

# ADVOCACY

Advocacy services help persons with developmental disabilities and their families obtain the rights and privileges to which they are entitled.

AGENCY	ADDRESS	CONTACT	POPULATION SERVED	DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM
Advocates for Children	151 West 30 <sup>th</sup> St. 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10001	(212) 947-9779 or Helpline (866) 427- 6033 –Mon. - Thurs. 10AM-4PM <a href="http://www.advocatesforchildren.org">www.advocatesforchildren.org</a> <a href="http://www.arisecoalition.org">www.arisecoalition.org</a>	Children, Birth - 26	A non-profit organization that provides a full range of educational support, legal and advocacy services for parents, youth, and professionals.
AHRC New York City	83 Maiden Lane 7 <sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10038 ahrcnyc.org	Educational Advocacy Advocacy Services Hotline: (212)780-2799 or Christopher Treiber (212) 780-2534	Persons with DD under age 21	Help obtaining appropriate educational services. New cases should be referred through Advocacy Services Hotline. Advocacy training available for families.
AHRC New York City	83 Maiden Lane 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10038 ahrcnyc.org	Legal Services Clinic Randi Rosenstein, Esq. (212) 780-2586 <a href="mailto:Randi.rosenstein@ahrcnyc.org">Randi.rosenstein@ahrcnyc.org</a> ; for info – Saletaire Adorno (212) 780-2776 saletaire.adorno@ahrcnyc.org	Persons with DD + their families	Help with guardianship, estate planning + other legal issues. No Fee.
Archdiocese of NY Catholic Charities	1011 First Ave. 12 <sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10022	(212) 419-3700 Immigration Hotline: (800) 566-7636	Individuals and families in need of assistance pertaining to immigration	Legal clinic for all immigrants every Thursday from 8:30AM-11AM. Clinic every Tuesday from 1:30PM-5:30PM for citizenship applicants only.
Center for Benefits and Services	105 East 22 <sup>nd</sup> St. NY, NY 10010	(212) 614-5552	Individuals + families who have questions or need benefits counseling	Benefits counseling + information and referral regarding SSI, SSDI, Food Stamps, Medicaid, cash assistance, Medicare and more. Assistance by phone or by appointment only.

## ADVOCACY (cont'd)

AGENCY	ADDRESS	CONTACT	POPULATION SERVED	DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM
Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York (CIDNY)	841 Broadway Suite 301 NY, NY 10003	(212) 674-2300	Persons with all disabilities + their families	Assistance + advocacy in obtaining financial entitlements, including hearings. Building is wheelchair accessible. Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Toysonese, Tagalog, Hindi, Hausa, Yoruba, Bengali and ASL spoken.
Client Assistance Program (CAP)	841 Broadway Suite 301 NY, NY 10003	Coordinator (212) 674-2300	Persons with disabilities + their families	Assistance in obtaining services from VESID, CBVH, and other rehabilitation agencies. Building is wheelchair accessible. Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Toysonese, Tagalog, Hindi, Hausa, Yoruba, Bengali and ASL spoken.
DIHR, Inc. (Dignity, Independence, Human Rights)	160 W. 96 <sup>th</sup> St. 5M NY, NY 10025	Christine Carrigan (212) 665-7072	School age children and adults with DD and their families	Advocacy + assistance with any disability related issue, including school, work, transportation and related services. Information + referrals for services, benefits and entitlement. Problem resolution with service providers. Coalition with parent advocacy groups. No fees.
Disabled and Alone/ Life Services for the Handicapped, Inc.	1440 Broadway 23 <sup>rd</sup> Floor NY, NY 10018-2301	Lee Alan Ackerman Exec. Dir. (212) 532-6740 or (800) 995-0066	Persons with disabilities + their families	Help families with a member with special needs with future care planning. Help families create "life plans for their loved ones and, when the family cannot provide care, Life Services Personal Advocates will provide advocacy and oversight according to the family's instructions and the person's special needs.
Early Childhood Direction Center (ECDC) at New York Presbyterian Hospital	435 E. 70th St. Suite 2A NY, NY 10021	Marilyn Rubinstein (212) 746-6175 mrubinst@nyp.org	Children ages 0-5 with diagnosed or suspected DD	Advocacy information on educational, medical + financial benefits issues. Spanish spoken.
Epilepsy Foundation of Metropolitan New York	257 Park Ave. So. NY, NY 10010 Third Floor	Jeremy Antar (212) 677-8550	Persons with epilepsy + their families	Advocacy with health providers, service organizations, governmental agencies to obtain needed services. Day + evening hours. Fee: sliding scale from \$0 up. Transportation for Medicaid clients only. Spanish spoken.

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AGENCY	ADDRESS	CONTACT	POPULATION SERVED	DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM
The Family Center, Inc.	315 W. 36 <sup>th</sup> St. NY, NY 10018 Fourth Floor	José A. Colón-Berdecía Outreach Coordinator (212) 766-4522 x131	Families dealing with AIDS and cancer; caregivers/grandparents raising children	Individual and family counseling; legal services; permanency planning; youth groups; medical case management.
The Legal Aid Society	199 Water St. Third Floor NY, NY 10038	(212) 577-3300	New York City residents	Legal help to make sure individuals and families receive all the assistance they are entitled to regarding social security, SSI, SSI Disability, Welfare, public assistance, domestic violence, and special education. Interpreters available.
Legal Aid Society Health Law Helpline		(212) 577-3575	New York City residents	Advice + advocacy if you are having problems with Medicaid, Medicare, Child or Family Health Plus or are uninsured. Only accepts calls on Tuesdays. Interpreters available.
Manhattan Mothers & Others	160 E. 65 <sup>th</sup> St. Apt. 25D NY, NY 10065-6654	Susan Williams (212) 570-6860 manhattanmothers@aol.com	Persons with DD + their families	Advocacy, information + referral to services, parent-to-parent connections, help with educational transition + residential issues. Advocacy + meeting info by phone and e-mail for a fee: \$20, if affordable. Call btwn 9am and 5pm except for emergencies.
Medicare Rights Center	520 Eighth Ave. North Wing 3rd Floor NY, NY 10018	(212) 869-3850 or (800) 333-4114 Mon. – Fri. from 9AM – 5PM <a href="http://www.medicarerights.org">www.medicarerights.org</a>	Seniors + people with disabilities eligible for Medicare	Advocacy assistance on Medicare + related issues Spanish spoken.
National Jewish Council for Disabilities	11 Broadway 13 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10004	Deborah Berman (212) 613-8172	Families with special needs	Advocacy, information and referral, special case management. Educational advocacy, including assessment and evaluation of classroom settings.

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AGENCY	ADDRESS	CONTACT	POPULATION SERVED	DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM
New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI)	151 W. 30 <sup>th</sup> St., 11 <sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10001	Michelle Kraus or Jessica Rosero (212) 244-4664	Persons with disabilities.	Advice and legal assistance re: discrimination on the basis of disability in areas such as special education, opportunity & access (e.g. housing, employment), and deinstitutionalization. Intake hours: Mon-Fri 9:30-1:30; Wed 1:30-5:30.
New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG)	Disability Advocacy Project 7 Hanover Sq., 18 <sup>th</sup> Fl. NY, NY 10004	For Social Security Benefits: Kevin Kenneally (212) 613-5081 All other questions: (212) 613-5000	Low income individuals residing in New York City	Free legal services organization with Disability Advocacy Project regarding social security issues. Also, housing, public benefits, family law, immigration advocacy. Several languages spoken.
New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (CQC)	Protection + Advocacy Services 401 State St. Schenectady, NY 12305	(800) 624-4143 or (518) 388-2888 <a href="http://www.cqc.ny.gov">www.cqc.ny.gov</a>	Persons with DD, mental health, or physical needs + their families	Systems, case + legal advocacy on rights issues including special education, housing + job discrimination, guardianship information, access to programs, financial benefits, improper discharges, care + treatment in all licensed facilities. Any oversight issues associated with care or services received. No fee. Spanish spoken.
Resources for Children with Special Needs	116 E. 16 <sup>th</sup> St. 5 <sup>th</sup> floor NY, NY 10003	Intake (212) 677-4650 Fax (212)254-4070 <a href="mailto:Info@resourcesnyc.org">Info@resourcesnyc.org</a> Website: <a href="http://www.resourcesnyc.org">www.resourcesnyc.org</a>	-Individuals birth to 26 with DD + their families -Children with DD ages 5-21 for Intensive Educational Advocacy Program	Information + referral, educational advocacy, advocacy to access systems and services, training + support. Free Intensive Educational Advocacy available in Manhattan. Annual Special Camp Fair last Saturday in January. Spanish spoken.
Safe Horizon		(718) 943-8632	Individuals + families in need of assistance pertaining to immigration	Counseling to immigrants on obtaining legal status Do not accept people with detained status. Spanish spoken.

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AGENCY	ADDRESS	CONTACT	POPULATION SERVED	DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM
Self-Advocacy Association of New York State	75 Morton St. Room 133 NY, NY 10014	Evan Yankey (212) 627-2104	Persons with DD	People with disabilities are assisted in joining or starting self-advocacy groups. Groups supported by advisors. Will arrange for translators for non-English speakers if advance notice is given. Opportunities for self-advocates to volunteer. Offer trainings and presentations on sensitivity, sexuality and relationships for people with disabilities, self determination and circles of support to new staff, service coordinators, and self-advocates.
Sinergia, Inc.	Metropolitan Parent Center 2082 Lexington Ave. NY, NY 10035	Godfrey Rivera (212) 643-2840 x307	Persons with DD + their families	Legal Services and Educational Advocacy. Parent Training & Information Center. Workshops, parent groups, and individual educational advocacy. Wheelchair accessible. Spanish spoken
Sinergia, Inc.	Educational Advocacy 2082 Lexington Ave. NY, NY 10035	Ana Baquero (212) 643-2840 x328	Children with DD, ages 5-21	Intensive Educational Advocacy. Spanish spoken. Free.