



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

News Bulletin

September 23, 2020

You are invited to join us for an online meeting **tomorrow, September 24 at 1:00 pm**. Please [click here](#) to register. This will be an opportunity for you to ask the Care Design NY leadership team questions as OPWDD resumes their in-person and service delivery operations (see the OPWDD guidance documents below). Your feedback is crucial to influencing our most important priorities!

We have recorded the online meetings for your convenience. Please [click here](#) to access.

NYC FAIR and LIANDD UPDATE: It Was A Success!

The September 17 mobile rally and car rally sponsored by NYC FAIR and LIANDD on the 33rd anniversary of the closure of Willowbrook by Mario Cuomo and to elevate awareness of the cuts to funding, a car parade was held. Event organizers stated, "There were people and cars everywhere, from the tip of Long Island up thru the Hudson Valley, Staten Island, and Albany." Great media coverage too with the Journal News reporting, "Group homes, services for disabled face devastating state cuts at a time of crisis." Click here to read. Please [click here](#) and [here](#) for more media coverage and stories of the 9.17 car parade and rally.

Appendix K--Approved Extension: March 6, 2021

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved New York's request to amend the waiver with Emergency Preparedness and Response Appendix K in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic:

[click here](#) for the approved Appendix K waiver and [click here](#) for frequently asked questions (FAQs).



**WE SALUTE ALL
DIRECT SUPPORT
PROFESSIONALS!**

Care Design NY Recognizes 2020 Direct Support Professional Recognition Week

We salute service providers and their dedicated Direct Support Professional (DSP) employees who are providing person-centered care to thousands of our members, individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD). [Click here](#) to view Care Design NY employee messages of gratitude.

The DSPs are critical to ensure the people they support obtain support including activities of daily living, managing prescriptions, preparing meals, offering encouragement, scheduling, transporting and assistance with medical appointments, communicating with family and friends, and doing everything they can to ensure their everyday needs are consistently met.

We deeply appreciate what you are doing to ensure Care Design NY members have the supports and services they need to live a quality life.

Thank you for your compassion, dedication, and commitment!

***SPECIAL SECTION:
OPWDD SERVICE DELIVERY REOPENING
GUIDANCE***

COVID-19 Interim Guidance Re: Non-Emergency Site Visits of Certified Facilities

OPWDD has released an interim guidance for providers regarding non-emergency site visits of certified facilities. [Click here](#) to access. [Click here](#) to find more OPWDD guidance on COVID-19.

Guiding A Reopening Conversation Checklist

The collective community of the I/DD care delivery system is working through an unprecedented COVID-19 public health emergency. Care Design NY worked with members and families to develop guidance documents to inform the New York State I/DD community on what is critical from their perspective in reopening OPWDD services and programs. Please click on the following:

1. A [checklist](#) of considerations and questions to guide conversations with providers and/or Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) as the OPWDD service delivery system begins to resume in-person support and operations.
 2. A [reopening narrative](#).
 3. An [easy-to-read](#) visual reopening overview.
 4. We've created a one-page summary, *OPWDD "COVID-19 Safety Plan for Certified Day Program Reopening" Template for Individuals and Families*. Please [click here](#) for the Care Design NY summary document.
-

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@caresignny.org.

Please click on the Frequently Asked Questions button below. We will continue to update this FAQ list, so please check back frequently!

Frequently Asked Questions

Emergency Resource Search (COVID-19 SOS)

COVID-19 Resource Center for Members