

Advocacy

Advocacy services help individuals 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 of New York	151 West 30th St. 5th Floor New York, NY 10001	T: 212-947-9779 or Helpline 866-427-6033 Mon.-Thurs. 10AM-4PM W: www.advocatesforchildren.org and www.arisecoalition.org	NYC students, birth– 26	A non-profit organization that provides a full range of educational support, legal and advocacy services for parents, youth, and professionals. Offers free workshops in the community for parents and professionals. Language line link for non-English speakers.
AHRC New York City	83 Maiden Lane, 5th Floor New York, NY 10038	Referral & Information Center T: 212-780-4491 E: referrals@ahrcnyc.org W: www.ahrcnyc.org	Individuals with I/DD & their families	Help with guardianship, estate planning & other legal issues. No Fee.
AHRC New York City	83 Maiden Lane, 7th Floor New York, NY 10038	Advocacy Services Hotline T: 212-780-2799 T: Clinic Intake 212-780-2652 W: www.ahrcnyc.org	Individuals with DD under age 21	Help for families attempting to get appropriate educational services through the DOE. New cases should contact Advocacy Services Hotline. Advocacy training available for groups of families and professionals on a variety of DD education related topics.
Catholic Charities Community Services, Archdiocese of NY	80 Maiden Lane 13th Floor New York, NY 10038	T: 212-419-3700 T: Immigration Hotline 800-566-7636 W: www.catholiccharitiesny.org	Individuals and families in need of assistance pertaining to immigration	Legal clinic for all immigrants every Thursday. Need to arrive by 8:30am
Disability Rights New York	725 Broadway Suite 450 Albany, NY 12207 and 25 Chapel Street Suite 1005 Brooklyn, NY 11201	T: Timothy Clune, Executive Director 518-432-7861 T: 800-993-8982 TTY: 518-512-3448 E: mail@DRNY.org W: www.drny.org	Individuals with disabilities	NY State's Protection & Advocacy System. Provides services to individuals whose problems are directly related to their disabilities. Does not handle criminal or family matters. No fee. Spanish spoken.
Disabled and Alone Life Services for the Handicapped	1440 Broadway, 23 rd Floor New York, NY 10018	T: 212-532-6740 T: 800-995-0066 W: www.disabledandalone.org	Individuals with disabilities & their families	Supports families with future care planning, including special needs trusts and Life Services Personal Advocates.

Advocacy (cont'd)

Agency	Address	Contact	Population Served	Description of Program
Early Childhood Direction Center (ECDC) at New York Presbyterian Hospital	409 E. 60th St. Suite 3-312 New York, NY 10022	Marilyn Rubinstein T: 212-746-6175 E: ecdc@nyp.org W: www.nyp.org/ecdc	Children, ages birth to 5, with diagnosed or suspected DD	Advocacy information on educational, medical & financial benefits issues. Spanish spoken.
Epilepsy Foundation of Metropolitan New York	65 Broadway Suite 505 New York, NY 10006	Katie Lorenzo T: 212-677-8550 x 21 W: www.efmny.org	Individuals with epilepsy & their families	Advocacy with health providers, service organizations, government agencies to obtain needed services. Day & evening hours. Fee: sliding scale from \$0 up. Spanish spoken.
Family Center	493 Nostrand Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11216	T: 718-230-1379 T: For Legal: John Riedl x167 T: Non-legal: Laura Maxfield x126 W: www.thefamilycenter.org	Individuals with DD and their families, including grandparents who are primary caregivers	Individual and family counseling; legal services; permanency planning; youth groups; medical case management
INCLUDEnyc	116 E. 16th St. 5th Floor New York, NY 10003	Help Line M-Th 9 am-3 pm T: Eng. 212-677-4660 T: Span. 212-677-4668 F: 212-254-4070 E: Info@INCLUDEnyc.org W: www.INCLUDEnyc.org	Individuals, birth to age 26, with any disability and their families in New York City.	Free information and referral, advocacy, and support. Help accessing and navigating services in all systems: education, social services, health, recreation, and developmental disabilities. Training and technical assistance for parents and professionals on laws, regulations, rights, benefits, services, and education. Free workshops, Help Line, and websites in English and Spanish.
Legal Aid Society	199 Water St. 3rd Floor New York, NY 10038	T: 212-577-3300 W: www.legal-aid.org	New York City residents	Assistance with SSI/SSD, housing, education advocacy, domestic violence, foreclosure, disaster relief, immigration and family law. Several languages spoken.
Manhattan Mothers & Others	160 E. 65th St. Apt. 25D New York, NY 10065	Susan Williams T: 212-570-6860 W: manhattanmothers@aol.com	Individuals 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 between 9am and 5pm, except for emergencies.
Medicare Rights Center	266 West 37th St. 3rd Floor New York, NY 10018	T: 212-869-3850 or 800-333-4114 W: www.medicarerights.org	Seniors & individuals with DD eligible for Medicare	Advocacy assistance on Medicare & related issues. Spanish spoken.

Advocacy (cont'd)

Agency	Address	Contact	Population Served	Description of Program
New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI)	151 W. 30th St. 11th Floor New York, NY 10001	Michelle Kraus or Paola Martinez Boone T: 212-244-4664 W: www.nylpi.org	Individuals with DD	Advice and legal representation on discrimination on the basis of disability in areas such as special education, opportunity & access (e.g. housing, medical access, and community integration). Intake hours: Mondays-Fridays 10:00am-3:00pm
New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG)	7 Hanover Square 18th Fl. New York, NY 10004	T: For Social Security Benefits, Michelle Spadafore 212-613-5024 T: All other questions 212-613-5000 W: www.nylag.org	Individuals with DD who reside in New York City and have a low income	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 Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs	161 Delaware Ave. Delmar, NY 12054	T: 800-624-4143 for info about the Justice Center. M-F 8:30am-4:30pm T: 855-373-2122 24/7 Vulnerable Persons Central Register Hotline TTY: 855-373-2123 W: www.justicecenter.ny.gov	Individuals with DD	Hotline to report an incident of abuse or neglect in a certified facility overseen by NYS OPWDD. Language interpreter services provided for non-English speakers.
NYC FAIR	c/o Rufer 201 East 17th St, 2G, NY, NY 10003	Elly Rufer E: info@nycfair.org W: www.nycfair.org	Families, self-advocates & friends of individuals with I/DD	Advocacy information & advocacy opportunities. A resource to make a difference for your family.
Safe Horizon	50 Court St. 8th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11201	Annabella Nattes T: 718-943-8632 W: www.safehorizon.org	Individuals & families in need of assistance pertaining to immigration	Counseling to immigrants on obtaining legal status. Do not accept people with detained status. Must call to make an appointment. Spanish spoken.
Self-Advocacy Association of New York State	25 Beaver St. 4th Floor, Room 417 New York, NY 10004	Evan Yankey T: 646-896-1938 C: 917-597-9382 W: www.sanys.org	Individuals with DD	Individuals with DD 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. 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.

Advocacy (cont'd)

Agency	Address	Contact	Population Served	Description of Program
Sinergia, Inc.	Metropolitan Parent Center 2082 Lexington Ave. 4 th Floor New York, NY 10035	Godfrey Rivera T: 212-643-2840 x307 E: grivera@sinergiany.org W: www.sinergiany.org	Individuals with all disabilities & their families	Educational Advocacy and Legal Services. Parent Training & Information Center. Workshops, parent support groups, and individual educational advocacy. Wheelchair accessible. Spanish spoken.
Sinergia, Inc.	2082 Lexington Ave. 4 th Floor New York, NY 10035	Cruzmary Javier T: 212-643-2840 x319 E: cjavier@sinergiany.org W: www.sinergiany.org	Individuals with DD, ages 3-22	Intensive Educational Advocacy. Spanish spoken. Free.
Yachad -The National Jewish Council for Disabilities	11 Broadway 13th Floor New York, NY 10004	Batya Jacob T: 212-613-8127 W: www.njcd.org	Individuals with DD and their families	Advocacy, information and referral, special case management. Educational advocacy, including assessment and evaluation of classroom settings.