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January 27, 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 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many Consumers / Advocates as possible, previously distributed Newsletters (**from January 12, 2011 to present**) have been archived on the [Consumer Directed Services](#) home page.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

The Pension is Back - In the December 16th Newsletter I discussed the current status of the Concepts of Independence, Inc. Defined Benefit Pension Plan. In that issue I indicated that according to the Summary Plan Description this plan has been frozen since June 30, 2003, and that your Personal Assistant's years of service earned after that date would not increase their benefit but would only count toward the required (5 year) vesting schedule.

Happily I can now report that that information has changed. Last week I receive a copy of the required **Annual Funding Notice**, a boilerplate document taken from **The Pension Protection Act of 2006**, <http://www.dol.gov/EBSA/pensionreform.html>, a document that is essentially illegible to the average reader, a document that should have immediately prompted the management to offer a simple one page cover sheet to explain the notice. Regardless, I, with some help and some time, was able to identify several important pieces of information that will affect the pension benefit a Personal Assistant might eventually receive. Essentially, the paragraph that is most important to the eligible pension recipients is the paragraph entitled Events with Material Effect on Assets or Liabilities a paragraph that contains the statement "during the 2011 plan year, Concept of Independence plans on amending the plan to provide retroactive benefits from July 2003 through June 2011."

In short the Defined Benefit Pension Plan is being un-frozen. Personal Assistants who worked beyond or were employed after June 30, 2003 will now receive both credit toward their 5 year vesting schedule (work years required to be eligible for the pension benefit) and credit toward the actual cash benefit they will ultimately receive.

This paragraph also indicates that "additional information on the plan amendment will be shortly forthcoming." Hopefully, this information will indicate when all eligible recipients will receive a revised pension valuation and an outline of the procedure to be followed by those who already received a pension, which should now be adjusted to reflect the full period of their employment.

So congratulation, for doing the right thing, for bringing the benefits offered to CDPAP Personal Assistants in line with the benefits offered to Home Attendants in the unionized agencies. Hopefully, this is the beginning of a trend. Perhaps Consumer Board Membership is next.

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, **306** Personal Assistant Candidates have been enrolled in the Consumer Directed Services database.

(emmanuelpepito@aol.com) on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 20:15:44

Personal Assistant Candidate: Emmanuel pepito

Address1: 200 south avenue

Address2: Poughkeepsie

Address3: New york 12601

Phone: 845 214 3286

Best Time: noon

Gender: Male

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Young Adults,, Seniors,, Paraplegia,, Quadriplegia,, Hemiplegia,, Amputation,, Ventilators,, Wheelchairs,, Lifters,, Other Equipment,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Special Diets,, Languages

Description of Special Diets: diabetic meals

Description of Languages: English

Documentation Available: Social Security Number,, Proof of Identity,, Recommendations

Hours per Week: 12

Days per Week: 7

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: 15

Target Salary Per Day: 185

(bella47_20012001@yahoo.com) on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 09:19:28

Personal Assistant Candidate: DORIS MAY ARNETT

Address1: 1013 EAST 225 STREET

Address2: FLOOR 1

Address3: BRONX , NY 10466

Phone: 646-207-6904 / 347-920-2018

Best Time: Any Time

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Domestic / Homemaking

Description of Other Type of Position: Personal Care

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

Description of Special Diets: ,Diabetic and Hypertensive ,Potassium

Description of Other: pace makers, logging and reporting findings

Documentation Available: Social Security Number,, Proof of Identity,, Recommendations

Hours per Week: Any

Days per Week: Any

Preferred Start Time: immediate

Days I Would Like to Work: Any

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

Target Salary Per Hour: negotiable

Target Salary Per Day: negotiable

Target Salary Per Week: negotiable

Comments:

QUALIFICATIONS :

1998-2012

Twelve years of excellent hands on job experience and informal training; partially under supervision of Linda Radano , Nurse Practitioner (Sloan Kettering Hospital) and daughter of Ascanio Radano (my patient).

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

Spotlight on Business: LI Center for Independent Living - January 25, 2012 - *The following was provided to Patch by the Levittown Chamber of Commerce.* The [Long Island Center For Independent Living](#), Inc., (LICIL) was established in 1980, and located in Levittown at 3601 Hempstead Turnpike, with Patricia Moore as the Executive Director. LICIL has been a member of the Levittown Chamber of Commerce for six months. LICIL's Mission is to serve as a down-to-earth home base where persons with disabilities access services and information that can open doors for a more productive, healthy and secure life. LICIL is incorporated under the non-profit corporation laws of the State of New York and is operated exclusively for the charitable, scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. A Board of Directors comprised of at least 51% persons with disabilities governs the organization. LICIL's Executive Director is selected by the Board of Directors of the organization.

<http://levittown-ny.patch.com/articles/spotlight-on-business-li-center-for-independent-living>

Cuomo Signs Executive Order Limiting Spending for Administrative Costs and Executive Compensation at State-Funded Service Providers. To achieve this, the Order caps the maximum amount that contractors can charge New York state agencies for their executives' compensation at \$199,000. Additionally, the Order requires that agencies ensure that at least 75-percent of the money paid to contractors is spent on direct care services and not on executive or administrative costs. If a provider fails to comply with this Order within ninety days, the commissioner of the regulating state agency has discretion to terminate or not renew the agency's contract with the provider.

<http://healthlawsidebar.com/?p=670> **(I wonder how this will be applied to CDPAP executives?)**

A New Form of House Call Posted on January 22, 2012 by Lifestyle Health Systems.

Last month the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) began an initiative that encourages the growth and usage of remote monitoring by primary care physicians. Created by the Affordable Care Act, the Independence at Home Demonstration (IAH) will work with medical practices to test the effectiveness of delivering comprehensive primary care services at home and if doing so improves care for Medicare beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions. Additionally, the Demonstration will reward healthcare providers that provide high quality care while reducing costs.

<http://www.lifestylehealthsys.com/blog/a-new-form-of-house-call.html>

House Calls: Will Health Care Providers Respond to the Call? Posted January 24th, 2012 by [Glenda Motta](#) RN, MPH Most individuals with [chronic](#) conditions would much prefer to remain at home in familiar surroundings than be relocated to a nursing care facility. Yet, the largest expenditures under state Medicaid programs involve providing institutional care for the chronic, long-term care population. Over the years many states have developed programs to provide services aimed at reducing institutionalization. Now, Medicare has announced a new demonstration project called the "Independence at Home" program. In keeping with the theme "everything old is new again" the Acting Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ([CMS](#)) announced that, "This program gives new life to the old practice of house calls, but with 21st Century technology and a team approach."

<http://www.woundsource.com/blog/house-calls-will-health-care-providers-respond-call>

INDEPENDENCE AT HOME DEMONSTRATION Additional Frequently Asked Questions

http://www.cms.gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/downloads/IAH_FAQ_Additional.pdf

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
718-237-2017

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp
Alba Silva
76 Wadsworth Ave, New York, NY 10033
albasilva@nimic.org
212-822-8300

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

YWCA of NYC
Anne Alfred
50 Broadway, New York, NY 10004
aalfred@ywcanyc.org
718-723-6170

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

Eugenio María de Hostos Community College
Greg Ventura
500 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10451
gventura@hostos.cuny.edu
(718) 518-4444

El Barrio's Operation Fight
Gustavo Rosado
413 E 120th St # 403 New York, NY 10035-3602
ebobf413@aol.com
212-410-7900

Bronxwork Inc Kedon Wilson
391 E 149th St, Bronx, NY 10455
kwilson@bronxworks.org
(718) 993-8880 ext. 237

Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service
Leslie Klein
285 Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn, NY 11217
lklein@bbcs.org
718-310-5600

Our Planet Management Institute
Lisa Ying
116 John Street, #200, New York, NY 10038
lisa@opmi.org
212-269-4000

Kingsborough Community College
Marisa Joseph
2001 Oriental Blvd, Brooklyn, NY 11235
marisa.joseph@kbcc.cuny.edu
718-368-5563

Mercy Center
Mary Ellen Gianino
377 East 145th Street, Bronx NY 10454-1006
meg@mercycenterbronx.org
(718) 993-2789

New York City College of Technology
NYC Technical College Placement Office
300 Jay St, Brooklyn, NY 11201
employmentsvc@citytech.cuny.edu
(718) 260-5050

Blessed Healthcare Staffing Agency
Tisha Thomas
1 Belvedere Ave, Suite A, Farmingdale, NY 11735
tithomas@bhcsa.com
(631) 390-8646

Konedu Home Care, LLC
Carie Jones Smith
140 Captain Thomas Blvd
West Haven, CT 06516
helpingfamilies@koneduhomecare.com
Phone: [800 418-3299](tel:8004183299)
Fax: [888 281-6525](tel:8882816525)
Fee: No Employer Fee