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Consumer Directed Services offers this FREE Newsletter and the FREE Service to Consumers to assist Consumers with the problem of finding new Personal Care Assistants.

Consumers / Advocates To receive a Newsletter, a Consumer or Advocate need only send me an email to elitcher@consumerdirectedservices.com and include the text **Newsletter Request**. To search for a New Personal Assistant go to the [Consumer Directed Services](http://www.Consumer Directed Services) website and complete the form at the following link [Consumer / Advocate - Search for a PCA Candidate or Request a Newsletter](#). When your information is received it will be distributed to all of the Candidates and the other email Database Resources.

Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Candidates To include your information in the Newsletter and Database, go to the [Consumer Directed Services](http://www.Consumer Directed Services) website and complete the form at the following link: [Look for a PCA Job \(FREE\) - New York City Metro](#).

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many Consumers / Advocates as possible, previously distributed Newsletters (**from January 12, 2011 to present**) have been archived on the [Consumer Directed Services](http://www.Consumer Directed Services) home page.

346 Personal Assistant Candidates have been enrolled in the Consumer Directed Services database, as of the above date. 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. Best Regards, Ed Litcher

Notes

Testimony of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Association of New York State (CDPAANYS) - Regarding the incorporation of the CDPAP into the Manage Care Program. Presented by Constance Laymon, President – Posted 2/13/2012

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7bwc18np1oQ&feature=player_embedded

Ms. Laymon begin at 5 hours, 2 minutes in

First and foremost, the incorporation of CDPAP into managed long term care and mainstream managed care must be delayed until the program's unique aspects have been identified, considered and planned for. We recognize that changes are being made in a difficult fiscal environment and that is why it is important to stress that this delay could be undertaken in a manner that is cost neutral. As of now, enrollment into mainstream managed care is set to begin on July 1. Enrollment in Managed Long Term Care will begin on a rolling basis, beginning in Manhattan and the Bronx on July v as well. CDPAP will continue to roll into MLTC on a rolling basis. On January 1, 2013, it is set to be implemented in Nassau and Suffolk. It will proceed according to a set schedule from there.

However, as previously noted, the MRT has already recognized that CDPAP poses complexities that other programs such as personal care, traditional home care and other community based long term care programs do not. If these issues are not fully addressed, there is no “backup program.” CDPAP will fail for people and they will require more expensive, less independent models of care, including institutions. The CDPAP Work Group established by the MRT just began discussions and will work through the issues as aggressively as possible; however, we must recognize that four months is not a sufficient amount of time to adequately identify, consider and plan for the transition of the intricate legal and programmatic issues surrounding CDPAP.

From a budget savings perspective, CDPAP could be delayed without creating a fiscal impact. DOH is planning on transitioning approximately 2,000 individuals per month to mandatory managed long term care and mainstream managed care. According to the United Hospital Fund, in 2008 there were approximately 29,000 dual eligible consumers receiving personal care in New York City. However, of this, only about 5% of spending for personal care in New York City was on CDPAP. This means that personal care transition can occur, and budget savings can be met, while ensuring proper transition of CDPAP through a delay.

We must also ensure that the philosophy of the program is protected through this process. Many of you were intimately involved in the creation of CDPAP. Now, as we move forward, CDPAANYS trusts that the transition to managed care and managed long term care can work to strengthen the program and add consistency that is desperately needed. However, we must use this opportunity. This means that we seek your support to ensure that the state protects the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program Regulations that were promulgated last year and to find ways to ensure the protection of the consumers' rights.

This delay is necessary if the state is truly committed to growing CDPAP and promoting consumer directed care. This decision is not only the right thing to do, but is also the fiscally prudent measure. CDPAP is currently \$2.16 less expensive than traditional personal care on an hourly basis, and those savings increase when compared to more expensive and specialized forms of long-term care. Developing appropriate CDPAP reimbursement that focuses on wages and benefits for the direct care personal assistant is something that cannot be rushed.

Once we establish the proper CDPAP transition plan, individuals must be presented an accurate, unbiased portrayal of CDPAP when they are first enrolling in long-term care. It must be appropriately explained and materials presented in their native language.

Further, when assessing individuals for the program, the state should operate off a strengths-based approach rather than the current deficit-based approach. Currently, individuals must prove that they are capable of self-directing their own care in order to be enrolled in CDPAP. A subtle change in thought could dramatically effect enrollment in the program. If assessments were forced to determine that an individual was not capable of self-directing his or her own care, it would have a dramatic effect. The primary programmatic effect would be that assessors would begin to focus on the consumer's strengths, not their deficits, something completely in keeping with the program's founding philosophy. This subtle change could impact how the program is presented, how consumers are assessed, and how people take part in and succeed in the program.

Finally, the Legislature should work with the Governor to begin implementing the Community First Choice Option. This program, which was part of the Affordable Care Act, was committed to by the Governor last year. However, little progress has been made, and the planning that is being done in relation to CDPAP and managed care also hasn't considered Community First Choice, even though CDPAP and CFCO will inherently overlap. Especially given that the program will result in an extra 6% in federal matching funds for anyone using CFCO, we would encourage the Legislature to work with the Governor to develop a plan to use the program as a means of leveraging federal dollars within the Medicaid program and lowering state costs over the long term.

The state has done a tremendous amount over the past year to protect and begin to strengthen the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program. We hope that the Legislature will focus on this vital, cost-saving program as part of this year's program and continue the progress you have begun to make.
www.nysenate.gov/files/Constance%20Laymon.pdf

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.

mallow7716@yahoo.com on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 12:03:15

Personal Assistant Candidate: Oksana Varshavskiy

Address1: 1200 Hoboken #525 Address2: Hoboken, NJ 07030

Phone: [2676791447](tel:2676791447)

Best Time: any

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Seniors,, Wheelchairs,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Special Diets,, Languages

Description of Special Diets: low sodium, vegetarian

Description of Languages: English, Russian, Ukrainian,

Description of Other: Massage Therapist, CPR, CNA (expired)

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

Hours per Week: 120 Days per Week: 5-6 Preferred Start Time: now

Days I Would Like to Work: any, 5-6 days per week

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: Yes Target Salary Per Day: \$100 NET

Comments: I am Caregiver/ Companion (non-medicated) with over 7 years of experience. I have formal training as a CNA (in PA), CPR, Massage Therapist & Reiki Master. US citizen and have insured car, I am a driver of 11 years. Trained in measuring blood pressure, pulse, checking vital signs, CPR. Good cook/ baker (can cook vegetarian). Non-smoker, non-drinker, do not use any illegal substances. Clean personal & driving record. Raised two children. Computer savvy: Internet, Skype, Word processing. I am dependable, compassionate, honest, hard working, youthful, energetic, college-educated person with a very positive outlook on life. I am willing to relocate on a short notice.

teat75@gmail.com on Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 10:32:25

Personal Assistant Candidate: Tea Tuashvili

Address1: 1529dahiil road

Phone: [9178890522](tel:9178890522)

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Children,, Wheelchairs,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Languages

Description of Special Diets: Diabets

Description of Languages: English,Russian

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

Hours per Week: 24 Days per Week: 5-7 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 Day: 140-200

Comments: I-am-experienced-caregiver.I-ve-got-HHA&PCA-certificates.also-drive,Experience-of-housekeeping,Look-after-elderly-people.I-am-warm-responsibel-caring-reliable-person-willing-to-work.I-cant-start-asap...

equilla69@yahoo.com on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 08:08:22

Personal Assistant Candidate: Leslie Lomotey
Address1: 26 N.Brandywine Ave Address2: Schenectady n.y. 12307
Best Time: [5188787097](tel:5188787097)
Gender: Female
Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health
Experience: Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Visual / Auditory Impairments,, Special Diets,, Languages
Description of Special Diets: gerds. diabetes lactose
Description of Languages: english
Documentation Available: Social Security Number,, Proof of Identity,, Recommendations
Hours per Week: 24 Days per Week: 3-5 Preferred Start Time: 11pm
Days I Would Like to Work: mon-tue-wed-thur-fri-sat
I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: yes
Target Salary Per Hour: neg
Comments: I currently work with persons that are disabled and the elderly.

polambi@yahoo.com on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 03:36:36

Personal Assistant Candidate: Paul Kavanaght
Address1: 29 E 17th street #414 Address2: Brooklyn, NY 11226
Phone: [347-496-2295](tel:347-496-2295)
Best Time: Any time
Gender: Male
Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health
Experience: Young Adults,, Seniors,, Wheelchairs,, Lifters,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Visual / Auditory Impairments,, Languages, Other,
Description of Languages: English - French - Spanish - Creole
Description of Other: Worked with autistic individuals
Documentation Available: Social Security Number,, Proof of Identity,, Recommendations
Hours per Week: 40 Days per Week: 5 Preferred Start Time: Any
Days I Would Like to Work: I can work any days
I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: No problem
Target Salary Per Hour: \$9
Comments: I have worked with mentally challenged individuals for almost three years, for a company called "Autism Services Association", located in Massachusetts. This is their actual website: www.autismservices.org. The site also contains their phone number, so they can easily be contacted to obtain verification of my employment with them. The manager and the supervisor are still the same persons who used to supervise me. However I do not have a home health aide certification. Please, let me know what I need to do, so that I could start working for you as soon as possible.

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

Long-Term Services and Supports Candidate Questionnaire Barack Obama

What are your plans for increasing the availability of home and community-based services that are much preferred over institutional care by seniors and people with disabilities who seek to maintain their independence and integration in society?

My administration has made tremendous progress in helping Americans with disabilities live independently in their communities. In June of 2009, on the 10th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, we launched “The Year of Community Living” to call new attention to efforts to help individuals with disabilities live independently. Nine months later we passed the Affordable Care Act. The law invested an additional \$2.25 billion in the successful Money Follows the Person program that has already helped 12,000 people with disabilities transition from institutional to community settings. The new funding will expand the program to a total of 41 states and improve quality of life for thousands of our fellow Americans. The health care law also created the new Community First Choice program in Medicaid, which provides states additional funding so that they can offer community-based services alongside nursing home and institutional services. The Affordable Care Act creates a new option – rather than a waiver program – for home and community-based care. Its Balancing Incentive Program provides additional funding to states that lag behind in transition to community based services. And it provides higher Federal support for health homes for individuals with chronic conditions. In Medicare, the Community-based Transitions Program helps seniors who were hospitalized stay in their homes. And the Innovation Center has launched the Independence at Home demonstration to support community living for seniors with multiple chronic conditions. www.theconsumervoice.org/sites/default/files/Obama.pdf

State Legislators Advocate for Medicaid Expansion in ACA More than 500 state legislators from 50 states filed a brief with the Supreme Court of the United States last week, defending the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

The ACA requires states to cover individuals and families with incomes up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level in their Medicaid plans starting in 2014, a provision that is expected to result in a significant increase in Medicaid enrollment. The provision has been targeted by the 26-state lawsuit that seeks to overturn major portions of the federal health-care reform law.

In an amicus brief, 539 largely Democratic state legislators affiliated with the Working Group of State Legislators for Health Reform, and in partnership with the Constitutional Accountability Center and the Progressive States Network, outlined their legal defense of the Medicaid expansion.

According to a summary released by the Progressive States Network, the ACA includes federal assistance for states to manage the expansion, that the reform of the health-care system is vital to the American public and that the expansion of Medicaid is crucial to extending insurance coverage to currently underserved citizens.

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments on the ACA's constitutionality on March 26, 27 and 28.

<http://www.governing.com/news/federal/gov-state-legislators-advocate-medicaid-expansion-health-care-law.html>

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