Welcome To Dane County

Please use this map as a guide on the road to finding services for your child or youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) or disability, age 0-21.

Special Education:

All public schools are required to provide special education and related services to children who are eligible. The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) is the federal special education law that covers children ages 3 through 21. If the team of parents and school staff agrees a child is eligible, the team will create a written plan of services called an Individual Education Program (IEP) to determine how to best support the child.

Child care:

Childcare resource and referral agencies are located throughout Southern Wisconsin. Supporting Families Together Association will direct you to the closest program in your area.

Infants and Young Children:

- County Human Services Department: Dane County Human Services department provides access to long-term supports and services for eligible children and adults experiencing cognitive, physical, and emotional disabilities. Programs include case management, respite services, and in-home, after-school and out-of-home supports.
- Health Department: Public Health services include prenatal care coordination, local immunization clinics and home visits by public health nurses. Some local Public Health Departments provide school health nursing consultation, family planning services, home care, environmental health services and the WIC nutrition program for pregnant and breastfeeding women and their children.

Transportation:

Families can receive help with transportation for medical and non-medical destinations. Sometimes a family must pay privately and sometimes this is publicly funded depending on each individual situation, location, insurance and the transportation service’s policy.

Health Care Coverage:

Medicaid programs help eligible children and adults with disabilities pay for medical care. Each program has different eligibility criteria that need to be assessed at the time of application. Programs include BadgerCare Plus, SSI, Katie Beckett, and Children’s Long Term Support Waivers. Children and young adults may also be covered by private insurance because of a job or coverage through a parent’s insurance.

Respite:

Respite care provides families with a qualified caregiver and a break from 24-hour care responsibilities and is a needed resource for most families with children and youth with special health care needs.

Early intervention services, through the Birth to 3 Program, are available in every Wisconsin county for children who meet eligibility criteria. Birth to 3 professionals work in partnership with parents to help children with developmental delays grow, learn and communicate.

When You Don’t Know Who to Call, Call Us!

1-800-532-3321
Southern Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, at the Waisman Center

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Recreation:

Children and adults with disabilities benefit from sports, social and recreational activities. A variety of organizations provide recreation activities and are listed on the other side.

Planning for Adulthood:

Youth ages 14 to 21 with disabilities and their families can receive help planning for the transition to adulthood. Activities include moving from pediatric to adult health provider and exploring opportunities in education, work and community living.

Resources include Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Department of Public Instruction ( DPI) and Independent Living Centers (ILC.)

For additional copies contact the Waisman Resource Center 1-800-532-3321 or download the PDF at www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/products.php

Information and Assistance:

Waisman Resource Center is home to one of the five Regional Centers for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN), part of a statewide network that provides free and confidential information and assistance to parents of CYSHCN and the professionals who work with them. We will help to answer your questions and connect your family to resources, services and supports.

1-800-532-3321 / 608-265-8610 / www.waisman.wisc.edu/cyshcn/
Help is available- Call with questions!

Training and Advocacy:

State and local agencies provide information and assistance for families on how to best understand, protect and advance the legal, human and service rights of children and youth. Resources include legal assistance, help with an IEP and health benefits counseling. Parent training parents learn about resources and how to be a good advocate for their children.

Resource Roadmap

Front: description of variety of types of services and supports. Back: listing of specific names and contact information