

Erie County Resource Guide

Children and youth with special healthcare needs and their families

The Special Kids Network Helpline – 1-800-986-4550

- Advocacy for special healthcare needs
 - [The Arc of Pennsylvania](#) [Website link]
The largest advocacy organization in the United States for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities containing 34 local chapters serving 56 counties across Pennsylvania.
 - [Erie Sprout](#) 24 Hour Information Hotline: 814-874-6996
[Select 'Community Resources' Tab to review various Categories and Organizations. Special Needs organizations are listed within 'Adult Resources'.]
Erie Sprout is supporting people through resources, outreach, understanding, and time, and was developed by a group of human service parents and professionals in Erie County. The purpose of the website is to educate people and give them a place to find information for themselves and their loved ones.
 - [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Select 'Erie' County then 'Advocacy and Legal Services'.]
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393
 - [Association of Retarded Citizens \(ARC\)](#) [Please look at website for contact info]
Offers services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as early intervention, supported employment, job training, transition planning, respite care, supported living and transportation
 - [Community Resources For Independence, Inc](#) 1-800-530-5541 or 814-838-7222
Offers independent living services to people with disabilities along with accessibility education, waiver information, independent living services, attendant care service coordination, assisting technology, and information and referral
 - [Voices for Independence](#) Erie: 814-874-0064 or 1-866-407-0064
Voices for Independence provides services for individuals with physical disabilities such as independent living skills training, personal care services, housing services, peer support, information and referral
 - [Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service](#) 1-800-932-0311
Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service matches clients to a Pennsylvania lawyer in a specific area of law.
 - [Northwestern Legal Services](#) 814-362-6596 or 800-756-5703
Legal services for low income persons
 - [American Civil Liberties Union](#) Pittsburgh: 412-681-7736
Free Legal Help to those who have had their constitutional rights violated
 - [Office Of Vocational Rehabilitation](#) 1-800-541-0721 or 814-871-4551
OVR provides assistance with obtaining and maintaining employment to individuals with disabilities.
 - [Special Kids Network](#) 1-800-986-4550
Statewide referral service designed to serve families of children with chronic health of disabling conditions through information and service coordination
 - [Disability Rights Network Of Pennsylvania](#) Harrisburg: 717-236-8110
Philadelphia: 215-238-8070; Pittsburgh: 412-391-5225

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Provide legal consultation and representation for individuals with disabilities and their families who are facing discrimination on the basis of disability and access to needed services along with providing information, referral and technical assistance to Pennsylvania residents with disability issues.

- [Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network](#) 1-800-692-7443
The Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network provides information on disability programs and services in communities nationwide.
- [PA Client Assistance Program](#) 888-745-2357 or 800-323-6060
PA's Client Assistance Program is an advocacy program for people with disabilities seeking services in employment and housing
- [The Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights](#) 215-731-1447 or 866-LGBT-LAW
The Center advocates equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Pennsylvanians through direct legal services, education and policy reform.
- [LGBT Youth in Crisis Hotline](#) 800-246-7743
Youth serving youth through age 25. Peer counseling, information, and local resources.
- [Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Helpline](#) 888-843-4564
The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Hotline provides telephone and email peer counseling, as well as factual information and local resources for cities and towns across the United States.
- National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-786-2929
Toll-free, nationwide hot-line for runaways and troubled youth. Provides information and referral for shelter, counseling, medical and legal services and transportation back home.
- [Kaleidoscope Family Solutions Inc.](#) Autism, IDD & Behavioral Team 877-384-1729;
Kaleidoscope Family Services (KFS) is School Division: 800-908-0546
a specialized provider of clinical and therapeutic services directly to individuals as well as education-system staffing services. Services are delivered through its specialty division outlined below.
 - KFS Behavioral Therapeutic Services
 - KFS Autism Services
 - KFS Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services
 - KFS School Staffing Services
 - KFS Training Services
- [Kids as Self Advocates](#) [Website]
[Family Voices](#) project funded by the [U.S. Maternal and Child Health Bureau](#)
- [NAMI \(National Alliance on Mental Illness\) Erie County, Pennsylvania](#)
Erie: 814-456-1773 or 1-800-517-1773
[Many resources are listed within categories in the 'Resources' tab on the main webpage. Some advocacy agencies are listed in the 'Children and Families' category.]]
NAMI of Erie County is a local non-profit organization established in 1984 to address the increasing need for families and individuals to have a stronger voice in the mental health system. Often, parents who have children with mental illness find themselves battling several barriers such as stigma, confusion over medical advice, and a lack of support for the family unit. However, NAMI of Erie County attempts to ease the struggle for parents by offering mental health education and support.
- [Pennsylvania Elks Home Service Program](#) Erie- 814-454-1252 ext. 115

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Providing support and advocacy services to individuals who have a developmental disability.

- Assistive Technology
 - [A Leg Up of Kids Foundation](#) ellen@alegupforkids.org
a nonprofit organization that believes children with special health needs are happier when they can move about with their families. To enable this, we donate safe and economical strollers for children on ventilators.
 - [Caroline's Cart](#) Customer Service: 828-464-7388
Grocery Cart designed for families with older children or adults with physical special needs. See website for store locations.
 - [Community Resources for Independence \(CRI\)](#) 1-800-530-5541
[Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology services (PIAT) is located within the 'Services' tab on main webpage under 'Assistive Technology'.]
A community based, non-residential, non-profit corporation that provides services to individuals with disabilities in order to maximize their independence and the accessibility of the communities in which they live. CRI is one of more than 500 federally funded Centers for Independent Living across the nation established by people with disabilities for people with disabilities.
 - [Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation](#) [Webpage Resource] 888-744-1938
Foundation's mission is to provide financing opportunities to people with disabilities and older Pennsylvanians helping them to acquire the assistive technology devices and services that improve the quality of their lives.

- Counseling for special healthcare needs
 - [Erie County PA Department of Health Home Visiting Nurse](#) 814-451-6700
The goal of nurse home visiting is to provide information and prevention education to pregnant women and parents of infants and toddlers, or older children with special health care needs.
 - [NAMI \(National Alliance on Mental Illness\) Erie County, Pennsylvania](#) Erie: 814-456-1773 or 1-800-517-1773
['Counseling' referrals are listed within the 'Resources' tab 'Children and Families' link on the main webpage.]
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- Day Care
 - [Erie Sprout](#) 24 Hour Information Hotline: 814-874-6996
[Select 'Community Resources' Tab to review various Categories and Organizations. Childcare Services can be found within 'Family Resources'.]
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time, and was developed by a group of human service parents and professionals in Erie County. The purpose of the website is to educate people and give them a place to find information for themselves and their loved ones.

- [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Select 'Erie' County then 'Child Care & Parenting Resources'.]
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393
 - [Child Care Information Services \(CCIS\)](#) Erie: 814-451-6580
A referral and information service linking families to childcare. Financial assistance given to income-eligible families to help pay for childcare costs.
 - [Saint Martin Center, Inc](#) 814-452-6113
Financial, Clothing and Household Items, Child Care, Counseling, HIV/AIDS Case Management, food
 - [Safenet](#) Erie: 814-452-6113 or hotline: 814-454-8161
Services for victims of domestic violence: emergency shelter, supported transitional housing, intervention counseling, legal advocacy, representation, counseling services to children
 - [Community House, Inc](#) Erie: 814-459-5853
Drug and Alcohol Services, Shelter, Childcare
- [Pennsylvania Department of Human Services](#) 1-800-692-7462
Child Care and Early Learning services.
 - [Child Care Works Subsidized Child Care](#) 1-877-288-2022
if your household income is no more than twice of the FPIG and your child is 13 or younger and you are a working parent or you are going to school.
 - [Pre-school Programs](#) 1-866-214-5437
if your household income is no more than the FPIG and your child is five years old or younger.
 - [Online Child Care Provider Search](#) Website address
The search will help you locate a child care provider that meets your needs and offer information on Early Learning programs. The Online Child Care Provider Search offers a portion of the wide spectrum of child care services offered by Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agencies. For additional assistance in locating a child care arrangement, [contact your local CCIS](#).
- [Thurston House](#) (814) 724-6768
Thurston House is a program for Pregnant and Parenting Students who are enrolled in an approved High School or GED program. Service Components are assistance in accessing transportation, assistance in accessing Child Care, parenting and child development education, career counseling, vocational counseling and nutrition and health care education
- Early Intervention
 - [Erie County Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol, and Housing Resource Guide; March, 2014](#) [Web document]
[Early Intervention is listed in 'Mental Health Services'.]
This directory lists the services, organizations and individuals that provide care for Erie County residents enrolled in Medical Assistance and/or eligible for Base Funded services. These services are grouped into **MENTAL HEALTH, DRUG & ALCOHOL** and

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HOUSING. In addition to the service grid, the agencies and individuals providing services are organized alphabetically, with their contact information at the end of this guide. Some of these services are based on medical necessity.

- [Easter Seals Western and Central Pennsylvania](#) 412-281-7244
Easter Seals Western and Central PA is committed to providing exceptional programs and services for children with disabilities or other special needs.

- [Northwest Tri-County IU5, Early Intervention Services](#) 1-800-677-5610 ext. 8461 or (814) 734-8461
The IU5 Early Childhood Intervention Program evaluates and provides services for children with special needs. Any parent concerned about his/her child's development may refer his/her child to the Early Childhood Intervention Program. A referral will be taken for children age 2 years + 10 months up to the date that they are age-eligible to enter kindergarten in their school district of residence.
- [PA Department of Education Early Intervention Program](#) 1-800-692-7288.
The Pennsylvania Early Intervention program provides support and services to families with children, from birth to age five, with developmental delays and disabilities.
- [Pennsylvania Department of Human Service Early Intervention Services Website](#)
While all children grow and develop in unique ways, some children experience delays in their development. Children with developmental delays and disabilities benefit from the Pennsylvania Early Intervention program, a state supported network of parents, service practitioners, and others which builds upon the natural learning opportunities that occur within the daily routines of a child and their family.

- Health Insurance
 - [CHIP](#) [Web Page link] 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)
Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program.
Covers all uninsured PA kids under 19.
 - [Community Health Net Health Care for the Homeless Program](#) (814) 454-4530, ext. 269
Assistance in obtaining health care, dental care, eye care, and assistance with medications. We also assist patients to gain the benefits of having health insurance. To qualify, an individual must be either living on the streets, in a shelter, in an inpatient drug rehab center, a pre-release center, or doubled with a friend or family member for less than 3 months.
 - [COMPASS](#) [PA Dept. of Human Services benefits online application Web Page link]
[Select *Apply for Any Benefits* link to begin.]
 - *Help with Medicare*
 - [APPRISE](#) 1-800-783-7067
a free health insurance counseling service for individuals 60 and over.
 - [Erie County Area Agency on Aging, APPRISE](#) 814-459-4581
 - [Medicare Part D](#) [Website link]
Information about the Part D prescription drug

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benefit available to individuals enrolled in Medicare.

- HealthCare.gov [Federal Health Insurance Enrollment Website] 1-800-318-2596
- [HealthChoices \[Website\]](#)

HealthChoices will provide low-income Pennsylvanians with the opportunity to purchase private health insurance at affordable rates through a network of eight insurance private insurers, offering three or more health insurance plan options per region. Coverage will begin Jan. 1, 2015. Apply online at www.COMPASS.state.pa.us and learn more at www.healthypa.com.
- [Medical Assistance \(MA\) \[PA Department of Human Services Web link.\]](#)

Health care services for eligible individuals.
- [Pregnancy Insurance](#)
 - [Presumptive Eligibility](#) [Eligible uninsured pregnant woman should register with Dept. of Human Services, COMPASS and Medical Assistance (MA).] Presumptive Eligibility (PE) provides insurance coverage for pregnant woman who have applied for MA but are still under review.
 - [Maternity Insurance.org](#) [Website link]
 - [Pennsylvania-Health-Coverage.com](#) [Website link] 1-866-589-6215
Compare affordable maternity health insurance options.
- [Resource Guide to Healthcare Options in Pennsylvania](#)

For Children, Adults, and Seniors
The Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health, Pennsylvania State University
- Housing
 - [Erie County Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol, and Housing Resource Guide; March, 2014](#) [Web document]

[Housing is listed in 'Housing Services'.]
This directory lists the services, organizations and individuals that provide care for Erie County residents enrolled in Medical Assistance and/or eligible for Base Funded services. These services are grouped into **MENTAL HEALTH, DRUG & ALCOHOL** and **HOUSING**. In addition to the service grid, the agencies and individuals providing services are organized alphabetically, with their contact information at the end of this guide. Some of these services are based on medical necessity.
 - [Erie Sprout](#) 24 Hour Information Hotline: 814-874-6996
[Select 'Community Resources' Tab to review various Categories and Organizations.]
Erie Sprout is supporting people through resources, outreach, understanding, and time, and was developed by a group of human service parents and professionals in Erie County. The purpose of the website is to educate people and give them a place to find information for themselves and their loved ones.
 - [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Erie County.]
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393
Housing
 - [HUD](#) Philadelphia: 215-656-0500; Pittsburgh: 412-644-6428
HUD is a federal program that provides housing support for individuals in need such as rental programs (including Section 8) and home ownership

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assistance programs.

- [Pennsylvania Affordable Apartment Locator](#) 1-877-428-8844
PAHousingSearch.com is a website in which affordable housing can be searched and located within in PA.
- [Northwest Human Services](#) 1-888-647-0020
NHS provides residential living options, case/care management, and therapeutic services for individuals with disabilities.
- [Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity at HUD](#) 1-800-799-2085
Hotline service for individuals to report incidences of housing discrimination.
- [Making Homes Affordable](#) 888-995-4673
National nonprofit organization aiming to prevent home foreclosure and reduce monthly payments for eligible individuals and families

Shelters

- [PathStone, Inc.](#) Erie: 814-455-9966
PathStone provides emergency shelter services to disadvantaged individuals and families along with food, first month rental assistance, rent in arrears assistance, mortgage assistance and utilities in arrears assistance (one-time only assistance) You can find additional information through ww.pathstone.org or by emailing at AskPA-EmergencySupport@PathStone.org
- [Salvation Army](#) Corry: 814-664-7100
Salvation Army provides several emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families.
- [Hospitality House Services For Women, Inc](#) Erie: 814-459-5844
Transitional housing and temporary emergency shelter for women and children in crisis situation.
- [Safe Journey](#) Union City: 814-438-2675
Safe Journey is an organization aimed at securing women and children's safety from any form of violence. Services include a 24-Hour Hotline, Individual Counseling, Emergency Shelter, Safety Planning, Protection from Abuse (PFA) Assistance, Court Accompaniment & Transportation, Information & Referral, Possible Financial Assistance, Parenting After Domestic Violence Classes and more.
- [Community Shelter Services, Inc](#) Erie: 814-455-4369
The Community Shelter Services is an agency that offers services to disadvantage families to help sustain self-sufficiency. The services include a 24 hour crisis shelter, permanent supportive affordable housing and housing assistance.
- [Samaritan Care Shelter at Erie City Mission](#) 814-452-4421
The Samaritan Care Shelter is a shelter that provides men a place to stay for up to 45 nights.
- [Upper Room of Erie](#) 814-459-3983
The Upper Room of Erie provides several housing services to the homeless of Erie County including Shelter, Transitional Living and Food service.
- [Community of Caring](#) Erie: 814-456-6661
Community of Caring provides food, clothing and shelter to those in need in Erie County
- [St. Patrick's Haven](#) Erie: 814-454-7219
St. Patrick's Haven provides emergency shelter, along with hot meals and

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showers, case management, information and referral, counseling and spiritual support to homeless men

Transitional Housing

- [Association of Retarded Citizens \(ARC\)](#) see website for PA listings
Offers services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as early intervention, supported employment, job training, transition planning, respite care, supported living and transportation

 - [Lakeshore Community Services, Inc.](#) Erie: 814-456-9962
Services for individuals with mental illness including life skills training, in-home supports, community residential living, supported living, semi-independent living and case management.
 - [The Refuge at EUMA](#) Erie: 814-454-6088
The Refuge at the Erie United Methodist Alliance is a program in which a homeless family with children will live in temporary housing for 30-45 days where they will have a case manager, receive clothing and food, be linked to other spheres in which will gain them self-sufficiency.
 - [City Mission's New Life Program](#) Erie: 814-454-6212
The Erie Mission's New Life Program is a residential recovery program for men, lasting from 6 months to 2 years. The program includes Spiritual Life Development & Bible Study, Addictions recovery through 12 Step AA/NA/GA, Medical and Vocational Screening, Educational courses, Internships and Counseling.
 - [Community Shelter Services, Inc](#) Erie: 814-455-4369
The Community Shelter Services is an agency that offers services to disadvantage families to help sustain self-sufficiency. The services include a 24 hour crisis shelter, permanent supportive affordable housing and housing assistance.
 - [Hospitality House Services For Women, Inc](#) Erie: 814-459-5844
Transitional housing and temporary emergency shelter for women and children in crisis situation.
- Public Housing Programs
- [Housing Authority of the City of Erie](#) 814-452-2425
Public housing programs that connect income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
 - [Housing and Neighborhood Development Services](#) Erie: 814-453-3333
HANDS provides affordable housing for families and persons with disabilities where Section 8 vouchers are accepted along with ownership opportunities.
 - [Corry Housing & Redevelopment Authority](#) Corry: 814-665-5161
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
 - [Housing Authority of the City of Erie](#) 814-452-2425
Public housing programs that connect income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
- [NAMI \(National Alliance on Mental Illness\) Erie County, Pennsylvania](#)

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Erie: 814-456-1773 or 1-800-517-1773

[‘Housing’ referrals are listed within the ‘Resources’ tab on the main webpage.]

NAMI of Erie County is a local non-profit organization established in 1984 to address the increasing need for families and individuals to have a stronger voice in the mental health system. Often, parents who have children with mental illness find themselves battling several barriers such as stigma, confusion over medical advice, and a lack of support for the family unit. However, NAMI of Erie County attempts to ease the struggle for parents by offering mental health education and support.

○ Health Waiver Programs

○ [Erie Independence House, Inc.](#)

814-461-9188

Erie Independence House participates in various PA Medicaid Waiver Programs. These Waiver Programs offer services to individuals over the age of 18 with physical disabilities. The following programs are available:

- Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities (CSPPPD) (OBRA and Independence)
- CommCare (OBRA and Independence) - (Traumatic Brain Injury - TBI)
- Pennsylvania Department of Aging (PDA)
- Community Transition Services (OBRA, Independence and CommCare)
- Attendant Care/Act 150

○ **Medicaid Waivers for Children under 21:**

- [Attendant Care/Act 150](#) Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827
Enables individuals with a physical disability, ages 18-59, who are mentally alert to continue to live in their homes with support and services.
- Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities/[OBRA Waiver](#)
Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827
Provides services to people 18 or older with severe developmental and physical disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or similar conditions (onset prior to age 22).
- [Consolidated Waiver for Individuals with Mental Retardation](#)
Provides services to eligible people age three or older with mental retardation so that they can remain in the community.
- [Person/Family Directed Support Waiver](#)
Provides services to eligible people age three or older with mental retardation so that they can remain in the community.
- Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities/[Independence Waiver](#)
Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827
Provides services to individuals 18 and older with severe physical disabilities to allow them to live in the community and remain as independent as possible.
- [Infant, Toddlers, and Families Waiver](#) 717-346-1119
Supports Early Intervention services to children up to age three who would otherwise require the level of care provided in an Intermediate Care Facility for persons with Mental Retardation of Other Related Conditions.

○ Respite Care

○ [ARCH National Respite Network](#)

[Website]

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for help with the Respite Locator Service please contact Mike Mathers at:
mmathers@chtop.org or by phone at 1-919-490-5577.

The mission of the ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center is to assist and promote the development of quality respite and crisis care programs, to help families locate respite and crisis care services in their communities, and to serve as a strong voice for respite in all forums.

- [Erie Sprout](#) 24 Hour Information Hotline: 814-874-6996
[Select 'Community Resources' Tab to review various Categories and Organizations. Search 'Adult Resources' then 'Special Needs' for Respite Care.]
Erie Sprout is supporting people through resources, outreach, understanding, and time, and was developed by a group of human service parents and professionals in Erie County. The purpose of the website is to educate people and give them a place to find information for themselves and their loved ones.
- Special Education
 - [Erie Sprout](#) 24 Hour Information Hotline: 814-874-6996
[Select 'Community Resources' Tab to review various Categories and Organizations. 'Special Education' can be found within 'Education Resources'.]
Erie Sprout is supporting people through resources, outreach, understanding, and time, and was developed by a group of human service parents and professionals in Erie County. The purpose of the website is to educate people and give them a place to find information for themselves and their loved ones.
 - [PA Bureau of Special Education Consult Line](#) 1-800-879-2301
Help for families and advocates of children with special needs can be obtained by calling the Consult Line or with the on-line request form available at: <http://odr-pa.org/contact-consultline/>
 - [Intermediate Units in PA](#) [Website Link]
Intermediate Units in Pennsylvania are part of the governance structure of public education and are located in the middle between the state education agency and the local school districts. They provide specialized services to local school districts that can be operated more effectively and efficiently on a regional basis
- Support Groups
 - [Erie Sprout](#) 24 Hour Information Hotline: 814-874-6996
[Select 'Community Resources' Tab to review 'Local Support Groups'.]
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 - [NAMI \(National Alliance on Mental Illness\) Erie County, Pennsylvania](#)
Erie: 814-456-1773 or 1-800-517-1773
[Support Groups' are listed within the 'Resources' tab on the main webpage.]
NAMI of Erie County is a local non-profit organization established in 1984 to address the increasing need for families and individuals to have a stronger voice in the mental health system. Often, parents who have children with mental illness find themselves battling several barriers such as stigma, confusion over medical advice, and a lack of support for the family unit. However, NAMI of Erie County attempts to ease the struggle

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for parents by offering mental health education and support.

- [Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania](#) [Select 'P2P Supports Groups' link]
Linking families of children and adults with disabilities 1-888-727-2706
or special needs.
- [PA Families Incorporated](#) info@pafamiliesinc.org 1-800-947-4941
Statewide network providing support to families raising children and youth with
emotional, behavioral, and special needs, as well as serving as an advocate in the
different child serving systems.
Updated regularly.
[Erie County](#) [Select 'Resources' link on main page then select desired County.]

Women who are or who might be pregnant

The Healthy Baby Information Helpline – 1-800-986-2229

- Baby Supplies
 - [Pregnancy Counseling Services](#) Erie: 1-800-673-2535
24 hour hotline, free pregnancy testing, free counseling, emergency baby
supplies.
 - [Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc.](#) 814 836-7505
Free and confidential services.
- Breastfeeding Guides If you need more information visit [Handouts for Parents](#) or call
the Healthy Baby line at 800-986-BABY(2229).
 - Erie County PA Department of Health
[Parent & Child Home Visit Program](#) Erie area: 814-451-6700 or 1-800-352-0026
The purpose of the Maternal Child Health Home Visiting Program is to provide
health guidance, support, and education to pregnant women and families.
 - [Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Referral Guide](#)
Arranged by County
 - [Womenshealth.gov Breastfeeding Challenges Guide](#) 800-994-9662
Information regarding common breastfeeding challenges
Office on Women's Health, US Department of Health and Human Services
- Car Seats
 - [Car Seat Safety](#)
The PA Child Passenger Protection Act requires that all drivers transporting children
ages birth – four years use an approved child safety seat. Children ages four to eight
must wear a seat belt and be in a booster seat. Children with medical conditions or
disabilities may require special considerations or adaptations for transportation safety.
 - [The PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project](#)
Car Seat Loan Program by County - Information Hotline – 800-CAR-BELT
Training for school districts and companies 412-885-0266
on transporting children with special needs.
 - [National Highway Safety Transportation Administration](#) – 888-327-4236

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Information on car seat safety and installation inspection.

- [National Easter Seal Society](#) [phone listing] 800-221-6827
Referrals and information about car seats.
- [The American Academy of Pediatrics](#) 847-228-5005
Referrals and information about car seats.

- Counseling

- [Life Care of Corry](#) Corry: 814-664-9318
Pregnancy and Family Resource Center
- [Pregnancy Counseling Services](#) Erie: 1-800-673-2535
24 hour hotline, free pregnancy testing, free counseling, emergency baby supplies.
- [Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc.](#) 814 836-7505
Free and confidential services.

- CHIP

- [PA Children's Health Insurance Program](#) Call automated phone line at 800-986-KIDS (5437) and a CHIP representative will return your call within two business days.
Pennsylvania's CHIP program puts health coverage within reach for all uninsured kids and teens who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance.

- [Erie County, PA Department of Health](#)

[Nurse Family Partnership](#) 814-451-6700

The Nurse Family Partnership is a program for women who are having their first baby. If you enroll, a specially trained nurse will visit you in your home throughout pregnancy and will continue to visit until your baby is two years old. You and your nurse will decide when to schedule visits. You can join the program as early as you like, but you must join before the 28th week of pregnancy
The program is FREE.

- Pregnancy Insurance

- Presumptive Eligibility (PE), Medical Assistance (MA)
Presumptive Eligibility is a temporary program of health insurance coverage for pregnant women who are applying for Medical Assistance.
 - [PA Dep of Human Services Benefits Helpline](#) [phone] 1-800-692-7462
 - [PA Dep of Human Services County Assistance Office Contact Information](#)
- [COMPASS](#) (PA Dep of Human Services) [Website]
Online application for Pennsylvanians to apply for many health and human service programs. Click on the 'Apply Now' button to begin or use links on right side for further assistance.
- [PAHealthOptions.com \(PA Dep of Insurance\)](#) 1-877-881-6388
[The Pennsylvania](#) Insurance Department's Unbiased Guide to Understanding Health Insurance.

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- [text4baby](http://text4baby.org) Registration is free on the text4baby.org website.
Free text messages to keep you and your baby healthy throughout your pregnancy and the baby's first year.
- [WIC](http://wic.pa.gov) 800-942-9467
Through WIC, pregnant women, mothers, and caregivers of infants and young children learn about good nutrition to keep themselves and their families healthy. WIC provides nutrition service, breastfeeding support, health care and social service referrals, and healthy foods to over 250,000 participants every month in PA.

Lead health information for parents, homeowners, contractors, and healthcare professionals The Lead Information Helpline – 1-800-440-5323

- [Erie Redevelopment Authority](http://erie-redevel.com) 814-870-1540
The Erie Redevelopment Authority administers a program funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); the purpose of which is to reduce or eliminate toxic lead hazards in hundreds of residential dwellings throughout Erie County, at no cost to the occupants.
- [Elevated Lead Blood Level Case Management Guidelines \[CDC Web Page\]](http://www.cdc.gov/lead)
Recommendations from the CDC Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- [Environmental Protection Agency, Lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead) [EPA Web Page] (800) 424-5323
Provides many useful links for families including:
[Lead Hotline – National Lead Information Center](http://www.epa.gov/lead) link
- [PA Lead and Healthy Homes Program](http://www.lhhp.pa.gov) [Website link] (717) 772-2762
The Pennsylvania Lead and Healthy Homes Program (LHHP) seeks to create safe and healthy housing by addressing environmental health and safety issues in homes.
- Certified Contractors
 - Locating EPA Certified Lead Contractors and technicians
 - [EPA.gov - Lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)
 - [PA Labor and Industry](http://www.palaborandindustry.com)
Link to list of accredited trainers and certified contracting firms.
 - Information for Contractors
 - [EPA - Lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)
Renovate Right for Contractors and Trainers
 - [PA Labor and Industry](http://www.palaborandindustry.com)
Certification and Other Requirements for Lead Occupations
 - [OSHA](http://www.osha-slc.com)

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For information about regulations regarding work on facilities which are non-residential, contractors should contact the appropriate Occupational Safety & Health Administration Pennsylvania area office.

- Property Managers
 - [HUD – Lead Disclosure Rule](#)
Congress passed the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, also known as Title X, to protect families from exposure to lead from paint, dust, and soil. Section 1018 of this law directed HUD and EPA to require the disclosure of known information on lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards before the sale or lease of most housing built before 1978.

If you did not receive the Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards form when you bought or leased pre-1978 housing, contact 1-800-424-LEAD (5323).

Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury and their families

The Head Injury Information Helpline – 866-412-4755

- [Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania](#) 1-800-444-6443
Our mission: to prevent brain injury and improve the quality of life for people who have experienced brain injury and their family members through support, education, advocacy, and research.
- PA Department of Health Head Injury Program
 - [Head Injury Program](#) 866-412-4755
The goal of the program is to help individuals with a traumatic brain injury live independently in their homes and communities.
- Waiver Programs
 - [Independent Enrollment Broker](#) 788-550-4227
Office of Long-Term Living launched the PA Independent Enrollment Broker, a contracted statewide entity, to facilitate and streamline the eligibility/enrollment process for applicants seeking services for several PA waivers/programs.
 - [COMMCARE Waiver](#) 1-800-753-8827
A Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
 - [OBRA Waiver](#) 1-800-753-8827
Home and Community based Waiver program that may help if you have a developmental physical disability to allow you to live in the community and remain as independent as possible.
- Other Information

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- [Acquired Brain Injury Network of Pennsylvania](http://info@abin-pa.org) info@abin-pa.org, 1-800-516-8052
Nonprofit organization of brain injury survivors, family members, and friends dedicated to increasing public awareness about acquired brain injury, and to providing support, education, information, advocacy, and other services for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families.
- Anchor Inne Fairview: 814-484-1977
Assisted Living/Personal Care Services for the Traumatic Brain Injured Population.
- Brainline.org - 703-998-2020
Preventing, treating, and living with traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Immunizations/Vaccinations

- Erie County PA Department of Health
[Immunization and Child Health Clinics](#) 814-451-6777 or 1-800-352-0026 Ext. 6700
IMMUNIZATION RECORDS MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF APPOINTMENT. ALL CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR RESPONSIBLE ADULT. - See more at: <http://ecdh.org/clinic-info.php#sthash.ddvnx43S.dpuf>
- PA Department of Health Division of Immunizations
 - [Division of Immunizations](#) 717-787-5681
 - [Pennsylvania Vaccines for Children Program](#) 888-646-6864
Free vaccines for uninsured children 877-724-3258
- [PA Department of Health, Health Services Locator](#) [Website]
To find a local health center close to you select your county.

Legal advocacy for the disabled in Pennsylvania

[Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania](#) Harrisburg 1-800-692-7443
717-236-8110
717-346-0239 [TDD]
Philadelphia 215-238-8070
Pittsburgh 412-391-5225

The mission of the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania is to advance, protect, and advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

[PA Health Law Project](#) 1-800-274-3258

Helping People in Need get the Health Care they deserve.

Advocacy on access to health care for low-income consumers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

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Transportation Assistance for the Disabled

- **Pennsylvania Care Planning Council** Website address
[Community Disability, Assistive Technology & Transportation Service](#)
- **Pennsylvania Department of Human Services**
[Medical Assistance Transportation Program](#) Erie County: 814-455-3330