

Business hours are Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

1 (800) 950-5250 (Voice/TDD)

1 (304) 346-0847 (Voice/TDD)

1 (304) 346-0867 (Facsimile)

West Virginia Advocates
1207 Quarrier Street
Litton Building, Suite 401
Charleston, WV 25301

Email: wvainfo@wvadvocates.org

Website: www.wvadvocates.org

*This Brochure is available in
alternate formats upon
request.*

WVA continually seeks individuals who are interested in becoming active members of our Board of Directors or one of our Advisory Councils. If you are interested, please get in touch with us.

*Donations to West Virginia Advocates are
100% tax deductible.*

PADD serves individuals with a developmental disability, a severe and chronic mental or physical impairment that begins before age 22.

CAP serves individuals who have applied for or are getting services from the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services, a Center for Independent Living, supported employment programs, and other programs funded under the federal Rehabilitation Act.

PAIMI assists individuals with significant mental illness or emotional impairment and carries out abuse and neglect investigations on their behalf.

PAIR serves those individuals with disabilities that substantially limit one or more major life activities who are not eligible for advocacy under any other federal programs.

PAAT helps children and adults with disabilities get the assistive technology devices and support services they need to maintain or improve their skills and capabilities.

PABSS assists individuals who receive SSI or SSDI break down barriers to employment.

PAVA carries out the mandate of the 'Help America Vote Act', legislation passed to ensure that individuals with disabilities can fully participate in the electoral process.

PATBI serves individuals with traumatic brain injury who are significantly limited in activities of daily living.

Funding for this project is provided by the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Mental Health Services; Administration on Developmental Disabilities; Social Security Administration.

West Virginia Advocates



*Protection and Advocacy
System for the Rights of
Individuals with Disabilities*

1 (800) 950-5250



West Virginia Advocates, Inc.

Protection and Advocacy System for the Legal Rights of Individuals with Disabilities Since 1977

WHO WE ARE

West Virginia Advocates, Inc. (WVA), is mandated by the Federal government to advocate for and protect the legal rights of West Virginians with disabilities.

WVA is a private, nonprofit agency. Our services are confidential and free of charge.

WHO OUR CLIENTS ARE

Our clients are individuals with disabilities, including developmental, cognitive, physical, and mental disabilities.

OUR MISSION

WVA's mission is to protect and advocate for the human and legal rights of persons with disabilities. People with disabilities are entitled to the same opportunities afforded all members of society. WVA works to ensure that West Virginians with disabilities have access to those opportunities so that they can be totally integrated into their communities and can live full, independent as possible, productive lives.

CONTACT US IF, Because of Your Disability, You Have Experienced:

- *abuse* or neglect
- *discrimination* in housing, transportation or education
- *denial* of services, such as mental health, rehabilitation and support services, or, services of poor quality
- *problems* with Individual Education Plans (IEPs), Individual Plans for Employment (IPEs), or other legally mandated programs
- *lack* of accessibility to public facilities and polling places
- *denial* of assistive technology devices and services
- *other* violations of disability rights

ELIGIBILITY

Because of limited resources, we cannot help everyone who requests our services. Our Intake Department gives Information and Referral to ANYONE who calls. WVA's acceptance of direct advocacy and legal cases is determined by a variety of criteria.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

- criminal cases
- probate of an estate
- divorce and custody cases
- bankruptcy
- other GENERAL legal cases

WE HELP CLIENTS BY

- Giving Information and Referrals
- Investigating Suspected Abuse and Neglect
- Conducting outreach and training on legal rights and self-advocacy skills
- Representing clients in negotiation and mediation at meetings, such as IEP or IPE meetings
- Representing clients in Administrative Proceedings, such as Medicaid Fair Hearings
- Filing litigation and representing clients when their disability rights are violated

WVA offers education, advice and technical assistance to groups and individuals, including non-WVA attorneys, on disability related issues and cases. We also collaborate with other organizations in efforts to change state policy to benefit people with disabilities.