

Systems Navigation and Advocacy For People with Disabilities, Caregivers and Professionals in the City of Philadelphia


Brought to you by:
Philadelphia Department of Public Health and
The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities



City of
Philadelphia



Project Statement

- **Project purpose: Improve health equity and access to health information for people with disabilities in Philadelphia.**
 - Philadelphia is committed to advocating for systemic change, providing resources, and educating about disability rights to improve the lives of people with disabilities.
 - The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) provided funding to the Pennsylvania Public Health Department for a sustainable advocacy and systems change project to improve systems of health care for children and youth with special needs.
 - Equitable access to information, services and support allows people to advocate and navigate the system for themselves and to help others.
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Systems Navigation and Advocacy

Health Equity means that all people have access to resources and services to help them achieve their full health potential, including eliminating disadvantage based on societal factors

Information Equity means that all people can access the same information which allows them to make more informed decisions


Systems Navigation reduces barriers to accessing care by connecting individuals and their families with community services and improving coordination of care

Advocacy is representing your interests and the interests of others by understanding your rights and learning when to speak up





Systems Navigation and Advocacy For People with Disabilities, Caregivers and Professionals

- This video is a virtual accessible resource guide for people with disabilities, caregivers and professionals in the City of Philadelphia around systems navigation and advocacy.
 - We have partnered with various organizations who provide services for people with disabilities, including advocacy and assistance with systems navigation.
 - These organizations represent a sample of all the services and resources available in Philadelphia but are not an exhaustive list.
 - For additional disability resources and support please contact the [Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities](#).
 - This video is part of a broader project with the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) to promote family involvement in advocacy and policy-related decision making.
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Participating Organizations:

[Philadelphia Department of Public Health - Division of Maternal, Child, & Family Health](#)

[Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities](#)

[Department of Behavioral Health and Disability Services](#)

[Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care](#)

[Pennsylvania Health Law Project](#)

[Liberty Resources Inc](#)

[Temple University Institute on Disabilities](#)

[The Arc of Philadelphia](#)

[Disability Pride PA](#)

[Vision For Equality](#)

[Pennsylvania School for the Deaf](#)

[HUNE](#)

It's Not Your Fault (website coming soon!)



Philadelphia Department of Public Health

Division of Maternal, Child, and Family Health



- Supports a range of health and support services to improve the health of women, children, and parenting families in Philadelphia.
- We provide outreach and education to pregnant women and new families, case management and home visiting, breastfeeding education and support, and support for families of **children with special health care needs**.
- Philadelphia Special Needs Consortium
- Opportunity to join Parent Advisory Council and professional steering committee
- Connect families with providers and improve access to resources for CYSHCN

Connect with Us:

<https://www.phila.gov/departments/department-of-public-health/about-us/contact-us/>

Email: Mary.glazer@phila.gov Phone: 267-357-3919



The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)



- The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) houses the Mayor's Commission on People with Disabilities (MCPD) and the Office of ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliance. Both offices work to make Philadelphia a better place for people with disabilities.
- The Office of ADA Compliance oversees the City's [ADA Transition plan](#), [ADA policies](#), [ADA grievances and accommodations requests](#) for City programs and facilities.
- The Commission is comprised of local stakeholders that advocate for policies and systemic changes, resources, trainings and events to support residents with disabilities.
- Be sure to [sign up for our communications list](#) to be informed of meetings, events and trainings.

Connect with Us:

[Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities | Homepage | City of Philadelphia](#)

ADA Requests: ADARRequests@phila.gov Phone: 215-686-2798



Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS)



- Our mission is to educate, strengthen, and serve individuals and communities so that all Philadelphians can thrive.
- IDS Services include planning, administering, monitoring and coordinating Early Intervention services and services for people with an intellectual disAbilities.
- Public Awareness Unit and Community Engagement
- Events and programming [Calendar](#)

Connect with Us: www.dbhids.org

Email: ids.publicawareness@phila.gov Phone: 215-685-5900

Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care



- Our mission is to **enhance access** to community *physical and mental health services* for people with an Intellectual Disability (ID) and/or Autism.
- We collaborate with multiple stakeholders to enhance health care services and resources.
- The **Outreach Department** hosts and attends various community events.
- The **Family Facilitator** helps medically complex individuals living in pediatric nursing facilities return to their families.

Connect with Us: www.PCHC.org

Email: <https://www.pchc.org/contact.html> Phone: 215-546-0300 ext. 3685






Pennsylvania Health Law Project



- Our mission is to protect and advance health care rights of Pennsylvanians through free legal services, community education, and systemic advocacy.
- Through our Helpline, we challenge decisions to deny, reduce, or stop Medicaid benefits and services. We advocate for large-scale policy changes that help all Pennsylvanians.
- We offer virtual and in-person trainings to help consumers, health care providers, and other advocates better understand the healthcare system and the laws that govern it. You can also find self-help materials in our [Resource Library](#).
- You can stay up to date with our Monthly eNewsletter ([sign up](#)).

Connect with us: www.phlp.org and Social Media
Helpline: 1-800-274-3258 (Mon. & Wed. 8 AM – 8 PM)
Email: Staff@phlp.org





Liberty Resources, Inc




- Liberty Resources, Inc. (LRI) is the Center for Independent Living for the Philadelphia area, which advocates for and works with Persons with Disabilities to ensure their civil rights and equal access to all aspects of life in our community.
- LRI was designed *by* the disability *for* the disability community.
- Our skills training classes and peer support groups are designed to help the disability community remain independent in the community and to provide support while navigating the many systems that touch our community.
- **Program Highlights:** Mentoring Transitioning Voices (MTV); Momma Chronicles Too, Deaf Services and more!

Connect with Us: www.libertyresources.org

Email: Info@libertyresources.org Phone: 215.634.2000 ext. 325





Institute on Disabilities at Temple University



Institute on Disabilities

- **Mission:** The Institute on Disabilities at Temple University learns from and works with people with disabilities and their families in diverse communities across Pennsylvania to create and share knowledge, change systems and society, and promote self-determined lives so that disability is recognized as a natural part of the human experience.
- The Institute provides training, research, technical assistance, device loans and demonstrations.
- The Institute has expanded its community engagement opportunities beyond our in-person activities through Social media, on-line presentations, and training.

Connect with us: www.disabilities.temple.edu

Main email: iod@temple.edu Main phone: 215-204-1356 (voice)



The Arc of Philadelphia

- Advocacy organization for people with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities (IDD) promoting full inclusion, active citizenship, and self-determination.
- Promote access to services around education, transportation, employment and more.
- Host training series and discussion panels for disability awareness to promote full inclusion.
- Programs focus on Access to Services, Legislation & Policies, Special Education, and Healthcare Advocacy.



Connect with Us: www.ArcPhiladelphia.org Lisa Johnson, Advocacy Coordinator
Email: LJohnson@ArcPhiladelphia.org Phone: 215-229-4550 Ext. 130

Disability Pride PA

- Our mission is to make Pennsylvania Disability Proud!
- Advocate with the community on local, state, and national issues.
- Create inclusive programs in virtual, hybrid, and in-person formats.
- Programs include health & wellness, socials, faith, important topics, parades, art events, and more.



Connect with Us:

www.DisabilityPridePA.org

Email: info@DisabilityPridePA.org Phone: 267-621-1480

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

Vision for Equality (VFE)



- Over 27 years of assisting people with disabilities and their families to seek what's needed to live happy meaningful lives, with equal access to quality supports and services.
- Some of our programs include: Advocacy, Latino Services, enVision New Possibilities, Philadelphia Parent Support Groups (PPSG), Trauma Informed Care and Systems Navigation for Philadelphia Families, PA Family Network, and PA Families Need Nurses Now (PAFNNN).
- PAFNNN works to improve systems that support individuals with medically complex disabilities at home and in their communities through education, advocacy, and lifting the family voice for those that rely on in-home nursing.

Connect with Us: www.visionforequality.org

Email: Visionforequality@visionforequality.org Phone: 215-923-3349

Family Resource Center at Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

- Provide families with support, national, state and local resources, and information about language learning opportunities for their deaf or hard of hearing child.
- Host events to engage families with deaf or hard of hearing children, including presentations/trainings, workshops, support groups, and family social events.
- Coming soon: Community Family ASL classes, support groups and collaborative community events!

Connect with us: www.psd.org

Email: info@psd.org Phone: 215-951-4700 (V) | 267-331-4748 (VP)



**Pennsylvania
School for the Deaf**



Hispanos Unidos para Niños Excepcionales (HUNE)



- **Mission:** HUNE works to improve educational outcomes for children and youth with all disabilities from 0-26 years of age.
- **Advocacy:** HUNE provides individual and technical assistance related to special education to youth with disabilities and families of children and youth with disabilities.
- **Let's learn together virtually:** HUNE provides workshops, intense training sessions and a parent support group (Andy's Café) on all aspects of special education and related topics.
- **HUNE Youth Program** provides an interactive and fun after school and summer program for youth 14-21 years of age which is focused on staying on track to graduation and Transition to adulthood. The program is hybrid.

Connect with Us: Website: www.huneinc.org

E-mail: contactus@huneinc.org Phone: 215-425-6203

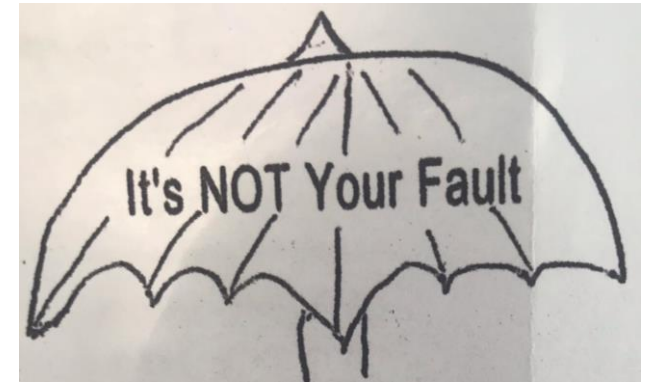




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It's Not Your Fault- Community Based Organization

- Mission Statement: To bring individuals from a bottomless pit of sorrow to an escalating state of enthusiasm.
- With support from our cross-systems partners, we aim to provide support to individuals and families across the lifespan around disability, domestic violence, sexual assault and life challenges.
- Fostering Self-Advocacy around disability, domestic violence, and life navigation.
- Systems navigation and resource sharing for all Philadelphians.



Connect with Us: Website Coming soon! Yvonne Hughes, Deputy Administrator
Main Email: Marvon22253@gmail.com Phone: 215-232-2501 Join us on [Facebook](#)



Thank you to our sponsoring and supporting partners that provided technical assistance, interpretation, and translation:





Thank you for joining us!

- We hope you have found this resource valuable in understanding what is available around disability advocacy and systems navigation in Philadelphia.
- This video is only one piece of the puzzle; there are many ways to connect, advocate and navigate systems.
- We encourage suggestions for improvement regarding systems navigation.
- For more information or additional resources please reach out to the project leading organizations: [PDPH-MCFH](#) and/or the [Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities](#)
Mary Glazer: Mary.Glazer@phila.gov
Amy Nieves: Amy.Nieves@phila.gov

“Information, Connection and Networking are pathways to a full life that is a right of all.”

