

QUEENS COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017
MEETING MINUTES

Next QCDD meeting is on
Monday, March 6, 2017 at 9:30AM
Queens Borough Hall
120-55 Queens Blvd., Room 200
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM Lisa Veglia, Co-Chair for the Council welcomed all present. Mr. Sinha, AABR, made a motion to approve the Queens Council on Developmental Disabilities January 9, 2017 minutes. Lisa Veglia, Co-Chair second the motion. Motion carried. All in favor. There were 67 individuals present.

INTRODUCTIONS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

NYC. DEPT. HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

There was no report.

OPWDD-Francina Branch, Family Support Coordinator

- RFNS update in process of interviewing agencies. Looks like we can support 4 people in a transition home, 26 people in non-certified residences and 19 people in certified homes.
- Respite- we continue to reach out to agencies who are struggling with the new fees in order to come up with a way in which we can better bridge the cost of the program and the fee.
- Effective 2/1/2017 all Medicaid Waiver applications will now go to Lisa Joseph at 25 Beaver Street, NY, NY.
- All Queens Choices enrollments (FD/SAM) for respite will now be done by Catherine Shannon of Development. She will also be completing the NOD for new services.
- Respite Coordinators will continue to be called twice a year (January –July) regarding Respite Unit Billing Reconciliation. So start preparing to receive that call and keep track of units billed.
- Residential vacancy- Agencies have to follow the Residential Protocol and advise their Boro Capacity Person of vacancies in their borough once you have made your internal moves. The final vacancy must be reported to the DDRO. Please work with your DDRO. Do not bypass the process when filling your vacancy. Our Queens contact person is Susanatte grant and Ivett Dixon.

IAC

Richard Bosch

- IAC's main lobby day will be on Wednesday, 3/1/2017. Leadership day is Tuesday, 2/28/2017. IAC will be lobbying with COPA (Coalition of Provider Associations) with whom most QCDD agencies are affiliated with . Below is a summary the budget position:

OPWDD

- Include \$45 million to allow non-profit providers to begin to increase salaries for direct support professionals and other lower paid staff over a six year period to a living wage
- Support the Governor's proposal adding funds for the development of new services and supports but add \$25 million in additional funding for the development of residential supports for 2000 people with high priority needs who reside at home and need 24 hour residential support
- Include funds for a COLA/Trend for OPWDD services based on the Rate of Medical Inflation rather than the Consumer Price Index

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Include \$18 million to allow 853 and 4410 providers to increase salaries for certified teachers so that they can attract and retain enough qualified teachers to provide federally mandated FAPE to children with the most significant disabilities
- Include a 4% tuition increase for the 2017/18 school year for classroom based 4410 preschools and 853 school age special education approved programs
- Additional UPK seats

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM/Article 16 Clinics

- Include a 4% increase in the Early Intervention Program reimbursement rates
- Support the Governor's proposal to increase insurance company participation in the Early Intervention program except the requirement that providers appeal rejected insurance claims

Set aside \$50 million out of the \$500 million in funds for healthcare facility transformation for OPWDD related programs including Article 16 & 28 clinics, transition to Coordinated Care Organizations and Managed Care, and other expenses incurred including those associated with merger/consolidation/affiliation activities.

PRESENTATION

Joanne Buccellato from Advocates for Children shared information on a new project that will be starting in collaboration with Sinergia and other organizations addressing educational issues.

COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

Lisa announced that the QCDD Legislative breakfast will be held on Friday, March 4, 2017 at Queens College. Invitations have already gone out and you can register on the QCDD web site.

One of the key issues that will be addressed at the breakfast is funding for staffing. Looking for 4.5 million to be approved in the budget and for the next five years.

Jean Steins from St. Mary's has accepted the other co-chair position for the QCDD Children's Sub-Committee.

WORKSHOP:

Legislative and Public Information Committee Co-Chairs, Eric Fenton and Pat Barrientos along with Lisa Veglia, Council Co-Chair conducted a workshop on legislative and advocacy strategies in communicating with your elected officials. (See PowerPoint on QCDD website).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Family Resource Fair for Students with Developmental Disabilities

Wednesday, March 29, 2017 from 5-8pm @ Francis Lewis High School-58-20Utopia Parkway, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365. Advance registration REQUIRED for all Agencies. To reserve a table email Beth Altmann at Baltman2@schools.nyc.gov.

Community Service Society

CSS of New York SW CPE is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers and professionals. For questions call 212-614-5338 or go to <http://benefitsplus.cssny.org/home/training>.

Assemblyman Mike Miller

Please send job announcements for constituents seeking employment to my office. Contact Carmela Isabella at isabellac@nyassembly.gov. Assemblyman Mike Miller now serves on the mental health committee.

Chris Grief, Athlete Congress Member

For more information please contact Chris Grief at chrisgreif@yahoo.com or visit www.bfssac.com click on meeting & event.

Jim Karpe, QCDD, Parent Vice-Chair-516-655-2713

Westsidebaseball.org registration is open. Upper age limit of 21 has been eliminated. Scholarship code (Karpe.jim@gmail.com)

Heaven's Hands Community Services, Inc.

Karen Humphrey

There are openings in Brooklyn and Queens for after-school respite program. There are openings in our Queens and Brooklyn Day Habilitation programs. For information please contact Karen Humphrey at 718-969-2304.

YAI

Carlos Sanchez

- Day habilitation openings now in The Bronx. (718) 793-2182x4469

YAI

Caroline Dunn

All referral can be done through YAI LINK @ 212-273-6182.

- Afterschool program

- Center for Specialty Therapy (Free psychological and psychosocial evaluations)
- Crisis Intervention
- Day Habilitation (limited / accepting referrals)
- Emergency Respite Reimbursement
- Family Reimbursement
- Medicaid and Community habilitation Program
- Non-Medicaid Community Habilitation
- Overnight Respite
- Parent Training: Sexuality and Relationships
- Parent Training: Parents w/special needs
- Transition to Independence: 17-21 yo with ASD diagnosis-2 non-Manhattan spaces left.

NYSID

Elizabeth Sunshine, 917-699-0578

- Free in-home psychological and psychosocial evaluation to determine eligibility for OPWDD services, for individuals that do not have Medicaid living in Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island & Bronx.

NYSID

Juliet Hawkins, 917-524-4856

- Crisis Behavior Management program for Queens

General Human Outreach, Inc.

Pat Liu Chang, pat@GHOINC.org, 718-307-6563

Family Support Service

- Non-Medicaid case management- Waitlist/
- Free evaluations for individuals w/o Medicaid, living in Queens.
- Adult programs (waiver services)
- Employment programs: Pathways, ETP, SEMP,
- Community Based Weekend Respite – Wait list/
- Day Hab w/o walls – Queens, Brooklyn and Manhattan
- Day Hab site based in Long Island City

All services are available w/bilingual speaking staff in Cantonese or Korean. Sign language service available also.

ANIBIC

Peter Coleman, 347-594-2147

- Medicaid Service Coordination and Non-Medicaid Service Coordination has openings for Queens residents.
- ANIBIC now has four support brokers for families who are interested in self-directed services.
- ANIBIC-VOICE, our Vocational department, continues to have openings for Pre-Vocational, Supported Employment and a waitlist for DVE services.

- ANIBIC main site Day Habilitation program (ages 21 and up) has openings for individuals who have MSC and Level of Care.
- We continue to accept applications for our Friday Adult program (ages 17 and up) and our Weekend Respite Recreation Program (Saturdays or Sundays, ages 18 and up).
- Family Counseling has openings for individuals who reside in Queens with their families.
- Tutorial Program has openings for individuals (all ages and grades with diagnosis of Dev Disability). Please note that there is a fee for this service.
- For Family Reimbursement, contact Rachel Plakstis at 347-594-2130.

Mercy Drive, Inc.

Pamela Ossona – 718-275-9326

- MSC opportunities
- Respite (in-Home) ongoing enrollment
- Day Habilitation ongoing enrollment
- F.E.T. for Bronx and Manhattan families

Lifespire

Wendy Schoenfeld, 212-741-0100 x4575

- Day Habilitation opportunities – call Hamlet Garcia 718-721-5444 – hgarcia@lifespire.org

QSAC: Call (718) 728-8476 with inquiries for all boroughs:

- For Early Intervention Service Coordination contact Claire LaPlaca ext. 1227
- For ABA Private Insurance contact Kristen DuMoulin ext. 1517
- For SEIT, SETSS, EI Evaluations, CPSE Evaluations, Psychological/Psychosocial Evaluations (for individuals without Medicaid), and Early Intervention (Center- and Home-based) contact Rhodie Volpe ext. 1512
- For Day Habilitation and Medicaid Service Coordination contact Farzana Karim ext. 1233
- For Queens Social Skills Group and Manhattan Social Skills Group contact Rocio Chavez ext. 1414
- For Family Reimbursement Services and Manhattan Parent Support Group contact Annie Washington ext. 1219
- For Queens and Long Island Parent Training/Parent Support Group/Sibling Support Group contact Cherisse Hutcherson ext. 1430
- For Housing Advocacy (Brooklyn) and Non-Medicaid MSC (Queens/Brooklyn) contact; Andrew Toscano ext. 1268
- For Preschool center-based openings contact Larisa Muratov ext. 1513
- For Day School Openings in Queens & the Bronx contact Todd Merritt ext. 1420

NY Lawyers for the Public Interest

Paola Martinez Boone – pmartinez-boone@nylpi.org

- Fair Housing: NYLPI is taking housing cases eg. requiring that the landlords make reasonable accommodations.

- Free Naturalization clinic: NYLPI in partnership with Catholic Charities, Catholic migration services, and the new American campaign is offering a free naturalization clinic on January 28, 2017

AABR Inc.

Michael Arnold, Director of Day services at marnold@aabr.org (preferred) or at 347-236-0176. Day Habilitation Programs- St. Pascal's, located at 112-33 199 Street, St. Albans & Wellington Hall, located at 161-06 89th Avenue, Jamaica (S.E.M.P, and Pathways to Employment) in addition to Day Habilitation. Both programs are wheelchair accessible.

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services

Maimuna Ortiz, 718-674-6066, ext 1849

Openings for Non-Medicaid services; family support services; Medicaid service coordination; assist families with food stamps, SSI, Medicaid, waiver services, etc. These services are provided in Brooklyn and Queens only.

NYFAC

Mary Rendeiro, 347-566-3122 x 307

NYFAC has openings in Queens for Day Hab w/o walls and afterschool in Howard Beach, Queens. Com Hab and Respite Friday evening socialization for teens and adults. FSS reimbursement of Brooklyn and Queens. Immediate availability of evaluations for NON-Medicaid cases to establish eligibility in the OPWDD system in Brooklyn and Queens.

Life's WORC

Linda Renyi – 516-741-9000 x 8120

- Day Hab openings with/o walls – vocational training, socialization and life skills training to ambulatory individuals with mild to moderate disabilities. Individuals participate in volunteer jobs at various sites in the Community Door to Door transportation is provided. Must have Medicaid service Coordinator to qualify.
- Openings in Stepping into adulthood afterschool/Saturday program for Queens residents 14—20 who are ambulatory and have a mild to moderate developmental disabilities including Autism. Helps individuals develop skills needed to transition into adulthood including meal, preparation, money management, Music and Art Therapy and community integration. Program meets Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 3:30 PM. – 6:00 PM. Saturday from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM funded thru the Medicaid Waiver. Program is located in Glendale.
- Recreation/respice program for teens 13-20. Program meets one Saturday a month. Individuals participate in community based activities (bowling, movies, museums). Must be ambulatory and independent in self-care. Program meets in Queens Village, from 11-4pm. Door to door transportation available.
- Recreation /respice program for adults 21+. Info same as above, except program meets one Sunday a month. Opening for broker services for individuals living in Queens.

SANYS

Self-Advocacy group that has started in Queens. If you are interested please contact Lisa at 347-613-0808 or Uly Ramos at 551-587-4019.

Shield Institute

Dorothy Wohl, 718-939-9700, ext 1242. MSC openings: English, Spanish, Korean, Creole and Mandarin.

Brady Day Hab

William Scharbach, scharbach2@aol.com

Looking for clients for day hab without walls associated with Jamaica Hospital for TBI clients. Contact program director Ms. Brown at (917) 498-1747

Children Aid Society (Wagon Road Camp)

Michael Wright, 917-545-4701, mwright@childrensaimsociety.org,

Overnight Respite ages 7-17. The respite runs on a department of education schedule when many children are out of school. Child does not have to be potty trained. The respite is wheelchair accessible. Scheduling is flexible. Located in Chappaqua, NY. Call Michael Wright for additional information at 917-545-4701.

HAUP Inc.

Myriam Hector, 718-527-3776, ext 24.

- Community habilitation contact Tayeba Monsur at 718-527-3776
- In-home respite contact John Fonton at 718-527-3776
- After school service contact Joseph Mcinsouiene at 718-527-3776
- Non-MSD contact Margerie Luma at 718-527-3776
- MSD contact Lorraine Comie at 718-527-3776.

Maranatha HS

Marcia Tippet, 718-441-7313.

- People Embracing People (PEP)-family Care Program for individuals seeking alternate placement in private homes or apartments. Seeking providers and individuals.
- Non-Medicaid services provides help with obtaining waiver Medicaid.
- Skills Building Program-Community Habilitation for individuals without Medicaid.

CLOSING REMARKS

Next meeting is Monday, March 6, 2017 at 9:30 am @Queens Borough Hall, room 200, 120-55 Queens Blvd, Kew Gardens, NY.

Marieta Austin,
QCDD Secretary