

Statewide Family Support Organizations

WSPEI (Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiatives)

WSPEI is all about partnerships. WSPEI helps families and school districts build positive working relationships that lead to shared decision making and children's learning. WSPEI Coordinators are parents of children with disabilities who work for CESAs (Cooperative Educational Service Agencies) through a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). They assist families with navigating special education and partnering with schools through technical assistance, trainings, and programs such as Parents in Partnership (PIP) and Youth in Partnerships (YiPPE) programs. WSPEI also works directly with schools through trainings, developing family engagement plans, and training district family engagement liaisons to improve family engagement efforts for families of students with IEPs. To find out the contact information for the WSPEI CESA Family Engagement Coordinator in your region you can go to: <http://wspei.org/contact/>.

WI FACETS (Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training, and Support)

WI FACETS is the federally funded Parent Training and Information Center for Wisconsin. Their mission is to provide and broaden opportunities that enhance the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities and their families, with emphasis on support for underserved families in the community. They provide information on special education and IEPs and referrals to agencies and resources, parent support groups, parent and youth leadership development, and trainings. (877) 374-0511 or <http://www.wifacets.org/>.

Disability Rights Wisconsin

Disability Rights Wisconsin is a private non-profit organization designated by the Governor to ensure the rights of all state citizens with disabilities through individual advocacy and system change, DRW is part of a national system of federally mandated independent disability agencies and has staff who can provide legal advocacy.

Visit <http://www.disabilityrightswi.org/> or call Madison (608) 267-0368, Milwaukee (414) 773-4646, Rice Lake (715) 736-1232. Toll free number: (800) 928-8778.

Wisconsin Family Ties

WI Family Ties is a statewide, not-for-profit organization run by families for families that include children and adolescents who have emotional, behavioral and mental health needs. Their mission is to provide greater understanding, acceptance, and support in the community for families having children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral and mental disorders. They provide information and referrals, family support, education, as well Parent Peer Specialists who can assist families to empower them to access services their children need to be successful.

<http://www.wifamilyties.org/> (800) 422-7145 (parents only) OR (608) 267-6888.

Additional Statewide Family Support Organizations

Alianza Latina Aplicando Soluciones

Alianza Latina Aplicando Soluciones is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the independence of families of children and youth with diverse abilities in Wisconsin by providing educational workshops, parent support groups, family events, community building activities, and service referrals. To contact Alianza Latina Aplicando Soluciones, view our website <https://www.alianzalatinawi.org/ALAS.htm> or email us at Alasinc@Alianzalatinawi.org.

ARC

The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes. It provides information and referral services, individual advocacy to address education, employment, health care and other concerns, self-advocacy initiatives, residential support, family support, employment programs, leisure and recreational programs.

Statewide & National Family Support and Advocacy Organizations

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The Arc is the largest national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We encompass all ages and more than 100 different diagnoses including autism, Down syndrome, Fragile X syndrome, and various other developmental disabilities. Visit: <https://arcwi.org/>, Call: 608.422.4250, or Email: info@arcwi.org.

Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin (ASW)

The Autism Society of Wisconsin provides a community for those who care about increasing the quality of life for those affected by autism in our 53 county service area. Founded in 1979, the Autism Society of Wisconsin has been passionately committed to improving the lives of those affected by autism for over 38 years. ASW builds relationships and partnerships with other community agencies with the goal of building autism friendly, inclusive communities across our service area. For more information about regional chapters and statewide information, conferences, information, visit <https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/> or call (888) 428-8476 / (920) 558-4602.

Autism Society of Southeast Wisconsin

Autism Society of Southeast Wisconsin's (ASSEW) mission is to improve the lives of all affected by autism and serve as the primary Autism/Asperger Syndrome PDD resource in Dodge, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha counties. ASSEW holds several networking, support, and professional development events throughout the year. For more information, visit <http://www.assew.org/>.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN Regional Centers)

Wisconsin's Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) has five regional centers to assist families with resources for their children. <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/children/RegionalCenters/index.htm>
Western (800) 400-3678, Southern (800) 532-3321, Northern (866) 640-4106, Northeast (877) 568-5205, Southeast (800) 234-5437.

Family Voices of Wisconsin

Family Voices of Wisconsin is a statewide network of families who have children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities and those who work on their behalf. We support families by providing information, training and leadership opportunities so that families can be informed and effective partners in their child's care and in the systems that support them.
<http://fvofwi.org/> (608) 220-9598 or (608) 239-1364.

Wisconsin First Step-The Parenting Place

Wisconsin First Step is a specialized information and referral hotline that assists families who have children, age birth to 21, with special needs and their providers find needed programs and services; such as early intervention screenings, financial resources, advocacy, research, respite care, family support, and transition services. Calls are answered 24/7; parent specialists, professionals who also have a child with special needs, answer the hotline between 8am and 4pm Monday through Friday.
<https://www.theparentingplace.net/about/partners-and-affiliates/wisconsin-first-step/>, (800) 642-7837.

Well Badger

The Maternal and Child Health Hotline is a statewide hotline providing resources for pregnant women, children and families in the area of health, nutrition, financial assistance and advocacy to ensure healthy pregnancies, births, and children. The Hotline provides information and referrals to programs such as: Badger Care, Prenatal Care Coordination, WIC, HealthCheck, Text4Baby, ACCESS and more. Services are free and available 24 hours a day by calling the toll free Maternal and Child Health Hotline
<https://wellbadger.org/>, kalianiz@wwhs.org.

Parent to Parent

Matches parents to other parents with similar needs.
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00160.pdf>
(888) 266-0028 (families) or (715) 361-2934. Email: get-connected@p2pwi.org

Transition Improvement Grant (TIG)

The Transition Improvement Grant (TIG) has a mission to provide professional development to educators, youth, families, and transition partners to ensure every child graduates, college and career ready. The TIG provides online transition resources, no cost professional development, and technical assistance to educators on the process of best practice transition as well as transition resources to parents and youth in the transition age of 14-21. Visit <https://www.witig.org/> or email Pam Jenson at pam.jenson@cesa2.org.

Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (WBPDD) was established to advocate on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities, 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. <http://www.wi-bpdd.org/> or (888) 332-1677

Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services (WCASS)

The Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services, Ltd. (WCASS) is a professional organization with members who administer and support special education programs throughout the state of Wisconsin. WCASS is a statewide organization devoted to improving services to children with special needs by promoting professional leadership, providing opportunity for study of issues pertaining to special services, and facilitating communication and collaboration on behalf of special needs students. <https://www.wcass.org/> or call (608) 245-2511.

National Family Support Organizations

Organizations/Associations:

- [National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth](#)
- [National Association of Federal Education Program Administrators](#)
- [National Center for Homeless Education at SERVE](#)
- [National Council of Teachers of Mathematics](#)
- [National Law Center on Homeless and Poverty](#)
- [Wisconsin Mathematics Council](#)
- [Wisconsin State Reading Association](#)
- [Wisconsin Title I Association](#)
- [Wisconsin Rtl Center](#)
- [Read Wisconsin](#)