

# PARENT NETWORK OF WNY

**Mission: Supporting families and professionals to empower individuals with disabilities to reach their full potential.**

Parent Network of WNY is a not-for-profit agency that provides education and resources for families of individuals with special needs (birth through adulthood) and for professionals.

Parent Network of WNY provides 1-on-1 support services and education through resources, workshops and support groups to assist families of individuals with disabilities to understand their disability and navigate the support service system.

The majority of Parent Network of WNY's staff and board members are parents of children with disabilities, providing a unique perspective and personal experience to the families we reach.



Parent Network of WNY's website is the WNY hub for support, education and workshops on disabilities, special education and services. The information & resources section is designed to easily provide education and resources, including downloadable fact sheets, links and videos. The site also offers a simple one click registration to our workshops and events as a monthly event calendar and Hot Topic! newsletter.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Over a billion people live with some form of disability.

10,000+ People served annually

In WNY almost 12,000 individuals have developmental disabilities and need support.

Parent Network of WNY hosts over 150 workshops a year, which serve about 5,000 people.

In WNY almost 30,000 students receive Special Education services.

Over 13,000! That's how many contacts with people Parent Network had in the past year!

Parent Network of WNY is a community resource for families of individuals of all ages with disabilities and for various professionals who support these children/adults. Parent Network of WNY specializes in empowering families to successfully advocate for their children with special needs.

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## 1-On-1 Support

Parent Network of WNY provides 1-On-1 support from trained Support Specialists to help you navigate through any questions you may have.

Parent Network of WNY offers free interpretation services for non-english speakers through Language Line Services, providing interpreters for more than 140 languages. Call us today at (716) 332-4175.

## Office for People with Developmental Disabilities Family Support Service Programs

Parent Network's **Eligibility Navigator** can assist families in Erie and Niagara Counties with completing the necessary paperwork to get the OPWDD eligibility process started.

**Family & Caregiver Groups** that provide a welcoming environment for parents and other caregivers of young people with autism or developmental disabilities to meet, share experiences, ask questions, learn about available resources and receive support.

**Family Behavior Support and Advocacy** provides customized support for families of school age children and young adults with developmental disabilities with challenging behaviors in the home. Currently this program is only available in Erie and Niagara Counties.

## How to Donate

Parent Network of WNY is a not for profit, 501(c) 3 charitable organization. To donate, please call us at (716) 332-4170 or visit us online at [www.parentnetworkwny.org/donate](http://www.parentnetworkwny.org/donate)



## Workshops & Events

Parent Network of WNY offers FREE online and in-person workshops to help parents & professionals better understand their children's disabilities and increase their knowledge of special education and support systems. Workshop Topics include:

- Advocacy
- Behavior
- Bullying
- Developmental Disabilities
- Learning Disabilities
- Mental Health
- Special Education
- Transition
- And More!

## Online Family & Caregiver Group

All from the comfort of home or anywhere you have wifi access! This exciting program supports families and caregivers of children who live at home approved for services through the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). These online conversations provides families the opportunity to connect with others, receive focused information and support specific to their current needs.

For information contact 716-332-4175 or support @ [parentnetworkwny.org](http://parentnetworkwny.org).

## Parent Network Podcast

The **Parent Network Pod** is a podcast that provides parents and professionals with the information and advice they need to be successful in their everyday lives. The podcast is in the podcast app (available on iTunes and Google Play) and on our website. Listen now!