



Eligibility

Finger Lakes Developmental Disabilities Service Office (DDSO) has an access team serving ten counties. Pathways, Inc. works closely with the DDSO access staff to determine eligibility for supports and services.

According to the Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), in order to decide whether a person is eligible for OPWDD service, the DDSO will need:

- A recent general medical report or specialty report (such as a neurological report)
- A psychological report including assessment of intellectual functioning reporting intelligence scores, and for people with IQ's above 60, assessment of adaptive behavior scale and summary scores
- A social history, psychological report, or other background report that shows that the person became disabled before age 22 years (background information is still needed for children or adolescents)

In some cases, the DDSO will not be able to determine eligibility based on the reports provided. In those cases, they may request further information or different reports, and will either recommend where these tests can be done or arrange for them to be done.

“Voluntary” providers such as Pathways, Inc. work closely with schools, doctors, and the DDSO access staff to be sure that all necessary documentation has been secured to determine an individual’s eligibility. Once eligibility has been determined and approved, an agency like Pathways, Inc. can proceed with services and supports.

Family Support Services

Contact Information

Debbie Campbell
Director of Family Support

33 Denison Parkway West
Corning, NY 14830
Tel: (607) 937-4502
Fax: (607) 937-3210

Email: dcampbell@pathwaysforyou.org



33 Denison Parkway West
Corning, NY 14830
Telephone: (607) 937-3200
Fax: (607) 937-3202

Email: info@pathwaysforyou.org
Website: www.pathwaysforyou.org

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Family Support Services

“Pathways provides children, adults, and families with specialized programs and services in developmental disabilities, mental health, family support, traumatic brain injury, nursing home alternatives, home care, and child care. We hold ourselves accountable for meeting the expressed needs of those we support and for offering them meaningful opportunities to develop their own capabilities.”



Family Support Services

Family Support Services offers a network of options for families of individuals with developmental disabilities that live at home with a family member.

Developmental disabilities are caused by birth defects, injuries, disease, or genetic disorders and they occur before the age of 22 years. Common developmental disabilities include mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or other neurological impairments. Many individuals who are diagnosed with a developmental disability require some form of care and/or assistance throughout their lifetime. If the individual lives at home with the family, the family may need support and assistance in caring for the child.

Recreation

Children, teenagers, and adults can participate in recreational activities that are age appropriate and take place in the community. Activity coordinators plan and supervise at least two activities per month for each participant. The activities are planned to provide people with new and varying experiences that allow them to grow socially and to be involved with their peers and their community. This program serves those in the Bath and Corning area.

Respite

Respite provides short-term care for individuals with developmental disabilities. This care is provided by trained respite workers and allows families the opportunity for an evening out, attending appointments, shopping, or just taking a break.

Rest-pitality

Rest-pitality is an innovative collaboration between the business community and private agencies, which provides the means for families to take a well-deserved break from the daily routines that are common when parenting a child with a disability. This program facilitates weekend getaways in hotel settings and provides for meals and entertainment. It provides direct relief to families through respite and enables them to experience a time of relaxation and renewal, thereby improving their ability to cope with the daily stresses of raising a child with a disability and maintaining a healthy family. Local businesses donate goods and services for use by families in this program.



Ride with Pride

This program offers participants the opportunity to experience the benefits of recreational horseback riding. Through this experience riders realize improved gross or fine motor skills, self-awareness, coordination, and body strength and balance. Increased independence, self-image, attention span, and motivation are some additional benefits. This program is provided in conjunction with Reins of Hope, Inc. and is open to residents in Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties.

Family Reimbursement

This program provides reimbursement to families for goods and services related to their child's disability that are not funded through other resources such as insurance or Medicaid. It allows families greater flexibility and choice regarding goods and services they need. Families may be reimbursed for respite, adaptive equipment, continence products, and other goods and services necessary to assist them in caring for their child at home. This program serves families in Chemung, Steuben, and Schuyler Counties.

Information and Referral

Families can receive information about services and/or issues relating to their child's disability. We can also refer them to other organizations for additional assistance.

