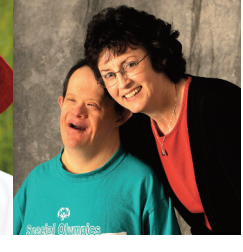
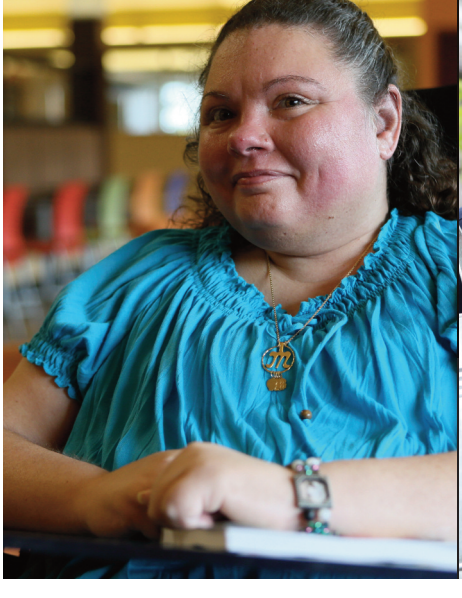
NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.

Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

Facts About OPWDD



(866) 946-9733 | www.opwdd.ny.gov



6
R.R.L.
WEMORE
TEAM
3
PIER
AUSTRALIA
CUP
DIVISION
2746
AUSTRALIA

At OPWDD, our motto is “putting people first.” With that in mind, we are committed to providing a variety of supports and services for individuals with developmental disabilities. This brochure provides a brief overview of the many programs we offer, both individually and in partnership with other state agencies and voluntary providers. Each is designed to give individuals and their families quality, personalized care.

Kerry A. Delaney, Acting Commissioner

Contents

High quality, person-centered service 3

Residential Service Options 4

Day/Employment Services 5

Family and Individual Supports 6

High quality, person-centered service

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) provides high-quality, person-centered services, supports and advocacy to approximately 120,000 individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. OPWDD works with a network of nearly 800 not-for-profit providers to help people with developmental disabilities lead richer lives that include meaningful relationships, good health, personal growth and productivity and homes in their communities.

OPWDD also provides leadership and excellence in the field of research and in developing public policy in the field of developmental disabilities services. In keeping with its commitment to "Putting People First," OPWDD invests heavily in enhancing its partnership with other state and local agencies. OPWDD is focused on seamlessly meshing its system of service provision with a broad network of state agencies whose work interconnects with the lives of people with developmental disabilities. This will provide better access to the generalized and specialized supports and services they need to live their lives.

Our goal is to help people with developmental disabilities achieve their personal best and attain the highest level of independence through individualized service programs. This booklet lists some of the most commonly requested supports available through the OPWDD system.

Residential Service Options

Programs licensed by OPWDD to provide housing and services and, when appropriate, overnight supports to individuals living in group homes. These community residential programs are operated by either OPWDD or not-for-profit provider agencies whose programs are certified by OPWDD.

Individualized Residential Alternatives (IRAs)

Certified homes for between one and 14 residents that provide room, board and individualized service options.

Community Residences (CRs)

Facilities which provide semi-independent living. There are two types of CRs:

1) **Supervised:** which provide housing and 24-hour staffing; and
2) **Supportive:** which are limited to three people, and provide varying staff supports, according to the residents' need.

Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs)

Residential treatment options, in the community, for individuals with specific medical and/or behavioral needs. ICFs provide 24-hour on-site assistance and training, intensive clinical and direct-care services, supervised activities and a variety of therapies. ICFs are designed for individuals whose disabilities severely limit their ability to live independently.

Family Care

A licensed residential program which provides a family-living experience in a structured, stable home environment. Family Care providers are home owners who receive a monthly stipend to care for individuals with developmental disabilities in their own homes.

Non-Certified Housing Options

Services that help individuals with developmental disabilities locate, lease, buy or access residential arrangements which are alternatives to traditional congregate living situations. Examples include shared or matched home sharing, independent living, HUD rental subsidies and low-income home ownership programs.

Day/Employment Services

Day Programs

A range of day programs are available to individuals with developmental disabilities. Each is focused on giving participants the personal, social and vocational supports needed to live in their community. Programming varies depending upon each individual's needs and interests.

Employment Services

Competitive employment and volunteer activities in the community to help underscore the social values of inclusion and productivity. Supports to the individual may include vocational training, job coaching, travel training, technological aids, counseling, job placement and any other supports needed to meet the individual's unique circumstances at work.

Family and Individual Supports

Family Support Services

A family directed, statewide system of comprehensive services which help families provide in-home care to family members with a developmental disability. One popular family support is respite care, which provides relief for families who care for loved ones at home. Respite is time-limited and temporary — allowing families time for errands, vacations and other planned activities.

Individual Support Services

These supports help individuals who live in their own homes.

Service Coordinators

Professionals who help individuals with developmental disabilities develop, plan, implement and monitor their own plan of services and support.

Senior Services

An extensive network of supports for senior citizens with developmental disabilities that allows them to receive generic aging services as well as developmental disabilities services. OPWDD and its voluntary agency partners provide senior day care, caregiver supports and specialized residential supports. OPWDD service coordinators provide referrals to aging network services.

Clinic Services

Provide long-term habilitation services, such as outpatient, physical therapy, speech therapy, nursing, rehabilitation counseling, social work and psychiatric services.

Transportation

Provides individuals with transportation to and from their residence and program services.

Putting People First

"Putting People First" is OPWDD's simple, guiding principle. And simply put, it means giving people with developmental disabilities as much individual choice and control over their own lives as possible, as well as the chance to achieve four basic outcomes:

- Live in a home of their choosing within their community;
- Work and/or engage in activities that allow them to contribute to their communities;
- Have meaningful relationships with those important to them; and
- Be healthy.

For additional information about any of these programs, call the toll free OPWDD Information Line at (866) 946-9733 voice, or (866) 933-4889 TTY, or visit www.opwdd.ny.gov.

This brochure is published by the OPWDD Communications Office, located at 44 Holland Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12229.

Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

For further information, please check the OPWDD Website:

www.opwdd.ny.gov

A publication of NYS OPWDD Communications Office
44 Holland Ave., Albany, NY 12229

(866) 946-9733
TTY: (866) 933-4889