

2016 WESTERN NEW YORK
**SUPPORT
GROUP**

DIRECTORY



 (716) 332-4170

 info@parentnetworkwny.org

 www.parentnetworkwny.org

 @ParentNetwork

 @PNWNY

WNY SUPPORT GROUP DIRECTORY 2016

The Support Group Directory is a resource for individuals with disabilities and their families, as well as service providers. This directory contains a wide variety of groups offering a range of supports. It can point you in the right direction, but it can't answer all your questions. For the groups that interest you, please call or email the contact listed. It is not a directory of "self-help" groups. Check websites to learn how a specific group could support the needs of a family or individual. We encourage you to speak with the group's contact person to ensure that you are comfortable with the group's format and topics.

Every effort has been made to make sure that the information in this directory is current and accurate. Support Group information changes frequently, however, and users should always verify meeting dates and times.

If you would like to add, update or remove information for any group, please use the form in the back of the directory and mail to:

Parent Network of WNY
1000 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202

For the electronic version of this change form and the electronic version of this directory, please go to:

www.parentnetworkwny.org

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Notes

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Adoption/Foster Care

Erie County Foster & Adoptive Parents Advisory Board, Inc.

Membership is open to all Erie County foster/adoptive parents to discuss issues and concerns, and to improve communication. Child care provided with one week notice.

County: Erie

Address: 478 Main Street, Room 501, Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone: (716) 858-1630

Email: ecfapab@gmail.com

Website: www.ecfapab.weebly.com

Meeting Time(s): Please contact for date and time

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Adoption Resource Center Support Group - Buffalo

Meet others who share the daily challenges & rewards of parenting adopted children & teens. Pre & post-adoptive parents welcome.

County: Erie

Contact: Karen Kelley

Address: Denny's on Delaware Avenue & Linden, Buffalo

Phone: (716) 848-6419

Email: kkelley@hillside.com

Website: www.hillside.com

Meeting Time(s): 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Adoption Resource Center Support Group - Holland

Meet others who share the daily challenges & rewards of parenting adopted children & teens. Pre & post-adoptive parents welcome.

County: Erie

Contact: Karen Kelley

Address: Holland Willows, 177 Savage Road, Holland, NY

Phone: (716) 848-6419

Email: kkelley@hillside.com

Website: www.hillside.com

Meeting Time(s): 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Tuesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Adoption Support and Preservation (ASAP) Group

County: Niagara

Contact: Karen Kelley

Address: 66 Stevens Street, Lockport, NY 14064

Phone: (716) 439-5436

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Behavior

Child & Family Support

Family Advocate

County: Erie

Contact: Jack Woodworth

Address: Mental Health Association of Erie County, Inc., 999 Delaware Avenue, NY 14209

Phone: (716) 886-1242 ext. 317

Email: jwoodworth@eriemha.org

Website: www.eriemha.org

Meeting Time(s): Call or email for updates

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Family Support Group

For families who have children with emotional or behavioral problems.

County: Erie

Contact: Carolyn Vujnovic

Address: WNYCPC Community Services Buffalo Outpatient Center, 575 Alberta Drive, Suite 2, Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: (716) 677-7079

Website: www.eriemha.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Friday of each month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

GLOW Family Support Program

GLOW offers support, respite, advocacy, information & referral, newsletters, a library, etc. For families of children birth to age 21 with an emotional and/or behavioral challenge.

County: Genesee; Livingston; Wyoming; Orleans

Address: Hillside Children's Center, 29 Liberty Street Suite 208, Batavia, NY 14020; 24 Main Street, Mt. Morris, NY 14150; 96 West Buffalo Street, Warsaw, NY 14569

Phone: (585) 256-7500

Email: info@hillside.com

Website: www.hillside.com

Meeting Time(s): 24 hours a day

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Niagara Frontier Family Network - Grandparent Support Group

Family Support Services are provided free to parents/guardians of a child with a social, behavioral or mental health issue and who are a resident of Niagara County.

County: Niagara

Contact: Laura Lloyd

Address: Orleans Niagara BOCES Conference Center, 4124 Saunders Settlement Road, Room 12, Sanborn, NY 14132

Phone: (716) 439-1179 ext 493

Email: llloyd@ndyfs.org

Website: www.facebook.com/Niagara-Frontier-Family-Network

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Day of the Month: First Thursday of every Month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Niagara Frontier Family Network - Parent Support Coffees

Coffee hours are held two times a month to anyone with a child with a behavioral, emotional, or mental health challenge in Niagara County.

County: Niagara

Contact: Laura Lloyd

Phone: (716) 439-1179, ext. 493

Email: llloyd@ndyfs.org

Meeting Time(s): Call for times and locations

Day of the Month: Two Fridays a month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Niagara Frontier Family Network - Parent Support Group

Family Support Services are provided free to parents/guardians of a child with a social, behavioral or mental health issue and who are residents of Niagara County.

County: Niagara

Contact: Laura Lloyd

Address: Orleans Niagara BOCES Conference Center, 4124 Saunders Settlement Road, Sanborn, NY 14132

Phone: (716) 439-1179 ext 493

Email: llloyd@ndyfs.org

Website: www.facebook.comNiagara-Frontier-Family-Network

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: Third Wednesday of every Month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Niagara Frontier Family Network Grandparent Support Group

Supports are provided free to grandparents/parents of a child with a social, emotional or mental health challenge and are residents of Niagara County.

County: Niagara

Contact: Laura Lloyd

Address: Orleans Niagara BOCES Conference Center, 4124 Saunders Settlement Rd. Room 12, Sanborn, NY 14132

Phone: (716) 439-1179, ext. 493

Email: llloyd@ndyfs.org

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Day of the Month: First Thursday of every Month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Town of Tonawanda Concerned Parents Group

A group for parents of children with behavioral or family issues. You don't have to be a resident of the town to participate.

County: Erie

Address: Town of Tonawanda Police Department, 1835 Sheridan Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14223

Phone: (716) 879-6650

Meeting Time(s): 7 pm

Day of the Month: Thursday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Bereavement

Caring Arms, Perinatal Bereavement

For Parents, grandparents & other family members.

County: Erie

Address: St. Gregory Ministerial Building, 1540 Maple Road,
Williamsville, NY 14221

Phone: (716) 568-3777 or (716) 568-6653

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd Tuesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Community Bereavement Group

Support for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one.

County: Erie

Address: Life Transitions Center, 150 Bennett Road, Cheektowaga, NY
14227

Phone: (716) 836-6460

Website: www.lifetransitionscenter.com

Group 1

Meeting Time(s): 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Day of the Month: 4th Tuesday of the month

Group 2

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month

Group 3

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd Thursday of the month

Are these ongoing support groups? Yes

Footprints on the Heart

For stillbirth and early infant death

County: Erie

Contact: Amy Kramer

Address: Piver Center Conference Room, Sister's Hospital Seton Building

Phone: (716) 862-1678

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm (Call to register)

Day of the Month: First Tuesday of every month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Perinatal Bereavement Network

Assist the community in meeting the needs of people facing perinatal death; the death of a baby due to miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, or early infant death.

County: Erie

Contact: Christine Scott

Address: 30 South Cayuga Road Lower, Williamsville, NY 14221

Phone: (716) 626-6363

Email: christine@wnypbn.org

Website: www.wnypbn.org

Meeting Time(s): Telephone support from a trained parent & link to area support groups.

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Pregnancy After Loss Support Group

For stillbirth and early infant death

County: Erie

Contact: Amy Kramer

Address: Piver Center Conference Room, Sister's Hospital Seton Building

Phone: (716) 862-1678

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm (Call to register)

Day of the Month: Third Tuesday of the month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Storm Clouds and Rainbows

Artistic based family support group for children, teens and their caregivers after the death of a loved one.

County: Erie

Address: Life Transitions Center, 150 Bennett Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Phone: (716) 836-6460

Website: www.lifetransitionscenter.com

Meeting Time(s): Please call for dates and times of the next available session (8 week sessions)

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Caregiver

Akron Special Needs Support Group

This is a group of local parents, all with children who have special needs that come together to support each other re: the challenges they face on a daily basis.

County: Erie

Contact: Nicole LaMonte-DeGolier

Address: C. Dee Wright Center, 11 Church St., Akron, NY 14001

Phone: (716) 442-5056

Website: www.facebook.com/AkronParentsofChildrenwithSpecialNeeds

Meeting Time(s): Call Nicole for times

Day of the Month: 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Bornhava Men's Forum

For fathers & male caregivers of children with developmental delays.

County: Erie, Niagara

Contact: Ellen Crawford

Address: 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: (716) 839-1655

Email: info@bornhava.org

Website: www.bornhava.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:30 pm one evening per month during the school year (Oct-May)

Day of the Month: Please call for current dates

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Bornhava WOW MOMs

For women who care for children with special needs

County: Erie

Contact: Ann Lindmann

Address: 25 Chateau Terrace, Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: (716) 839-1655

Email: info@bornhava.org

Website: www.bornhava.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm - please call for current meeting dates

Day of the Month: One Thursday per month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

City Roundtable Meeting

Open invitation to parents, caregivers, foster parents, grandparents and other family members raising children with special social, emotional or behavioral needs. Join us in developing a network of family support partners.

County: Erie

Contact: Families Child Advocacy Network

Address: 135 Delaware Avenue, Suite 307, Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone: (716) 884-2599

Website: www.fcanwny.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd Monday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

DDAWNY (Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY) Family Committee

Group meets to educate and inform people about the unmet needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and ensure quality homes and services are available.

County: Erie

Address: 7 Community Drive, Cheektowaga NY 14225

Phone: (716) 877-7007

Email: ddawny@ddawny.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Tuesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Door of Hope Support Group

We are a Christian based study and support group for moms and female caregivers of children with special needs (both young and adult). Come and connect with other moms on the same journey.

County: Allegany

Contact: Robin and Mark Yuly

Address: Wellsping Ministries, 5993 Co Rd. 16, Belfast, NY 14711

Phone: (585) 437-2609

Email: mark.yuly@houghton.edu

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month (Dates are sometimes subject to change, contact Robin or Mark to confirm).

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Faith Based Special Needs Parent Support Group

Gather with other moms and dads who understand what you're experiencing, regardless of your child's diagnosis. We'll support and encourage one another as we pray together and share resources. We'll also look at what the Bible has to say about our kids and our role in their lives.

County: Erie

Contact: Phil & Shannon Welty

Address: Kenmore Alliance Church, 175 Bonnett Ave., Room 303, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Phone: (716) 417-3042 (text or call)

Email: smwelty@gmail.com

Meeting Time(s): 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd Thursday every month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Family Matters

An education & support group for parents of a child living with a chronic or serious medical condition.

County: Erie

Contact: Joanne Lana

Address: Gilda's Club, Kaleida Health, 1028 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14204

Phone: (716) 878-7272

Email: jlana@kaleidahealth.org

Website: www.stonesbuddies.org

Meeting Time(s): Must be a current Stone's Buddies member and their family. Family Matters application can be found on the website.

Day of the Month: Call Joanne for dates and times

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Family Partners for Change

A group of parents with adult children in group homes & agency representatives come together to discuss issues.

County: Erie

Contact: Angela Dubel

Address: WNY DDRO, 1200 East & West Road, West Seneca, NY 14224

Phone: (716) 880-3834

Email: adubel@people-inc.org

Meeting Time(s): Please contact for date and time

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Family Peer Support Group - Allegany

This support group is for anyone who wants to learn new parenting skills from other parents.

County: Allegany

Contact: Angie and Jamie

Phone: (716) 790-9277 or (716) 790-9283

Location 1

Address: 1. Creekside Chapel, 2523 Five Mile Road, Allegany, NY

Meeting Time(s): 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Day of the Month: The last Wednesday of every month

Location 2

Address: Olean Rehabilitation Center, Allegany Building, 3799 South 9 Mile, Allegany, NY

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 - 7:30 pm (Friday)

Day of the Month: The last Friday of every month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Kinship Family Support Group

Supports the growing number of families in Erie County that have stepped forward to care for their kin. The team works with each family to improve well-being and prepare for challenges that may arise when caring for family members.

County: Erie

Contact: Heather

Address: Gateway Longview Conference Room, 10 Symphony Circle, Buffalo, NY 14201

Phone: (716) 783-3100, ext. 3181

Meeting Time(s): 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday of each month

New Directions Youth and Family Services

Family Support Services are provided free to parents/guardians of a child with a social, behavioral or mental health issue and who are residents of Niagara County.

County: Niagara

Contact: Laura Lloyd

Address: Orleans Niagara BOCES Conference Center, 4124 Saunders Settlement Road, Sanborn, NY 14132

Phone: (716) 439-1179 ext 493

Website: www.ndyfs.org or llloyd@ndyfs.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd & 4th Friday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Old Fathers/New Dads Support Group - For Fathers..... By Fathers

Open to fathers, grandfathers, and other male caregivers raising a child with special behavioral challenges.

County: Erie

Contact: Families Child Advocacy Network

Address: 135 Delaware Avenue, Suite 210, Buffalo NY 14202

Phone: (716) 884-2599 Ext 303

Website: www.fcanwny.org/meetings.html

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? YES

Parent to Parent

Connecting parents 1-to-1 with other parents of children of like disabilities.

County: Erie

Contact: Tanja Peters

Address: WNY DDRO, 1200 East & West Road, West Seneca, NY 14224, Building 16, Room 1-173

Phone: (716) 517-3448

Email: tpeters@ptopnys.org

Website: www.parenttoparentnys.org

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Southtowns Roundtable Meeting

Open to all parents and caregivers raising children with special social, emotional or behavioral needs to attend our Southtowns Roundtable Meeting. This group will give you a chance to share your experiences and learn from others.

County: Erie

Contact: Families Child Advocacy Network

Address: Wesleyan Church of Hamburg, 4999 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg NY 14075 (Door 5, Lower Level, Room 11)

Phone: (716) 884-2599

Website: www.fcanwny.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Tuesday of each month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Southtowns Special Needs Parent Support Group

An evening support group for parents of children with special needs.

County: Erie

Contact: Debbie Kassirer

Address: Orchard Park Library, Orchard Park, NY 14127

Phone: Email: dkassirer@yahoo.com

Email: dkassirer@yahoo.com

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Day of the Month: Email for information

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Vision Impairment Support Group

Focus will be on children with visual impairments ages 0-5, however; this group also welcomes parents and caregivers of children with any developmental delays or disabilities in that age range.

County: Erie

Contact: Liza Rudroff/Sue Treantis

Phone: (716) 777-0870 (Liza) or (716) 836-7556 (Sue)

Email: lrudroff@olmstedcenter.org or streantis@olmsteadcenter.org

Meeting Time(s): Parents should call for information regarding assistance and/or details.

Is this an ongoing support group? yes

Disability Specific - Autism

20 Something Group

A social and support group for young adults 18 years and up. Parent Group meet at the same time in a separate room.

County: Erie

Contact: Jack Woodworth

Address: St. Mary's School for the Deaf, 2253 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214

Phone: (716) 886-1242, ext. 313

Website: www.eriamha.org

Meeting Time(s): 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Friday of the month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Buffalo Aspies Meetup Group

Group provides programming geared toward adults (18+) with Asperger's.

County: Erie

Contact: Matt

Address: Spot Coffee, 765 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222

Phone: (716) 204-5380

Email: matt@bjebuffalo.org

Website: Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/BuffaloAspies/

Meeting Time(s): 1 pm - 3 pm

Day of the Month: One Sunday a month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

ASA WNY Daytime Chapter Support Coffees & Occasional Evening Information Meetings

County: Erie

Contact: Kathy or Karen

Address: Southtowns & Northtowns Locations

Phone: (716) 633-2275

Email: info@autismwny.org

Website: www.autismwny.org

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Day of the Month: Please contact for current meeting dates.

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Asperger's Group - Buffalo

For people with high-functioning Autism or Asperger's and people who know them.

County: Erie

Contact: Veronica Federiconi

Address: Autism Services, Inc., 699 Hertel Avenue, Buffalo NY 14207

Phone: (716) 631-5777 ext 709

Email: mcallanan@autism-services-inc.org

Website: www.friendsofasi.org

Meeting Time(s): 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Thursday of the Month

Is this an ongoing support group? yes

Asperger's Group - Southtowns

For people with high-functioning Autism or Asperger's and people who know them.

County: Erie

Contact: Veronica Federiconi

Address: Autism Services, Inc., 97 Main St., Hamburg, NY 14075

Phone: (716) 631-5777 ext 520

Email: asedor@autism-services-inc.org

Website: www.friendsofasi.org

Meeting Time(s): 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Wednesday of each Month

Is this an ongoing support group? yes

Autism Society of WNY Support Meeting - Northtown

The Parent Support Coffees are designed so that parents can talk to other parents in a comfortable environment.

County: Erie

Contact: Kathy or Ann

Address: Sweet Charlottes, 10255 Main St., Suite 9, Clarence, NY

Phone: (716) 633-2275

Website: www.autismwny.org

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am - Noon

Day of the Month: Call for dates

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Autism Society of WNY Support Meeting - Southtowns

The Parent Support Coffees are designed so that parents can talk to other parents in a comfortable environment.

County: Erie

Contact: Kathy or Ann

Address: Sandy Crawford's House, 204 Treehaven, East Aurora, NY

Phone: (716) 633-2275

Website: www.autismwny.org

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am - Noon

Day of the Month: Call for dates

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Connections Program Parent Support Group for Families of Children with HF ASD

Share ideas, information, treatment options & advocacy strategies.

County: Erie, Niagara

Contact: Alana Eaton

Address: Erie Community College North Campus

Phone: (716) 629-3400

Email: aeaton@summitcenter.org

Website: www.thesummitcenter.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm-8:30 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Monday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Grand Island Autism Support Group

Peer-Run Support Group. Come and meet other families that are affected by Autism. We want to share ideas and experiences, vent about the brick walls we've hit, and most importantly, realize that we are a growing community and that we are not alone.

County: Erie, Niagara

Contact: Vienna

Address: Realty USA,, 2139 Grand Island Blvd., Grand Island, NY 14072

Phone: (716) 430-5118

Email: GrandIslandNYAutismGroup@gmail.com

Website: **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/GrandIslandNYSupportGroup

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Tuesday of each month, September - June

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Group for Parents of Teenagers with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Provides a welcoming environment for parents and caregivers of children with autism spectrum disorders to meet, share experiences, ask questions & receive support. All are welcome to attend but group is geared towards parents of children who are tweens and and transitioning - 12 years old and up.

County: Erie

Contact: Jana Mertz

Address: Parent Network of WNY, 1000 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone: (716) 878-7600

Email: jmertz@kaleidahealth.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: Tuesdays on a Monthly Basis

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Iroquois Area Parent Support Group

Open to all parents of special needs children, do not have to be in district. Currently most families have children with ASD. Please contact Jeanne for up-to-date meeting times as they change.

County: Erie

Contact: Jeanne Kacprowicz

Address: * Location to be determined. Call for information.

Phone: (716) 652-8001

Email: Jeanne@rochester.rr.com

Meeting Time(s): Daytime

Day of the Month: During the school year

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Niagara County Parent Group for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Our purpose is to provide a welcoming environment for parents and other caregivers of children with autism spectrum disorders to meet, share experiences, ask questions and receive support.

County: Niagara

Contact: Stacie Dziwulski

Address: Empower Children's Academy, 9812 Lockport Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Phone: (716) 408-2589

Email: ecdc@kaleidahealth.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Monday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Olean Parent Group for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Provide a welcoming environment for parents and other caregivers of children with autism spectrum disorders to meet, share experiences, ask questions and receive support.

County: Cattaraugus

Contact: Karen O'Dell

Address: Trinity United Methodist Church, 131 N. 9th Street, Olean, NY

Phone: (716) 307-9905

Email: To RSVP: email Peg at: plk@parentnetworkwny.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: 2nd Monday of each month except Oct 5th (1st Monday due to holiday)

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Orleans County Autism Support Group

This support group is intended for families of loved ones on the Autism Spectrum. Its mission is provide support, training and education to families affected by Autism.

County: Orleans

Contact: Kristen Ostrander

Address: The Arc of Orleans County, 122 Caroline St., Albion, NY 14411

Phone: (585) 589-1750, ext. 2231

Email: kostrander@arcoforleans.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Day of the Month: Last Wednesday of each month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Parent Group for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Provide a welcoming environment for parents and other caregivers of children with autism spectrum disorders to meet, share experiences, ask questions and receive support.

County: Erie

Contact: Jana Mertz or Kathy Doody

Address: Aspire Building, 7 Community Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Phone: (716) 878-7600

Email: Email to RSVP: jmertz@kaleidahealth.org

Website: <http://www.tinyurl.com/ausomegroup>

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Day of the Month: Meets monthly on Wednesdays - 2016

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Positive Parenting Program (PPP) Individual or Group

Share ideas, information, treatment options & advocacy strategies.

County: Erie, Niagara

Contact: Alana Eaton

Address: Erie Community College North Campus

Phone: (716) 629-3400

Email: aeaton@summitcenter.org

Website: www.thesummitcenter.org

Meeting Time(s): Group Meetings are held once a season. Individual sessions are held at anytime, call to schedule

Day of the Month: Call to schedule

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Disability Specific - Down Syndrome

Down Syndrome Parent Group

For families of children with Down Syndrome; provides individual support services as needed.

County: Erie

Contact: Amy Monson

Phone: 716) 832-9334

Email: dspg@dspgwny.org

Website: www.dspgwny.org

Meeting Time(s): Meeting times vary

Day of the Month: Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Disability Specific - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder

WNY Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorders Family Support Group

Meet with other families, share experiences, ideas and information.

County: Erie

Contact: Teresa Harris

Address: Erie County Council on the Prevention of Alcohol & Substance Abuse (ECPASA) 1625 Hertel Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216

Phone: (716) 831-2298 ext. 122

Email: tharris@eccpasa.org

Website: www.eccpasa.org

Meeting Time(s): 9:30 am -11:00 am & 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: Meet on Wednesdays, Call for confirmation of dates and times

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Disability Specific - Food

Greater Buffalo Food Allergy Alliance

To share information and give support to people who live with food allergies.

County: Erie

Contact: Kim Pasierb

Address: Cleveland Hill Fire Hall, 440 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14215

Phone: (716) 681-6506

Website: www.gbfoodallergy.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Monday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Spoonful of Love - Parent Support Group

Parents of children of all ages with feeding difficulties. Here you'll find a safe, caring environment where parents are empowered by giving and receiving support as they share their concerns face-to-face.

County: Erie

Contact: Teresa Marioles

Address: Hearing & Speech of WNY, 2733 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville NY 14221

Phone: (716) 631-7503

Email: tmarioles@hscwny.com

Website: www.facebook.com/SpoonfulofLoveWNY

Meeting Time(s): Dates and times will vary

Day of the Month: Call Teresa Marioles for dates and times

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Disability Specific - Fragile X**Fragile X Resource Group of WNY**

County: Erie

Contact: Janet Fisher

Address: 8373 Black Walnut Drive, East Amherst, NY 14051

Phone: (716) 741-7192

Email: Janfish5@gmail.com

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm

Day of the Month: Please call or email for current meeting dates

Disability Specific - Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Infants Support Group

The group is specifically for pregnant mothers to understand the issues children may encounter after birth because of exposure to opioid medication(s) and other drugs.

County: Erie

Contact: Davina Moss-King, Ph.D.

Phone: (716) 906-8118 ext. 701

Email: supportgroups@pdawny.com

Website: <http://www.pdawny.com>

Location 1:

Address: Sister's Hospital, 2121 Main St., Seton Building, Suite 220, Buffalo, NY 14214

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Day of the Month: Every 3rd Saturday of the month

Location 2:

Address: Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, 565 Abbott Road, Room 4013 (Maternity Conference Room, Buffalo, NY 14220)

Meeting Time(s): 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Day of the Month: Every 4th Saturday of the month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Disability Specific - Spinal Cord Injury

Spinal Cord Injury Support Group

Rehabilitation for spinal injuries.

County: Erie

Contact: Jack Trenchard and Lisa Keenan

Address: ECMC Terrace View Long-Term Care Facility, 462 Grider St., Buffalo, NY 14215

Phone: (716) 435-4218

Email: jasutrench@hotmail.com

Meeting Time(s): 3:00 pm-4:00 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday of each month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Disability Specific - Spinal Muscular Atrophy

WNY Chapter of Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)

To help cope with SMA through information & support.

County: Niagara

Contact: Bonnie Shiesley

Address: P.O. Box 444, North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Phone: (716) 622-0804

Email: bonnie@wnyfsma.org

Website: www.wnyfsma.org or www.facebook.com/wnyfsma

Meeting Time(s): Please call for dates and times of the next available session

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Mental Health

Coping Through Christ Anxiety & Depression “All are Welcome”

For those with a mental health diagnosis, their families, caregivers, supporters & friends.

County: Erie

Contact: St. Joseph University Parish

Address: St. Joseph Parish Center Library, 3269 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14214

Phone: (716) 833-0298

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm-8:30 pm

Day of the Month: Every Tuesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) - Buffalo

Mutual support for families of the mentally ill.

County: Erie

Address: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 4007 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: (716) 226-6264

Email: namibuffalo@aol.com

Website: www.namibuffalony.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) - Orchard Park

Mutual support for families of the mentally ill.

County: Erie

Address: Lakeshore Behavioral Health, 3176 Abbot Road, Orchard Park, NY 14217

Phone: (716) 226-6264

Email: namibuffalo@aol.com

Website: www.namibuffalony.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 PM

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)

Family Education Meeting

County: Erie

Address: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 4007 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226

Phone: (716) 226-6264

Email: namibuffalo@aol.com

Website: www.namibuffalony.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 PM

Day of the Month: 2nd Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Over Eaters Anonymous

Meeting

County: Erie

Phone: (716) 226-6264

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: Every Wednesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Military

Operation C.O.M. (Children of the Military)

A free interactive program to support children of the military & to establish positive coping skills to deal with the stress of deployment, to express feelings & strengthen self-confidence.

County: Erie

Contact: Mary or Jess

Address: Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY, 1280 Main St., 2nd Floor, Buffalo, NY 14209

Phone: Mary at (716) 548-6606 or Jess at (716) 640-3258

Email: jesslafalce@yahoo.com

Website: www.eriamha.org

Meeting Time(s): 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: Friday Evenings

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

S.A.F.E. (Support and Family Education)

Mental health support and workshops for family members of veterans (Free daycare provided)

County: Erie

Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Wahlig

Address: Buffalo Veteran's Medical Center, Room 1022 B, 3495 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215

Phone: (716) 862-7473

Meeting Time(s): 10 am - 12 pm

Day of the Month: Every other Friday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Neurological Impairment - Brain Injury

Headway of Western New York, Inc.

Several support groups are available for survivors of brain injury & their families.

County: Erie

Address: 2635 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14216 (enter through suite B)

Phone: (716) 408-3100

Email: headway@headwayofwny.org

Website: www.headwayofwny.org

Peer Support and Caregiver's Group

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st & 3rd Tuesday

Caregivers Support Group

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st Tuesday

Veteran's Reading Group

Meeting Time(s): 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

Day of the Month: 1st & 3rd Thursday

Are these ongoing support groups? Yes

Neurological Impairment - Hydrocephalus

Hydrocephalus Association

Support and information for families affected by hydrocephaly.

County: WNY

Contact: Toddie Rogers

Phone: (716) 381-2709

Meeting Time(s): Dates and times vary

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Neurological Impairment - Tourette Syndrome

Tourette Assn. of America, Greater NY State Chapter

Adult rap group & children's rap group; support for families

County: Erie

Contact: Sue Conners

Address: Kenmore Library on Delaware Road

Phone: (716) 839-4430

Email: Conners@roadrunner.com

Website: www.tsa-gnys.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm

Day of the Month: 3rd Wednesday of each month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Siblings

Niagara Frontier Sibshops

Sibshops are lively, action packed, 3 hour workshops and support for siblings. Sibshops celebrate the many contributions made by brothers & sisters of kids with special needs.

County: Niagara

Contact: Robin Stevens

Address: Empower Children's Academy, 9812 Lockport Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Phone: (716) 478-9528

Email: rstevens@empower-wny.org

Meeting Time(s): 10 am - 2 pm

Day of the Month: Meets Bi-monthly

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Sibshops

Sibshops are lively, action packed, 3 hour workshops and support for siblings. Sibshops celebrate the many contributions made by brothers & sisters of kids with special needs.

County: Erie

Contact: Terry Johnson

Address: The Resource Center Administration Building, 200 Dunham Avenue, Jamestown, NY 14701

Phone: 661-1433

Meeting Time(s): Call for dates and times

Is this an ongoing support group? No

Sibshops at Canisius College

These support groups are designed to meet the needs of brothers & sisters of children diagnosed with a special needs.

County: Erie

Contact: Dr. Susan Putnam

Address: Delevan Community Center at Canisius College, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14208

Phone: (716) 888-2895

Email: putnams@canisius.edu

Website: www.canisius.edu/sibshop

Meeting Time(s): 1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Day of the Month: Saturdays

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Special Education

Clarence SEPTSA ((Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association)

Supporting families by providing opportunities for education and information regarding the needs of exceptional children.

County: Erie

Contact: Karen Conway or Lou Ann Nowicki

Address: Clarence District Office, East Annex Conference Room, 9625 Main St., Clarence, NY 14031

Phone: (716) 741-3691 (Karen) or (716) (716) 741-7065 (Lou Ann)

Email: Snowicki66@verizon.net

Website: www.clarenceschools.org

Meeting Time(s): Days and times vary

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Foundation for Inclusive Catholic Education (FICE)

To support those children who receive special education services in Catholic schools located in the Diocese of Buffalo.

County: Erie

Contact: Kathryn Schultz

Address: FICE, 38 Dudley Avenue, Hamburg, NY 14075

Phone: (716) 824-3819

Email: ficeprogram@yahoo.com

Website: www.fice-program.org

Meeting Time(s): Days and times vary

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Frontier SEPTA (Special Education Parent Teacher Association)

Supporting education by providing opportunities for education and information regarding the needs of exceptional children.

County: Erie

Contact: Nicole LaRusch

Address: Frontier Education Center, 5120 Orchard Avenue, Hamburg, NY 14075

Phone: (716) 474-4874

Website: www.frontier.wnyric.org

Meeting Time(s): Days and times vary

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Special Education Parents Advisory Committee (SEPAC)

All meetings are open to parents of children receiving special education services in the Buffalo Public School District.

County: Erie

Contact: Rosemary Arnone, Coordinator of Parent Services

Address: School #12 Central CSE, 33 Ash Street, Buffalo, NY 14204

Phone: (716) 816-4747 or (716) 878-9706

Email: rarnone@buffaloschools.org

Website: www.buffaloschools.org

Meeting Time(s): Please visit websites for meeting dates and times as they change regularly

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Starpoint Special Education Group (SSEG)

A group for parents of children in Special Education.

County: Niagara

Contact: Sara Siracuse or Brian Farrell or April Breen

Address: 4363 Mapleton Road Driveway C Middle School, Lockport, NY 14094

Phone: (716) 625-8922 or (716) 210-2321

Email: aprilbreen@yahoo.com

Website: www.starpointcsd.org

Meeting Time(s): 7:00 pm-9:00 pm October-June

Day of the Month: 2nd Tuesday

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Williamsville SEPTSA (Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association)

Supporting education by providing opportunities for education and information regarding the needs of exceptional children.

County: Erie

Contact: Dave Whalen

Address: 105 Casey Road, East Amherst, NY 14051

Phone: (716) 565-9338

Email: davidwhalen@yahoo.com

Website: www.williamsvilleseptsa.org

Meeting Time(s): Times and dates vary

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

Teen Support

Teen Peer Support Group

This youth & teen peer support group is run by the Mental Health Association of Erie County, Inc, and is open to youth between the ages of 13-18. This group gives teens the opportunity to connect with peers to discuss and explore pathways to recovery. The group offers a safe place for youth to receive support as well to celebrate accomplishments and practice self-care skills under the facilitation of a Youth Peer Mentor.

County: Erie

Contact: Jenny Laney

Address: St. Mary's School for the Deaf, 2253 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214

Phone: (716) 886-1242 ext 346

Email: laney@eriemha.org

Website: www.eriemha.org

Meeting Time(s): 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Day of the Month: 1st and 3rd Friday of each month

Is this an ongoing support group? Yes

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Parent Network specializes in empowering families to learn about services, communicate effectively with professionals, and to successfully advocate for their children. Parent Network also works with professionals by providing continuing education opportunities, resources and referral services.



The ECDC provides free information, referral, technical assistance and support to families, professionals, and community agencies concerned with children birth to five with suspected or diagnosed delays or disabilities. They provide ongoing community training programs for both the parents and professionals.

WNY SUPPORT GROUP DIRECTORY CHANGE FORM

The form below is used to update information about any changes to support groups. Please complete the information requested below for all changes.

Please circle one option for the information provided on this form:

ADD UPDATE REMOVE

Name of Group: _____

Description: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Support Group Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Meeting Times: _____

Meeting Day of Each Month: _____

Category: _____

Please send to plk@parentnetworkwny.org or mail to:

Parent Network of WNY

1000 Main Street

Buffalo, NY 14202

Attention: Peg

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.parentnetworkwny.org	Parent Network of Western New York
www.wchob.org/ecdc	Early Childhood Direction Center
www2.erie.gov/ecod	Erie County Office for the Disabled
www.buffaloplace.com	The Buffalo Place
www.beenews.com	The Bee News
www.ddawny.org	The Developmental Disabilities Alliance of Western New York

Central Referral Services website for locating services for people with developmental disabilities: www.ddinfolink.org

Support Parent Network of WNY



Parent Network of WNY is now a part of Reeds Jenss Embrace the Difference program.

The program was created by Robyn Zimmer, a mother of a child with developmental differences. She was motivated by the many challenges faced each day by people with chronic illness, physical, emotional and developmental disabilities.

She in turn designed the Embrace The Difference symbol to show support, acceptance and kindness no matter what differences we may have, which is now developed into a successful jewelry line. \$10 of every piece of jewelry sold, is then donated back to the charity of the purchase's choice.

www.embracethedifference.org

Support Parent Network Of New York State 1 Inc.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

The Amazon Smile logo, consisting of the word 'amazon' in its signature font with a curved arrow underneath, followed by the word 'smile' in a simple sans-serif font, all contained within an orange rectangular background.

Amazon Smile is a way for anyone who shops at Amazon.com
to give back to the charity of their choice at no cost to them!
For every purchase that you make, amazon donates .5% back to Parent Network of WNY.

It's easy to do:

Visit: smile.amazon.com

(It is the exact same website as amazon.com and still has all of your account information,
the smile in front of it just notifies amazon that the percentage goes to a charity)

Select Parent Network of New York State 1 Inc. from the list

Shop away!