

July 13, 2012

To assist Consumers with the problem of finding new Personal Care Assistants, [Consumer Directed Services](http://www.consumerdirectedservices.com) offers this FREE Newsletter and the FREE Service to Consumers and Personal Assistant Candidates.

- [Consumers / Advocates](#)

- To receive a copy of the weekly 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.consumerdirectedservices.com) website and complete the form at the following link [Consumer / Advocate - Search for a PCA Candidate](#). When your information is received it will be distributed to all of the Candidates and the other email Database Resources. As of the above date, **444 Personal Assistant Candidates** have been enrolled in the Consumer Directed Services database.

- [Personal Care Assistant \(PCA\) Candidates](#)

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

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many Consumers / Advocates as possible, previously distributed Newsletters (**from January 12, 2011 to present**) have been archived on the [Consumer Directed Services](http://www.consumerdirectedservices.com) home page.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

Best Regards, Ed Litcher

Notes

Check out Constance Laymon's blog: <http://www.ConstanceLaymon.com>. Constance created this blog to express her opinion while still supporting the CDPAANYS mission and continue her quest to change the world for the better by focusing on infrastructure and system changes. In addition to managing [Consumer Directed Choices, Inc.](http://www.ConsumerDirectedChoices.com) and participating in a number of other Home Care related committees, Constance is also co-chairing a "Consumer Voices" Steering Committee www.WeAreSelfDirecting.com, allied with CDPAANYS, and Todd Vaarwerk from the Buffalo Independent Living Center to encourage Consumers to develop their own voice and to gather multiple Consumer perspectives.

PCA Candidates

Consumer - To consider any of the following PCA Candidates, please contact the Candidates directly. To send an email the currently enrolled Personal Assistant Candidates please go to the [Consumer Directed Services](#) website and complete the form at the following link [Consumer / Advocate - Search for a PCA Candidate or Request a Newsletter](#).

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

cdtulloch@yahoo.com on Sunday, July 8, 2012 at 20:22:35

Personal Assistant Candidate: Charlene Tulloch

Address1: 699 lakeway drive

Phone: [631-612-4309](tel:631-612-4309)

Best Time: 10.00 am

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Children,, Young Adults,, Seniors,, Amputation,, Wheelchairs,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Visual / Auditory Impairments,

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

Hours per Week: 40

Days per Week: 5

Preferred Start Time: 8 am

Days I Would Like to Work: monday through friday

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: I can not. I have a small child

Target Salary Per Hour: 13.00

Comments: I have two years hospital experience as a senior CNA. I have experience in assisting patients with toileting, baths, trach care, transferring from bed to chair, etc.

etinosa.evbuomwan@lc.cuny.edu on Saturday, July 7, 2012 at 17:30:36

Personal Assistant Candidate: Etinosa Evbuomwan

Address1: 80 School street apt. ge

Phone: [9148190621](tel:9148190621)

Best Time: NOON

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Seniors,, Wheelchairs,

Description of Languages: English, French.

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

Hours per Week: 32

Days per Week: 4

Preferred Start Time: July 15

Days I Would Like to Work: M,T,W,THURS, FRI.

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: NO

Target Salary Per Hour: 8.50

Comments: I have a three years experienced working as a hospital Sitter/Companion (Direct Care Assistant) for the elderly and adults with various disabilities. My duties includes Observed client's physical, mental and overall conditions in hospitals and group homes and reported back to the charge nurse, Helped client carryout daily goals in their care plan, Performed personal care duties and assist with ADLs, and Offered activities which encourage some degree of independent-living. Also, I am an energetic, detailed-oriented person who has strong organization skills, experience, and the ability to work well with people from all works of life.

fivecats6940@yahoo.com on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at 18:49:50

Personal Assistant Candidate: Kathleen Collins

Address1: 69 40 Hillmeyer Avenue

Address3: Arverne, NY 11692

Phone: 1 718 685 6381

Best Time: daytime

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Seniors,, Paraplegia,, Quadriplegia,, Amputation,, Wheelchairs,, Lifters,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,, Visual / Auditory Impairments,

Description of Special Diets: kosher, diabetic

Description of Languages: English

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

Hours per Week: 60

Days per Week: 7

Days I Would Like to Work: Sunday thru Saturday

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

Target Salary Per Hour: 12.00

Target Salary Per Day: 120.00

Target Salary Per Week: 600.00

Traceymark79@yahoo.com on Thursday, July 5, 2012 at 01:44:45

Personal Assistant Candidate: Sharon Dicks

Address1: 1017 east 96th street

Phone: [347-385-6478](tel:347-385-6478)

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

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

Languages

Description of Languages: English

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

Hours per Week: 12

Days per Week: 3

Preferred Start Time: 9a.m

Days I Would Like to Work: Weekdays or weekends

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: No

Target Salary Per Hour: 11 to 12

Comments: I am already with this agency by the name of concepts of independence but there are no jobs looking for a change with better nice consumers.

tainavargas1234@aol.com on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at 00:20:08

Personal Assistant Candidate: Rosanna Peralta

Address1: 75 Bush st apt 5D

Phone: [347 4815391](tel:3474815391)

Best Time: 9am

Gender: Female

Type of Position: Personal Care / Home Health

Experience: Children,, Seniors,, Mental Impairments / Alzheimer's Disease,

Description of Languages: Spanish

Documentation Available: Social Security Number,

Hours per Week: 40

Days per Week: 5

Preferred Start Time: 8am

Days I Would Like to Work: mon-fri every other weekend

I am willing to work a 24 Hour Sleep-In schedule: no

Target Salary Per Hour: \$10

Target Salary Per Day: \$80

Target Salary Per Week: \$400

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

Three Critical Things Left Out of the Health Care Reform Debate - [Carolyn Rosenblatt](#), Contributor - Forbes

The political battle on health care reform rages on. But the debate totally misses some important features of the Affordable Care Act that directly affect elders.

Maybe people who oppose the Supreme Court decision don't want to look as if they are against elders so they avoid discussing a number of the real benefits to seniors that are part of the bill.

Who am I talking about that will benefit? It could be your own aging parents. The ACA requires many broad changes that will be directly and immediately helpful to our elders.

Here are just three of the many things the [National Senior Citizens' Law](#) Center reports about what is in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the effect on seniors. I add my own comments.

1. The Elder Justice Act

If we want to stop seeing so many horrifying stories of elder abuse, both physical and financial, we need a national coordination of effort to fight elder abuse. Now, it's here, in the ACA. The Act will establish grants to create centers for developing forensic expertise to collect evidence relating to elder abuse, neglect or exploitation. It will enhance training of staff in nursing homes. It will strengthen the enforcement ability of Federal and State entities to prosecute elder abuse cases, among other things. This Act has a far reaching effect on combating elder abuse, a \$2.9B a year problem in the U.S.

2. Community First Choice Option

This provision is for participating states who want the 6% increase in Federal Medicaid funding to pay for community-based attendant services for elders who would otherwise have to go to a nursing home or other care facility. This is the only kind of attendant care support available through Medicaid that has the purpose of keeping people out of nursing homes, a far more expensive option than staying at home. Is anyone really in favor of forcing people into nursing homes because they can't pay for the hours of attendant care that allow them the independence of staying in their own homes? Typically, it costs three times as much to put someone in a nursing home as it does to care for them with attendants at home.

3. Improving seniors' access to home-based primary care physicians and nurses

Through the Independence at Home demonstration, the ACA will pay physicians and nurse practitioners to provide home-based primary care to targeted chronically ill individuals for a three -year period. This is plain common sense. I was once a visiting nurse myself. I can testify from first-hand experience that doctors and nurses who focus on keeping folks relatively healthy at home instead of allowing them to deteriorate and need expensive care in hospitals or nursing homes are doing us all a favor. Preventive care and monitoring seniors at home heads off complications of chronic illness. This will keep the cost of care down in the long run. If Medicaid eligible seniors go to nursing homes, the taxpayers are footing the bill. It's over \$95,000 per year, on average, for a shared room in a nursing home.

The poorest and sickest in our society have been addressed in these parts of the ACA. Yet all the attention in every debate or report I see or hear about the ACA is on the individual mandate, the effect on insurance companies, the IRS, the tax question and penalties for not buying insurance, etc. How about our aging parents?? You notice that no one is debating the benefits to them.

I often write in this blog about the cost of elder care, the burden of adult children becoming caregivers for aging loved ones, and the struggle we have as a society to deal with the increasing longevity and vulnerability to abuse in our senior population. Regardless of your politics, you can't miss how urgent these problems are becoming. Without legislation to try to repair these problems, they just keep growing on a massive scale. And you will pay for them, as you are already doing, but the bill will increase significantly.

We do not have any other legislation at this time that addresses these specifics. The Elder Justice Act, for example, drafted originally in 2007, did not pass the legislature until the ACA passed.

What alternatives do we have? Many of our aging parents in this country are in desperate need of the help this law ensures. It is my hope that attending to the needs of our aging population is not viewed as a political issue. It is simply a national issue we cannot ignore.

Until next time - [Carolyn Rosenblatt](http://www.forbes.com/sites/carolynrosenblatt/2012/07/05/three-critical-things-left-out-of-the-health-care-reform-debate/) - AgingParents.com

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/carolynrosenblatt/2012/07/05/three-critical-things-left-out-of-the-health-care-reform-debate/>



Consumer-directed home services: issues and models

Written by: Marisa Scala and Pamela Mayberry from the Ohio Long-Term Care Research Project at the Scripps Gerontology Center of Miami University – 1997

An article that includes a description of the New York City program, when it was still Consumer Directed, which that was based upon data provided by myself as Program Director and Maria Arias as Client Coordinator (currently an Assistant Director with the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation).



Home Healthcare Community Commends Administration Initiatives to Expand Seniors' Access to Home and Community-Based Care

WASHINGTON, July 9, 2012 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- Initiatives strengthen access to the clinically advanced, cost effective skilled home healthcare services that vast majority of seniors prefer

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the Home Health Prospective Payment System (HHPPS) proposed rule for 2013 on Friday, July 6th. Among its provisions, the proposed rule introduces a measure of stability for the funding of skilled home healthcare services.

The Partnership for Quality Home Healthcare commended the proposed rule as the latest in a series of steps being taken to secure access to the clinically advanced, cost-effective care that surveys reveal is preferred by the vast majority of America's growing senior population.

Today, nearly 3,500,000 American seniors receive skilled home healthcare services under the Medicare home health benefit. These specialized services are provided by an estimated 500,000 professional caregivers, including nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists. The number of home health beneficiaries and caregivers is projected to increase significantly due to the growing senior citizen population, the documented preference of 89 percent of seniors to receive care at home, the significant budgetary savings associated with home healthcare, and job growth in the home health sector.

"Recent Administration actions will have a real and positive impact on the lives of millions of senior citizens and people with disabilities, many of whom face significant economic and access challenges," stated John Breau, senior counsel to the Partnership for Quality Home Healthcare. "These important steps are evidence that decision-makers recognize the value skilled home healthcare brings to patients, their communities and the nation as a whole."

Recent initiatives expanding access to home- and community-based care include the following:

The Administration for Community Living (ACL), established in April by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), enables senior and disabled populations to be able to remain at home with community supports rather than relocate to costly institutions.

The Community First Choice Option, a program implemented by CMS, provides support to states that encourage the use of home and community-based care rather than care provided in inpatient facility settings.

The Independence at Home Demonstration enables physicians to deliver primary care services at home to Medicare beneficiaries living with chronic conditions and rewards practices that successfully provide quality care while reducing costs.

The Balancing Incentive Program provides enhanced Medicaid funding to states to encourage the use of low-cost home and community-based care and help states keep patients out of costly treatment facilities.

The State Demonstration to Integrate Care for Dual Eligible Individuals is designed to enable states to provide more coordinated and cost-effective care for dually-eligible Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, including skilled home healthcare services.

The Administration has also made home healthcare more accessible to America's Veterans by eliminating copayments for telehealth services utilized by patients participating in the breakthrough Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC) program. The program, which has been called a "model for healthcare delivery in America," is a powerful example of how clinically advanced home healthcare is achieving positive patient outcomes and reducing government spending. In fact, the VA has documented a net 24 percent reduction in HBPC participants' total healthcare costs due to the cost-effectiveness of home-based healthcare services.

"Important steps are being taken to secure and expand seniors' access to high-quality, low-cost home healthcare," added Eric Berger, CEO of the Partnership for Quality Home Healthcare. "The Partnership looks forward to providing comments to CMS on its proposed rule and to working with the Agency as it continues its efforts to make skilled home healthcare services available to the millions of seniors and disabled Americans who want to age in place at home."

The Partnership for Quality Home Healthcare was established in 2010 to assist government officials in ensuring access to quality home healthcare services. Representing more than 1,500 skilled home healthcare agencies nationwide, the Partnership is dedicated to developing innovative reforms to improve the quality, efficiency, and integrity of home health for seniors and disabled Americans. To learn more, visit www.homehealth4america.org. To join the home healthcare policy conversation, connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and our blog.

SOURCE Partnership for Quality Home Healthcare



Save The Date! Tuesday, October 23rd & Wednesday, October 24th, 2012
10th Annual CDPAANYS Conference

**“CDPAP and Managed Care:
Meeting At The Crossroads”**

Hilton Garden Inn - 235 Hoosick St. - Troy, NY 12180



Home care agency settles suit for \$1.1M

Up to 1,500 home health aides will share a class-action lawsuit settlement, the first won against a New York City home care firm for failing to pay overtime.

By [Daniel Massey @masseydaniel](#) July 9, 2012 3:04 p.m.

As many as 1,500 home health aides will share in a nearly \$1.1 million settlement of a class-action suit that alleged their New York City-based employer failed to pay them overtime, despite work weeks that frequently extended to 60 hours.

The lawsuit is the first against a New York home care firm to successfully reach a class-wide settlement over violations of state wage and hour laws.

The deal, approved last week by state Supreme Court Judge Paul Wooten, was announced Monday by attorneys for the workers. Current and former employees of McMillan's Home Care Agency will each get a share of the settlement based on overtime hours that were not paid at the time-and-a-half rate required by state law. The settlement also prohibits McMillan's from retaliating against employees who complain about wages and hours and requires the company to appoint an administrator to handle complaints about wages or reimbursement of expenses.

Harlem resident Josefina Toledo Montero, the lead plaintiff, settled the lawsuit on behalf of herself and all home care workers employed by McMillan's from April 2004 through December 2011. The settlement notice went out to 1,550 current and former employees.

"I worked for McMillan's for about five years, but they never paid me overtime like they should have, even though they knew that I had children to take care of," said Venecia Gomez, a Bronx resident who worked at the agency until the fall of 2010. "When I think about all those hours of work, I feel a lot better knowing that McMillan's is going to pay overtime now."

The agency's president, Yvonne McMillan, did not respond to a request for comment. In 2010, when the suit was filed, [she did not deny the charges in an interview](#) with Crain's New York Business, saying that employees no longer worked more than 40 hours a week. "We just haven't paid overtime," she said at the time. "The business did not afford us [the ability] to. It's no mystery in this industry."

Richard Reibstein, a lawyer for McMillan's, did not return a call seeking comment. In the settlement, McMillan's did not admit to any wrongdoing.

Home health aide work is one of the fastest-growing occupations across the state, with the number of jobs expected to jump 37% to 178,190 by 2018, according to the state Department of Labor. But it is anything but lucrative: The median salary is just under \$21,000, according to the agency.

Moreover, nearly 83% of home health aides surveyed in a recent study by the National Employment Law Project reported overtime violations, and 84% said they worked "off the clock," without receiving proper pay.

Read more:

http://www.craigslist.com/article/20120709/LABOR_UNIONS/120709924#ixzz20RJlwdHL

CDPAANYS - Call to Action

President Obama and the Department of Labor are continuing to move forward with regulations that, while well-intentioned, could cause irreparable harm to the Consumer Directed Program.

Despite repeated requests by advocates to work with the Administration to fix the rules, they have continued to press forward and continue to push them through.

As a refresher, the Obama Administration would seek to close what it calls loopholes in the system that do not require personal assistants and home care attendants to get paid overtime for time worked in excess of 40 hours per week. We recognize the flaw in this; but also have pointed out real issues that the Administration did not take into account when they developed the regulations. As is the case with many things, the regulations were drafted with home care in mind, and then they tried to apply them to a different model - with devastating results.

Please take action now to protect the future of CDPAP as we know it. Please tell the Obama Administration and the DOL to implement the regulations for home care, while waiting and discussing the matter further with representatives of CDPAP.

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<http://www.votervoice.net/link/target/cdpaanys/qJzJc7Bg.aspx>

***Comment:** Although I understand the concerns raised by these two articles, lacking any information to the contrary I believe that the information that I provided in a 2004 letter regarding this issue is still valid and is a reasonable way for New York State Not For Profit Corporations to avoid this problem.*

Recently there has been a lot of discussion regarding the new Federal Overtime Rules but in New York State there is a ray of hope for Not-for Profit organizations. In the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program, the payment of overtime could present a significant problem for both the Consumers and the programs, given the fact that the rate structure does not incorporate an assumption for overtime. To manage overtime, Consumers would be forced to limit their workers to no more than 40 hours a week or ultimately risk removal from the program. To avoid this problem, New York State Not-for-Profit organizations have the ability to avoid the new overtime rules, provided they have applied for an exemption from the New York State Department of Labor. Please note this option, outlined below, must be requested within six months of organization or six month of the date the organization first hired employees. If an organization missed these deadlines, the organization can consider re-incorporating. Re-incorporation was a strategy that was successfully used in 1980 by the New York City "vendor" agencies. At that time, the City of New York was concerned about the overtime issue and to avoid this problem they required each of the "vendor" agencies with active employees to first re-incorporate and then request the option. For more information, about this option, please contact the New York State Department of Labor Standards and your attorney to plan the strategy that would best serve your organization.

<http://edlitcher.hypermart.net/CDPAP%20-%20Overtime.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](#).

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

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@WeAreBCS.org
718-310-5600

Center For Family Life Employment
Maria Ferreira
443 39th St, Brooklyn, New York 11232
mferreira@cflsp.org
718-633-4823

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

Eugenio María de Hostos Community College
Ms. Patricia Salazar, Services Manager;
500 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10451
psalazar@hostos.cuny.edu
(718) 518-4444

Fifth Avenue Committee
Aaron Shiffman
621 DeGraw Street, Brooklyn, New York 11217
ashiffman@fifthave.org
718-237-2017

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

Konedu Home Care, LLC
Carie Jones Smith
140 Captain Thomas Blvd West Haven, CT 06516
helpingfamilies@koneduhomecare.com
Phone: [800 418-3299](tel:8004183299)

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

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp
Evan Hess
76 Wadsworth Ave, New York, NY 10033
evanhess@nmic.org
212-822-8300

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

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

Supreme Aid Home Care, LLC
Contact: Anna Basel - Owner
37-53, 90th St, Suite 16 Jackson Heights, NY, 11372
info@supremeaidhomecare.com [347-421-2045](tel:3474212045)

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