



Open Doors

Transition Center Project

Peer Outreach and Referral Program

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Association on Aging in New York

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New York Association on Independent Living (NYAIL)

- Statewide, not-for-profit membership association of Independent Living Centers.
- ILCs are unique disability-led, cross-disability, locally administered not-for-profit organizations, providing advocacy and supports to assist people with disabilities of all ages to live independently and fully integrated in their communities.

Independent Living Philosophy

Independent Living means controlling and directing your own life. It means taking risks and being allowed to succeed and fail on your own terms. It means participating in community life and pursuing activities of your own choosing. Independent Living is knowing what choices are available, selecting what is right for you, and taking responsibility for your own actions.

Independent Living Philosophy

- People with disabilities should live, work and play in the community
- People with disabilities should direct their own life
- Part of 1960s Civil Rights Movement
 - Free Our People

Independent Living in New York

- ILCs have been transitioning and diverting people from institutions for more than 20 years.
- ILCs are RRDCs for NHTD/TBI waivers as well as providers of services.
- ILCs are fiscal intermediaries for CDPAS program.
- Six ILCs are regional lead for Ombudsman Program.

ILCs and OFAs

- Shared mission of helping people live and participate in the community.
- Provides Long Term Care Services (LTCS)
- Provide Information and Referral (I&R)
- Community Based Services
- Care Coordination (Case Management)
- Outreach/Education
- Mutual Concerns
 - **Transportation**
 - **Housing**
 - **Health/Home Care**
 - **Consumer Fraud**
 - **Durable Medical Equipment**

NYAIL Money Follows the Person

- NYAIL initiated MFP January 2015
- Two components
 - Peer Outreach and Referral (Part A)
 - Transition Center (Part B)
- Now called Open Doors

NYAIL Money Follows the Person

- Prior focus of MFP was Identification and Outreach.
- New focus on transition and peer services.

Transition Center Project

- **Goal:** Identify potential participants in nursing facilities, developmental centers and intermediate care facilities and facilitate successful transitions.



Transition Center Structure

- 9 Regional Lead ILCs
 - Transition Coordinator/Liaison
 - Transition Specialist(s)
- 14 Auxiliaries ILCs
 - Transition Specialist(s)
- NYAIL Staff
 - Project Director
 - Statewide Transition Specialist
 - 2 Nurses
 - Social Worker

Self Advocacy Association of NYS

- NYAIL will partner with SANYS to assist with OPWDD transitions as needed, including:
 - Trainings
 - Consultation
 - Family support

Open Doors MFP Eligibility

- Must have Medicaid
 - At least 1 day before transition
- Must reside in institution for at least 90 days
- Must want to live in community
 - homes, apartments and small group homes with four or fewer unrelated individuals.

Section Q

- Regional Leads now get all Section Q referrals
- NH should only be asking if person is interested in getting information about return to community
 - **Education of NH staff may be needed**

Constituent Programs

- Nursing Home Transition and Diversion Waiver (NHTD)
- Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver (TBI)
- Office for People With Developmental Disabilities Waiver (OPWDD)
- Transition Specialist can also refer to other programs to transition (e.g., ILC for benefits advisement or community services)
- Also work with MLTC and FIDA plans

Transition Specialist Role

- NHTD/TBI Waivers
 - Work collaboratively with NHDP and SC to resolve barriers to transition
 - Identification of Community Resources
 - ILC staff in all areas of state
 - Follow-up after transition
 - QoL Surveys

Transition Specialist Role

- OPWDD
 - Work collaboratively with treatment team for smooth transition.
 - Assist with selecting MSC.
 - Work with team on plan that is person centered and focused on independence.
 - Follow-up to ensure plan works for individual.

Community Preparedness Education

- What does person need day 1 in community?
 - Budgeting/bill paying
 - Medication – self administration
 - Meal preparation
 - Feeding self
 - Shopping
 - Bathroom use
 - Dressing self

Open Doors-Ombudsman Relationship

- Ombudsman are often told by residents that they wish to return to the community
- Ombudsman can provide information about MFP to residents
- If resident requests, Ombudsman may come to first meeting to ease introduction
- Transition Specialists may be told of current issues by residents, can assist resident to contact Ombudsman

Open Doors-Ombudsman Relationship

- Transition Specialist may request assistance from Ombudsman if needed documentation/service for discharge is not being provided
- Ombudsman has knowledge of/relationship with Resident Councils can invite Transition Specialist to present

Peer Services:

- Transition Specialists will offer peer services to all MFP participants.
- Peers will conduct a face-to-face meeting within 10 days of referral or document barriers to meeting.



Peer Outreach & Referral Program:

- **Goal:** Provide peer support to individuals and/or their families concerned about transitioning.

Peer Outreach & Referral Structure:

- Fee-for-service model: NYAIL has entered into MOUs with ILCs and SANYS to supply peers.
- Twenty centers participating; each committed to supplying a minimum of two paid peers.
- Peers are available in every county.
- NYAIL will recruit 55 peers and train 50.

Peers: Who qualifies?

- Peers will approximate the characteristics of the individuals (age, physical and/or developmental disability);
- When possible, peers will have transitioned from an institutionalized setting into the community.

Face sheets of peers are provided to Transition Specialists to show to individuals to help them pick which peer they wish to speak with.

Peer Training:

- All peers will complete a paid eight hour web-based training. Training themes include:
 - Program rules and regulations
 - Overview of peer support
 - Communication and active listening
 - Disability etiquette
 - Cultural, developmental and linguistic competence
 - History of disability rights and independent living
- Peers participate in ongoing professional development and peer-to-peer support to prevent burnout.

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Visit www.ilny.org to learn more about the Open Doors MFP projects and the New York Association on Independent Living.



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