



# HAMASPIK CHOICE

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**VIA EMAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

May 2, 2013

Commissioner Courtney Burke  
New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities  
44 Holland Avenue  
Albany, New York 12229

Dear Commissioner Burke:

Hamaspik Choice, Inc. is writing to respond to your "Call for Letters of Intent and Expression of Interest" regarding "Specialized Managed Care for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities" issued April 24, 2013. Following are the responses to the three (3) items in your request:

- Hamaspik Choice has reviewed and analyzed materials issued by OPWDD including the People First Waiver, as well as the Article VII language on DISCOs in the final budget bill, amendments to section 4403(g) of the Public Health Law and data relevant to establishing revenue and expense assumptions for DISCOs. Hamaspik Choice is undertaking the necessary preparation to respond to the RFA as it is issued. Our current thinking is that the most appropriate model for our organization to pursue is the MLTCP, though we will ultimately select our model based on advice from OPWDD.
- Hamaspik Choice, Inc., the proposed operator, has as its sole corporate member Hamaspik of Rockland County, Inc., which has been an OPWDD certified operator and provider of services for over two decades. These two entities will comprise the governance and board of the program. The Hamaspik organization has a strong history of providing and coordinating services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We feel distinctly prepared to implement the People First Waiver and appropriately positioned for specialized managed care for individuals with developmental disabilities, due to the status of Hamaspik Choice, Inc., a proposed MLTCP that has had a successful readiness review and is only awaiting its Certificate of Authority to operate. In addition, as you know, Hamaspik is one of only eight agencies in New York State selected by and responsive to OPWDD to participate in the full case study that is serving as a pilot for the DISCO program.
- We plan to serve the following 10 counties: Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, Richmond, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan and Ulster. We are having discussions with a number of potential partners, affiliates and network providers in order to serve the geographic area proposed; the fact that we have already developed a network for our MLTCP will help significantly in that effort.



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In closing, Hamaspik has a strong care coordination model, an experienced home care network and expertise in serving persons with developmental disabilities, along with an understanding of person-centered care, managed care and outcomes measures. We are committed to using those skills to serve the eligible population with the highest possible level of quality.

We look forward to the release of the RFA and the opportunity to submit a full application to become a DISCO in New York State.

Sincerely,

Yoel Bernath  
Executive Director