

Queens Council on Developmental Disabilities
October 5, 2020 meeting minutes

Lisa Veglia, Co-Chairperson provider, welcomed all present at today's virtual meeting. There were 57 individuals present.

Jim Karpe, Co-Chairperson parent, also welcomed everyone.

OPWDD Report: Delia Tucker, Deputy Director, Region IV

- 1- COVID-19 response update.
- 2- Updated OPWDD website (sign up to receive updates)
- 3- RE-opening of Day Services discussion
- 4- Discussed 20% withhold on non-Medicaid services, which could become a 20% cut if Federal Gov. doesn't provide support.
- 5- Onsite DQI surveys will resume.
- 6- Nicole Lopez, Supervisor for local transition coordinators.

I.A.C. Susanne Timmerhans

- Provided an update on day services, residential, clinics and advocacy.
- Also reminded providers and discussed the January 2021 requirement for EVV (Electronic Visit Verification).

NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene, Gavin Meyers, Policy and Planning Coordinator, contact gmyers@health.nyc.gov, could not attend the meeting but provided the following updates:

The NYC DOHMH continues its COVID-19 response and preparation efforts to support equitable, informed health care; and to ensure that the public has up-to-date information and providers have timely guidance for providing appropriate health and mental hygiene services throughout the City. Surge staffing, isolation/quarantining strategies, and PPE planning are some of the focal points of our current work.

Much of the department's focus is now on recent cases increases that we have seen in locations in Brooklyn and Queens, in the past days. We are coordinating efforts across the department and with intra-city and other partners to focus our attention to affected areas; all the while maintaining our efforts to promote protective behaviors as prescribed by the core 4: wear **face coverings, keep distance, stay home when ill, sanitize hands**.

Worldwide, some 35 million cases of infection have been identified; 7.4 million of which are from USA. With over 209,000 confirmed deaths (and counting) in the States, there is no denying that the pandemic is front and center of our minds, and our work.

The department hosts and participates in a wide range of activities including:

- The department provides frequently [updated information for public consumption](#), and regularly issues guidance to service providers.

- In coordination with NYC H +H, DOHMH's current focus is to support [City-wide testing, contact tracing, and connection to care through the Test + Tract Corp.](#)
 - At this time, the recommendation is for all New Yorkers to [get a diagnostic test for COVID-19](#) whether or not presenting with symptoms or are at an increased risk.
 - Among other activities, testing operations are being set-up in high-priority neighborhoods.
- MHy division is coordinating efforts with provider, associations, and inter-agency stakeholders to sure-up the continuity of services to individuals in the community and in residential /congregate settings.

Further questions can be addressed to gmyers@health.nyc.gov.

Co-Chair Provider Report: Lisa Veglia,

Discussed the Virtual Family Support Conference which will be held the week of October 26th. Due to the ongoing concerns of COVID 19, this year's Queens Family Support Conference will be a full week FREE virtual event during the week of October 26, 2020.

Virtual workshops via Zoom will be held each day the entire week. These workshops are free. Simply click the link or call into the workshop. Please note, language translation will be available for each session.

Each session will be recorded and made available for later viewing. All information on the conference will be emailed and posted on the QCDD website at QCDDny.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OPPORTUNITIES:

Adapt Community Network

Opportunities for Home Modification services in Queens, contact Terry Hwang, 718-594-7372 or email mhwang@adaptcommunitynetwork.org

Housing Assistance program providing advocacy to families in housing, Community habilitation, Family Reimbursement, Day programs openings, Recreational programs. For more information on openings please contact project connect at 1-877-827-2666 or email projectconnect@adaptcommunitynetwork.org

AHRC NYC

Natalie Lee Soy, 347-866-2439

Queens Parent Training Program- Parents who are living with an ID/DD with children. We provide in-person/virtual assistance for the parent.

EIHAB Human Services

Currently have openings in Springfield Gardens, Day Hab with/without walls; Queens Village, Wheelchairs without walls; Jamaica, PWW; Com Hab, At-home Respite; Transportation reimbursement; Non-Waiver Care Coordination;

Contact: Ekram Nayel at 516-316-1526, email Ekram.Nayel@eihab.org; Jordan Brown at 516-402-5569, email Jordan.brown@eihab.org; Jeffrey Levyat 347-443-4134, email Jeffrey.Levy@eihab.org

General Human Outreach, GHO

GHO continues to provide Care Design NY intake assistance for families speaking in Chinese or Korean. Please feel free to refer families who are in need of this assistance. They can reach us via emails or calls for any questions. Chinese intake call Joe Tan at 718-261-6552, ext 2054 or email ztan@ghoinc.org; Korean intake call Daesil Quirk at 718-307-6570 or email dquirk@ghoinc.org; For all information inquires call Pat Liu Chang, Supervisor at 347-828-6660 or email Pat@ghoinc.org.

Lifespire

Lifespire John A. Cook CSC

87-21 121st Street, Richmond Hill, NY, 718-441-8200, contact
Renee Marion-Basile - marion-basile@lifespire.org

Anne Rama - arama@lifespire.org

Amy Goldberg - agoldberg@lifespire.org

Lifespire Queens North CSC

213-01 Northern Blvd, Bayside, NY 2nd floor, 718-721-5444, contact
Hamlet Garcia - harcia@lifespire.org

Lifespire Queens South CSC

162-10 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica, NY 7th floor, 718-454-2700, contact
Tawana Lee/tlee@lifespire.org

NYSID, Inc.,

Juliet Hawkins, 917-524-4856

NYSID has opening in their In-Home Crisis Behavior Management program (Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx). This is a family Support program. NO MEDICAID NEEDED. For information contact Julie Hawkins at 917-524-1722.

Openings in their In-Home Non-Medicaid Evaluations (Queens, Bronx, Brooklyn & Staten Island). For information of to make a referral contact Elizabeth Sunshine at 917-699-0578.

QSAC, Inc.

Program openings and contacts – Click link below:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HpKokXw7-cu4b9MIPajJmQfF_JDfq5HI/view

Uniting Disabled Individuals, Inc

To register or for more information email Marieta at maustinudi@gmail.com or call 347-495-9070. All events are on zoom.

COVID -19 Community Conversations—Mental Health, Equity & Resilience

English, Thursday, October 8, 2020 @ 5:30 pm

Spanish, Thursday, October 22, 2020 @ 5:30 pm

Self-directed – What is a circle of support? & Why should you create one?

Spanish, Wednesday, October 7, 2020 @ 4:00 pm.

English Thursday, October 16, 2020 @ 4:30 pm

Parent Support group for parents of individuals 18 and up.

Spanish, Tuesday, October 13, 2020 @ 5:00 pm.

Parent Empowerment Group

Spanish, Friday, October 9, 2020 @ 5:00 pm

Join Ketrina Hazell as she amplifies her voice and shares her Narrative.

English, Friday, October 16, 2020@ 5:00 pm

YAI

Call YAI LINK for all information 212-273-6182

Openings in Queens:

Afterschool

Crisis Intervention parent Support Group-contact

English/718-793-2182x4572 Spanish/718-793-2182x4573

Family Reimbursement

Emergency Respite Reimbursement

Non-Medicaid Skills Training

Overnight respite

Parent training: Parents with Special Needs

Free Educational workshops for people with disabilities, caregivers, and professionals

Free psychological, psychosocial and autism assessments

Independent Living Skills program

Saturday Adult Respite/Recreation

Community Habilitation services

NYSTART: Crisis Prevention & Response for People with I/DD (212-273-6300)

Closing Remarks,

Next meeting, Monday, November 2, 2020 at 9:30 am via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Veglia,

QCDD President