



The MSC E-VISORY is an electronic publication which provides information on policies, guidance, available programs and services and training opportunities related to MSC. In order to receive an email notification when a new MSC E-Visory is posted, or to view past issues visit the following link: [MSC E-Visory](#)

ISSUE # 09-15

May 15, 2015

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Residential Registration List - MSC Agency Information Letter

On May 14, 2015 Acting Commissioner Kerry Delaney sent correspondence notifying providers that over the next several months OPWDD will be conducting a statewide review of individuals with developmental disabilities currently registered as having requested residential supports. Calls will be made to individuals and their families to talk to them about the OPWDD services they are currently receiving and whether they continue to express a need for certified residential services now or in the future. The information collected will be used to update the Residential Registration List (RRL) and will also inform planning for development of housing alternatives for individuals with developmental disabilities. In order to successfully complete an outreach effort of this size, OPWDD is asking for your help and partnership. When you or someone at your agency receives a call about an individual with developmental disabilities from an OPWDD Residential Registration List Caller, please:

- Provide the RRL Caller with the requested information or
- Help him/her identify who within your agency can best answer questions about the individual.

Specifically, OPWDD needs your assistance in two (2) ways. They are requesting that you:

1. Ask your staff to let individuals and families know that they should be expecting a call from OPWDD. The calls will begin sometime in June and will continue through the summer.
2. Let your staff, particularly your MSCs and MSC Supervisors, know that they may be asked by an OPWDD Residential Registration List Caller to:
 - a. Verify the person's contact information or provide updated, accurate contact information, and to
 - b. Assist with identifying who should participate in the call:
 - i. Identify if the individual is self-advocating or
 - ii. Identify the individual's legal guardian (if applicable), or a legally authorized representative other than legal guardian (if applicable); or a family member or other representative who knows the person well to participate in the call.

Your assistance in providing the RRL Caller with accurate and timely contact information will help to streamline the statewide RRL review and prevent delays in completing this effort. OPWDD looks forward to our partnership with you to complete this important project. If you have any questions

about the Residential Registration List review, please contact Emilie Wright at Emilie.Wright@opwdd.ny.gov or (518) 473-6393.

Ongoing Provision of Service Coordination to Willowbrook Class Members Memorandum

On May 14, 2015 OPWDD issued a memorandum titled *The Ongoing Provision of Service Coordination to Willowbrook Class Members affected by the State Operated or Voluntary Operated ICF transitions to IRAs*. As OPWDD continues to move forward with ICF transitions, it must be ensured that the service coordination needs and entitlements for the Willowbrook class members continue to be upheld as set forth in the Permanent Injunction. To read in full, this memorandum has been attached to this E-Visory.

Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences in End of Life Decision Making

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academics has issued a report titled *Dying in America: Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences Near the End of Life*. The IOM conducted a consensus report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM), along with a committee of experts, that finds that improving the quality and availability of medical and social services for patients and their families could not only enhance quality of life through the end of life, but may also contribute to a more sustainable care system. To read the report in full or to find out more information visit: www.iom.edu/endoflife



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

KERRY A. DELANEY
Acting Commissioner

TO: Voluntary Agency Executive Directors
Medicaid Service Coordination Vendors
Developmental Disabilities State Operations Office Directors
Developmental Disabilities Regional Office Directors
Developmental Disabilities Regional Office Medicaid Service Coordinators
Developmental Disabilities Regional Office Willowbrook Liaisons

FROM: Helene DeSanto, Deputy Commissioner
Division of Service Delivery 

RE: The Ongoing Provision of Service Coordination to Willowbrook Class Members affected by the State Operated or Voluntary Operated ICF transitions to IRAs.

DATE: May 14, 2015

As OPWDD continues to move forward with ICF transitions, we want to ensure that the service coordination needs and entitlements for the Willowbrook class members continue to be upheld as set forth in the Permanent Injunction. Currently, Willowbrook class members receive Willowbrook Case Services (WCS) when they are residing in an ICF. With the transition to an IRA setting, the class members will receive Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC). As you may know, a service coordinator for the class must comply with the 1:20 caseload ratio. Class members living in a Voluntary or State Operated ICF who receive WCS from a voluntary provider count as a .5 equivalent/work unit because the case management services are provided within the residence. When class members resides in an IRA or any other setting, they are counted as 1 work unit.

With the conversion of a VOICF or SOICF to a VOIRA or a SOIRA you, as the provider of service coordination, must ensure that your staff providing service coordination to a class member are complying with the 1:20 ratio as set forth in the Permanent Injunction.

Providers continue to receive an enhanced service coordination fee when providing service coordination to a Willowbrook class member. The current monthly fee for a class member receiving WCS (in an ICF) is \$237.17. The current monthly fee for a class member receiving MSC (in an IRA or other setting) is \$474.34, as compared to the monthly fee of \$252.98 for a non-class member living in an IRA. In addition, the MSC provider can bill and be reimbursed for services provided to assist transition planning for individuals through a

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single transition MSC billing, once the individual is discharged from the ICF and as long as all other billing requirements are met.

cc: Consumer Advisory Board
Willowbrook Plaintiff's Counsel
Lori Lehmkuhl - OPWDD Willowbrook Liaison
Elizabeth Matthews – OPWDD Willowbrook Counsel
Dixie Yonkers – MFP Project Director, OPWDD