



News Updates:

Update on Dual Eligible Individuals Demonstration

New York State DOH’s Duals Demonstration is a proposed initiative to coordinate Medicare and Medicaid-funded physical healthcare, behavioral healthcare, and long-term supports and services. A limited number of individuals (up to 10,000) with developmental disabilities will be able to voluntarily participate in this demonstration. OPWDD participation will occur in two phases:

- Phase One: Starting in July 2013, OPWDD will approve up to three managed long-term care plans (MLTCPs) to provide non-OPWDD long-term supports and services (e.g. personal care, adult day care, etc.)
- Phase Two: Starting in January 2014, these plans will transition to Fully Integrated Duals Advantage (FIDA) programs that will provide comprehensive services and supports (OPWDD long-term supports, healthcare, behavioral healthcare and the Phase One long-term supports).

The demonstration will allow OPWDD to begin operating a comprehensive managed care model on a small scale prior to a statewide transition. The demonstration application and additional information about submitting public comment on the proposal can be found at:

http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/medicaid_health_homes/dual_demo_proposal_to_cms.htm

Managed Care Transition Timeline (Subject to Change)

	Duals Demo Phase One (MLTCPs)	OPWDD FIDAs	Pilot Project DISCOs	Non-Pilot DISCO Roll-Out
Services Included	DOH long-term services	Comprehensive Services (OPWDD & DOH long-term services, behavioral supports, and acute care services)	OPWDD and DOH long-term supports and services and other behavioral supports	OPWDD and DOH long-term supports and services and other behavioral supports - to phase into comprehensive services over time
Initial Enrollment	July 2013	January 2014	November 2013	November 2015

Targeted Work Groups and a Roadmap to Managed Care

OPWDD is currently assembling three targeted work groups to explore and define specific details of system reform. The teams will include individuals with developmental disabilities, family members and providers, and will meet frequently from August through the fall. Topics for the work groups include: Access, Enrollment & Advocacy, Care Coordination, and Modernizing the Fiscal Platform. OPWDD will post the charters and final recommendations of the work groups on the People First Waiver Web page. As the work groups add clarity to system reforms, OPWDD will also prepare a “Roadmap to Managed Care.” This document will serve as a draft Request for Applications (RFA) to become a pilot DISCO and will inform providers and others on the many details of how a DISCO will operate.



Needs Assessment Update

OPWDD has been working with interRAI to establish a core NYS assessment for all people who receive OPWDD supports and services and supplemental tools for people with particular needs. The tool will be automated for use within the case studies, and OPWDD is now hiring the Assessment Specialists who will work with individuals, families and others to conduct the individual needs assessments. OPWDD is also partnering with the Self Advocacy Association of NYS (SANYS), Westchester Institute for Human Development, Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC), and the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) to develop new quality measures and to provide neutral monitoring of study design and data. CQL has begun training participating agency representatives, Division of Quality Improvement survey staff, other OPWDD staff and DDPC family member representatives. The training focuses on enhancing quality review practices to ensure effective person-centered planning and achievement of desired outcomes for individuals. The case studies will begin in early 2013.

Innovative Ideas Workshops Update

On June 26 and July 17, 2012 OPWDD held statewide videoconference workshops showcasing some of the innovative ideas groups of provider agencies are developing as they look for more effective and efficient ways to support people with developmental disabilities under the People First Waiver. The workshops presented information on collaborative initiatives underway by several groups of providers and engaging audiences of individuals, family members and provider agency staff across the state in discussion. The goal was to share innovative ideas as a means of sparking still further innovation throughout the state. OPWDD has posted a video of the workshop presentations, presentation materials and comment summaries on the [People First Waiver Web page](#). OPWDD is planning a third workshop to occur in September (date TBA).

Frequently Asked Question:

Will the needs assessment drive the budget for the individuals?

The Needs Assessment will inform person-centered planning and therefore be part of determining the supports and services that an individual will receive. It will NOT result directly in a particular service plan. The Needs Assessment will help define a level of resource need for an individual and be part of an actuarial calculation that determines reimbursement to the DISCO for that person. However, it will not determine a budget for an individual that is available to that individual. Rather, the DISCO will be responsible for managing all the revenues it brings in to meet the needs of all the individuals enrolled in that DISCO. The actual costs of an individual's service plan can be more or less than the revenue received by the DISCO for that individual. A DISCO will be expected to ensure the provision of the services outlined in an individual's plan regardless of the revenue level received.

People First Waiver Information:

Web Page: www.opwdd.ny.gov/opwdd_services_supports/people_first_waiver/home
E-mail: People.First@opwdd.ny.gov
Comment Line: 1-866-946-9733 or TTY: 1-866-933-4889