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January 13, 2012

Consumer Directed Services offers this Newsletter to provide information about the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program and to assist Consumers with the problem of finding new Personal Care Assistants. To receive a Newsletter, a Consumer or Advocate need only send me an email to [elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com](mailto:elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com) and include the text **Newsletter Request**.

Personal Assistant Candidates, who wish to be included in the newsletter and database, can submit their information by completing the form at the following link: [Look for a PCA Job \(FREE\) - New York City Metro](#).

Also, to insure that this Newsletter will be available to as many Consumers / Advocates as possible, previously distributed Newsletters (**from January 12, 2011 to present**) have been archived on the [Consumer Directed Services](#) home page.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 choose to remove your address from this list, please contact me at the above email address.

*Please remember for this (FREE) service to succeed, Consumers must join in the conversation. If you are looking for a new Personal Assistant, I encourage you to go to the website, select the link [Consumer / Advocate - Newsletter Enrollment Consumer - Search for a PCA Candidate](#), complete and submit the form on that page and permit me to forward your search outline to the Personal Assistant Candidates and the other Employment Resources that are enrolled in the email database. As of the above date, **304** Personal Assistant Candidates have been enrolled in the Consumer Directed Services database.*

Best Regards, Ed Litcher

## Notes

**Governor Cuomo's plan to reduce New York's rising Medicaid costs may send some of the state's poor and elderly to nursing homes.** Starting in April, New York City Medicaid recipients with community-based home care must switch to managed-care plans run by private insurers with money-saving motives NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Friday, January 13 2012, 4:00 AM Mike Groll/AP.

AT AGE 84, [Willie Mae White](#) needs a wheelchair to get around, isn't able to cook her own meals, endures dialysis three days a week and needs help performing daily personal tasks. But thanks to a Medicaid program that provides her a live-in home care aide, White still enjoys a dignified life in her own apartment in Jamaica, Queens. Under a plan [Gov. Cuomo](#) enacted last year to rein in spiraling Medicaid costs, the state will begin in April to require New York City Medicaid recipients who receive community-based home care to enroll instead in managed-care plans run by private insurers. Public health advocates warn that since those insurers will receive a flat monthly rate per client, they will seek to reduce services and will shunt enrollees with the most expensive conditions into nursing homes.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/governor-cuomo-plan-reduce-york-rising-medicaid-costs-send-state-poor-elderly-nursing-homes-article-1.1005524#ixzz1jNv7Kpnm>

## PCA Candidates

**To add a Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Candidate**, please complete and submit the [PCA Candidate Enrollment Form](#). As soon as your information is received it will be added to the next Newsletter. To consider the employment of a PCA Candidate, please contact the Candidate directly.

**If you are looking for a new Personal Assistant**, I encourage you to go to the website, select the link [Consumer / Advocate - Newsletter Enrollment Consumer - Search for a PCA Candidate](#), complete and submit the form on that page and permit me to forward your search outline to the Personal Assistant Candidates and the other Employment Resources that are enrolled in the email database. As of the above date, **304** Personal Assistant Candidates have been enrolled in the Consumer Directed Services database.

*Reminder: Consumer Directed Services makes no representation (positive or negative) regarding the appropriateness of any PCA Candidate the Consumer may consider. Therefore, a Consumer's consideration of any of the PCA Candidates listed above or any of the Candidates referred by a PCA Employment Service does not in any way reduce or modify the Consumer's exclusive responsibility to manage the PCA evaluation and employment process*

## Articles Related to the CDPAP

### **New York's Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP)**

New York's Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance Program, abbreviate as CDPAP or sometimes CDPAPNYS, is a Medicaid program. It is designed for elderly or disabled residents that require and are eligible to receive home care, personal care or skilled nursing services and wish to maintain control over whom provides these services. As consumers of care services, they are choosing to direct their own care hence the phrase "consumer direction" in the name. To avoid confusion, it is worth noting that consumer-direction is sometimes referred to as participant direction, self-direction or cash and counseling.

<http://www.payingforseniorcare.com/cash-and-counseling/ny-personal-assistance-program.html>

### **Medicaid, oh Medicaid**

Rarely has one program that has helped so many people in such dire situations generated so much controversy, confusion and angst as Medicaid. While it is beyond our organization's mission to propose a better system, it is within our objectives to reduce some of the confusion with regards to [qualifying for Medicaid](#).

Even more confusing than qualifying for Medicaid is trying to understand the benefits provided by the long term care program and all its related waivers. Some of the confusion stems from the fact that the program serves many constituents under the same name; children, the poor, pregnant mothers, the disabled and the elderly all can receive benefits from Medicaid. Undoubtedly more confusion is generated because the program has different policies, waivers and procedures in each state. Our organization continues its ongoing effort to highlight those Medicaid programs which are relevant to the elderly and their families. We've published over [100 articles on Medicaid waivers](#) and benefits.

Many families hold the outdated view of Medicaid that it only helps individuals that reside in nursing homes. While maybe accurate at one point in time, today families can receive assistance from Medicaid at home, in adult day care, assisted living, foster care homes and in nursing homes. Medicaid even helps adult children to [get paid to care for their parents or other elderly relatives](#). This

relatively new concept has grown from a pilot program called Cash and Counseling. We maintain a database of all programs nationwide that offer this option which is also referred to as consumer direction.. Read about [consumer direction in Medicaid](http://eldercareresource.blogspot.com/2012/01/medicaid-oh-medicaid.html).  
<http://eldercareresource.blogspot.com/2012/01/medicaid-oh-medicaid.html>

## **10 Health Reform Provisions Implementing in 2012 How will they affect your clients and your business?**

By [John Sullivan, AdvisorOne](#) January 6, 2012

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation helpfully explains the provisions of “[2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#),” better known as health care reform, that will be implemented this year. A quick review is in order for those with affected clients, as well as advisors who are also small business owners themselves.

<http://www.advisorone.com/2012/01/06/10-health-reform-provisions-implementing-in-2012>

## **Medicare Independence at Home Demonstration Program**

By [Gerthro](#) Wednesday, January 11, 2012 11:24:26 AM

The Independence at Home (IAH) demonstration program will test a payment incentive and service delivery system that utilizes primary care teams, directed by physicians and nurse practitioners, to provide services to high cost, chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries in their homes. The goal of the program is to improve health outcomes and reduce expenditures in the Medicare program.

Participating groups of providers will be responsible for delivering comprehensive and coordinated health care services to this high-need population in their homes, in addition to coordinating their health care across other treatment settings. Providers who are successful in meeting specified spending targets and quality measures may be eligible to share in the savings they create.

The IAH program targets beneficiaries who are covered by original fee-for-service (FFS) Medicare, have multiple chronic diseases, require assistance with two or more daily activities (i.e. bathing, dressing or eating), have had a medically necessary admission to the hospital within the past 12 months and have received rehabilitation services in the last 12 months.

Given these criteria for beneficiary participation in the program, thousands of individuals living with spinal cord injury and covered by the Medicare program stand to benefit immensely. Participants in the IAH program will receive care in their own home, instead traveling to a physician’s office or facility, thus improving access to needed care. Furthermore, the program aims to improve the quality of care and patient satisfaction by reducing avoidable hospitalizations and emergency room visits, and also to promote care that is consistent with the preferences of each individual patient.

For these reasons, the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation fully support the implementation of the IAH demonstration program. We will continue to keep you updated on new developments as the program progresses in the coming months.

<http://www.spinalcordinjury-paralysis.org/groups/advocacy/discussion/2012/01/11/medicare-independence-at-home-demonstration-progra>

## PCA Employment Agencies

If your Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Employment Service assists Self-Pay and CDPAP Consumers in the NYC Metro Area, you can have your agency information added to the following list by completing the [Employment Service Enrollment Form](#).

Fifth Avenue Committee  
Aaron Shiffman  
621 DeGraw Street, Brooklyn, New York 11217  
[ashiffman@fifthave.org](mailto:ashiffman@fifthave.org)  
718-237-2017

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp  
Alba Silva  
76 Wadsworth Ave, New York, NY 10033  
[albasilva@nimic.org](mailto:albasilva@nimic.org)  
212-822-8300

Queens Community House  
Ana Lopez-Betancourt  
108-25 62nd Drive, Forest Hills, NY 11375  
[abetancourt@queenscommunityhouse.org](mailto:abetancourt@queenscommunityhouse.org)  
718-898-7461 x 19

YWCA of NYC  
Anne Alfred  
50 Broadway, New York, NY 10004  
[aalfred@ywcanyc.org](mailto:aalfred@ywcanyc.org)  
718-723-6170

Center For Family Life Employment  
Denise Serrato  
443 39th St, Brooklyn, New York 11232  
[dserrato@cflsp.org](mailto:dserrato@cflsp.org)  
718-633-4823

Eugenio María de Hostos Community College  
Greg Ventura  
500 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10451  
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Leslie Klein  
285 Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn, NY 11217  
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Our Planet Management Institute  
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