



## Our Programs

### ND Parent Training & Information Center

Guidance • Support • Partnership

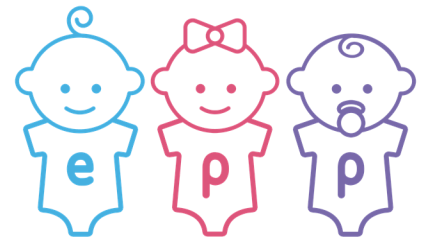
This statewide program is funded by a federal grant through the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). The PTI Program is one of the primary vehicles under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for providing information and training to parents of children with disabilities. We offer services to parents, youth, and professionals focusing on individuals ages 0-26 with learning differences and challenges. Some of our services include parent advising, technical assistance, trainings, informative resources, and outreach & leadership efforts. Our services help individuals understand their rights, responsibilities, and protections under IDEA. We also support the bridging of gaps between school and home.



### Experienced Parent Program

Support • Connections • Navigation

This statewide program is funded through the Department of Human Services (DHS) and provides emotional support and information to families of children birth to 3 years of age with developmental disabilities, delays, and ongoing health care needs. Parents who receive a new diagnosis are paired with an "Experienced Parent" to receive support and information.



experienced parent program  
from PATHFINDER SERVICES OF ND

### ND Secondary Transition Project

Transition • Independence • Self-Advocacy

This statewide program is partially funded through the Department of Public Instruction Discretionary Funds and serves youth with learning difficulties and their families to realize transition possibilities. NDSTP provides resources, trainings, and support to youth with disabilities and their families on: post-secondary opportunities, college, and employment. NDSPT focuses on the development of self-advocacy skills and developing an understanding of independence and the supports available to youth.

PATHFINDER SERVICES OF ND

NORTH DAKOTA

SECONDARY TRANSITION PROJECT



## Parent Advising & Technical Assistance

Prepare • Empower • Partnerships

Helping parents, families, and youth to understand their rights pertaining to early intervention and special educational services is a key part of what we do as an agency. This year, our staff have **helped over 1000 unduplicated individuals** to navigate through the ND systems finding support and guidance with our trained specialists. Parents can rest assured that our staff are here to help them to prepare for their upcoming meetings, decipher their IEP or 504 plans, offer pre-dispute support and guidance, and offer strategies on how to build strong collaborative partnerships with their child's school.

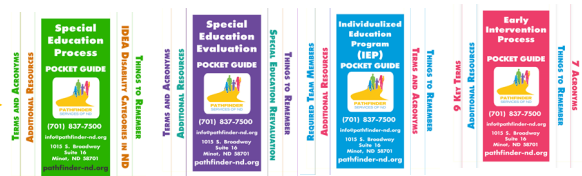


## Resources

Online • Lending Library • Handouts

Parents, families and youth seeking more information on their child's disability, early intervention and special education services, and the laws and rights of parents and youth can find an array of information through our three main resource methods. We **have over 1500 individual resources available** to the public to help guide them along their path of learning. This year we **distributed over 37,075 resources**. Best of all, we have numerous in-house developed handouts that are state specific to help individuals understand how our state services are implemented. Our **website receives over 126,885 visits annually** and our **monthly newsletters have reached over 3,500 individuals** just this year.

**Check Out our Parent Pocket Guides**  
Special Education, Evaluation, IEP, and Early Intervention





## Training

Expertise • State Specific • Vetted

This year saw the **development and design of 20 trainings** in multiple formats that focus on early intervention, special education, self advocacy, and independence. Trainings are accessible anytime on-demand, or can be delivered as in-person workshops to schools, agencies or organizations. This year **over 340 families, professionals, and youth accessed our trainings online** and we **provided 8 in-person workshops**.



## Outreach & Leadership

Stakeholders • Partners • Collaboration

As a part of our statewide outreach efforts, we recognize the importance in collaboration with key stakeholders and value the ability to provide a parent's perspective on behalf of the families that we serve, facilitating academic success. We participate in the following professional organizations: IDEA Advisory Committee, Center for Independent Living Council, State Vocational Rehabilitation Council, and Secondary Transition Community of Practice, in addition to attending the ND Interagency Coordinating Council Meetings. We also went out into the community and **delivered 12 presentations** on our services and how we can help fellow North Dakotans. PSND Staff have **visited 8 individual agencies** including: higher education departments, social work agencies, Kiwanis Meeting, and Special Education Units to explain cooperative opportunities and resource sharing. Serving the community is also an important aspect of our mission. This year, PSND team members attended the Sabre Dogs' baseball game to help raise funds, and we were honored to deliver awards at the Special Olympic games. In total we **managed 16 booths at Statewide events** for parents, professionals, and youth. These opportunities allowed us to share resources and information as well as participate in family activities.



# What Do People Say?

**Here's some feedback from individuals about the services they received from Pathfinder Services of ND**



Said they learned more regarding: taking care of their child's/student's needs



Shared they felt that PSND's information met their needs



Shared they were ready to use the information they received



Shared they would recommend PSND Services to family and friends

**"I am so thankful for the support that I received. I felt better prepared for my child's IEP meeting. This information will help me now and will continue to help me." - M.L.**

**"I would 100% recommend the services I received. The Support Specialist walked me through what to expect and made sure I felt prepared for my child's IEP meeting. She also gave me some ideas on how to work with the school because I didn't feel like they were taking me seriously." - S.W**

**"The Support Specialist knew her stuff. She helped me to get organized and helped me through the process. Things are going well now. I appreciate the support and her being there." - K.C.**

**"My son read through the resources and he found them to be really helpful and interesting. He was happy to be able to understand things about transitioning out of high school." - S.G.**

