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Get **SET**...**S**upport, **E**ducate, **T**rain for Success!

The **mission** of KY-SPIN, Inc. is to link families and individuals with disabilities to valuable resources that will enable them to live productive, fulfilling lives.

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Director's Corner

Hi, hope all is well! One of my favorite things about people is how unique we all are, each bringing different knowledge and experiences to share. Let's take every chance we get to spread love and kindness, valuing one another for the amazing individuals we are. That's the kind of world I dream of for everyone.

With Love,
Rhonda Logsdon



KY-SPIN
Celebrating Who We Are!

Let's discover what we may have in common with someone who has a disability!


 School
 Food
 Sleeping
 Emotions
 Rules
 Friends
 Grown ups
 Playing
 Respect
 Kindness
 Hobbies

Most important of all is we all want to be...







1-800-525-7746  www.kyspin.com

Let's Find What We Have in Common!
This fun activity helps us learn that we have things in common with everyone!

- 1. Think About What You Like** - What's your favorite food? What games do you like to play?
- 2. Meet a New Friend** - At the park or school, approach someone new with a smile and say, "Hi! I'm _____. What's your name?"
- 3. Find Something the Same, Talk about what you both like** - Do you both love pizza? Do you both enjoy music?
- 4. Talk About It** - Share with others what you learned and how you are alike in different ways.
- 5. Draw or Write** - Show what you learned by making a picture or writing a few words below.

Everyone is special, and we can all be good friends!

1-800-525-7746  www.kyspin.com

[Download](#)

Family Activities

It's Disability Awareness Month! ☐

Let's take this time to have meaningful conversations with our little ones about disabilities! By talking about our beautifully diverse world, we can help kids grow in understanding and kindness.

Everyone has their own way of doing things—different likes, dislikes, interests, and routines. Just because one person does something differently doesn't mean they can't achieve the same goal. Our differences make the world special, and it's important to celebrate them!

How to Get Started:

1. Find a Cozy Spot – Snuggle up and get ready for a thoughtful chat.
2. Ask the Question – Who do you know that has a disability? (It could be a classmate, neighbor, or family member.)
3. Let the Conversation Flow – Encourage kids to share their thoughts and ask questions.
4. Listen & Learn – Remember, sometimes our little ones have the most amazing insights to teach us!

By embracing these discussions, we help build a more inclusive and understanding world—one thoughtful conversation at a time! ☐



Nothing beats the feeling of being...

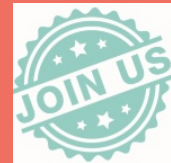
INCLUDED

and

LOVED

For who you are!

Upcoming KY-SPIN Events!



 **KY-SPIN**
presents
BRIDGING THE GAP
IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

New Training Options Available!
Join KY-SPIN's Bridging the Gap in Special Education.

This is an in-depth training which includes:

- Building Partnerships
- Overview of Section 504, American with Disabilities Act (ADA) & Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) 2004
- Overview of Special Education Process (IDEA Part B: ages 3-21) –Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- IEP A Closer Look
- IDEA Procedural Safeguards
- Dispute Resolution
- 504 Plan
- Individual Health Plan (IHP)



**6 - One Hour Weekly Sessions
on Thursday Evenings**
Dates: February 27; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 2025
Time: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm EST
Location: Virtual through Zoom
[Register Now:](https://tinyurl.com/5ap12wda)
<https://tinyurl.com/5ap12wda>



OR

1 - All Day Saturday Session
Date: March 29, 2025
Time: 9 am - 4 pm EST
Location: Virtual through Zoom
[Register Now:](https://tinyurl.com/4bc6vzd4)
<https://tinyurl.com/4bc6vzd4>





For more information Contact Amber Hamm:
amber@kyspin.com 859-907-5685

1-800-525-7746 spininc@kyspin.com www.kyspin.com

Join us for
**KY-SPIN's Bridging the Gap
in Special Education Virtual
Training**

2 New Training Options Available

6 – One Hour Weekly Sessions
on Thursday Evenings on
February 27; March 6, 13, 20, 27;
April 3, 2025 at 6:30 pm – 7:30
pm EST

[Register Now](https://tinyurl.com/5ap12wda)

OR

March 29, 2025 at 9am - 4pm
ET [Register Now](https://tinyurl.com/4bc6vzd4)

Parents/Participants As Leaders (PALS) Training

Weekly on Thursday evenings via
Zoom

April 24-May 29, 2025

at 6:30m – 7:30pm EST

Topics Include:

- Leadership Styles and Roles
- Effective Communication Strategies
- Sound Based Decision Making
- Conflict Resolution
- Advocacy
- Collaboration/Partnership

[Register Now](#)



Parents/Participants As Leaders (PALS)

Virtual Leadership Training

weekly on Thursday evenings via Zoom

April 24-May 29, 2025

6:30m - 7:30pm EST



Topics Include

- Leadership Styles and Roles
- Effective Communication Strategies
- Sound Based Decision Making
- Conflict Resolution
- Advocacy
- Collaboration/Partnership

Reasons to Attend

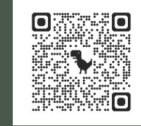
- Increase your leadership and advocacy skills
- Learn how to promote personal and systems change
- Gather resources to share with families, youth, and professionals in your community
- Meet like minded individuals who want to advocate and lead
- Build relationships with others in your community

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What is PALS?

PALS is a training by Kentucky - Special Parent Involvement Network (KY-SPIN) providing leadership skills and learning opportunities to youth/adults with disabilities their parents, caregivers, and family members.

Register Now



<https://tinyurl.com/484xjwuk>

For More Information Contact:
Amber Hamm, Training and Outreach
Coordinator @
amber@kyspin.com or
(859) 907-5685



LUNCH & LEARN

2nd Tuesday of each month
12pm - 1pm EST

KY-SPIN provides training, information, and valuable resources to individuals with disabilities, their families and professionals.

Schedule & Topics

April 8, 2025 Understanding Early Periodic Screening and Treatment (EPSDT) Services presented by Justin Shaw, Branch Manager, Maternal and Child Health Branch

This webinar will cover the essentials of EPSDT, a comprehensive service designed to ensure that children receive the necessary screenings, diagnoses, and treatment services to stay healthy. Whether you're a parent, caregiver, or professional, this webinar will provide valuable insights into how EPSDT services can help maximize care during critical developmental years.

May 13, 2025 Identifying Mental Health Needs for Your Student

Understanding and addressing your student's mental health is crucial for their success and well-being. This webinar will provide valuable insights for both caregivers and professionals on how to recognize signs of mental health challenges, navigate available resources, and offer the right support. Whether you're a parent or educator, this session will help you better understand how to identify and respond to your student's mental health needs in school.

June 10, 2025 Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)

Join us for an insightful presentation on teaching Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) to children with disabilities! Learn practical strategies to support skill-building, overcome executive function challenges, and foster self-advocacy at every stage of development. Whether you're an educator, therapist, or caregiver, this session will provide valuable tools to help children gain independence in ways that are meaningful to them.

For more information contact:

Amber Hamm, Training and Outreach Coordinator

amber@kyspin.com

800-525-7746

www.kyspin.com

[CLICK HERE](#) OR SCAN TO REGISTER



<https://tinyurl.com/3u7dyzvd>



KY-SPIN virtual CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Join KY-SPIN's monthly caregiver support group specially designed for parents of children with disabilities of all ages. These virtual support groups are driven for families, by families. Each meeting offers caregiver support and a parent café.

Topics of Discussion:

April 21, 2025 10 AM (EST)

HANDLING CRISES: Emergency Preparedness for Families

Join KY-SPIN for an informative session on emergency preparedness for families. We'll discuss different types of family emergencies, effective coping strategies, and practical steps to stay prepared.

May 19, 2025 10 AM (EST)

MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF CAREGIVERS

Being a caregiver can be tough on your mental health. Join Sally Rooney and KY-SPIN to recognize signs of stress, burnout, and anxiety, and learn ways to manage them. Sally will discuss ways she connected with others who understood her journey and will share helpful resources. Taking care of yourself is just as important as caring for others.

June 16, 2025 10 AM (EST)

ENSURING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT WITH SCHEDULES AND ROUTINES

Join this meeting to learn how to create a structured environment that supports your child's growth. You'll gain practical resources to develop personalized schedules, reduce daily stress, and create stability, all while feeling more confident in your caregiving role.

For more information contact Amber Hamm

[859-907-5685](tel:859-907-5685)

amber@kyspin.com

<https://tinyurl.com/ymxjfu8>

1-800-525-7746

spininc@kyspin.com

www.kyspin.com



You only need to register once, attend each month or just the months you want!

Scan QR Code or [click to register](#)



Lunch & Learn [Register Now](#)

Virtual Caregiver Support Group
[Register Now](#)



Online Webinars

TRANSITION TUESDAYS

Building a Strong Foundation for Youth with Disabilities

WHEN: 4TH TUESDAY MONTHLY

TIME: 9:30AM - 10:15AM EST

April 22, 2025 Navigating the Transition from High School to College

Presenters: Kacy Midkiff BCTC CTP and Jeanine Mosher FCPS OMC MSD CTP teacher

Please join us as we discuss comprehensive transition programs from two levels; dual credit and a two year college. We will discuss proactive steps, strategies and realistic expectations of this transition.

May 27, 2025 Recognizing When You Need Help

Join us for an empowering session on recognizing when and how to seek help. We'll explore signs that indicate you may need support, how to communicate your needs, and where to find trusted resources. Gain confidence in advocating for yourself and accessing the help you deserve.



Summer break is rapidly approaching!

Transition Tuesday webinars will resume the 4th Tuesday in September.

In the meantime, visit us on the web, and follow us @kyspininc

FOLLOW US
@KYSPININC ON:



Educators and students encouraged to attend!

REGISTER HERE

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Davis Rodriguez

270-804-9927

DAVIS@KYSPIN.COM



www.kyspin.com

<https://tinyurl.com/936jrtg9>

Transition Tuesdays [Register Now](#)



Do you have a child receiving special education services in Kentucky this school year? If so, your input is needed!

Your responses will help guide efforts to improve services and results for our children and families.

[Click here to take the 2025 Parent Survey](#)

Resource Central





**Finding the ABILITY in
 DISABILITY**
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES DESERVE
 RESPECT
 ACCESS
 OPPORTUNITIES
 INCLUSION
 SUPPORT



Celebrate Equity
 PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MAY
 DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY, BUT
 THEY STILL DO THEM!

WWW.KYSPIN.COM **800-525-7746**

**A DISABILITY DOES
 NOT DEFINE A PERSON**
**WE ARE A
 PERSON FIRST**
**TALK TO US
 DIRECTLY**
DO NOT JUDGE US
SEE OUR STRENGTHS
**ACKNOWLEDGE OUR
 ABILITIES**
LEARN FROM US
**NOT ALL DISABILITIES ARE
 ALIKE. SOME CAN BE SEEN AND
 SOME ARE INVISIBLE.**
**ALWAYS BE KIND AND YOU WILL
 NEVER FAIL TO BE INCLUSIVE.**



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[Download](#)

Lunch & Learn Relationships and Disabilities Webinar Recording

<https://youtu.be/0aUSZfLn6jY>

Healthy Relationships

**WHY ARE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MORE
 LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE ABUSE?**

- Lack of resources (such as transportation, access to a phone, or accommodations for their disability)
- Lack the knowledge or skills needed to access services
- Lack of knowledge about services needed for safety (such as a DV shelter); many services are not public knowledge and not provided in ways that are easily accessible to those with disability
- People with disabilities are usually dependent on others; and an abusive person ensures they are heavily dependent on them for care
- If the person with a disability reports, who will care for them? Where will they go?
- If they have children, there is a greater risk of losing custody
- Overall vulnerability and ability of an abuser to take advantage in multiple ways

7

Early Childhood

Enrolling in Kentucky's Early Intervention System (KEIS) (Formerly known as First Steps) Birth up to 3 years old

Getting Started in Early Intervention

When a child is suspected of having a developmental delay and/or an established risk condition and is referred to the Kentucky Early Intervention System (KEIS), they undergo screening and evaluation as necessary to determine eligibility for early intervention services. Anyone can make referrals to KEIS, but all actions require written parental consent. If the child is deemed eligible, a family assessment is conducted to identify the family's concerns and priorities, followed by developing an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). This entire process must be completed within 45 days of the referral date.



Eligibility Determination

KEIS staff will meet to determine if the child is eligible for early intervention services based on the evaluation, relevant medical and health records, and the input of the caregiver. If the child is determined eligible, a family assessment will be conducted. If the child is ineligible, KEIS staff will provide the family with resources to assist the caregiver in the child's continued development.

Evaluation of the Child

At least one parent must be present for the evaluation. During this visit, the evaluator will ask the caregiver questions and watch the child play to determine the child's present levels of development.

The caregiver knows more about the child than the evaluator and can assist with the evaluation process by:

- Helping the child feel comfortable during the evaluation
- Engaging in activities that explore the child's abilities
- Providing truthful and accurate responses to questions about the child
- Ensuring the evaluator sees the child's unique strengths and needs
- Asking questions and offering feedback about the child's evaluation

After the evaluation is completed, the evaluator will provide a written report to the parent.

Family Assessment

If the child is eligible for early intervention services, KEIS staff will schedule a family assessment. The parent interview is designed to identify the family's resources, priorities, and concerns, as well as the supports and services necessary to enhance the family's capacity to meet the child's developmental needs.

Caregivers can best prepare for the conversation by taking some time to think about daily routines. For each routine, consider the following:

- What does the caregiver do during this routine?
- What does the child do during this routine?
- How does the child affect this routine?
- What specific strengths or needs does the child have in this routine?
- How satisfied is the caregiver with this routine?

After the family assessment is completed, KEIS staff will provide a written report to the parent. An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) will be developed based on the family priorities discussed during the family assessment.



Screening the Child

Screening is a quick snapshot that helps the KEIS program decide if a child needs further testing. Screening can be done over the phone, in the office, or in another community setting.

Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

The initial IFSP meeting must occur before the 45-day deadline. The Federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires 100% compliance with this timeline. The IFSP is a written plan that outlines family-centered outcomes, specifying what services will be provided, who will deliver them, when and where they will occur, and the duration of services. The IFSP is written for a year and will be reviewed at least every six months to ensure it continues to align with the family's priorities.

The IFSP team includes the parent(s), KEIS staff, and the evaluator. A service provider may also be invited if they are likely to work with the family. The entire IFSP team must agree upon the plan.

Parents can prepare for the meeting by:

- Inviting others to attend, such as family members, childcare providers, or anyone else who should be involved;
- Reviewing their child's evaluation and family assessment reports; and
- Identifying any additional relevant information that hasn't been shared yet.

OSEP requires timely early intervention services. This means services will start no earlier than five working days after obtaining written consent but must begin within 30 calendar days.



For more information, contact:
Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Department for Public Health
KEIS Program

275 E. Main St., HS2-EE
Frankfort, KY 40621
(502) 564-3756 or
(877) 417-8377

The cost of printing was paid from state funds through the Department for Public Health and KEIS, pursuant to KRS 57.375.

Enrolling in Kentucky's Early Intervention System



Kentucky Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

[Download\(Spanish Version\)](#)

If you need someone to talk to....

- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Crisis Line: 988 (talk or text)
Website: <https://988.ky.gov>

- KY Crisis Text Line: Text KY to 741741 to reach a volunteer Crisis Counselor
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800) 273-TALK (8255)
- Kentucky [Community Mental Health Centers \(CMHCs\)](#) 24-Hour Crisis Numbers
- Disaster Distress Helpline Crisis line: 1-800-985-5990 (also available for Voice Phone-VP); Spanish-speakers can press "2" for 24/7 bilingual services. Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/ddh>

Youth Connect

Disability Disclosure

1 in 4 adults in the United States reported having a disability in 2022.

That's over 70 million people!

2022 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

47%

Almost half of employees with invisible disabilities have **not** disclosed their conditions to their employers.

2023 Society for Human Resource Management

Your Right to Decide

Deciding when you disclose your disability is your choice. Before disclosing talk to trusted family and friends to understand your options.

- Do you disclose before or after being hired?
- How much do you need to disclose?
- How will you disclose?

[The 411 Disability Disclosure Youth Workbook](#) [411 Disability Disclosure Families Workbook](#)



WWW.KYSPIN.COM

800-525-7746

[Download](#) Disability Disclosure Infographics and Worksheets



DISABILITY DISCLOSURE GOALS FOR THE IEP

It's important to have disability disclosure goals in your IEP so you can learn how to talk about your needs and get the right support. This helps you feel confident and succeed in school and beyond.



I can identify and share my disability with others for greater understanding.

Student will practice explaining their disability and the supports they need in at least 3 different settings (e.g., classroom, meetings with teachers, or at home) with minimal assistance.



I know which laws protect my rights as an individual with a disability.

Student will demonstrate understanding of their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by identifying 3 accommodations or services they can request to support their learning.



I can discuss my disability in social situations appropriately when it is required.

Student will disclose their disability to a teacher or peer when necessary, using appropriate language, in at least 2 different social or academic situations with guidance.



I can advocate for my needs by requesting accommodations related to my disability.

Student will independently disclose their disability to a new teacher or staff member and describe their specific needs for accommodations in 4 out of 5 opportunities.

WWW.KYSPIN.COM

800-525-7746

[Download](#) Disability Disclosure Transition Goals for IEP

Transition Tuesday Hey, Where's My Transition Plan Webinar Recording

The Rules Change

Services available are based on **ELIGIBILITY**

Find services you want or need

- Have proof that you need accommodations
- Employment
- Learn job skills
- Part-time job or internship
- Post-secondary Education
- Student support services

09:40:00 AM EDT

<https://youtu.be/grCsO6giELM>



Learn more about us
[KY-SPIN Infographic](#)
[KY-SPIN Infosheet](#)

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REQUEST ASSISTANCE OR MAKE A REFERRAL
800-525-7746 or 502-937-6894- spininc@kyspin.com

[Contact Form \(www.kyspin.com/contact/\)](http://www.kyspin.com/contact/)

Download Printable [KY-SPIN Referral Form Here](https://tinyurl.com/4t2evb59)
(<https://tinyurl.com/4t2evb59>)

KY-SPIN, Inc. | 800-525-7746 | spininc@kyspin.com
| [Website](#) | [Donate](#)

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KY-SPIN, Inc. | 10301-B Deering Road | Louisville, KY 40272 US

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