

# Advocating for Your Child

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# Objectives:

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- ❖ What is an advocate?
- ❖ What are the different types of advocates?
- ❖ How can I become an advocate for my child?

# Who am I?

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- ❖ Wife
- ❖ Mother
- ❖ Daughter
- ❖ Sister
- ❖ Aunt
- ❖ Friend
- ❖ Social Worker/ Advocate



# What is an Advocate?

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An advocate is defined as anyone who argues for a cause; a supporter or defender; an advocate of civil rights.

# Social Work Principles

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Everyday, social workers stand up for human rights and justice and give a voice to unheard and marginalized populations.

Core Values:

- ❖ Service
- ❖ Social Justice
- ❖ Dignity and Worth of the Person
- ❖ Importance of Human Relationships
- ❖ Integrity
- ❖ Competence



# Different types of Advocates

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- ❖ Advocates for individuals with physical or sensory impairments
- ❖ Care Advocates
- ❖ Educational Advocates
- ❖ Teachers
- ❖ Doctors
- ❖ Parents
- ❖ Self

# How to become a parent Advocate

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- ❖ Build relationships with professionals involved in your child's care
- ❖ Gather information & ask questions
- ❖ Learn the rules
- ❖ Prepare
- ❖ Keep records
- ❖ Identify problems
- ❖ Ask more questions & LISTEN
- ❖ Propose solutions



# Parent's homework

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The following questions can be applied to education, health care, therapy, and psycho-social well being:

- What are your short-term goals for your child?

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- What are your long-term goals for your child?

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- What do you envision for your child in the future?

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# How do they compare?

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EDUCATIONAL, HEALTHCARE, THERAPY AND  
PSYCH-SOCIAL GOALS FOR YOUR CHILD .....

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR SHORT AND LONG TERM GOALS....

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

# Thank you and remember....

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- On your journey from emotions to advocacy, you will learn about your child's disability, educational and remedial techniques, educational progress, Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), and how to artfully advocate.
- You will learn how to present your concerns and problems in writing, prepare for meetings, and search for win-win solutions. You will learn how to use your emotions as a source of energy and power, and how to focus on meeting the needs of your child.



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***Providing Outpatient Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy***

**Physical Therapy**

- Strengthening
- Infant Motor Disorders
- Gross Motor Delays
- Improve Walking
- Decrease Falls
- Wheelchair Evaluations
- Post-Op Rehab
- Orthopedic Rehab

**Occupational Therapy**

- Activities of Daily Living
- Upper Body Strengthening
- Fine Motor Control
- Visual Training
- Sensory Integration
- Play/Social Skills
- SOS Feeding Approach

**Speech Therapy**

- Articulation
- Auditory Processing
- Mechanical Feeding
- Speech/Voice
- Comprehension
- Expression
- Social/Pragmatics

**Case Management**

provided as needed by  
a licensed social worker.

***We accept all children's  
medicaid and most  
private insurances.***