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THE EEDA READER

NEWS FROM EAST END DISABILITY ASSOCIATES, INC.



The ribbon cutting ceremony on June 6th, 2018

EEDA will now house their Creative Arts Program, Program Without Walls, and Community Prevocational Programs at the Henry Pfeifer Community Center in Calverton thanks to action taken by the Riverhead Town Board in May.

“We’re proud to be working with East End Disability Associates, a group of caring concerned professionals, who do so much for so many every day. Beyond the great work they do to enrich the lives of their clients, the staff at EEDA serves to remind us that kindness and compassion make our lives more meaningful,” said Riverhead Supervisor Laura Jens-Smith.

“EEDA expresses our deepest appreciation to Supervisor Laura Jens-Smith and the members of the Riverhead Town Board for providing our Day Habilitation Program a space to meet. We were earnestly searching for a place that would be affordable and readily available to accommodate 40 individuals living with intellectual and developmental disabilities that participate in EEDA’s programs focusing on creative arts, employment, and recreation. We are grateful for the partnership Riverhead Town has with EEDA and look forward to our time at the Henry Pfeifer Community Center,” said EEDA CEO Lisa Meyer Fertal.

“I love the new space. This place will mean a lot to me and will give us space to dance, rehearse, and socialize,” said EEDA Creative Arts Program participant Caitlyn Hanly.

DEVIN'S HOUSE OPENING CELEBRATION

On April 5th, 2018, George Fertal cut the ribbon at the official opening celebration of EEDA's state-of-the-art Overnight Respite House. Father Joslin from the Church of the Redeemer in Mattituck made a series of blessings on the house. We have named the house "Devin's House" after the late Devin Fertal who used "respite" regularly while growing up before living at Barnes Road IRA as an adult.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the celebration and helped make this long held dream a reality.



CHRISTINE BARKER APPOINTED TO THE DDPC

The Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) is a federally funded New York State agency working under the direction of Governor Cuomo whose mission is to collaborate with individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers, and policymakers to promote best practices and policies.

EEDA's own Christine Barker has recently been invited by the DDPC to join the planning council as an EEDA representative alongside EEDA's CEO Lisa Meyer Fertal.

Congratulations to Christine for her dedicated advocacy efforts and helping to enhance the lives of of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



EEDA FORUMS



On May 22nd, 2018, EEDA held their semi-annual forum at the Stonybrook Small Business Incubator in Calverton. Topics that are important to all staff were presented by our executive staff, including new data collection software, payroll changes, staffing updates, and past and upcoming events. Our MSCs were honored and thanked for their time at EEDA before the team is transitioned next year to Advanced Care Alliance (ACA). Thanks to all who attended, and for their time and feedback.

ANTHONY PARLATO 5K RUN/WALK



On June 9th, 2018, EEDA was a sponsor and participant in the Joseph Parlato Memorial 5K Run/Walk at Neville Park in Center Moriches. Representatives from EEDA, staff and program participants were there to support the cause.

CARE COORDINATION

The shift from traditional Medicaid service coordination to Care Coordination is underway. Here are some frequently asked questions to help get you up to speed.



FAQ's for Individuals and Family Members

What is Health Home Care Management?

Health Home Care Management is a new way to coordinate care, combining developmental disability services and supports with health and wellness services.

This new way of coordinating care is an enhanced version of the Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) program, offering more options, greater flexibility and better outcomes.

Health Home Care Management will be provided by Care Coordination Organizations (CCOs).

What is a CCO?

CCOs are organizations that were formed by existing developmental disability service providers. These new organizations will be staffed by Care Managers with training and experience in the field of developmental disabilities.

What is a Care Manager?

A Care Manager is a person who will work with you to create your Life Plan. Many Care Managers will be current Medicaid Service Coordinators who will receive additional training to become Care Managers in the new system. Your Care Manager will help coordinate services across systems, including the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the Department of Health and the Office of Mental Health, providing you one place to plan all your service needs.

Will my new Care Manager be the same person that provided my Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC)?

The person coordinating your services and supports will now be called a Health Home Care

Manager. Every effort will be made to ensure continuity of relationships, however we cannot guarantee that you will have your current MSC as your Health Home Care Manager in the CCO.

What is a Life Plan?

The Life Plan will replace the Individualized Service Plan (ISP). It will be reviewed routinely and updated as needed based upon your life goals and changing needs. The new Care Managers will work with you to create a plan based on your wants and needs. Your Life Plan will include coordination of your developmental disability related supports and your other services, like medical, dental and mental health.

Why is OPWDD switching from Medicaid Service Coordination to Health Home Care Management?

Health Home Care Management is an improved type of service coordination that will better support people, including those with complex needs. It will allow for better information sharing across service systems, resulting in more flexible and comprehensive service planning.

When will the transition to Health Home Care Management take effect?

Care Coordination Organizations will begin providing Health Home Care Management services on July 1, 2018.

Am I required to participate in Health Home Care Management?

After July 1, 2018, all service coordination, including Medicaid Service Coordination and Plan of Care Support Services, will be provided by

CCOs. By choosing to enroll in Health Home Care Management, you will receive an improved level of service to help you or your loved one coordinate all services.

If you do not want to receive the more comprehensive care management that will be provided with Health Home Care Management, you can talk to your service coordinator about the option to receive Basic Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Plan Support. Basic HCBS Plan Support will also be provided by the CCO, but it will be a very minimal coordination option, and it will not include coordination of health care or mental health services. With Basic HCBS Plan Support, your contact with the person coordinating your services will be limited.

Will I be able to choose my own services and providers?

Yes, you will continue to choose your services and providers. Within the CCO, a team of professionals, including your Care Manager, will work together with you to coordinate your developmental disability and/or long-term care services, as well as other types of services, based on your wants and needs. You will be able to choose a CCO provider in your region (including the one your MSC is affiliated with) and your service providers.

What do I need to do to continue or change my services?

You will need to work with your Medicaid Service Coordinator to review and sign a form to enroll in the CCO program of your choice. You may choose the CCO that your current MSC has become affiliated with, or you can choose a different CCO in your region. You will also need to choose between Health Home Care Management and Basic HCBS Plan Support.

Who will have access to my plan and how will my personal information be protected?

CCOs will be required to have an electronic health record system that links the service providers involved in your care and allows your health information and Life Plan to be accessible to you and your care team. All CCOs must follow strict security protocols to protect your Personal Health Information.

Can I change my mind once I choose a CCO?

If you are not happy with the Care Management being provided by the CCO you choose, you can choose another Care Manager in that CCO and/or change the level of service you receive. You may also choose a different CCO within your region.

What will happen if the CCO/HH decides to change my services or give me fewer services?

The CCO will not authorize services and therefore will not be able to take away or lessen your services, including self-directed services. You, in partnership with your care team, will identify the supports and services you receive based on your wants and needs. OPWDD Regional Offices will continue to authorize supports and services.

Is Health Home Care Management a form of Managed Care?

No, Health Home Care Management should not be confused with Managed Care. Managed Care will take several years to develop in the OPWDD system and will be offered at a future date.

EEDA/L'ARCHE FRIENDSHIP GALA

On May 4th, 2018 EEDA and community partner L'Arche Long Island joined fundraising forces for the first collaborative gala at East Wind Caterers with the theme of friendship. The event was a great success, and everyone enjoyed a fun evening while raising money for EEDA and L'Arche Long Island.

For more photos and to view the eJournal, visit www.eed-a.org/gala





Your Challenge... Our Commitment

East End Disability Associates (EEDA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides supports and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

EEDA's Mission Statement: "Your Challenge... Our Commitment. Dedicated to creating practical solutions and providing innovative supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities on the East End of Long Island."

www.eed-a.org

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