

Table 2. Advocating for Families: Web-Based Resources

Category	Resource	Website	Description
Advocacy	The Arc	<a href="http://www.thearc.org">www.thearc.org</a>	The Arc provides advocacy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. From the national chapter website, parents can connect with their local chapter to receive supports/services.
	Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)	<a href="http://www.copaa.org">www.copaa.org</a>	COPAA provides resources for advocating for and protecting the legal and civil rights of students with disabilities and their families.
	U.S. Department of Education	<a href="http://www.sites.ed.gov/idea/parents-families">www.sites.ed.gov/idea/parents-families</a>	Students and parents can search the IDEA statute and the U.S. Department of Education regulations used for implementation of IDEA.
	Wrightslaw	<a href="http://www.wrightslaw.com">www.wrightslaw.com</a>	Reliable information about special education law and advocacy for children with disabilities is available from Wrightslaw for parents, educators, advocates, and attorneys.
Autism	Autism Society of America	<a href="http://www.autism-society.org">www.autism-society.org</a>	The society's website provides a comprehensive database for information on autism and can connect families to their state/local affiliate.
	National Autism Center	<a href="http://www.nationalautismcenter.org">www.nationalautismcenter.org</a>	The National Autism Center's work is research focused. Its keystone work is rooted in the National Standards Project, addressing the need for evidence-based practice standards for interventions.
Blind	National Federation of the Blind	<a href="http://www.nfb.org/our-community/parents-blind-children">www.nfb.org/our-community/parents-blind-children</a>	Parents can find programs and services that provide free white canes, Braille certification, and legal supports for expanding and protecting rights of blind people.
	National Organization of Parents of Blind Children	<a href="http://www.nopbc.org/Resources">www.nopbc.org/Resources</a>	Support is available for appropriate IEP and IFSP goals, Braille, supportive computer technology, and orientation and mobility.
Deaf	American Society for Deaf Children	<a href="http://www.deafchildren.org/knowledge-center/parents-and-families">www.deafchildren.org/knowledge-center/parents-and-families</a>	Learning of ASL for children regardless of their hearing status, selecting educational programs, and networking with parents of deaf and hard-of-hearing children are available.
	My Deaf Child	<a href="http://www.mydeafchild.org">www.mydeafchild.org</a>	Run by parents of children who are deaf, this site offers ASL lessons and provides resources for hearing assessment and management and communication methodologies.
Intellectual disabilities/ Down syndrome	National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC)	<a href="http://www.ndscenter.org">www.ndscenter.org</a>	NDSC is fully dedicated to improving the world for individuals with Down syndrome. Resources, education, outreach efforts, and advocacy are available for parents.

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Category	Resource	Website	Description
	National Down Syndrome Society	<a href="http://www.ndss.org">www.ndss.org</a>	Human rights advocacy for all individuals with Down syndrome is the focus along with providing resources for enhancing quality of life and becoming welcomed members of their communities for those with Down syndrome.
Learning disabilities	Learning Disabilities Association of America	<a href="http://www.ldamerica.org/audience/parents">www.ldamerica.org/audience/parents</a>	The parent resources provide a wealth of information on learning disabilities, learning about the special education process, and ways to help your child and yourself.
	Understood	<a href="https://www.understood.org">https://www.understood.org</a>	Learning and thinking differences are at the core of the organization's work. The family and caregiver resources offer support with school refusal, parent-teacher communication, and explanations of learning and thinking differences diagnoses.
Parent resources	A Day in Our Shoes	<a href="http://www.adayinourshoes.com">www.adayinourshoes.com</a>	This website is to teach parents about their IEP rights and what IEPs should optimally have in them to best serve and support their child's needs.
	Center for Parent Information and Resources	<a href="http://www.parentcenterhub.org">www.parentcenterhub.org</a>	The materials and resources on the website were created for parent support centers and the families they serve. In addition, parents can connect with parent technical assistance centers in their regions/states.
	Easter Seals	<a href="http://www.easterseals.com">www.easterseals.com</a>	The Easter Seals Society is America's largest nonprofit health care organization. Access to all state-level affiliates provides more details on the special education schools, respite services, and assistive technology resources available locally.
	National Information Center for Children and Youth With Disabilities	<a href="https://www.washington.edu/doit/resources/popular-resource-collections/resources-parents-and-mentors">https://www.washington.edu/doit/resources/popular-resource-collections/resources-parents-and-mentors</a>	The resources available are to promote the academic and career success of students with disabilities.
	National PTA	<a href="http://www.pta.org/home/family-resources/Special-Education-Toolkit">www.pta.org/home/family-resources/Special-Education-Toolkit</a>	Making the special education system less confusing and sharing how parents of children with special needs can assure their children receive the best education, services, and resources is the goal of the Special Education Toolkit.
	The Pacer Center	<a href="http://www.pacer.org">www.pacer.org</a>	Pacer's online parent resources are provided to support the decision-making processes associated with education and other vital services for their child and young adult.
	Special Olympics	<a href="http://www.specialolympics.org">www.specialolympics.org</a>	Using sports, people with intellectual disabilities can discover new strengths, abilities, and skills. Opportunities for becoming involved as an athlete, coach, volunteer, or an event official are available on the website.

Note. ASL = American Sign Language; IDEA = Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act; IEP = individualized education program; IFSP = individualized family service plan.