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NEW YORK STATE LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE CARE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

New Care Coordination Organizations Incorporate Planning of Health, Wellness and Behavioral Health Supports in New Care Management Program

The New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) announced the start of an improved way to coordinate services for people with developmental disabilities. As of July 1, a comprehensive service coordination program called Health Home Care Management replaced Medicaid Service Coordination.

Health Home Care Management services are now being coordinated by Care Coordination Organizations (CCOs), new entities formed by existing providers of developmental disability services. Health Home Care Management will continue to provide the service coordination that people with developmental disabilities previously received through Medicaid Service Coordination, but will now also integrate coordination of other services, such as health care, wellness, behavioral and mental health services through a single individualized Life Plan for each person.

““Over the past several years, OPWDD has worked to offer New Yorkers with developmental disabilities and their families more control, flexibility and opportunities for innovative supports customized to their abilities and needs,” **said OPWDD Acting Commissioner Kerry A. Delaney**. “Health Home Care Management provides people with developmental disabilities and their family members with the opportunity to coordinate all of their supports in one place, relieving them of the burden of accessing multiple service systems, and ensuring that their needs are met more efficiently and effectively. This new program will help New York better address people with more complex needs, provide consistency in planning and allow for better information sharing across service systems.”

Approximately 100,000 people already receiving service coordination from OPWDD successfully transitioned to this new program over the past several weeks and seven new Care Coordination Organizations across the state, overseen by OPWDD and the NYS Department of Health, began providing Care Management services as of July 1:

[Advance Care Alliance](#)
[Care Design NY](#)
[LIFEPlan](#)
[Person Centered Services](#)
[Prime Care Coordination](#)

Tri-County Care
Southern Tier Connect

"Care Coordination Organizations offer the promise of enhancing the quality of life for New Yorkers with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families by providing better planning and holistic care management," **said Nicholas Cappoletti, CEO of LIFEPlan CCO NY, LLC.** "Care managers will connect people to the resources they need to lead healthy and inclusive lives in our communities. As a parent and as a leader of a CCO, I am excited about the future of comprehensive care management and what it offers people and their families."

The new organizations are staffed by Care Managers, and to ensure the continuity of care, in many cases the new Care Managers are former Medicaid Service Coordinators who have received additional training for this new role. Care Managers will help coordinate services across systems, including OPWDD, the Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, and the Office of Mental Health, providing people with developmental disabilities, and their families, with one place to plan all of their service needs.

There will be no changes to a person's supports and services as this transition to Care Coordination Organizations takes place, unless changes are requested by the individual receiving services.

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