



Meeting Life's Challenges

300 Washington Avenue Ext.
Albany, New York 12203-7303
(518) 218-0000
Fax (518) 862-2175

Ms. Courtney Burke
Commissioner
OPWDD
44 Holland Avenue
Albany, NY 12229

Dear Commissioner Burke:

As a follow-up of my memo of April 24th, please accept this correspondence as a response on behalf of Living Resources, Inc. (300 Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, NY 12203) to submit a **letter of intent** to become a DISCO to provide Specialized Managed Care for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

As you know, Living Resources is a provider of comprehensive services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As examples:

- Our Supported Employment Program, since 1987, which has led to hundreds of individuals employed in community careers. This program, one of the first funded in New York State, has been a replicated model.
- Our Community Apartment Service, started in 1990, provides personal assistance to over 80 individuals living in one and two bedroom apartments.
- Our Homecare Support Services, started 2001, provides personal assistance to sustain individuals who are independent. Our initial focus had been support to seniors to avoid nursing home placement. Since our inception, we have provided community supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living independently. In 2008, we expanded to provide Home and Community Support Services (HCSS) to brain injured survivors served through the NYS DOH Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver. We are licensed by NYS DOH to train all home health and personal care aides.
- Our Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA), started in 2000, provided licensed clinical services – nursing, OT, PT, social work, speech therapy, and home health aides to individuals with developmental and

RECEIVED

MAY 03 2013

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
OPWDD May 1, 2013

FAA: Huber

010 May

Commissioner Courtney Burke

May 1, 2013

Page Two

intellectual disabilities in a nine (9) county area. In 2013, our license was expanded to be a full service CHHA in ten (10) counties. The CHHA has a direct billing relationship with Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. Our CHHA services have provided us with a deep experience and understanding in care coordination.

- The College Experience Program (CEP), the certificate program in partnership with the College of Saint Rose. CEP prepares individuals as they transform from youth to adulthood for independence and job development. We have a successful model of using work internships to introduce and organize students for the world of employment. Currently 20 employers are actively participating in our internship program.
- Day Community Opportunities Without Walls provides 150 individuals with education, socialization, and volunteerism to teach individuals job readiness skills. We are partnering with 76 independent volunteer organizations.
- We provide 40 certified group residences of small and moderate size in Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and Westchester Counties.
- The Carriage House Art Center, started in 1996, has always been a highly valued service. The instruction to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities of all ages enables them to express their inner voice and to realize a new identity for themselves. Many of our participants have received state and national awards including features in publications.
- Our Brain Injury Program, in partnership with Neuro Psychologic Rehabilitative Services (NPRS), has allowed individuals to remain independent and connected to friends and community. We have been a great resource to veterans returning to civilian life.
- Our agency has an excellent, comprehensive training program to ensure that all 525 direct support professionals remain current in all areas of training. As an example, we have a comprehensive Fire Safety Training program under the leadership of Mr. Lattanzio, retired Chief of Fire Safety for the Town of Colonie.

- Last, and certainly very prominent, is our focus on building a Smart House. The issue of non-ambulatory and aging individuals leads to a new way of thinking – how to support them efficiently through the use of technology. In New York State the trend is for the number of aging individuals to grow by 40% (3.6 million) in the next thirty (30) years. This will be a major issue for NYS and certainly imperative that we think how to support intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals as they age. Our smart house is being built based upon three (3) principles.
 - Universally accessible design for independence
 - “Green energy” design for efficiency
 - Technologically prepared system integration as an aid to independence

Living Resources has established a strong care coordination model and can keep enrollees independent in the community. Recently, Living Resources’ approval from the New York State Department of Health to expand its certified home health services to the general population in a ten (10) county area represented the largest single expansion of home health care in Upstate New York. It is expected that the Living Resources Home Care Division will be the central network for care coordination and home care services through the geographic service area.

Living Resources enjoys a reputation for collaboration and outreach. Its model represents an opportunity to offer care coordination and management that is replicable and can be brought to scale to serve the goals of the People First Waiver.

For all these reasons, we at Living Resources, Inc. are proud to signal our intent to be a major participant in managed care for persons with developmental disabilities and look forward to working with your office to provide person-centered care now and in the future.

Sincerely,



Fredrick W. Erlich
Chief Executive Officer

Living Resources Corporation

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I, Vladia Boniewski, Secretary of Living Resources Corporation hereby certify that the following is a true copy of the Resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of Living Resources Corporation at a meeting of the Directors held on November 28, 2012:

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors authorize Fredrick W. Erlich to submit a letter of interest to NYS OPWDD to apply to establish a Developmental Disabilities Individual Support and Care Coordination Organization (DISCO) for the following Counties; Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Warren, Washington, Columbia, Schoharie, Fulton & Montgomery.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name as Secretary and caused the seal of said corporation to be affixed on this 24th day of April, 2013.


Secretary

4/24/13
Date