



P&A Services

Uniting to champion the equality and inclusion of people with disabilities where we live, learn, work and play.

What is Protection and Advocacy

- ▶ The Protection & Advocacy Project (P&A) is an independent State agency that protects and advocates for the rights of people with disabilities within established priorities.
- ▶ Network of 57 P&As



Service Information

All ages

All types of disabilities

Exclusively for the person with the disability

No cost

Programs

- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for the Developmentally Disabled (PADD)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA)
- ▶ The Client Assistance Program (CAP)
- ▶ Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries with Representative Payees (PABRP)

- ▶ People served by P&A include infants, children and adults of all ages.
- ▶ Funds for program operations are from federal grants with additional support provided by the State of North Dakota.
- ▶ No cost for services.
- ▶ P&A does implement general eligibility requirements, including that the individual must reside within the State of North Dakota.
- ▶ Eligible individuals must have a qualifying disability as identified within P&A's programs.

Eligibility for P&A Services

SERVICES

- ▶ Services provided to all North Dakotans:
 - ▶ P&A provides information & referral, as well as information and education, to individuals and organizations.



Services provided to eligible individuals:

- ▶ Advocacy assistance - limited assistance for disability-related problems
- ▶ Advocacy representation - representation by a P&A advocate for identified rights violations
- ▶ Legal representation - representation by an attorney when an identified rights violation cannot be resolved through advocacy
- ▶ Protective services - activities in response to reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation of individuals with disabilities

Other services include:

Systems advocacy to address broad concerns with disability services and rights

Support to self-advocacy groups

Sharing legislative & policy information



Priorities FY 2023

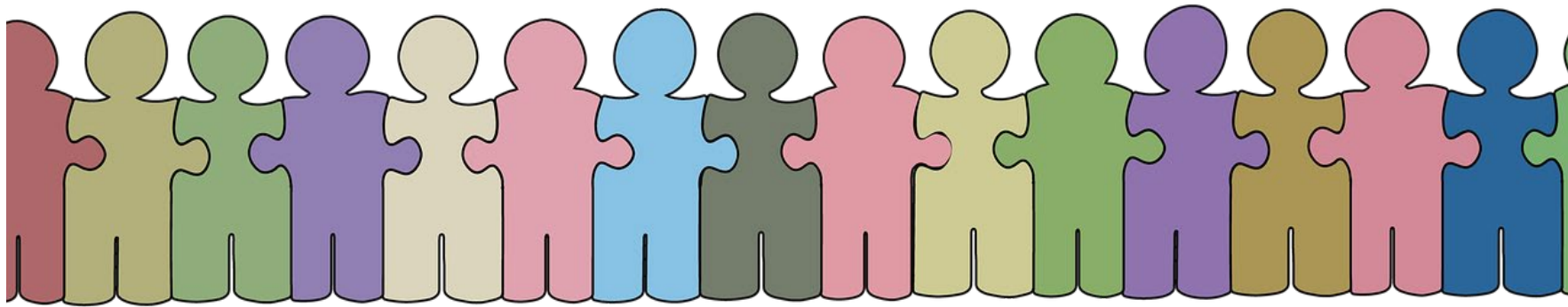
Subject to Board Approval

Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

- ▶ Investigating reports of mistreatment
- ▶ Training to service provider staff
- ▶ Systematic Monitoring
- ▶ Quality Assurance with provider systems

Community Inclusion - Inclusion

- ▶ Advocating for people who reside in institutional settings to move into the community
- ▶ Helping people who are at risk of moving to an institutional setting stay in the community



Community Inclusion - Education

- ▶ Helping students obtain positive behavioral supports
- ▶ Advocating for appropriate transition services
- ▶ Advocating for students placed in overly restrictive settings
- ▶ Seclusion and restraint
- ▶ Denial of 504 disability-related accommodations

Community Inclusion - Employment

- ▶ Address barriers to employment by advocating for support and services for people with disabilities to obtain and maintain employment.
- ▶ Advocate for comprehensive transition services and planning.
- ▶ Addressing disability-related employment discrimination and reasonable accommodations at work.
- ▶ Ensure that individuals are satisfied with employment supports and employment-related services provided.

Community Inclusion - Healthcare

- ▶ Advocating for disability-related medically necessary healthcare coverage.



Community Inclusion - Voting

- ▶ Educating voters with disabilities about accessible ways to vote, the voting process, and their rights as voters.
- ▶ Ensuring voters with disabilities have information and input into potential changes with the voting system.
- ▶ Ensuring polling places are fully accessible.



Community Inclusion - Assistive Technology

- ▶ Address inappropriate denials of disability-related Assistive Technology supports in the community, within educational settings, and relative to employment.



Criminal & Juvenile Justice

- ▶ Advocating for individuals to receive mental illness related treatment and supports within correctional facilities.
- ▶ Implementing justice plans that address unmet, disability-related needs for youth with behavioral health or mental illness.
- ▶ Represent individuals with mental illness at forced medication hearings.



Education, Training, Collaboration, Systems Change, Outreach, and Educating Policymakers

- ▶ Training for people with disabilities, family members, services providers, and the public regarding disability rights.
- ▶ Collaboration with partners.
- ▶ Influence and actively advocate for systems change.
- ▶ Conduct outreach to ensure people have knowledge of disability rights and P&A services.
- ▶ Educate policymakers regarding disability rights issues.

P&A Offices

- ▶ Williston
- ▶ Minot
- ▶ Belcourt
- ▶ Devils Lake
- ▶ Grand Forks
- ▶ Grafton
- ▶ Fargo
- ▶ Jamestown
- ▶ Bismarck
- ▶ Dickinson



Contacting P&A

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