

**QUEENS COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30a.m. Lisa Veglia, Co-Chair for the Council welcomed all present. Lisa announced the passing of Beverly Berger, Parent Co-Chair for the Legislative/Public Information Committee. Beverly passed away on February 18, 2017. A memorial is on the back table. There were 44 individuals present at today's meeting.

**INTRODUCTIONS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NYC. Dept. Health and Mental Hygiene-** Lisa Bernard

On April 25, 2017 the Department will conduct its annual Local Service Planning meeting. Participants at this meeting will be the Borough Council Chairpersons and Parent Advocates.

**OPWDD REPORT**

Donna Limiti, Director Region IV

- 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.
- Respite services have been separated into categories. School age/recreation is category 6.
- Letter of Intent, (LOI) went out on Friday, March 3, 2017 for individuals graduating from residential schools.

**IAC REPORT**

Richard Bosch

Richard announced that Tom McAlvanah is the new Executive Director of IAC. He formerly was the Executive Director of AABR and also worked for Lifespire.

Ryan Garofalo is the new Associate Executive Director of Adult Services for at IAC and will be attending QCDD meeting when Richard Bosch cannot attend. Ryan is replacing Hope Levy.

If you have not signed on to the #bfair2Directcare campaign please do so. We don't know what will happen next year if this does not get signed by the Governor.

**PRESENTATION: NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Presenter: Matthew Puvogel from NYC Office of Emergency Management

Matthew shared on the importance of being prepared in case there is an emergency. For more information or to schedule a presentation, you can contact Matthew at [mpuvogel@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:mpuvogel@oem.nyc.gov)

Matthew's presentation can be found on the QCDD website at [www.qcddny.org](http://www.qcddny.org)

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT**

Lisa announced that the QCDD Legislative Breakfast was held on Friday, March 3, 2017 at Queens College. Every Borough Council also held their Legislative Breakfast the same day. QCDD had 350 individuals registered for the event. There were over 300 individuals present. The parent speakers spoke passionately about the issues affecting our individuals. We also continued our letter writing campaign to Governor Cuomo.

The Council's annual Celebrating Success event will be held on April 25, 2017 @ 6:00pm at QCP. Applications will be coming out soon and available on the website.

April 3, 2017 will be the last QCDD meeting held at Queens Borough Hall. Our May and June meeting will be held at the Queens DDRO.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:isabellac@nyassembly.gov). Assemblyman Mike Miller now serves on the mental health committee.

### Chris Grief, NYCTRC

For more information please contact Chris Grief at [chrisgreif@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisgreif@yahoo.com) or call (347)-589-1691.

### 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](mailto:Karpe.jim@gmail.com))

### Heaven's Hands Community Services

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

Caroline Dunn & Carlos Sanchez

- Day habilitation openings now in The Bronx. (718) 793-2182x4469
- 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 with ASD diagnosis-no waiver.
- City Wide openings: FREE Workshops (register online at yai.org) Independent Living Program

#### NYSID

Elizabeth Sunshine

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. Please contact Elizabeth Sunshine @ 917-699-0578.

#### NYSID

Juliet Hawkins

Crisis Behavior Management program for Queens. Please contact Juliet Hawkins at 917-524-4856.

#### General Human Outreach

Pat Liu Chang, [pat@GHOINC.org](mailto: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

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 x 4575

Day Habilitation opportunities – call Hamlet Garcia 718-721-5444 – [hgarcia@lifespire.org](mailto: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](mailto: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. For more information please email Paola.

### AABR

Michael Arnold, Director of Day services at [marnold@aabr.org](mailto:marnold@aabr.org) (preferred) of at 347-236-0176. Day Habilitation Programs- St. Pascal's, located at 112-33 199 Street, St. Albans & Wellington Hall, located at 161-06 89<sup>th</sup> 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 329

NYFAC has openings in Queens for Day Hab w/o walls in Howard Beach, after-school respite in Queens. Com Hab and Respite for Queens and Brooklyn, Friday evening socialization for teens (13-21) and adults (21+). Immediate availability of evaluations for Non-Medicaid cases to establish eligibility in the OPWDD system in Brooklyn and Queens. Non-Medicaid case management for 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 After School/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/respite 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 /respite 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

Lisa Severino announced that there is a 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.

Looking for clients for day hab without walls associated with Jamaica Hospital for TBI clients.

Contact Ms. Brown the director at (917) 498-1747 or William Scharbach @

[www.scharbach2@aol.com](mailto:www.scharbach2@aol.com) (manager of Day Hab).

### Children Aid Society (Wagon Road Camp)

Michael Wright, 917-545-4701, [mwright@childrensaidsociety.org](mailto:mwright@childrensaidsociety.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.

- Openings for 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, April 3, 2017 at 9:30 am @Queens Borough Hall, room 200, 120-55 Queens Blvd, Kew Gardens, NY.

Marieta Austin,

QCDD Secretary