



Our Programs

ND Parent Training & Information Center Guide • Empower • Collaborate



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.

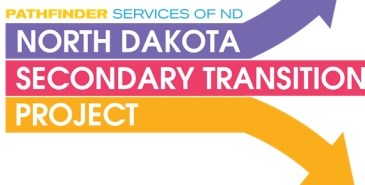
Experienced Parent Program Support • Connect • Navigate

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.



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. NDSTP focuses on the development of self-advocacy skills and developing an understanding of independence and the supports available to youth.

ND Parents - Parents Matter

Respect • Engage • Community

This statewide program is partially funded through the Department of Public Instruction Discretionary Funds and serves schools in their development and implementation of their family engagement efforts. Parents Matter is a trademarked initiative that explores what true engagement means and how to ensure that families feel seen, heard and valued. ND Parents provides resources, trainings, and support to faculty and families with all abilities towards a better understanding of collaboration, community and connections.



Parent Advising & Technical Assistance

Prepare • Empower • Partnerships

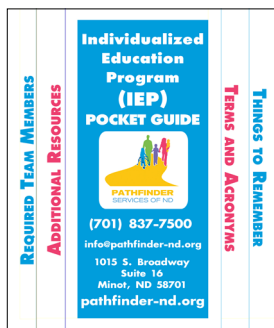
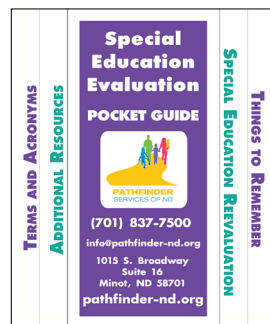
Helping parents, families, and youth to understand their rights pertaining to early intervention and special educational services is a key part of what we do as an agency. This year, our staff have **helped over 1500 unduplicated individuals** to navigate through the ND systems finding support and guidance 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

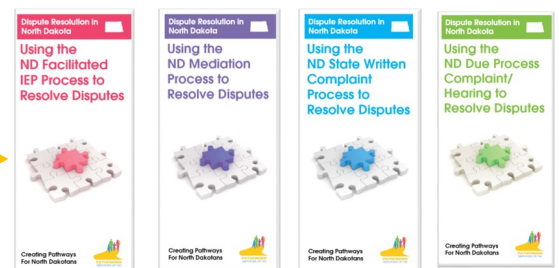
Online • Lending Library • Handouts

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 2000 individual resources available** to the public to help guide them along their path of learning. This year we **distributed over 47,942 resources** through **Technical Assistance and Training opportunities**. 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 132,938 visits annually** and our **monthly newsletters have reached over 24,437 individuals** just this year.



Check Out our NEW Parent Resources!

Dispute Resolution Process in North Dakota



Training

Expertise • State Specific • Vetted

This year saw the **delivery of 29 trainings** in multiple formats that focus on early intervention, special education, dispute resolution, self advocacy, and independence. Trainings are accessible anytime on-demand, or can be delivered as in-person or virtual workshops to schools, higher education institutes, agencies or organizations. This year **over 935 families, professionals, and youth accessed or participated in our trainings.**



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. We participate in the following professional organizations: IDEA Advisory Committee, State Vocational Rehabilitation Council, and Secondary Transition Community of Practice, in addition to serving on the National IDEA State Advisory Panel and State Interagency Coordinating Council Workgroup. PSND also went out into the community and **delivered 17 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, 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 numerous family events, and we were honored to deliver awards at the Special Olympic games (Special thanks to Mistie and her son Holden for making this happen). In total we **managed 26 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. In total we distributed **10,362 resources.** Our Mass mailing also allowed us to distribute an additional **15,470 resources** to agencies and stakeholders.



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

“Our daughter needed some supports for her development and we started working with staff at PSND. They have been a wonderful support to my wife and I as we try to figure things out and who to connect with. They made a scary time for us much better and we are thankful for that.” - T. H.

“We were having a terrible time working with my son's school and they helped me to understand my role as a parent and what to expect in his IEP Meeting. They helped me to feel prepared.” - T.C.

“I use the parent pocket guides with the families that I work with. They are so easy to follow and parents really appreciate how they highlight the processes within our state.” - A.D.

“It is GREAT to talk to someone who is a parent themselves and has been through the same frustrations. They were there to listen, offer advice and to help us...”- M.H.

