

## Week Starting – March 15, 2024

Note: To attract PCA's to Consumer Job Searches, the following link  
<http://edlitcher.hypermart.net/ListofAvailableJobs.txt>  
has been added to both Craigslist Advertisements <https://newyork.craigslist.org>

See the recently modified advertisement.

Search: (consumerdirectedservices) - in Jobs – for the PCA Advertisement  
Search: (consumerdirectedservices) - in Services – for the Consumer Advertisement  
Hopefully this will help.

Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) Scope and Procedures  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/publications/adm/11adm6.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/publications/adm/11adm6.htm)

List of CDPAP Provider Contract Awardees  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfo/20039/docs/awardees\\_names\\_and\\_counties.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/funding/rfo/20039/docs/awardees_names_and_counties.pdf)

### Articles

March 13, 2024 - Budget Update: Legislature rejects Gov's \$1.2 Billion Home Care Cuts & Lobby Day  
February 29, 2024 - Don't Cut PA Wages to Save State Money  
February 27, 2024 - Have you asked told Gov. Hochul CDPA is Essential yet?

Intro Statement – Pages 01  
Consumer Listing – Pages 03  
PCA Information – Pages 04  
PCA Candidates – Page 05

Articles – Pages 11  
Finding a New PCA - DIA Information -Page 16  
Able News – Page 17  
Independent Living Centers – Page 18  
Alternative Resources - Page 19

Find My (FI) - Questions to consider when changing your (FI) CDPAP Provider - Page 20

On September 16, 2013, the New York State Department of State accepted the Certificate of Incorporation submitted by **Consumer Directed Services, Inc.** under section 404 of the Not-for-Profit Law. A certificate that included the following statement:

*We are pilgrims on a journey; we are travelers on the road.  
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

Excerpt from - *The Servant Song*- Richard Gillard (1974)

To assist Consumers with the problem of finding new Personal Care Assistants, [Consumer Directed Services, Inc.](#) created a FREE Employment Information Bridge between Consumers and Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Candidates.

### **Consumers / Advocates**

To search for a PCA Candidate, complete the form at the following link [Consumer / Advocate - Search for a PCA Candidate](#). When your information is received it will be enrolled in the email database, and posted on the website for a month, distributed to all of the members of the Consumer Directed Services database (Consumers, PCA Candidates, and a variety of other Employment Resources), and published in the Consumer Directed Services Newsletter for a month.

To just add your information to the Consumer Directed Services database, a Consumer or Advocate need only send me an email to [elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com](mailto:elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com) and include your name and the text **Newsletter Request**. When your information is received it will be enrolled in the email database and you will begin receiving future issues of the Consumer Directed Services Newsletter and other emails related to the program's goal.

### **Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Candidates**

To include your information in the Newsletter and email database, complete the form at the following link: [Look for a PCA Job \(FREE\) - New York City Metro](#). When your information is received, your information will be published in the Newsletter for a month, and you will begin receiving future issues of the Consumer Directed Services Newsletter and other emails related to the program's goal. Also, to access our list of Currently Available Jobs, please use the following link: [JOBS](#)

Previously distributed Newsletters have been archived on the [Consumer Directed Services](#) home page.

Finally, if you have any questions, comments, or recommendations about this service, or should you wish to remove your address from this list, please contact send an email to [elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com](mailto:elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com).

Best Regards  
Ed Litcher

# **Consumers Searching**

**Consumers Wanted:** For an Employment Information Bridge to work it requires traffic to flow in both directions. If you are in a Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program, you will eventually need to find a new Home Care Worker. And up to now you may have relied upon Friends, Family, an Agency or you may have chosen to put your own advertisement on the Internet (See the list of Internet resources on the PCA Employment Agency page of this newsletter). Therefore, to help you find the PCA Candidate of your choice, I urge you, to do everything you ordinarily do, to consider an Internet resource and to try

[www.ConsumerDirectedServices.com](http://www.ConsumerDirectedServices.com).

Finally, if you try Consumer Directed Services, please spread the word. Tell your friends and associates about this **FREE** service.

**Rose () on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 13:59:33**

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Neighborhood Name: Yonkers, Westchester County

Available Transportation: Subway, Bus, Auto,

Phone: 607-331-0392

Best Time: Anytime

E-mail: [Rosanna.Ragsdale@gmail.com](mailto:Rosanna.Ragsdale@gmail.com)

Email Authorization: Yes

Consumer Age: Between 51 and 70

Consumer Gender: Female

Payroll Method: Agency

Type of Candidates: Personal Care / Home Health

Candidate Experience: Quadriplegia, Ventilators, Wheelchairs, Lifters, Visual / Auditory Impairments

Description of Languages: English

Preferred Candidate Gender: Female

Required Documentation: Social Security Number, Proof of Identity

Hours: 12

Days: 3

Start Time: 7:30AM

Description of Schedule: Start time and hours can be negotiated to fit your schedule

Pay Per Hour: 19.25/HR

Comments: \$19.25/HR Monday -Friday

\$19.75/HR Saturday- Sunday

Must be in enrolled with Concepts Of Independence or we will help you get the enrollment packet. Paid Training hours provided. More than welcome to text as well, thanks.

# **PCA Information**

*Consumer Directed Services is not an Agency and makes no representation (positive or negative) regarding the appropriateness of any PCA Candidate, or the terms and conditions of any employment relationship. All employment and payment decisions are the exclusive responsibility of the Consumer.*

**Although there is no specific training, certification or licensure prerequisite, beyond that required or provided by the Consumer, if you are seeking employment from a Consumer who is receiving their service authorization from a New York State Medicaid funded Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program, the Consumer is permitted to consider your employment only if you can pass ALL of the following New York State reviews.**

1. You are an adult of at least 18 years of age.
2. The Consumer is not your spouse or (if the Consumer is younger than 21) is not your child.
3. You do not live in the home of the Consumer (unless their service requires it).
4. You are not the Designated Representative (Surrogate) of the Consumer.
5. You do not have any financial control over the Consumer.
6. Your information must pass a Federal and State Government Exclusion List Review.
7. You have a verifiable Social Security number and the qualified documents needed to prove that you are eligible to work in the United States.

**The State of New York also requires each Personal Care Assistant to complete a Health Assessment BEFORE you begin work.**

The Health Assessment includes:

- A basic physical exam - blood pressure, height, weight, etc.
- A TB (Tuberculosis) Screen (PPD) or a chest x-ray if the test is positive or if the test would not be appropriate
- A Measles and Rubella Screen or Vaccine
- A drug test of Urine (forensic toxicology)
- Documentation of vaccination against influenza, or wearing of a surgical or procedure mask during the influenza season

**In addition to the above New York State requirements,** the municipality in which the Consumer lives may also impose additional health assessments or legal reviews. The Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program your Consumer chooses will require the completion of a Memorandum of Understanding (Consumer / Personal Care Assistant Agreement) to clarify the employment relationship, and they may require other documents to help them effectively complete their role as the Consumers Fiscal Intermediary.

# *PCA Candidates*

**Jessy () on Friday, March 15, 2024 at 13:12:42**

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Address: Manhattan

E-mail: [Jbraffith@gmail.com](mailto:Jbraffith@gmail.com)

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: Yes

Consumer/Surrogate References Available: Yes

Years Employed with a Consumer/Surrogate: Over 7

Enrolled with a CDPAP: Yes

CDPAP Agency Name(s): Concepts of independence, Chinese American planning

Experience: Children, Teens, Young Adults, Seniors, Paraplegia, Quadriplegia, Ventilators, Wheelchairs, Other Equipment, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease, Visual / Auditory Impairments

Can pass the New York State Review: Yes

Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: Yes

Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: Yes

Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity, Recommendations

Certificate/License: Other

Description of Other Certificate/License: Certified nursing assistant

Hours per Week: 2

Target Salary Per Hour: 18 & up

Comments: I am a PCA and CNA. I have been doing this for over 10 years. I have experience with elderly as old as 105, dementia, hospice, wheelchairs, walkers, lifts, visually and hearing impairments to name a few. I am A very understanding and patient individual.

I am available Saturdays and Sundays

**Bruce Robinson () on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 18:42:59**

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Address: 1 Bleecker Terrace, Albany New York

Phone: 845-665-2175

Gender: Male

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: No

Enrolled with a CDPAP: No

Experience: Children, Teens, Young Adults, Seniors

Can pass the New York State Review: Yes

Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: No  
Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: No  
Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity  
Certificate/License: Driver's License  
Hours per Week: 15  
Days per Week: 4  
Preferred Start Time: Any  
Days I Would Like to Work: Any  
I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: Yes  
Target Salary Per Hour: 20.00  
Comments: I have completed Home health aide training in 2011

**Michelle Doe () on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 03:42:59**

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Phone: 1646-691-1954  
Best Time: Any  
E-mail: [shirtsgirl46@gmail.com](mailto:shirtsgirl46@gmail.com)  
Email Authorization: Yes  
Gender: Female  
Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health  
Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: Yes  
Consumer/Surrogate References Available: Yes  
Enrolled with a CDPAP: Yes  
CDPAP Agency Name(s): Americare  
Experience: Seniors, Ventilators, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease  
Can pass the New York State Review: Yes  
Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: Yes  
Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: Yes  
Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity, Recommendations  
Certificate/License: Personal Care, Driver's License  
Target Salary Per Hour: 25  
Target Salary Per Day: 260  
Target Salary Per Week: 1200  
Comments: I have been a companion and personal aid for 6 years, love helping people.

**Debbie Gibson () on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 18:47:26**

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Address: 180 Wortman Avenue Brooklyn NY  
Phone: 929-530-3857  
E-mail: [nostainz11@gmail.com](mailto:nostainz11@gmail.com)

Email Authorization: Yes  
Gender: Female  
Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health  
Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: Yes  
Consumer/Surrogate References Available: No  
Enrolled with a CDPAP: No  
Experience: Children, Teens, Seniors, Quadriplegia, Ventilators, Wheelchairs, Lifters, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease, Visual / Auditory Impairments, Special Diets  
Can pass the New York State Review: Yes  
Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: Yes  
Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: Yes  
Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity  
Certificate/License: Driver's License  
Hours per Week: 30  
Days per Week: 4  
Preferred Start Time: 9am  
Days I Would Like to Work: Mon Tues Wed Thurs  
I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: No  
Target Salary Per Hour: 20  
Target Salary Per Day: 160  
Target Salary Per Week: 650

**Kadidra Allen () on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 14:11:44**

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Address: Kings County Brooklyn NY  
Phone: 631-551-7504  
Best Time: Anytime  
Gender: Female  
Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health  
Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: No  
Experience: Children, Young Adults, Seniors, Quadriplegia, Hemiplegia, Wheelchairs  
Description of Languages: English and Spanish  
Can pass the New York State Review: Yes  
Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: Yes  
Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: Yes  
Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity  
Description of Other Certificate/License: Phlebotomist  
Hours per Week: 40  
Days per Week: 6  
Preferred Start Time: Morning  
Days I Would Like to Work: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Comments: Energetic history of achievement in many different fields protecting and preventing. Motivated leader with strong organizational and prioritization abilities. Areas of expertise include being self-driving, understanding and trustworthy.

**Tiffany Justice () on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 13:59:52**

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Address: 191 Cornelia St. Brooklyn, NY 11221

Phone: 907-738-2821

Best Time: Before 4pm

E-mail: [tlj08c@gmail.com](mailto:tlj08c@gmail.com)

Email Authorization: Yes

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Domestic / Homemaking

Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: No

Enrolled with a CDPAP: No

Experience: Children, Young Adults, Seniors, Wheelchairs, Lifters, Other Equipment, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease, Visual / Auditory Impairments, Special Diets

Description of Special Diets: Vegan, GF, medication restrictions

Can pass the New York State Review: Yes

Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: No

Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity, Recommendations

Certificate/License: Personal Care, Driver's License, Other

Description of Other Certificate/License: Have been Home Health Aid in Washington State

Hours per Week: 8-30

Days per Week: 1-3

Preferred Start Time: Anytime

Days I Would Like to Work: Any

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: Yes

Target Salary Per Hour: 25-35

Comments: I have worked in a number of Mental Health related fields from direct care to management. I have also worked with a wide array of consumers from children to seniors of varying abilities and needs.

**Niki's Jefferson () on Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 15:32:27**

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Phone: Brooklyn New York

Best Time: 2:00pm - 929-290-5604

E-mail: [Nikkijuice@gmail.com](mailto:Nikkijuice@gmail.com)

Email Authorization: Yes

Gender: Female



Type of Position: Domestic / Homemaking  
Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: No  
Enrolled with a CDPAP: Yes  
CDPAP Agency Name(s): Concepts of Independence  
Experience: Children, Teens, Young Adults, Seniors, Wheelchairs, Visual / Auditory Impairments  
Description of Special Diets: Vegetarian  
Description of Languages: English only  
Can pass the New York State Review: Yes  
Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: Yes  
Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: Yes  
Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity, Recommendations  
Certificate/License: Personal Care, Home Health Aid  
Hours per Week: 40  
Days per Week: 4  
Preferred Start Time: 9am  
Days I Would Like to Work: Sun Mon Tues Wednesday  
I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: Yes  
Target Salary Per Hour: 21  
Target Salary Per Day: 200  
Target Salary Per Week: 640.00  
Comments: CAN, Home Health Aide, Personal Care Aide, Direct Care Worker.

**Jasani lunette Williams () on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 02:04:06**

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Address: Brooklyn  
Phone: 929-632-3461  
Best Time: 10:00am  
E-mail: [Williamsjasani2@gmail.com](mailto:Williamsjasani2@gmail.com)  
Email Authorization: Yes  
Gender: Female  
Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health  
Worked with a CDPAP Consumer/Surrogate: No  
Experience: Seniors  
Can pass the New York State Review: Yes  
Had a Health Assessment in the past 12 months: Yes  
Have or can get a copy of my recent Health Assessment: Yes  
Other Documentation Available: Proof of Identity  
Hours per Week: 12  
Days per Week: 7  
Days I Would Like to Work: Monday -Saturday

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: Yes  
Target Salary Per Hour: 20

# **Articles Related to the CDPAP**

## **Budget Update: Legislature rejects Gov's \$1.2 Billion Home Care Cuts**

March 13, 2024

**New York Caring Majority Applauds Legislature for Rejecting Gov's \$1.2 Billion Home Care Cuts — NYCM Urges Action on Wasteful Managed Long-Term Care**

**Senate and Assembly one-house budgets reject Governor's cuts to CDPAP wages and access, home care hours.**

**Senate budget resolution recognizes need for changes to broken managed long-term care system.**

NEW YORK — New York Caring Majority co-leader Ilana Berger today released the following statement in response to the Senate and Assembly One-House budgets:

“While Governor Hochul’s budget recklessly cuts home care from disabled children and older adults and slashes home care wages, the legislature wisely maintains this funding — and acknowledges the need for significant changes to the broken Managed Long Term Care system.

“As New Yorkers age, the State’s home care shortage is not going away — and we need long-term solutions to end this crisis. We will remain in a cycle of fighting short-sighted, devastating cuts each year until the State builds a sustainable home care program. The Home Care Savings and Reinvestment Act would cut expensive private insurance companies out of the system, save the State billions each year and allow reinvestment directly into workers and wages.

“We applaud Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Speaker Carl Heastie, lead sponsors Senator Gustavo Rivera and Assembly Member Amy Paulin, and all our state legislators for rejecting the Governor’s dangerous home care cuts to CDPAP and recognizing the expensive mis-management of long-term care is not working.

“We urge the Governor to follow the Senate and Assembly’s lead and abandon her dangerous home care cuts, and we encourage all our leaders in Albany to support the Home Care Savings and Reinvestment Act.”

**Background:**

- By 2025, 25% of New Yorkers will be 60 or older, increasing the need for home care statewide.
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- **Home Care Cuts:** Both the Senate and Assembly reject Governor Hochul’s proposed \$1.2 billion in cuts to CDPAP, the State’s popular home care program, including cuts to home care wages, hours, and accessibility.
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- **Eliminating Managed Long Term Care:** The Senate resolution recognizes need for changes to managed Long Term Care system: “The Senate remains ready and willing to work with the Executive and Assembly to develop ways to achieve administrative efficiencies without disrupting the quality of care for Medicaid providers, including within Managed Long-Term Care.” (Aid to Localities - S. 8003-B)

***Caring Majority Lobby Day on***  
***March 25th!***

**Empire State Plaza Underground Concourse•263 Madison Ave , Albany, NY 12210 US**  
**Host Contact Info: Julia Solow, [julia@domesticemployers.org](mailto:julia@domesticemployers.org), 571-232-0872**

Join with the New York Caring Majority to lobby in Albany AGAINST cuts to consumer-directed home care and FOR the Home Care Savings & Reinvestment Act!

During the day we will engage in creative visibility tactics and a press event that will help encourage legislators to take a stand with us.

Please mark your calendar! **Virtual prep meetings to get ready for the day will be offered on Thursday, March 21 at 11AM and 7PM** (you only need to attend one!)

The New York Caring Majority is a statewide campaign of older and disabled people, home care workers, family caregivers, and advocates fighting for a world where care is at the center, where all of us have the healthcare and home care we need, where and when we need it, and where we show we value care work by praising it and by providing care workers family-sustaining wages and benefits.

RSVP for more details. For accessibility questions or transportation requests, please e-mail [julia@domesticemployers.org](mailto:julia@domesticemployers.org)

This event is wheelchair accessible. If you need assistance with transportation, please contact [Julia@DomesticEmployers.org](mailto:Julia@DomesticEmployers.org)

## ***Don't Cut PA Wages to Save State Money***

February 29, 2024

The Governor wants to cut Medicaid, and she wants to do it by directly cutting wages and benefits by up to \$2.54/hr for workers in CDPAP. This disastrous plan will not only cause direct harm to PAs and the disabled and older folks they work for, it will completely destabilize the entire home care system and eliminate advances in equity for both workers and consumers.

The cut being proposed would eliminate a requirement in New York City, Long Island, and Westchester called wage parity. This law was put into place to prevent a "race to the bottom" for home care wages and benefits when the system moved from county control to managed care. From 2012 until 2017, CDPAP was not included in the law, resulting in the program becoming a loophole, with managed care plans seeking increased profits by switching cases from traditional home care to CDPAP in order for agencies to pay workers less while also eliminating rules on nurse oversight and other safety regulations in agency-based home care.

Eliminating wage parity today for CDPA only deems PAs "second class" home care workers, not worthy of the same wages and benefits their peers in agency-based home care receive. In fact, in taking the total compensation in New York City from its current \$21.09/hr. to \$18.55/hr. moving forward would amount to the lowest combined wages and benefits for CDPA workers since 2019, when the total compensation was \$18.09. This cut will lead to PAs leaving for higher paying jobs, leaving the consumers who rely on them to live independently in the community, many of whom are already struggling to staff their authorized hours, making our current home care crisis even worse.

Meanwhile, the requirement for increased wages and benefits has played a critical role in helping to eliminate decades of systemic racism and sexism built into the home care system, which helped to eliminate systemic ableism and ageism as well. The low wages and lack of respect home care workers, including PAs, receive stems directly from the fact that they are primarily Black, LatinX, and immigrant women. This systemic racism and sexism fueled systemic ableism and ageism, as undervaluing the work being done to keep disabled and older

folks living independently in the community directly impacted the way society viewed those receiving services.

The Governor's proposal to balance the budget on the backs of Black, LatinX, and immigrant women, as well as the older and disabled consumers they provide services for, must be rejected. Act today to tell your legislators to reject it.

<https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/CDPAANYS/Campaigns/111051/Respond>

## ***Have you asked told Gov. Hochul CDPA is Essential yet?***

February 27, 2024

When you're asked, "What did you do to help make sure CDPA was alive and well?", how will you answer? Even after the attacks of the last six years, this year is different. The attacks are bigger. They are bolder. And they will have more of an impact than ever before. The Governor's cuts will eliminate designated representatives, kicking over 100,000 kids, people with Alzheimer's or dementia, and others with cognitive impairments off the program on October 1. There are wage cuts of up to \$2.54/hour, lowering wages in NYC to the lowest levels since 2018. Hundreds of agencies, many of which have been providing CDPA since the early days of the program, will be eliminated because they also offer traditional services. Training requirements, as well as daily and weekly hour limits, are proposed for PAs, limiting consumers integral ability to self-direct, and in some cases staff all of their authorized hours. Rates for FIs will be cut further, disallowing anything but minimum wage with no benefits for PAs.

If this seems like a lot, that's because it is. Designated Representatives have been a part of CDPAP since the early '80s. Their elimination would mean about 100,000 people, or 40% of the program, would suddenly be denied the services they have used, in some cases, for decades. [We must fight and say no.](#)

In 2017, PAs were added to a law that required extra wages and benefits in New York City, as well as Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester. Is the Governor proposing to make things equal by extending this benefit across the state? No. She would eliminate only PAs from this added benefit. Traditional PCAs in agency-based care would continue to receive them. CDPA workers would be told they are second-class workers. [We must fight and say no.](#)

The Governor's budget is devastating for CDPA. Please, send messages today.

<https://cdactionny.org/take-action/?vsrc=%2fCampaigns%2f11876%2fRespond>

## *Finding a New PCA*

*United Spinal Association, <https://unitedspinal.org/>*

### **Best tips and strategies for finding and hiring a PCA.**

<https://unitedspinal.org/best-tips-and-strategies-for-finding-and-hiring-pcas/>

[Annie Streit](#), Grassroots Advocacy Manager, Aug 23, 2023

### **How to Secure Housing and Manage PCA Services at College**

<https://newmobility.com/how-to-secure-housing-and-manage-pca-services-at-college/>

[Annie Tulkin](#), March 29, 2022

### **Managing Personal Assistants: A Consumer Guide**

<https://pva.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/persasstfc6d.pdf>

Paralyzed Veterans of America, 2000

## *Disabled in Action of Metropolitan New York*

The "**DIA Activist**" News Letter can be found online at: <http://largestminority.net/activist.html> or <https://www.disabledinaction.org/> The Largest Minority is a news, opinion and resource web site on issues of concern and interest to the community of people with a disability. It is produced in conjunction with Disabled In Action of Metropolitan New York. **DIA Membership**: A civil rights organization committed to ending discrimination against people with disabilities that believes in the motto, "Nothing about us without us!" Everyone is welcome. For Dues and Meeting information, please visit <https://www.disabledinaction.org/>

If you're on Twitter or Facebook - [http://www.twitter.com/DIA\\_New\\_York](http://www.twitter.com/DIA_New_York)  
[https://www.facebook.com/ Disabled-In-Action-of- Metropolitan-New-York](https://www.facebook.com/Disabled-In-Action-of-Metropolitan-New-York)

#### **The next DIA meetings will be held on:**

January 7th – Sunday, February 4th -- Sunday

At Selis Manor 135 W 23rd Street between 6th and 7th Avenues

1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Come for lively discussion and brainstorming on changes we can make as well as learn what we have been up to and are planning to do to advance the cause of disability rights.

In case of extremely bad weather, you can call the DIA phone number - 646-504-4342 - after 6pm the Saturday night before to find out if the meeting will be cancelled.

Our meetings are usually held on the 1st Sunday of the month. We only do the second Sunday if a holiday falls right on that day or if there is a big NYC event that makes getting around extra difficult such as the marathon, or if the weather is impassable or dangerous.

Our new phone number is 646-504-4342.

Our new mailing address is Disabled In Action

PO Box 1550, New York, NY 10159



## ***Able Newspaper***

As March begins, we're happy to share that the latest digital edition of *Able News* is now live! With expanded original reporting on wheelchair sports, transportation accessibility, local news, and more, you won't want to miss this issue.

We're glad you're part of our growing community as our journey continues under new editorial leadership at The Viscardi Center.

Thank you for reading!

With appreciation,  
Emily Ladau  
Editor, Able News

<https://ablenews.com/latest-edition/>

**SUBMIT NEWS ITEMS TO ABLENEWS@VISCARDICENTER.ORG.**

**[Ablenews@viscardicenter.org](mailto:Ablenews@viscardicenter.org)**

## *Local Independent Living Centers*

- Bronx Independent Living Services, Inc. (BILS)  
4419 Third Ave, #2C, Bronx, NY 10457  
TEL [718 515-2800 x 116](tel:7185152800) / TTY [718 515-2803](tel:7185152803) / FAX [718 515-2844](tel:7185152844)
- Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled (BCID)  
27 Smith St, #200, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
TEL [718 998-3000](tel:7189983000) / TTY [718 998-7406](tel:7189987406) / FAX [718 998-3743](tel:7189983743)
- Center for Independence of the Disabled in NY (CID-NY) (Manhattan)  
841 Broadway, #301, New York, NY 10003  
TEL [212 674-2300](tel:2126742300) V / TTY [212-674-5619](tel:2126745619) / FAX [212-254-5953](tel:2122545953)
- CID-NY/Queens - 137-02A Northern Blvd, Flushing, NY 11354  
Phone: [646-442-1520](tel:6464421520) / Sorenson VP [866-948-1064](tel:8669481064) / TTY [718-886-0427](tel:7188860427) /  
Fax 718-886-0428
- Harlem Independent Living Center (HILC) (Manhattan)  
289 St. Nicholas Ave, #21 Lower Level, New York, NY 10027  
TEL: 212-222-7122 / Sorenson VP 646-755-3092 / Relay 866-326-5876 /  
FAX 212-222-7199 / [info@hilc.org](mailto:info@hilc.org)
- Staten Island Center for Independent Living (SIILC)  
470 Castleton Ave, Staten Island, NY 10301  
TEL 718-720-9016 / TTY 718-720-9870 / FAX 718-720-9664
- Long Island Center for Independent Living (LICIL) (Nassau Co)  
3601 Hempstead Turnpike, #208, Levittown, NY 11756  
TEL 516-796-0144 / TEL (Espanol) 516-796-6176 / TTY 516-796-0135 /  
FAX 516-796-0529 / [licil@aol.com](mailto:licil@aol.com)
- Self Initiated Living Options, Inc. (SILO) (Suffolk Co)  
2111 Lakeland Ave, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
TEL 631-880-7929 / TTY 631-654-8076 / FAX 631-946-6377 / [contact@siloinc.org](mailto:contact@siloinc.org)
- Westchester Independent Living Center (WILC) (Westchester/White Plains)  
200 Hamilton Ave, White Plains, NY 10601  
TEL 914-682-3926 / TTY 914-682-0926 / Sorenson Video Phone 866-933 5390 /  
FAX 914-682-8518
- Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc. (WDOM) Westchester/Yonkers)  
984 No. Broadway, #L-10, Yonkers, NY 10701  
TEL 914-968-4717 V & TTY / FAX 914-968-6137

# **Alternative Resources**

***The following resources MAY help Consumers find new Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Candidates and manage the CDPAP.  
(Suggestions Welcome)***

## **Employment**

**Kingsborough Comm. College, Marisa Joseph**  
2001 Oriental Blvd, Brooklyn, NY 11235  
[marisa.joseph@kbcc.cuny.edu](mailto:marisa.joseph@kbcc.cuny.edu)  
718-368-5563

**NYC Technical College Placement Office**  
[pdc@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:pdc@citytech.cuny.edu)  
(718) 260-5050

## **Advertising**

**Able Newspaper**  
Cost \$5 for each 5 word line (or part) – 30days  
Phone: 516-939-2253 [www.ablenews.com](http://www.ablenews.com)

**Classified Ads, Cost Free**  
<http://www.classifiedads.com/post.php>

**Craigslist, Cost \$45.00 (30 days)**  
<http://newyork.craigslist.org/>

[Barefootstudent.com](http://Barefootstudent.com) - \$75 per month  
Employment site for recruiting college grads and nearby students.

## **System Navigation**

**Homecare Planning Solutions**  
<http://www.hpsny.org/learning-center/home-care/enroll-in-cdpap/>  
718-215-0926  
Assistance with enrolling in a CDPAP, or questions about CDPAP  
Call to speak with a specialist. Never any charge for their help

**Independent Consumer Advocacy Network (ICAN)**  
ICAN helps people in New York's Managed Care Plans  
Call (844) 614-8800 TTY Relay Service: 711  
<https://icannys.org/>

**Evelyn Frank Legal Resources Program**  
Focus - Medicaid, Medicare, home care services, and public benefits issues affecting older adults & people with disabilities  
212.613.7310 Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
[EFLRP@nylag.org](mailto:EFLRP@nylag.org)

## **Find My FI**

<https://cdpaanys.org/findmyfi/>

CDPAANYS recommends doing thorough research before selecting a fiscal intermediary. Wages, benefits, and programs can vary between providers. Your Medicaid service coordinator or plan care manager should provide you with a list of all options.

The fiscal intermediaries listed on this site are current provider members of CDPAANYS. Our members have all been screened and interviewed before joining to ensure they operate according to the principles and philosophy of Consumer Direction.

Your FI should never ask for your workers to sign a non-compete agreement.

## **Questions to consider if changing your (FI) CDPAP Provider**

In addition to considering the items you already value such as personal recommendations, information contained in company advertisements, or other local factors; when considering a new CPAPA provider agency, you may wish to consider some of the following questions. Please note: the agency may choose not to answer any of your questions, but even that may help you to decide if the agency is a good fit for you and your circumstances.

- *Name of Agency*
- *Address*
- *Contact Person*
- *Contact Telephone*
- *Contact Email Address*
- *Website*
- *Counties Served*
- *Managed Care Providers*
- *Direct County or DSS Contracts*
- *Number of Years Providing Home Care Services*
- *Number of Years Providing Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services*
- *Percent CDPAP Consumers verses total Home Care Consumers.*

- *Will your agency be required to participate in the Electronic Visit Verification Program?*
- *If I change between provider agencies will my service authorization change?*
- *What is included in the PCA's wage and benefit package?*
- *Does the agency provide a recruitment assistance resource to help me attract new PCA's?*
  
- *Positions occupied by Consumers:*
  1. *Service Recipients*
  2. *Client Advisory Members*
  3. *Board Members*
  4. *Employees*
  5. *Other*
- *If Consumers are on the Board of Director, what percent of the Board is controlled by Consumers?*
  
- *What are some of the reasons for becoming a CDPAP Provider Agency?*
  1. *Is the program the corporation's primary mission?*
  2. *Does the program help the corporation achieve its goal of consumer empowerment?*
  3. *Does the agency also serve offer traditional home care services?*
  4. *Did the corporation choose to become a provider because the CDPAP provided a more cost-effective service solution for consumers with more complex service needs?*
  5. *Did the corporation choose to become a provider because the CDPAP allow you to diversify your mix of services?*
  6. *Did the corporation choose to become a provider because the CDPAP business model offered an opportunity that could benefit both the corporation and the consumers?*
  7. *Other*
  
- *What are some of the Problems with the CDPAP (Besides inadequate reimbursement)?*
  1. *Does the model complicate the process of utilizing the corporation's proven systems of quality and fiscal control?*
  2. *Does the model facilitate and encourage Consumer fraud and abuse?*

3. *Does the model complicate the process of complying with and controlling new regulatory requirements, such as overtime, sleep-in, and joint employment?*
4. *Is it difficult to maintain a clear line of separation between agency and consumer responsibilities?*
5. *Does the consumer's problem of locating suitable PCA's, and managing the delivery of services create situations that are too difficult for some consumers?*
6. *Is it administratively difficult to manage the problem of collecting all the required PCA documents without compromising consumer independence or program liability?*
7. *Other*

- *Why Should a Consumer choose your Agency?*
- *Other Comments about your Agency*