

Why Families Should Apply for Disability Services

APPLYING TODAY = OPTIONS TOMORROW
BEING COUNTED = MORE RESOURCES FOR EVERYONE

Why Some Families Don't Apply for Disability Services

Even when support is available, families often hesitate. Here's why:

- **The Process Feels Overwhelming**
Forms, evaluations, and paperwork can be too much. Many families feel lost or simply too exhausted to begin.
- **They've Been Burned Before**
Past experiences of being denied or ignored can make families hesitant to try again.
- **Fear of the Unknown**
Families may worry about losing control or fear that services will be intrusive.
- **Misinformation**
Some are wrongly told they don't qualify - sometimes even by professionals.
- **Stigma & Pride**
In some cultures, asking for help feels like failure. It's not. It's a smart way to protect and support your family.
- **"It's Not That Bad" Thinking**
Many families minimize their challenges, unaware that they may still qualify for services.

Why You Should Apply for Disability Services

- **You Deserve Support**
Programs like the *iBudget Waiver* are here to help - especially in your later years. They're meant to ease the burden, not add to it.
- **Services Can Be Life-Changing**
Support includes personal care, therapies, job coaching, transportation, and other safety nets that improve daily life.
- **Applying Puts You on the Radar**
The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) pre-enrollment list is long. If you're not on it, the system won't recognize your needs when it matters most.
- **It's Smart to Plan Ahead**
Applying early gives you more choices down the road - especially in a crisis.
- **You Don't Have to Do It Alone**
AFINS is here to walk beside you. We guide you through the process and help you avoid common obstacles.

Why Families Should Apply for Disability Services

Applying for Disability Services Helps the Whole Community

Every application is more than just paperwork - it's proof. Proof that people with disabilities live here, need support, and **deserve to be seen and counted**.

When you apply, you:

- Put **your family's needs** on the map
- Contribute **real numbers** to state data
- Help build **political pressure** for change

Data Drives Decisions

Legislators and state agencies rely on these numbers to:

- **Justify funding increases**
- **Approve new services**
- **Push back against budget cuts**

When families don't apply, it can seem like there's no problem. And if there's no problem - there's no reason to act. It's more than just a form - it's a powerful act of advocacy. The more families apply, the louder our collective voice becomes.

Your application says:

"We exist. We matter. And we're not going away."

Top 3 Tips for Applying

1. **Don't Wait - Apply Early**
Even if things seem manageable now, applying sooner gives you options later.
2. **Be Honest About Your Needs**
Don't downplay challenges. Describe your daily struggles clearly and truthfully.
3. **Ask for Help**
AFINS is here to guide you through the process - with support, not judgment.

Bonus Tip: Keep copies of everything you submit and document all communication. It can make a big difference later.

Confidently Navigate the APD Process with AFINS Support

- **Step-by-step guidance** to help you move forward with clarity and confidence - through easy-to-follow guides and monthly workshops
- **Personalized, hands-on support** to help you build the strongest possible application package
- **Clear, reassuring explanations** of what to expect - so there are no surprises
- **Inspiring stories from real families** who've walked this path and found success
- **Judgment-free, compassionate support** - we're with you every step of the way

You don't have to figure this out alone. Reach out today at afins.avp@gmail.com.