

Transition Planning for Life after High School

Adult service providers encompass a wide range of non-profit and State agencies, programs and services. The process of applying for adult services should begin in high school if not sooner, to ensure a smooth transition to adulthood and the continuation of needed supports. Below are some of the main providers of services for individuals with disabilities.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR): Assists individuals with disabilities to achieve employment. Students apply when expected to exit school within two years. The individual should be motivated and ready to participate in training or other intensive efforts that will lead to work. **Contact ACCES-VR: 845.794.5317NYS**
The NYS Commission for the Blind provides vocational rehabilitation and other direct services to New York State residents who are legally blind. **845-567-1054**

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): Is a federal assistance program designed to provide income to aged, blind, or people with disabilities who have limited assets with which to support themselves. Eligibility of potential claimants is evaluated based on income and resources. Many young adults with disabilities qualify for SSI at age 18, if not before and can apply or re-apply 2-3 months before turning age 18. If eligible, the person will automatically be enrolled in the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) Program within a few months. **Social Security Work Incentives:** Lets a person use their own income or assets to help reach work goals *without losing SSI benefits*. These include: A Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE), and Ticket to Work visit <http://www.ssa.gov/pqm/ssi.htm> or **Contact: 845.794.1293**

NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH): Operates psychiatric centers across the State and also oversees programs including various inpatient/outpatient programs, emergency; community support; residential & family care programs. Visit <http://www.omh.state.ny.us> or **Contact: Department of Community Services 845. 292.8770 Children's Crisis Outreach 845.701.3777**

NY State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD): Coordinates and provides a wide range of services for people with disabilities such as Intellectual/Developmental Disability, Neurological Impairment, Seizure Disorder, Cerebral Palsy or Autism, which are needed to live a meaningful life. Contacting a local Developmental Disabilities Regional Office (DDRO) is a person's first step toward receiving the services he/she may want or need. Visit <http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/> or **Contact: Hudson Valley DDRO-Region3 845-947-6100**

County Department of Social Services (DSS): Provides or administers the full range of publicly funded social services and cash assistance programs such as temporary assistance, Medicaid, emergency housing etc. CDPAP (Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program) if individual has medical needs or needs a personal aid for activities of daily living, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Food Stamps), HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program). **Contact: 845.292.0100- Dial 8 then Ext. 2278**

Independent Living Centers: Are organizations providing an array of services that assist people with disabilities to live integrated and self-directed lives such as information & referral, special education/systems advocacy, service coordination, benefits advisement, independent living skills instruction, support groups, accessibility consultation, and disability awareness training. At age 18 decisions need to be made as to whether an individual with disabilities can manage all or part of his/her affairs. Parents need to be officially appointed through a legal process, to remain their child's guardian. Some ILCs can assist with this process. Visit <http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/lcn/ilc/about.htm> or **Contact: Independent Living Inc. /Monticello Office 845. 794.3322 or Action Toward Independence 845.794.3322**

Transition to Adult Health Care: It can be a struggle to find adult doctors who know how to care for childhood-onset conditions and disabilities. Adult Medicaid may limit the extent of services. Visit http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/ or **Contact Sullivan County Public Health Services: (845) 292-0100**

Postsecondary Education/Continued Learning: Learning experiences for all individuals should be life long. Transition planning considerations can include options for: adult & continuing education courses, training for hobbies or employment, trade/technical/business schools, two and four year college/university degrees, or military/armed forces. College bound students should contact the institution's Office of Disability Services if seeking academic accommodations. For new inclusive postsecondary education programs for students with intellectual and other developmental disabilities visit: <http://www.thinkcollege.net/>

Additional Sullivan County Community Resources for Transitioning Students

Postsecondary Education, Training and Employment:

Sullivan BOCES Adult /Continuing Education Programs 845.295.4907
Sullivan County Community College.....845.434.5750.....Disability Services Office...ext. 4328/or 4462
Crystal Run Village 845.695.2556
Sullivan County Center for Workforce Development.....845.807.0385.... Youth Program.....845.807.0606

Agencies providing assistance with eligibility applications and services through OPWDD:

New Hope Community.....845.434.8300 ext. 280
Sullivan ARC 845.796.1305 ext. 2805
Center for Discovery.....845.794.1400
Independent Support Services, Inc..... 845.794.5218 ext. 314

Agencies providing services through Office of Mental Health:

Single Point of Access (SPOA).....845.513.2058
Sullivan County Mental Health Association Inc 845.794.1029
Children's Mobile Mental Health.....845.701.3777
Four Winds Hospital.....1.914.763.8151

Special Education Advocacy, Information, Community Resources & Referrals:

Action Toward Independence Inc. 845. 794.4228
Family Empowerment Council, Inc..... 845.343.8100
CACHE Inc..... 845.292.5821
Independent Living Inc.845.794.3322
Hudson Valley Special Education Parent Center/WIHD..... 845.891.1305

Transportation:

Rolling V Bus Company 845.331.3725
Sullivan County Transportation Dept. Division of Public Works..... 845.807.0180
Sullivan County Medicaid Transportation.....Toll free- 1-866-573-2148 or Outreach Office: 845-292-0100, ext. 8-2732
ShortLine Bus System.....Monticello 845.794.5500Disability assistance800-631-8405 x 1341