent Guides through the Wisconsin Guide-By-Your-Side Program. www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cyshcn/hearing-screening.htm and www.handsandvoices.org/services/guide.htm