

#1 in Where Do I Start? Series

WHERE DO I START? GENERAL RESOURCES

for Parents of Children with Disabilities or Special Health Care Needs



Between the alphabet soup of disability labels, laws and regulations (IEP, ADA, IDEA, SSI) and the different agencies that serve families with sons and daughters with disabilities (P2P, PEAK, CDE, Arc), it can get a little confusing! *Here is a quick guide to some major statewide resources (unless otherwise noted) and what they provide.* 

<ul> <li>Parent to Parent of Colorado (P2P)</li> <li>P2P will help get you to the right resources. Contact us—we're all in this together.</li> <li>One to one parent matching, parent support, information and referral</li> <li>Active Online Parent Support group linking parents throughout the state</li> <li>Website with disability specific resources, parent wisdom and more</li> </ul>	1-877-472-7201 www.p2p-co.org infop2p@ abilityconnectioncolorado.org
<ul> <li>The Arcs in Colorado</li> <li>Local chapters (listed on The Arc of Colorado website) provide advocacy services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families</li> <li>Information and referral, public policy support, community education</li> </ul>	f 303-864-9334 thearcofco.org
<ul> <li>Assistive Technology Partners</li> <li>Clinical AT services, outreach and information, annual resource exhibition</li> <li>Web-based technology exchange program; database of AT funding resources</li> </ul>	<b>f</b> 303-356-2040 assistivetechnology partners.org
<ul> <li>Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition (CCDC)</li> <li>Offers information, advocacy and assistance on disability rights issues for youth and adults with all types of disabilities</li> <li>Supports and advances public policy impacting the disability community</li> </ul>	f 303-839-1775 ccdconline.org
<ul> <li>Colorado Dept of Education (CDE) - Office of Special Education</li> <li>Website resources on special education law, school/district programs, etc.</li> <li>FAST FACTS on a variety of topics</li> </ul>	303-866-6694 www.cde.state.co.us/ cdesped/index.asp
<ul> <li>Citizens for Patient Safety</li> <li>Promotes patient safety through access to info about healthcare providers</li> <li>Provides resources and support for informed healthcare decision-making</li> </ul>	303-226-5526 citizensforpatient safety.org
<ul> <li>Disability Law Colorado (formerly The Legal Center)</li> <li>Advice, education and advocacy on the legal rights of people with disabilities.</li> <li>Publishes Everyday Guide to Special Education Law and more Serves the entire state, offices in Denver and Grand Junction</li> </ul>	800-288-1376 disabilitylawco.org
<ul> <li>Division for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (DIDD)</li> <li>Part of the <u>Colorado Department of Health Care</u>, Policy and Financing</li> <li><u>Adult Programs</u>, including Medicaid Waiver Programs</li> <li><u>Children's Programs</u>, including Medicaid Waiver Programs</li> <li><u>Behavioral Health Services</u> and Providers</li> </ul>	303-866-7450 colorado.gov/hcpf
<ul> <li><i>Easter Seals Colorado</i></li> <li>Respite, therapy programs, adult day programs and summer camps</li> <li>Warm water therapy and aquatic programs</li> <li>Employment services/support, transportation assessments</li> </ul>	<b>f</b> 303-233-1666 x237 easterseals colorado.com/co/

<ul> <li>Early Intervention Colorado</li> <li>Connects families with early intervention services to help infants and toddlers under age three with their development</li> <li>Spanish resources on website</li> </ul>	1-888-777-4041 eicolorado.org
<ul> <li><i>El Grupo VIDA (Metro Denver)</i></li> <li>Information, referrals and support groups for Spanish speaking parents</li> <li>Free annual conference in Denver, Thanksgiving dinner, summer picnic</li> </ul>	303-335-9875 elgrupovida.org
<ul> <li>EMPOWER Colorado (A Program of Ability Connection Colorado)</li> <li>Support, education and advocacy for families of children/youth who have social, emotional or mental health challenges</li> <li>Statewide internet listserv connecting families; support groups</li> </ul>	1-866-213-4631 empowercolorado.com
<ul> <li>Family Voices</li> <li>Assists families in navigating health care including Medicaid, Medicaid waivers and private insurance</li> <li>Training and advocacy for families of children with special health care needs</li> </ul>	familyvoicesco.org
<ul> <li>Guardianship Alliance of Colorado (A program of Ability Connection Colorado)</li> <li>Information and referral on guardianship of adults, including a volunteer guardianship matching program</li> <li>Training for those seeking to become a guardian for an adult family member</li> </ul>	303-228-5382 guardianshipallianceof colorado.org
<ul> <li>HCP, a program for children &amp; youth with special health care needs</li> <li>Regional offices serve children with special needs age birth to 21</li> <li>Provides developmental screenings</li> <li>Helps families to find a doctor, programs, medical resources and support groups in their community</li> </ul>	800-886-7689, ext. 2370 <u>colorado.gov/pacific/</u> <u>cdphe/hcp</u>
<ul> <li>Kids Mobility Network</li> <li>Provides durable medical equipment for families who are underinsured or unin- sured</li> </ul>	303-242-8281 kidsmobility.org
<ul> <li>Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP)</li> <li>Free family-centered education-focused conference offering support, information and training to both parents and professionals</li> <li>Includes lodging and meals; held three times/year</li> </ul>	303-866-6846 www.cde.state.co.us/ cdesped/PEP
<ul> <li>PEAK - Colorado's Parent Training and Information Center</li> <li>Statewide parent advisors who provide information about the special education process and parent's rights</li> <li>Trainings on a variety of topics including Understanding IEPs</li> <li>Inclusion resources and annual conference for parents and school personnel</li> </ul>	1-800-284-0251 peakparent.org
<ul> <li>THRIVE Center</li> <li>Mentoring and training for parents with children ages birth to 26</li> <li>Outreach to underserved, culturally and linguistically diverse families</li> </ul>	<b>f</b> 303-365-2772 thrivectr.org

The **WHERE DO I START?** series is available for downloading in English and Spanish at p2p-co.org

#1 General Resources#2 Disability Specific Resources#3 The Three P's: P2P, PEAK, PEP#4 Transition for Youth and Young Adults



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