

*Making a difference  
in the lives of  
children and adults  
with disabilities.*

*It is the mission of  
Options & Advocacy  
to enhance and  
protect the lives of  
children and adults  
with disabilities.*

*Options & Advocacy is funded by the  
Illinois Department of Human Services,  
the Illinois Bureau of Early Intervention,  
individual and corporate donors.*



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**[www.optionsandadvocacy.org](http://www.optionsandadvocacy.org)**



# Options & Advocacy...

is the doorway to all services funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Developmental Disabilities (DHS/DDD) and the Illinois Bureau of Early Intervention

## Options & Advocacy Services

Options & Advocacy for McHenry County is a private, nonprofit, community based agency that provides service coordination and advocacy services to children and adults with developmental delays and/or disabilities.

### Service Coordination activities include:

- Information and Referral
- Screening
- Eligibility Determination
- Evaluation and Assessment
- Development of a person and/or family-centered Service Plan
- Service Arrangement and Linkage
- Advocacy and Community Education



## Our work begins with the Child & Family Connections program.

Child & Family Connections is the system point of entry to access state funded Early Intervention services. Early Intervention services are for children under the age of three who are experiencing delays in their development. This can include:

- Difficulty with movement
- Diagnosed vision or hearing loss
- Difficulty speaking clearly or understanding language
- Issues with behavior
- A diagnosis that can lead to developmental delays such as Down syndrome or cerebral palsy

If you are concerned about your young child's development, please call us for free developmental evaluation at 815-477-4720 ext. 238.

## We continue with the Community Access Coordination program

For children and adults with life-long developmental disabilities, our Community Access Coordination program can help in a number of ways:

- Entry in the State of Illinois data base known as Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS)
- Assistance in accessing services that meet individual needs
- Advocacy to ensure that Individual Service Plans are consistent with the strengths, needs, and choices of the individual
- Special education advocacy for eligible school-aged children
- Assistance in transitioning from special education to adults services

## Service Coordination

*Makes a Difference!*



**Call us today! 815-477-4720**

*Service Coordination is provided to families and individuals at no cost.*