This resource guide lists organizations that provide information, referral, and/or direct services to adults with disabilities. The organizations are grouped by the main focus of their activities, including: employment issues (10 organizations), postsecondary education (3 organizations), independent living (6 organizations), recreation (7 organizations), assistive technology (6 organizations), and other (5 organizations). A list of 26 print resources is also provided, covering general topics, employment, postsecondary education, recreation, independent living, and magazines and newsletters. (JDD)
Thank you for contacting the National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities, NICHCY. Our publications are designed to serve the needs of students, their families, and the professionals who work with them. Once a student leaves high school, other agencies are available to assist with putting the individual in contact with helpful resources.

We have prepared this listing of resources for adults to help you get started. Look over this list, and you will find organizations that provide information, referral, and/or direct services on:

- employment issues;
- problems that individuals with disabilities may have in the workplace;
- recreation;
- accessibility and accommodations;
- assistive technology that can help persons with disabilities function more effectively at home, on the job, and in the community; and
- independent living.

While there are many other organizations available that provide information or referral, they primarily do so to parents, schools, or service providers; we have chosen the organizations listed here because they can respond to the questions, concerns, and needs of individuals with disabilities themselves. A brief description of each organization's activities is included to help you choose those organizations that seem appropriate to your needs.

We hope that this listing is helpful to you. If NICHCY can be of further assistance, please give us a call.
Organizations and Agencies 
to Contact for Further Assistance

You will find a NICHCY State Resource Sheet enclosed in this package. Check the back of the sheet for disability organizations that might address your needs. The State Resource Sheet lists state offices, such as the Protection and Advocacy Agency, the Developmental Disabilities Council, and selected disability organizations. Any of these groups may be able to help you directly or give you the telephone number of a local chapter or office near you. Disability groups usually serve both children and adults and are a good place for referral to sources of further education, job training, financial assistance, living arrangements, and the like. If you don’t see a group that meets your needs, please call NICHCY again, and our information specialists will try to connect you with an appropriate group.

Listed below are selected agencies concerned with the well-being of people with disabilities. These organizations are grouped by the main focus of their activities, as follows: employment issues, postsecondary education, independent living, recreation, assistive technology, and other.

**Employment**

**Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)**
Consult your local telephone directory for the office in your vicinity.

Start by calling the local Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) listed in your phone book. VR is a nationwide federal-state program for assisting eligible people with disabilities to define a suitable employment goal and become employed. Each state capital has a central VR agency, and there are local offices in most states. The VR is an excellent place for a youth or adult with a disability to begin exploring available training and support service options.

**Americans with Disabilities Act Regional Disability and Business Accommodation Center**
For information on legislation, rights, and resources call: (800) 949-4232 (Voice/TT). You will be referred to the regional office for your state. The regional offices provide information and technical assistance to employers and to persons with disabilities to facilitate appropriate implementation of the ADA, successful employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities, and greater accessibility in public accommodations.

**Accessible Community Transportation in Our Nation (Project ACTION)**
1350 New York Avenue N.W., Suite 711
Washington, D.C. 20005
(800) 659-NIAT
(202) 347-7385 (TT)
(202) 347-3066

Project ACTION is a national research and demonstration program to promote access to transportation for persons with disabilities. Annually it funds local demonstration projects designed to facilitate cooperation between the disability community and transit entities to improve accessible transportation and assist in the implementation of the transportation requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The National Institute for Accessible Transportation (NIAT), a component of Project ACTION, disseminates information and resources on accessible transportation.
Creating Employment Opportunities for People with Severe Disabilities (NISH)
2235 Cedar Lane
Vienna, VA 22182-5200
(800) 327-4112 (Voice)
(703) 560-6512 (TT)

NISH is the nonprofit agency that provides technical assistance to Work Centers interested in securing federal set-asides under the mandatory procurement provision of Public Law 92-28, the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act. Its primary objective is to provide jobs for people with severe disabilities and promote their placement into competitive employment. Individuals may find it useful to identify those businesses working with NISH in their area.

Davis Memorial Goodwill Industries, Inc.
2200 South Dakota Avenue N.E.
Washington, DC 20018
(202) 636-4225

Davis Memorial Goodwill Industries provides vocational evaluation, training, employment, and job placement services for persons with disabilities. An information packet describing Goodwill's services is available upon request.

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEH)
1331 F Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-1107
(202) 376-6200 (Voice)
(202) 376-6205 (TT)

PCEH provides information, training, and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and other service providers, advocacy organizations, families, and individuals with disabilities. The President's Committee also serves as an advisor to the President of the United States on public policy issues affecting employment of people with disabilities.

Project with Industry
Electronics Industries Foundation
919 18th Street N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 955-5820 (Voice)
(202) 955-5836 (TT)

Project With Industry involves representatives from businesses, community agencies, and industry in placing and training people with disabilities in jobs. The program provides a centralized registry of job openings and qualified job applicants, and matches employers and employees. Project With Industry also offers support services to employers and employees before, during, and after placement, as well as awareness training to employers supervising people with disabilities. Another service provided through the program is job-seeking skills training for applicants with disabilities. To locate the Project With Industry programs in your area, call the above number.

If you are employed and are experiencing difficulty on the job due to your disability, you might consider contacting the following organizations.

Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (ATBCB)
1111 18th Street N.W., Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036-3894
(202) 653-7834 (Voice/TT)
(800) 872-2253 (Voice/TT)

ATBCB is an independent agency charged with ensuring that facilities designed, constructed, leased, or altered with Federal funds since September 1969 are accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities. In addition, the Office of Technical and Information Services provides technical assistance on barrier-free design and the removal of barriers. It answers questions concerning architectural, transportation, communication, and attitudinal barriers affecting persons with disabilities.
**Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)**
Office of Communications & Legislative Affairs,
Room 9024
1801 L Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20507
(800) 669-4000 (Voice, outside Washington, D.C.)
(202) 663-4958 (Voice, in the D.C. area)
(800) 800-3302 (TT)

The EEOC is a government agency that handles discrimination complaints about employment based on age, sex, race, color, national origin, and disability. The 800 number will connect callers with their local EEOC office, which can discuss complaints.

**Job Accommodation Network (JAN)**
West Virginia University
809 Allen Hall
Morgantown, WV 26506
(304) 293-7186 (Voice/TT)
(800) 526-7234 (Voice/TT)

JAN is an international information network and consulting resource which provides information about employment issues to employers, rehabilitation professionals, and persons with disabilities. Callers should be prepared to explain the specific problem and job circumstances. Sponsored by President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, the Network is operated by West Virginia University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center. Brochures, printed materials, and a newsletter are available free of charge.

**Postsecondary Education**

**Clearinghouse on Adult Learning and Literacy**
U.S. Department of Education
Division of Adult Education and Literacy
400 Maryland Ave. S.W., Room 4428
Washington, D.C. 20202-7240
All requests should be in writing.

The Clearinghouse on Adult Learning and Literacy links the adult education community with existing resources in adult education and provides information that deals with State-administered adult education programs funded under the Adult Education Act. The Clearinghouse responds to requests for information, provides referral services, issues publications, and refers inquirers to appropriate information sources.

**HEATH Resource Center**
One Dupont Circle, Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036-1193
(202) 939-9320
(800) 544-3284

The HEATH Resource Center, which operates the national clearinghouse on postsecondary education for individuals with disabilities, collects and disseminates information nationally about disability issues in postsecondary education. The clearinghouse identifies and describes educational and training opportunities; promotes accommodations that enable full participation by people with disabilities in regular, as well as specialized, postsecondary programs; and recommends strategies that encourage participation in the least restrictive and most productive environment possible for each individual. Numerous publications are available upon request.

**Foundation for Science and the Handicapped (FSH)**
12050 W. Carolina Drive
Lakewood, CO 80228
(303) 986-4108 (Voice/TT)

The Foundation seeks to improve the quality and accessibility of the educational system for individuals with disabilities, especially in the various areas of science. FSH acts as a clearinghouse for information on science, education, technology, and careers for persons with disabilities.
Recreation

Association for Theatre and Disability (ATD)
c/o Access Theatre
527 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 564-2063 (Voice/TT)

ATD is a membership organization that promotes accessibility in theatre and drama activities. ATD publishes a guide, Resources in Theatre and Disability, which contains lists of individuals and organizations working in theatre/drama with persons with disabilities, as well as annotated lists of print and media resources. ATD’s databank includes information sorted according to theatre activity, disability, and age groups. ATD will try to put callers in contact with activities in their local area.

Department of the Interior
Office on Accessibility
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013
(202) 343-3674

There are 365 parks and 10 regional offices under the National Park Service. The National Park Service accepts inquiries on all of its national park activities and facilities. Information on accessibility of park programs, facilities, and services is best acquired directly from the park or area you plan to visit. For general information on park areas and activities and a listing of park phone numbers, call the number listed above.

Mobility International USA (MIUSA)
P.O. Box 3551
Eugene, OR 97403
(503) 343-1284 (Voice/TT)

MIUSA is a nonprofit membership organization for persons with disabilities and other interested people. It works to expand opportunities for persons with disabilities to be involved in international educational exchange programs and travel. MIUSA members receive information and referral services in the areas of travel and placement in international work camps and educational exchange programs. Many publications are also available.

National Handicapped Sports (NHS)
451 Hungerford Drive, #100
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 217-0960

National Handicapped Sports is the nation’s largest organization providing year-round sports and recreation activities to children and adults with physical disabilities. In conjunction with its nationwide network of chapters serving people in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, NHS offers such activities as snow skiing, water skiing, bicycling, white water rafting, horseback riding, mountain climbing, sailing, camping, and track and field. Contact NHS for the telephone number of a local chapter near you.

National Institute of Art and Disabilities (NIAD)
551 23rd Street
Richmond, CA 94804
(510) 620-0290 (Voice/TT)

NIAD operates a creative visual arts center for adults with disabilities and serves as a model for other centers who wish to provide individuals with disabilities with enriching experiences in the visual arts. NIAD has published The Freedom to Create, which is widely used to help teachers teach art to students of all ages. NIAD can respond to requests for information about and referral to local programs.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
Library of Congress
1291 Taylor Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20542
(202) 707-5100 (Voice)
(202) 707-0744 (TT)

Individuals who cannot hold, handle, or read conventional printed material may be able to borrow, free of charge, full-length braille and "talking books" (books on tape) from NLS. First, however, they must establish their eligibility for the program. Call or write NLS and ask for an application form for persons with disabilities. The national book collection includes magazines and more than 55,000 titles of bestsellers, classics, romances, mysteries, science fiction, history, biography, religion, how-to-do-it books, and so on. Playback equipment is loaned free while library materials are borrowed. All postage is free.
Recording for the Blind (RFB)
The Anne T. Macdonald Center
20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 452-0606

RFB is a nonprofit service organization that provides educational and professional books in accessible format to people with blindness, visual impairments, and physical and perceptual disabilities that prevent them from reading normal printed material. This includes individuals who are no longer in school but who are using educational books to pursue careers or personal interests. RFB also accepts requests to tape books that are not already contained in its Master Tape Library. To become a lifetime member of RFB, you must complete an application form for service (which contains a "disability verification" and "certification") and include a one-time registration fee of $25. An application form is available from RFB’s Customer Services Department at 1-800-221-4792.

Independent Living

Accent on Information (AOI)
Gillum Road and High Drive
P.O. Box 700
Bloomington, IL 61702
(309) 378-2961

ACCENT on Information is a computerized retrieval system containing information on products and devices which assist persons with physical disabilities. Also available is other how-to information on such topics as: eating, bathing, grooming, clothing, furniture, home management, toilet care, sexuality, mobility, and written and oral communication. For a nominal charge, a search of AOI’s database is made on your topic of interest. You will then receive up to 50 of the most recent citations for each search. AOI has two sister services: (1) ACCENT on Living Magazine, and (2) ACCENT Special Publications, which publishes and distributes a variety of books of interest to persons with disabilities, along with a Buyer’s Guide that lists equipment devices to assist persons with disabilities in daily living activities.

Access/Abilities
P.O. Box 458
Mill Valley, CA 94942
(415) 388-3250

Access/Abilities is a consulting, problem-solving firm dedicated to finding resources for a better life beyond functionality and independence. Local as well as national and international resources are available. This organization can provide information about accessible travel opportunities, aids and appliances, sports and recreation programs, good-looking clothing that really fits, shopping, and other customized services. It also offers consulting services concerning architectural barriers and accessibility.

National Council on Independent Living
2111 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 405
Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 525-3406

National Council on Independent Living is a national organization whose members are independent living centers. In addition to being involved in advocacy and national policy activities, NCIL provides training to its member centers. It can also provide information to callers about independent living centers in each state. The centers help people with disabilities achieve and maintain self-sufficient lives within the community.
Since its incorporation in 1975, NIHII has focused upon providing services related to the development of barrier-free housing for adults with physical disabilities. The Institute provides information and referral on the availability of barrier-free housing in the Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN area to a major degree and to other areas in Minnesota to a lesser degree. Callers outside of MN will be referred to resources within their own state. Information on various housing assistance programs for which individuals with disabilities may be eligible is also provided, as is design and product information.

Research and Training Center on Independent Living
University of Kansas
4089 Dole
Lawrence, KS 66045-2930
(913) 864-4095 (Voice/TT)

The Center's goal is to develop and disseminate practical techniques that enable people with severe disabilities to live more independently. This includes service delivery systems, skill training methods, and effective techniques to improve human services and community support for people with disabilities. The Center provides training and technical assistance to individuals and organizations throughout the U.S.

Social Security Administration (SSA)
Department of Health and Human Services
Baltimore, MD 21235
(800) 772-1213

The Social Security Administration provides cash benefits (SSI and/or SSDI) to persons with a physical or mental disability which prevents them from working and which is expected to last at least a year or result in death. The amount of money received varies in each state. Eligibility for SSI or SSDI may mean eligibility for other services, such as Medicaid, food stamps, or other social services. The program also includes work incentives that make it possible for individuals to work without an immediate loss of benefits. For details, contact either the above 800 number or your local SSA office.

Assistive Technology

Alliance for Technology Access (ATA)
1128 Solano Avenue
Albany, CA 94706
(510) 528-0747
(800) 992-8111

The Alliance for Technology Access (ATA) is a growing coalition of technology resource centers across the country that provide information, awareness, and training in the use of microcomputers to aid children and adults with disabilities. Services range from hands-on workshops to training for professionals, from guided problem-solving to technical assistance to families, individuals with disabilities, employers, and agencies seeking access to technology. Also offered are lending libraries of computer software, assistive devices, print resources, training films, and adapted toys. Callers are referred to the technology resource center nearest them.

Apple Computer, Inc.
Worldwide Disability Solutions Group
Mail Stop 2SE
20525 Mariani Avenue
Cupertino, CA 95014
(408) 974-7910
(800) 833-6223 (TT)

Apple's Worldwide Disability Solutions Group has developed a wide variety of materials in print, video, and electronic form to describe how personal computers can constructively influence the experience of having a disability. Energies are directed toward ensuring that the power and promise of the microcomputer are available to individuals with a disability. The publication Macintosh Disability Resources lists adaptive devices and specialized software available to individuals with disabilities affecting physical mobility, cognition, speech, hearing, vision, and learning. The Solutions Group can also respond to individual requests for information.
IBM's Independence Series Information Center serves to help health care leaders, agency directors, employers, educators, and individuals learn how computers can enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities in the home, school, and workplace. While the Center is unable to prescribe an assistive device or software, it does provide information on what technology is available. Information for persons with disabilities affecting learning, hearing, speech and language, mobility, and vision is provided, including vendor and support group names, addresses, and descriptions. IBM also offers a program in conjunction with participating community service organizations to make it easier for eligible people with disabilities to purchase selected IBM Personal System/2 products at a discount.

RESNA
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1540
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 524-6686

An interdisciplinary association for the advancement of rehabilitation and assistive technologies, RESNA is an organization for rehabilitation professionals. It is concerned with transferring science, engineering, and technology to the needs of persons with disabilities. RESNA is currently operating a Technical Assistance Project, which can help callers identify the program in their state that is responsible for providing information, training, and technical assistance on assistive technology to individuals with disabilities.

Technical Aids and Assistance for the Disabled Center (TAAD)
1950 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, IL 60608
(312) 421-3373
(800) 346-2939

TAAD is an organization created by the Committee on Personal Computers and the Handicapped (COPH-2) to provide options in using personal computer technology to persons with disabilities. The TADD Center provides advocacy and services with an emphasis on selection and application of microcomputers. The center's approach allows users to make informed decisions as to which system or devices best meet their needs. Other services include equipment loans, workshops and product demonstrations, and advocacy before manufacturers. TADD can also refer callers to their local resource center of the Alliance for Technology Access.

Trace Research and Development Center
S-151 Waisman Center
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53706
(608) 262-6966 (Voice)
(608) 263-5408 (TT)

The Trace Center was formed in 1971 to address the communication problems faced by nonvocal children and adults with severe disabilities. The Center is primarily concerned with research and development in the areas of augmentative communication (conversation and writing) and computer access for persons with physical disabilities. The Center does not manufacture or distribute equipment, but will make referrals to specific sources of information regarding equipment, software, service centers, related professionals, and other information networks. This is possible through the Center's database, hyper-ABLEDATA, which houses information on 17,000 assistive devices for individuals with disabilities. Publications include the Trace Resource Book, a reference volume listing and describing currently available products for communication, control, and computer access for persons with disabilities. All information is available in alternative formats for individuals unable to read or handle print materials.
Other Organizations Providing Information and Referral

DIRECT LINK for the Disabled, Inc.
P.O. Box 1036
Solvang, CA 93464
(805) 688-1603 (Voice/TT)

DIRECT LINK is a public benefit organization that provides information and resources for any disability-related question. Responses are given over the phone or with a printed report. Special care is taken to find the closest local organization that meets the individual’s specific needs. The LINKUP database contains over 11,000 organizations, including independent living centers, employment programs, support groups, device assessment centers, financial assistance programs, government offices, local affiliates of national organizations, community information centers, and agencies offering direct services to persons with disabilities and their families.

National Organization on Disability (NOD)
910 16th Street N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 293-5960 (Voice)
(202) 293-5968 (TT)

NOD promotes the fuller participation of Americans with disabilities in all aspects of community life. Its primary program is the Community Partnership Program, a network of 2000 towns, cities, and counties nationwide. NOD’s Community Partnerships undertake many different activities to improve attitudes toward people with disabilities; to expand educational and employment opportunities; to eliminate physical barriers; and to expand participation in religious, cultural, and recreational activities. The quarterly newsletter, REPORT, is available upon request.

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)
8455 Colesville Road, Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 588-9284 (Voice/TT)
(800) 346-2742 (Voice/TT)

NARIC is a library and information center funded by the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research to collect and disseminate information on disability and rehabilitation. NARIC’s library contains materials on all aspects of physical, mental, and cognitive disabilities. Information specialists provide quick reference and referral services, searches of NARIC’s database, REHABDATA, and photocopies of documents.

People First International
P.O. Box 12642
Salem, OR 97309
(503) 362-0336

People First International is a self-advocacy organization of persons with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities. Members meet in local chapters to learn to speak for themselves, learn leadership skills, and take action to improve their lives. Information about People First and setting up local chapters is available from the organization.

World Institute on Disability (WID)
510 Sixteenth Street, Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612-1502
(510) 763-4100 (V/TT)

The World Institute on Disability (WID) is a public policy, research and training center dedicated to independence for all people with disabilities. WID’s projects include: informing and training public officials, community leaders, and corporations, among others, about the empowerment of people with disabilities; working to design more effective personal assistance services for people with disabilities; and operating the Research and Training Center on Public Policy in Independent Living. Information about WID, its publications, and its projects is available upon request.
PRINT RESOURCES

General


Employment


Postsecondary Education


Recreation


Independent Living

Magazines and Newsletters

*Able* - P.O. Box 395, Old Bethpage, NY 11804. Telephone: (516) 939-2253. This monthly magazine is subtitled "The Newspaper Positively, For, By, and About the Disabled." It focuses on resources, independent living, and daily life.

*Accent on Living* - Cheever Publishing, Inc., Gillum Road and High Drive, P.O. Box 700, Bloomington, IL 61702. Telephone: (309) 378-2961. This quarterly magazine serves as a guide to services and information on daily living and equipment for persons with disabilities. Articles focus on personal experiences of persons with disabilities, ideas for making the activities of daily living easier, and new products and services.

*Disability Rag* - Box 145, Louisville, KY 40201. Telephone: (502) 459-5343. Published six times a year, this magazine of politics, news, and opinion features articles on disability issues and reader correspondence. Also available on cassette tape.

*Disabled Outdoors Magazine* - John Kopchik, Jr., 5223 South Lorel Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638. Telephone: (312) 927-6834. This magazine contains articles, product descriptions, accessible resort listings, and personal accounts pertaining to outdoor activities. Published quarterly.

*Moving Forward* - Aziz Unlimited, P.O. Box 3553, Torrance, CA 90510-3553. This newspaper is published six times a year and contains news articles and features on disability-related issues such as advocacy and daily living.

*Peoplenet* - P.O. Box 897, Levittown, NY 11756. Published three times a year, this magazine contains news by and for people with disabilities on relationships and sexuality.
This guide is a special publication of the National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY). NICHCY also publishes Transition Summary once each year and News Digest three times a year. We also disseminate other materials and can respond to individual inquiries. Our information services and single copies of all NICHCY products are provided free of charge.

For further information or assistance, or to receive a NICHCY Publications List, please contact NICHCY, P.O. Box 1492, Washington, DC 20013, or call 1-800-695-0285 (Voice/TT) or (202) 884-8200 (Voice/TT).

NICHCY would like to thank all the helpful individuals who provided and verified the information about the various organizations mentioned in this document.

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Thank you for contacting NICHCY.

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