



News Bulletin

March 3, 2021

Member & Family Online Meeting: March 4 @ 11:00 am

You are invited to join us for the next online meeting, tomorrow, **Thursday, March 4 @ 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.

ACT TODAY: Email Your NYS Elected Officials

Use Your Voice to Protect Care Management Services

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) has proposed a significant 23% funding cut in the FY 2021 – 2022 budget for Care Coordination Organizations/Health Homes (CCO/HHs) which provide care management services to the 110,000 individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) in New York State.

This proposed funding reduction follows a 16% cut made earlier this year: a 40% total cut in two budget cycles!

[Click here](#) to read the Op-Ed in the Gotham Gazette written by James Moran, Care Design NY CEO.

The seven CCO/HHs have formed the Care Management Alliance of New York, Inc. and have launched an Advocacy Action Center. This center was developed for advocates to use their voices to tell elected officials to stop the defunding of the CCO/HHs that threatens to dismantle the care management system for vulnerable New Yorkers!

Please act today!

[Click here](#) to visit the **Care Management Alliance Advocacy Action Center**.

Note: you must be a New York State resident to use the action center as it will match your Assembly member and Senator based upon your New York residence.

Regional Online Vaccination Meetings

Regional Vaccination Information Sessions

We are hosting online info sessions designed to provide Care Design NY members and families with COVID-19 vaccination information by NYS region.



Presenters will include the Care Design NY Health Care Management and the Care Management leadership team. Information will include the vaccination partners Care Design NY has formed and the Care Manager's role in the process to assist members and families. e.g. consents and scheduling.

A Q&A session will allow members and families to get their most pressing COVID-19 vaccination topics addressed and questions answered. Select from the following geographic areas:

North Country: Thursday, March 4 @ 4:00 pm. [Click here](#) to register.

If you live in the **Long Island Region**, **NYC Region**, **Hudson Valley**, or **Capital Region**, these meetings were recorded. [Click here](#) to access.

COVID-19 Vaccination Information & FAQs

March 6: Pop-Up COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

Upstate Care Design NY Members (18 years of age or older)

If you are a member of Care Design NY and live in one of the upstate counties below, you are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination at Saturday's 3.6 clinic. **This is by appointment only.** Please contact your Care Design NY Care Manager if you are interested. *Note: anyone without an appointment will not receive a vaccination.*

WHEN: Saturday, March 6 from noon - 5:00 pm (**by appointment only**)

WHERE: 700 Patroon Creek Boulevard in Albany, NY 12206 (SEFCU Building)

WHO: Care Design NY members, 18 years of age or older, who live in one of these **upstate counties:** Albany, Columbia, Greene, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington.

Note: Care Design NY members must be available for the 2nd vaccine dose clinic on Saturday, April 3, 2021.

Stay tuned for other Pop-Up vaccination clinics. Let your Care Design NY Care Manager know if you are interested in future vaccination clinics.

The COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan in New York State (NYS) is constantly evolving. We are here to assist members and their families! Please [click here](#) to visit our FAQ vaccination web page for the latest information.

Questions? Email: memberfeedback@caredesignny.org

Financial Workshop for Special Needs Caregivers



10 Basic Financial Steps

This workshop will discuss 10 basic steps to help caregivers get started in preparing for the financial future of their dependent with special needs. As a caregiver of a dependent with special needs the single most important issue on your mind,

regardless of the age of the dependent, is what will happen to my dependent after I'm gone. There are some needs that will always be present and they must be carefully considered and planned for appropriately.

Topics will include critical issues such as applying for government benefits for Social Security and Medicaid, creating a Special Needs Trust, the importance of a Will and considering a Letter of Intent.

Taking these 10 basic steps now can help ensure the type of care and quality of life for a loved one's well-being today and tomorrow.

WHEN: Thursday, March 18, 2021

Select one of the following schedule options:

11:30 am - 12:45 pm: [Click here](#) to register.

OR

7:00 pm - 8:15 pm: [Click here](#) to register.

About the Presenter

Leizer Gewirtzman, CPA, ChSNC, Insurance Representative, Financial Planning Specialist, Special Care Planner, ChSNC™

He is a father of seven children, one of whom has special needs and therefore understands the unique special needs planning challenges that families face when a family member has special needs. His mission is to ensure each family he works with has access to the tools they need to prepare for their special needs child's future, with the full involvement of their family and the related professionals needed to help create a solid future.

Leizer Gewirtzman has over 10 years of accounting and insurance planning experience with knowledge to help clients achieve their financial goals. His focus is on the fundamentals of preparing for milestone life events, unexpected events and estate planning,

Prospective Members: Eligibility & Enrollment Event



Get Your Questions Answered: Process for Receiving CCO/HH Services

We will be hosting an online eligibility and enrollment information session designed to provide prospective members and families with the OPWDD eligibility and enrollment process for a Care Coordination Organization/Health Home in New York State.

Presenters will include the Care Design NY Enrollment and Care Management team. A discussion with a Q&A session will help you to get your questions answered.

Register for one of the following sessions:

Wednesday March 31 @ 6:00 pm: [Click here](#) to register.

OR

Thursday, April 1 @ 11:00 am: [Click here](#) to register.

Questions? [Click here](#) to contact us.

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month



Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

#DDawareness2021

March: Developmental Disabilities Awareness

The 2021 theme is, "Moving Towards Change."

The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) has selected artwork by artist, Eileen Schofield, to serve as the 2021 logo imagery.



We would love to hear from you on how you are celebrating Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Email: communications@caredesignny.org. We will share stories on our [website](#).

2021 Virtual Legislative Breakfast on March 5 @ 10:00 am

NYC Developmental Disabilities Councils

All five of New York City's Borough Developmental Disabilities Councils have joined together to address the New York State FY 2021 - 2022 Budget. Parents, DSPs, government and elected officials will discuss issues pertaining to the needs of people with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). Attend this online event and have your voice be heard!

WHEN: Friday, March 5, 2021 @ 10:00 am - noon

WHERE: via Zoom

REGISTER: [Click here](#)