



November 2021



Support Coordinator Visit Resumption



- **Wear Mask**
- **Social Distance**
- **Keep Visit Short**

Beginning January 1, 2022: Support Coordinators are directed to resume **in-person face-to-face visits** for all assigned individuals. 100% of clients are expected to receive their in-person face-to-face visits in 2022.

Your Support Coordinator will be contacting you to schedule the visit.

Following is link to the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities requirements for Support Coordinator Visits.

[Support Coordinator Visit Resumption Guidelines](#)



Human Services Virtual Budget Listening Session

Tuesday, December 7 at 10 AM

New Jerseyans can offer verbal or written testimony to inform the Department of Human Services budget discussions for 2022-23. Written testimony encouraged.

To accommodate as many speakers as possible, verbal testimony can be no more than 3 minutes.

Email humanservices@dhs.nj.gov for a time slot reservation. Include your full name, phone number and organization, if applicable. Sign language and captioning will be provided. Please note any other accommodations needed to participate.

New Jersey to Invest \$634M to Enhance Medicaid Services for Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities

Feds Approve Department Plan to use American Rescue Plan Matching Funds to Strengthen Home and Community-based Services

Plans to invest \$634 million over the next three years to bolster efforts to strengthen and expand home and community-based Medicaid services for older adults and individuals with disabilities. The plan will bring in \$329 million in federal funding, for a total state and federal investment of \$634 million in these programs. The wide-ranging plan will use federal matching dollars through the American Rescue Plan to enhance, expand and strengthen home and community-based services under the state's Medicaid program known as NJ FamilyCare.

"We are prioritizing independence, community options and person-centered care," Acting Commissioner Adelman said. "Importantly, this plan was devised with significant public input gathered during group calls, a public listening session and emails. It was vital that we listen and take advantage of this opportunity to make New Jersey a stronger and more resilient place to live. This plan reflects that goal, and we're thrilled by the approval."

Highlights of the approved initiatives include:

- Increasing the Personal Care Assistant rate to \$23 per hour to help the workforce that cares for older adults in need of home care services.
- Increasing the Personal Preference Program rate to \$19 per hour to help recipients who hire and manage someone to provide home care services.
- Increasing rates for support coordinators who work as case managers for Medicaid

recipients with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- Boosting rates for assisted living facilities, comprehensive care home and assisted living programs to strengthen these crucial facilities.
- Rewarding with higher daily rates assisted living facilities, comprehensive care home and assisted living programs that take on a higher percentage of Medicaid beneficiaries.
- Creating incentives to help transition individuals from nursing homes to home and community-based settings.
- Creating incentives to recruit more and retain existing homecare workers.
- Helping traumatic brain injury care providers offset costs associated with COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

NJ FamilyCare serves about 2 million residents. Visit [here](#) to learn more about the program that provides affordable health insurance to qualified New Jersey residents of any age.

The proposal builds on the most recent state budget signed by Governor Murphy that also enhances services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

The budget increases prescription drug assistance for older adults, while also supporting efforts by communities across the state to become accessible and inclusive places to live at any age. It also maintains last year's 10 percent Medicaid nursing facility rate increase.



New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project

A program of The Arc of New Jersey since 1983

Promoting Advocacy and Independence for People
with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

NJ Self-Advocacy Project's **Weekly Webinar Series**

Internet Safety for Students and Adults with IDD
Tuesday,
Nov. 30, 2021
2 PM - 3 PM
[Register Here](#)

****This is a recording of a previous webinar. Experience it for the first time or rewatch it to gain a better understanding of the topic. The question box will be open and we will respond to any questions 24 hours after the event.**

The Internet has dramatically changed the way we interact with the world and has provided many with a way to stay connected during quarantine. However the internet can also put people at risk for cyberbullying, exposure to inappropriate material, online predators and the possibility of revealing too much personal information.

Presented by Ashley Ritchey, Director of the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project, attendees will learn about internet safety and how to best support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities on the internet.

****NEW WEBINAR**
Creating a Culture of Inclusion: Anti-Bullying
Strategies for Self-Advocates and Supporters

**Tuesday,
Dec.7, 2021
2 PM - 3 PM
Register Here**

Presented by the NJ Self-Advocacy Project and NJ Statewide Self-Advocacy Network, this interactive webinar will focus on strategies for identifying and addressing bullying in school and beyond. After attending this webinar, participants will be able to identify different forms of bullying and its prevalence as well as specific ways to help students and adults with disabilities effectively respond to bullying in-person or online. We will review case examples to spur discussion and share techniques for creating a bully-free culture in the classroom, day program, and family home.

Pamela King is a Self-Advocate from Gloucester County, New Jersey. Pamela is proud to be her own guardian and uses Supported Decision Making while living in her apartment with her dog Lucky. Pamela works at Abilities Solutions in Westville. Pamela attended High School at Burlington County Special Services High School District and in 2005 Graduated from The NYIT, Vocational Independence Program.

Because Pamela has always been interested in advocating for herself and others in her community she was thrilled to attend the Partners In Policy Making Program and became a proud PIP (Partners in Policy Making) Graduate in 2018. Pamela continues her advocacy through her membership in Council 4 of the NJ Statewide Self-Advocacy Network.

REPLAY: Handmade Tale: DIY Gift Making Guide

**Tuesday,
Dec. 14, 2021
2 PM - 3 PM
Register Here**

**This is a recording of a previous webinar. Experience it for the first time or rewatch it to gain a better understanding of the topic. The question box will be open and we will respond to any questions 24 hours after the event.

Presented by the NJSAP team, this webinar will present some "Do It Yourself" (DIY) methods to make amazing gifts for your loved ones during the holidays! You'll learn how to craft four different unique gifts to give out for your holiday of choice (or even something you might want to hold onto yourself.) Homemade gifts can help you save money and make something one-of-a-kind! Watch video tutorials on how to make a Paint Swirl Vase, Mermaid themed bath bombs, and Pressed Flower Frames.

**REPLAY:
There's No Place Like Home:
Online Resources To Keep You Engaged
Tuesday,**

Dec. 21, 2021

2 PM - 3 PM

Register Here

****This is a recording of a previous webinar. Experience it for the first time or rewatch it to gain a better understanding of the topic. The question box will be open and we will respond to any questions 24 hours after the event.**

Presented by Ashley Ritchey, this webinar will explore fun, creative, and innovative web-based resources for self-advocates, family members, and staff to engage in during the stay at home order. It will include the goings-on of local chapters of The Arc and community provider agencies statewide as well as ways to stay active including games to keep your brain engaged, advocacy opportunities, arts and culture resources, and much more! You'll learn how to plug into a world of opportunity from the comfort of your home.

REPLAY: Resolution Solutions & Healthier Habits

Tuesday,

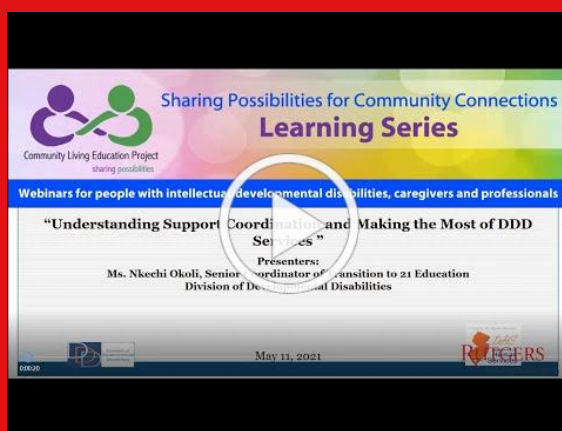
Dec. 28, 2021

2 PM - 3 PM

Register Here

***This is a recording of a previous webinar. Experience it for the first time or rewatch it to gain a better understanding of the topic. The question box will be open and we will respond to any questions 24 hours after the event.**

Presented by the NJSAP Team, this webinar is about how to keep your New Year's Resolutions! We will discuss some common types of resolutions that you can make to work towards a healthier lifestyle. We'll also talk about some SMART goals and technology that can assist you in achieving your goals.



The Community Living Education Project welcomes Ms. Courtney Davey, Supervisor, Division of Developmental Disabilities Housing Subsidy Unit, as she presents:

“The Division of Developmental Disabilities Housing Subsidy Program”

Blue Light Music Program Offering Free trial class

Blue Light Music is offering free trial sessions to individuals who may be interested in learning how music can enrich their daily lives! Below you will find links to two videos; one highlighting the health and safety measures we have implemented to ensure a safe in-studio experience, and another video showcasing our online music program with one of our amazing instructors!

The trial sessions are scheduled by appointment and may take place online, or in-studio at either our Mt. Holly or Blackwood locations. Below is a link to the sign up form. If you know an individual or colleague who may be interested, please share this email with them!

For more information, please visit our website at www.bluelightmusicprogram.com

To sign up for a trial, visit <https://rb.gy/eoqerc>

In-Studio Health/Safety Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGZJhQT1SKA>

Online Music Program Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0KygZZeBTQ>



COFFEE CHAT

Special Needs Financial Strategies

Presented by Ian Kansky
of Strategies for Wealth

Wednesday, December
15, at The Arc Center
from 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

RSVP to join us in person
or attend virtually

[Register Now](#)



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