

MSC E-VISORY

Issue #08-12

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State of New York Office for People With Developmental Disabilities
Courtney Burke, Commissioner
Distributed by: Division of Person-Centered Supports
Gerald Huber, Acting Deputy Commissioner

The MSC E-Visory is an electronic advisory which provides pertinent and timely information about programs and services available to individuals receiving MSC. Announcements about MSC training, conferences and meetings appear regularly. **MSC Supervisors: Please share this issue with all MSC Service Coordinators and others as appropriate.** In order to receive an email notification when a new MSC E-Visory is posted, please sign up for our mailing list (listserv). Listserv information and past issues can be accessed via the following link:
http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/wt/publications/wt_publications_mscevisories_index.jsp

In This Issue:

MSC Training Delivery: Informed Choice

Attached to this e-visory is a letter dated March 22, 2012 announcing the availability of the Informed Choice training curriculum on the OPWDD website. COMPASS agencies, and provider agencies/other organizations that have already obtained approval from OPWDD to deliver MSC Core training may begin using the Informed Choice Curriculum. Further details on the curriculum, including specific trainer qualifications, can be accessed via the OPWDD Website at: www.opwdd.ny.gov.

The objectives of this training program will help the participant to:

- Understand the benefits found in providing Informed Choice
- Define their role as a leader in providing Informed Choice
- Create solutions through implementing Informed Choice
- Draw on resources to build and sustain Informed Choice
- Work through the challenges of delivering Informed Choice

In addition to the required professional development curricula, OPWDD recommends that all MSCs receive this training as Informed Choice is the foundation for all OPWDD services, including MSC. Since Informed Choice is a quality outcome of MSC, it is the role of the service coordinator to facilitate, promote, and support Informed Choice for all individuals served. Service Coordinators help people to make informed choices so that people continue to develop and progress throughout their lives. This training is based upon the informed choice concept in the MSC Vendor Manual and outlined in the Service Coordination Agreement.

A person has made an Informed Choice when he or she has made a decision based on a good understanding of the options available and a good understanding of how that decision may affect his or her life.

A person can make an Informed Choice on his/her own or may ask family members, friends, or others for assistance if the person needs help making a good decision. Informed Choices can be about everyday things like what to wear, or big life changing things like where to live, what kind of work to do, or who to be friends with. These decisions can also be about what kinds of services or supports someone wants or needs, and where and how to get them.

When making an Informed Choice, a person should understand the possible risks involved and what can be done to reduce the risks. A person should also realize that his/her ability or desire to make choices may change over time, or may be different for different kinds of decisions.

Personal choices should be respected and supported by the people involved in the person's life.



Workforce and Talent Management

John A. Monteiro, Deputy Commissioner

44 Holland Avenue
Albany, NY 12229-0001

TEL: 518-402-4315
FAX: 518-473-4490
TTY: 866-933-4889

www.opwdd.ny.gov

March 22, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the availability of the Informed Choice curriculum. The curriculum is available on the OPWDD website www.opwdd.ny.gov for agencies who wish to deliver the course to their own employees, or employees of other agencies. Once on the website, please click on the link for Talent Development and Training Online Resource Library.

COMPASS agencies, and provider agencies/other organizations that have already obtained OPWDD permission to deliver the MSC CORE training, may begin providing the Informed Choice training without any further approval. Provider agencies/other organizations who have not obtained permission to deliver MSC Courses must contact OPWDD by emailing a written request to TalentDevelopment@opwdd.ny.gov. In your request, please identify the following:

1. Agency name
2. Agency Executive Director
3. Agency mailing address
4. Agency website address
5. Contact person
6. Contact person email address
7. Contact person phone number
8. Agency region/catchment area

Please note that any agency on OPWDD's Early Alert listing is ineligible to deliver any of the approved MSC courses.

To help locate agencies that have been approved to deliver MSC courses, we have added an interactive map to the OPWDD website. The map can be viewed by going to www.opwdd.ny.gov/wp/wp_catalog_msc_core.jsp

If your agency would like to offer MSC training and make it available to other agencies, you may contact the OPWDD Talent Development and Training Office at the email provided below. OPWDD believes that by providing you with the Informed Choice curriculum (and other curriculum soon to come), your agency will have the flexibility to provide mandated training when your Medicaid Service Coordinators need it. We thank you for your cooperation and feedback as we implement this new training delivery model.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 518-402-4315. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

John A. Monteiro
Deputy Commissioner
Workforce and Talent Management