

ND PROTECTION & ADVOCACY PROJECT



INDIVIDUAL JUSTICE PLAN (IJP)

What is an Individual Justice Plan (IJP)?

An IJP is for someone with a disability. The person's disability can cause them to act in ways that look criminal. The person's disability can make participation in the criminal justice process difficult. An IJP identifies the person's disability. The Plan looks at the person's life and what helpful supports or services may be missing. An IJP will identify consequences that are appropriate for the person's behavior and his or her disability. IJPs are meant to prevent further involvement with the law.

Who is involved with IJPs?

IJPs are for youth and adults. Their disability must be related to the behavior that looks criminal. IJPs can be used before a person ever comes in contact with the justice system. They can also be used once someone has been convicted of a crime. Anyone can start the process, including family members, guardians, people at school, work, healthcare providers, law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and parole or probation officers.

How does an IJP work?

Writing an IJP is a team effort. The team will discuss the person's disability(ies) and try to understand where the behaviors come from. The team will look at the person's life to identify strengths and areas where support is needed. They will make recommendations on ways to support the person and provide needed services. They will also identify any needed accommodations so the person can fully participate in the process. The team will meet on a regular basis to review and adjust the Plan as needed.

What is in an IJP?

Examples of IJPs and a form you can fill out are in the [Individual Justice Plan \(IJP\) manual](#) at Protection & Advocacy's [website](#). The IJP Manual has

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more detail along with contact information for people who may be helpful in the process.

Why are IJPs important?

An Individual Justice Plan is a way to prevent someone with a disability from getting into trouble with the law. It is also a way help someone who is or has been in trouble with the law stay out of trouble.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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If you need this handout in an alternative format,
please contact the Protection & Advocacy Project.



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