



Member and Family News Bulletin

January 27, 2021

Online Meeting Schedule

You are invited to join us for the next Care Design NY online meeting tomorrow, **Thursday, January 28 @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm**. Please [click here](#) to register. You may also submit a topic and/or question that you would like addressed during the event online registration process. Your feedback is very important to us!

We are recording meetings for your convenience. If you would like to listen to a past meeting, please [click here](#) to access.

Upcoming Events

Tomorrow, 1.28 @ 1pm: Making Sense of Vaccines

Please join us for a discussion with Dr. Stephan Deutsch, PHP's Chief Medical Officer tomorrow, Thursday, 1.28 @ 1:00 pm.

Click to register: [1.28.21 @ 1:00 pm](#). We will be



sharing the latest information about the COVID-19 vaccines. Topics will include: history of vaccines, how vaccines work, as well as benefits & risks of COVID-19 vaccines. Presentation will conclude with a Question & Answer session.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information & Advocacy

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plans in New York

The COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan in New York State (NYS) is constantly evolving. The Federal Government determines how much vaccine states will receive for distribution. According to New York State officials, supply is very limited. An appointment is required and if you visit a vaccination site without one, you will not receive a vaccine. [Click here](#) to use the NYS, "Am I Eligible" app to determine eligibility.

Please [click here](#) to visit the Care Design NY FAQ vaccination web page for the latest information and tips on scheduling an appointment by phone or online.

Sign the Online Petition

[Click here](#) to sign the Arc of New York's online petition to advocate that Governor Cuomo and the New York State Department of Health ask for a definitive and public commitment that New Yorker's with I/DD served in community-based settings will be formally prioritized in Phase 1 of New York's COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Questions? Email: memberfeedback@caredesignny.org

New Research on Wearing Two Face Masks

There is a new and more contagious variant strain of the COVID-19 virus called, "B.1.1.7." Although the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has not recommended double facial masking yet, wearing two face masks at once during the pandemic may provide more protection than just wearing one.

On January 15, 2021, research was published on wearing a surgical mask

underneath a cloth mask. [Click here](#) to access this paper entitled, “Uniting Infectious Disease and Physical Science Principles on the Importance of Face Masks for COVID-19.” (1)

According to this research, the double mask provides maximal protection because the surgical mask acts as a filter and the cloth adds an additional layer and helps with the fit of the facial covering. Plus, in places where it’s difficult to maintain social distance, such as on an airplane or at the store, two masks would provide additional protection.

To learn more about the new COVID-19 variants, please [click here](#) to visit the CDC website.

(1) Research funded by:

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/National Institutes of Health (NIAID/NIH) R01AI158013 (PI: Gandhi) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) CBET-1438103 and ECCS1542100 (PI: Marr).

Online Special Education Resources

Transition Planning For Your Child After High School

The special education session for your child's IEP after high school was recorded. [Click here](#) to access the recording of the presentation and meeting resources.

CUSTOMIZED SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

We understand that amid the pandemic you're navigating new norms and expectations related to your child's special education needs. To help guide our commitment to provide meaningful support and resources we have created a brief survey for Care Design NY members (through age 21) and/or their families living in the regions/counties* listed below.

[Click here](#) to complete this seven (7) question special education survey.

*Regions/Counties:

- Capital Region 1, 2 (Albany, Columbia, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Schoharie);
- Lower Hudson Valley (Rockland and Westchester);

- North Country (Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington);
- Upper Hudson Valley (Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, and Ulster).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Care Design NY is committed to getting answers to your most pressing questions! We have documented the answers from our subject matter experts.

Have a question? Please email: memberfeedback@caredesignny.org.

COVID-19 Vaccination FAQs

COVID-19 Resource Center for Members

Emergency Resource Search (COVID-19 SOS)