

Disability *Rights*

South Dakota

Protection and Advocacy System for South Dakota

“Disability Rights South Dakota is the non-profit legal services agency dedicated to protecting and advocating for rights and inclusion of South Dakotans with disabilities.”

Who We Are

- Disability Rights South Dakota (DRSD) is appointed by the governor as the federally mandated Protection & Advocacy (P&A) system for South Dakota. DRSD, formerly South Dakota Advocacy Services, was established in 1977.
- DRSD is a private, non-profit agency that is funded by 9 federal programs:
 - Protection and Advocacy for individuals with Developmental Disabilities (PADD)
 - Client Assistance Program (CAP)
 - Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)
 - Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR)
 - Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)
 - Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)
 - Protection and Advocacy for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI)
 - Protection and Advocacy for Voting Accessibility (PAVA)
 - Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries with Representative Payees (PABRP – New Program)



Why We're Here

In 1972, Geraldo Rivera broadcasted an investigative report of the Willowbrook state institution in Staten Island, New York. Rivera's reporting exposed abuse, neglect and a lack of services and supports for those at the institution.

The series of broadcasts triggered the P&A concept and called to action New York's senior senator, Jacob Javitz, to incorporate the first P&A program (PADD) into the 1975 renewal of the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (The DD Act). The DD Act was originally signed into law on October 31, 1963, by President John F. Kennedy, just 22 days before he was assassinated.



To learn more about Willowbrook and how it led to P&A's view the Geraldo Broadcast at: <http://index.geraldo.com/folio/willowbrook>

Who We Serve

DRSD eligibility criteria:

- Individual with a disability must have a disability-rights issue, such as abuse, neglect, or rights violations. For most programs, this means the issue/problem **MUST** arise from the individual's disability.
- The individual must meet eligibility under the qualifying federal program.
- The need must fall within the fiscal year's priorities/area of focus.
- Must be a South Dakota resident.



What We Do

Legal Advocacy

Advice/Information
& Referral

Individual Case Work

Representation

Protection

Investigations

Monitoring

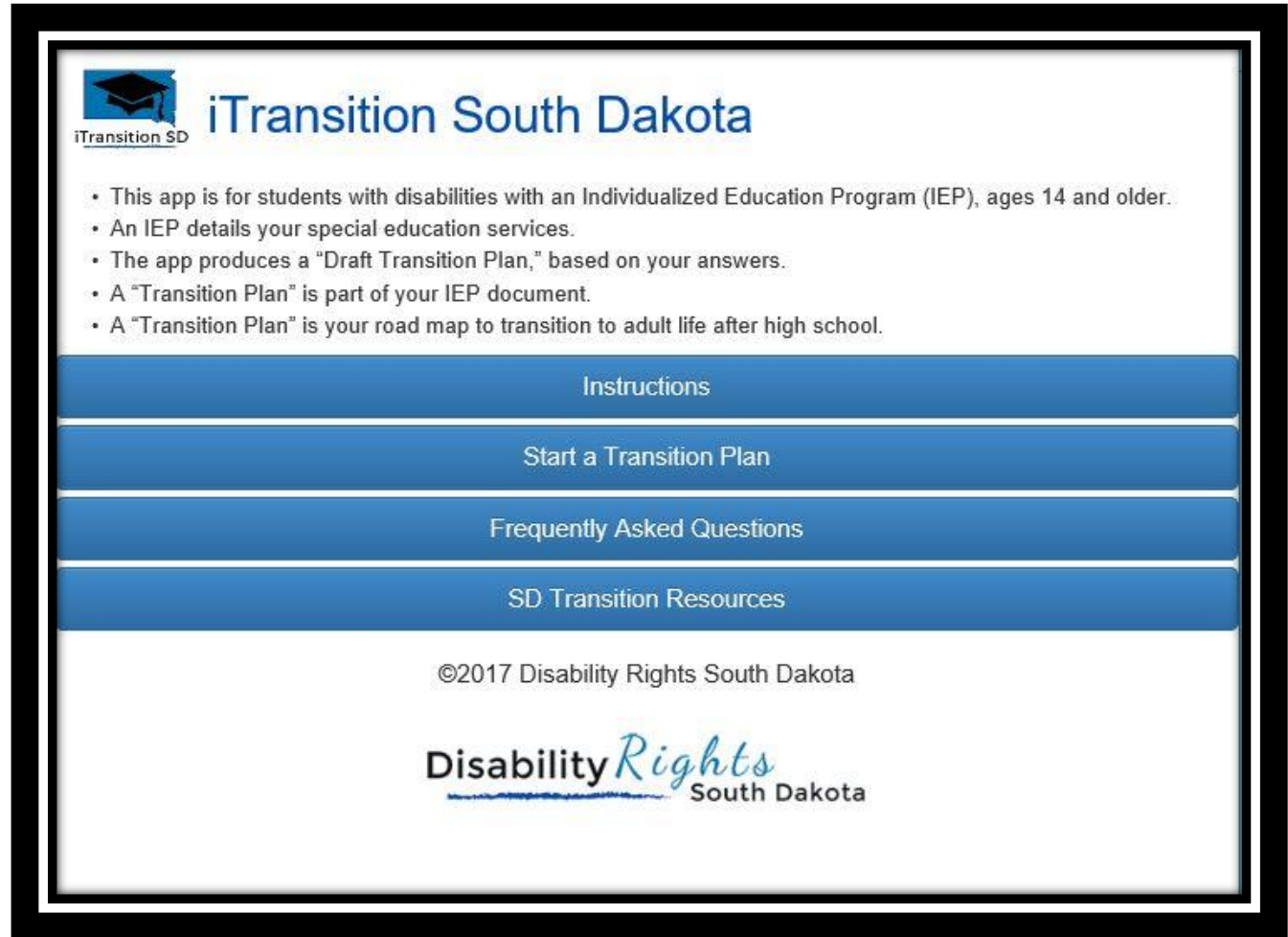
Public Awareness

Presentations/Public
Information


Partners in
Policymaking

Trainings

iTransitionSD.org



The screenshot shows the main interface of the iTransition South Dakota app. At the top left is a logo featuring a graduation cap and the text "iTransition SD". To its right is the title "iTransition South Dakota". Below the title is a bulleted list of four points explaining the app's purpose and how it generates a transition plan. Underneath the list are four blue buttons with white text: "Instructions", "Start a Transition Plan", "Frequently Asked Questions", and "SD Transition Resources". At the bottom, there is a copyright notice for 2017 Disability Rights South Dakota and the organization's logo, which includes the text "Disability Rights" in a blue script font and "South Dakota" in a smaller, plain font below it.

 **iTransition South Dakota**

- This app is for students with disabilities with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), ages 14 and older.
- An IEP details your special education services.
- The app produces a "Draft Transition Plan," based on your answers.
- A "Transition Plan" is part of your IEP document.
- A "Transition Plan" is your road map to transition to adult life after high school.

[Instructions](#)

[Start a Transition Plan](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[SD Transition Resources](#)

©2017 Disability Rights South Dakota

Disability Rights
South Dakota

YOUR VOTE
YOUR VOICE

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE



Voting is Important

“No right is more precious in a free country than that of having a voice in the election of those who make the laws under which, as good citizens, we must live.”

Wesberry v. Sanders, 376 U.S. 1, 1964

“The right of citizens of the United States, who are 18 years of age or older, shall not be abridged by the United States or any state on account of age.”

U.S. Constitution, 26th Amendment

Federal Law

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires state and local governments to ensure that people with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote.

**U.S. Department of Justice, “The ADA and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities,”
October 2014**

Visit <https://sdsos.gov/> to download and print a voter registration form

We Want to Hear From You

Contact DRSD if you have questions on:

- Disability Voting Rights
- Polling place accessibility
- Explaining political parties
- Obtaining/filling out voter registration forms.



**Contact
Us!**

Disability *Rights*

South Dakota

New Client Intake

1-800-658-4782

or **605-224-8294**

Online at

www.drSDLaw.org

Pierre Office

2520 E. Franklin St.

Rapid City Office

1575 N. LaCrosse St. Ste. K

Sioux Falls Office

2121 W. 63rd Place Ste. 30