



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

News Bulletin

November 18, 2020



Care Design NY is grateful for members, families, and friends!

Note: The next News Bulletin will be published on December 2, 2020.

What's Happening at Care Design NY

You are invited to join us for the next online meeting on Thursday, December 3 @ 11:30 am. 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.

Your feedback is crucial to influencing our most important priorities!

Please [click here](#) to access the recorded online meetings.

[Click here](#) to see all of the upcoming meetings through year-end.

Care Design NY Family Advisory Board

Protect I/DD Community in COVID-19 Second Wave

The Care Design NY Family Advisory Board advocated for increasing the State's COVID-19 safety measures to protect individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD). [Click here](#) to visit the Care Design NY Family Advisory Board web page and access their 11.16 letter.

Protect People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) from COVID: *Prioritize Prevention to Reduce Infections & Deaths*

Today, 11.18.20, the Family Advisory Board contacted Governor Cuomo,

OPWDD Commissioner Kastner, and DOH Commissioner Zucker with their concerns and the following:

1. The State follow established public health practices and not permit potentially infected staff to continue working; endangering the health and safety of individuals with I/DD in their care.
2. Staff in congregate care settings be tested weekly for COVID-19, as is required in nursing homes in New York State.
3. Individuals with I/DD be included as a priority group for the COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

The Board cited the FAIR Health analysis as the basis for their demands. [Click here](#) to access the report from the ANCOR newsroom. [Click here](#) to access the 11.18 letter and to learn more about The Care Design NY Family Advisory Board.

Questions? Email: memberfeedback@caredesignny.org

OPWDD News, Updates & Health Advisories

COVID-19 Updated Staffing/Return to Work Guidance

OPWDD updated its 11.10 issued Health Advisory document on 11.16.20. [Click here](#) to visit our COVID-19 resource center for this guidance update and other important announcements. [Click here](#) for the updated 11.16 OPWDD protocols.

Public Comment Open for HCBS Waiver Amendment

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) announced an opportunity for the public to comment on the draft OPWDD Comprehensive Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Amendment. This HCBS Waiver is the Medicaid program that provides opportunities for adults and children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) to receive services in their own home or community.

[Click here](#) to learn more and to access a copy of the draft April 1, 2021 Waiver Amendment. The public comment period will be open through December 18, 2020. Written comments can be sent to OPWDD via email at: peoplefirstwaiver@opwdd.ny.gov or by mail to: OPWDD, Attention: Division of Policy and Program Development, 44 Holland Avenue, Albany, NY 12229. Please specify "1915(c) April 1, 2021 Waiver Amendment Comments" in the subject line.

What's Happening Outside of Care Design NY



Celebrating 50 Years of Guardianship: Its Value, Alternatives and Best Practices

The last virtual presentation is scheduled tomorrow:
November 19 @ 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Zoom platform on www.thearcny.org

Cost: FREE

Questions? Email bermane@thearcny.org or buchanana@thearcny.org



Join the Zoom Rally: December 9 @ 11:00 am

NYC FAIR and LIANDD with the NYC Developmental Disabilities (DD) Councils are hosting a Zoom Rally on Wednesday, 12.9 @ 11:00 am. They are asking for pictures of family members, messages on cars, and pictures of posters be emailed to them at: info@nycfair.org. A montage of this content will be created and shared with Governor Cuomo and New York State legislators. Please [click here](#) for the event flyer. #SaveIDDServices!

Frequently Asked Questions

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.

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

Emergency Resource Search (COVID-19 SOS)

COVID-19 Resource Center for Members

