

What is Disability Rights New York?

In June, 2013, Disability Advocates, Inc. was designated by Gov. Andrew Cuomo as the Protection & Advocacy (P&A) System for persons with disabilities in New York. We are now named Disability Rights New York (DRNY). As the P&A for New York, we advocate for the civil and legal rights for New Yorkers with disabilities.

New York residents with disabilities can contact DRNY for assistance with problems directly related to their disabilities. DRNY administers the following grant-based programs:

PADD – Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities;

PAIMI – Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness;

PAIR – Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights;

PAAT – Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology;

CAP – Client Assistance Program;

PAVA – Protection and Advocacy for Voter Access;

PATBI – Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injuries; and

PABSS – Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security

DRNY investigates complaints and provides direct assistance to callers with disability-related issues under the terms of the grants listed above and our annual goals and priorities.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Disability Rights New York
725 Broadway, Suite 450
Albany, NY 12207

25 Chapel Street, Suite 1005
Brooklyn, New York 12201

44 Exchange Blvd, Suite 110
Rochester, New York 14614

Tel: 518-432-7861

TTY: 518-512-3448

Toll Free: 800-993-8982

Fax: 518-427-6561

Email: mail@DRNY.org

Web: www.DRNY.org

DRNY receives funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) to implement the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. This information or content and conclusions are those of DRNY and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by AIDD, HHS or the U.S. Government.



Protection and Advocacy

for individuals with

Developmental Disabilities

If you are a person with an intellectual or developmental disability who is having difficulty:

- Obtaining services that enable you to make informed choices and decisions;
- Freely exercising your right to live in your home or community;
- Fully integrate or be included in your community, work or school.

What is the PADD Program?

The PADD is a federally funded advocacy program created by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights (DD) Act of 1975. The DD Act requires the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) systems to pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate remedies to protect and advocate for the right of individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities (ID/DD).

What does PADD do?

The PADD Program advocates for the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) to receive services and support that enable them to make informed choices and decisions; live in homes and communities in which they can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens; pursue meaningful and productive lives; have independent friendships and relationships with others; and to achieve full integration and inclusion in society, in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of each individual.

PADD Services

PADD staff provides a full range of advocacy and legal services and trainings at no cost to eligible individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities or representative groups.

Types of matters DRNY may address:

- Improper restraint, seclusion and/or the use of aversives.
- Abuse or neglect of individuals receiving supports and services, particularly individuals in residential settings.
- Access to supports and services in integrated community settings, particularly for individuals in institutions, facilities or nursing home settings.
- Retention of decision making rights and access to supported decision making assistance.
- Denials of eligibility for or supports from the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities.
- Access to employment and services to assist with the transitioning to competitive employment.

- Student at risk of being placed in a more restrictive educational setting or who is out of school without educational programs.
- Support to address bullying & harassment at school.
- Denials of education, unnecessary exclusion, discipline or restraint for youth in the Juvenile Justice System.
- Denials of reasonable accommodations, access to services and supports, including crisis intervention services and suicide prevention screenings in jails or prisons.
- Groups, associations, or individuals reporting ongoing and systemic concerns or interested in learning more about DRNY services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.