



DAWN AWAKENINGS

Awaken to Independence

DAWN AWAKENINGS

Fall 2013

DAWNCIL NOW PROVIDES SERVICES THROUGH THE DDD SUPPORT COORDINATION PROGRAM

DAWNCil has recently begun providing Support Coordination for people in the DDD Supports Program in all 3 of the counties we serve (Morris, Sussex and Warren). The Supports Program provides a person with a self-directed, individualized service plan. It also provides employment services, day supports, adaptive technology, behavioral supports, environmental and vehicle modifications, respite and other services.

DAWNCil provides assistance as part of the Support Coordination Program, a Medicaid-funded program for DDD eligible individuals that provides support and linkages to services for adults living in their own home or with their families. Support coordination assists participants in gaining access to needed programs and state plan services, as well as needed medical, social, educational and other services.

To be eligible for support coordination services, individuals must:

- Be a resident of New Jersey
- Be 21 or older to receive services
- Be DDD and Medicaid Eligible
- Meet Functional Criteria
- Live in their own home or with their family
- Not be on the Community Care Waiver (CCW) simultaneously

If you become enrolled in the DDD Support Coordination Program, you will be given a choice of which organization will provide the service. The organization that you choose should be aligned with your values. DAWNCil's philosophy has always been to work as a cohesive team with the consumers we serve to help them live the life they want to live. And most importantly, we believe that all people should have control over the services provided to them. If you would like more information on the Support Coordination Program, please call 1-888-383-DAWN. If you choose DAWNCil as your Support Coordination organization, we look forward to partnering with you.

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Visit Our Website

Even if you have already been to www.dawncil.org, it's worth taking another look. Our calendar is constantly being updated, and we have begun adding breaking news on the home page. If you bought a ticket for our calendar raffle, you might also want to check out the list of winners that we post each week. You can also follow @dawncil on Twitter to get the latest news and updates.

From the Executive Director's Desk

As summer comes to a close, DAWN brings to a close a productive year in spite of a very difficult economy. As you will see in this edition of our newsletter, we have launched several new programs and will be launching another in early 2014. We continue to be proactive in this economy to ensure that we will be able to meet the needs of the individuals we serve. I encourage you to take a look at our website to see all that DAWN is involved in. I also would like to take the opportunity to invite you to join us for our annual meeting on November 19th to hear firsthand about our accomplishments for the past year and our plans for 2014. As always, we encourage and welcome your input not only in regard to the future for DAWN but also in regard to the needs of individuals with disabilities on a statewide level. Please see the following invitation from the NJ Statewide Independent Living Council. I hope to see you at our annual meeting and wish you all the best.

Carmela

THE NEW JERSEY STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (NJSILC) IS SEEKING COMMENTS FROM IL CONSUMERS & THE GENERAL PUBLIC

THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO HAVE INPUT:

ATTEND THE STATE PLAN PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON

THURSDAY OCTOBER 31, 2013

10:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

PROJECT FREEDOM LAWRENCE

1 FREEDOM BLVD., LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ

SEND COMMENTS VIA THE WEBSITE www.njsil.org

(SEE THE MEMBERS LIST FOR NAMES AND EMAIL ADDRESSES)

WRITE A LETTER TO THE NJ STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL, AD- DRESSED TO:

CLIFF SANDERS, CHAIR, c/o NJSILC COORDINATOR

25 CAROLINE DRIVE, SOUTH RIVER, NJ 08882

EMAIL SILC COORDINATOR MARY E. NEARY AT dinodoll@verizon.net

CALL THE COORDINATOR AT 732-254-2484

If you will attend the Hearing, please bring a written version of your comments for the record. Emails, letters and summaries of phone calls will be read aloud into the record at the Hearing. IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE HEARING AND NEED ACCOMMODATIONS, SUCH AS DEAF LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS, PLEASE ADVISE THE COORDINATOR NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 14. (see #4 or 5 above)



DAWN Membership

Dear DAWN Members, Consumers, and Friends,

It's autumn, when we all get to enjoy cooler weather and brilliantly-hued fall foliage. It is also time to renew your membership with DAWN Center for Independent Living. For those of you, who are not yet members, please join us. Your dues will help to support our many programs and services. If you are currently a member and have not done so already, please renew your membership now. DAWN Center for Independent Living membership forms are available online at www.dawncil.org or by calling 973-625-1940.

As a dues paying member of DAWN you can participate in DAWN events, be active in the DAWN activities that influence policy issues at the local, state, and national levels of government, find out what is going on within the disabilities community, and let your elected officers know your viewpoint on the many issues that affect people with disabilities. In addition, as a condition of our corporate charter, only dues paying members in good standing may vote in organizational elections. We value your opinions and hope you will become an active member by paying dues and participating fully in DAWN.

DAWN Center for Independent Living empowers people with disabilities to live independently, to strive for equality, and to take control of their lives. Consumers with disabilities and their families may benefit from a broad array of professional and recreational services and can participate in programs supporting this empowerment. Dues paid members have a voice in selecting events, programs, and activities offered to the membership. Members show the value they hold for DAWN's programs and services by participating in meetings, advocacy and recreational events, and by voting in the organizational elections. Active members take part in the governance of DAWN Center for Independent Living. They vote. They make their voices heard. Responsible active members move DAWNcil beyond being a service provider to being a community of people working together to better the lives of those living with disabilities and their families in communities throughout Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties.

Members, please send in your renewal today. If you have not yet joined, please consider joining us. Should you have any questions, please contact me, call the office, or e-mail info@dawncil.org. Thank you and I look forward to you joining us for another successful year.

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth Lehmann, President

Board of Directors

Upcoming Events

For disability accommodations and transportation (if available), call 973-625-1940 at least 2 weeks ahead.

November 3, 12:30 pm - Annual Franki's Fund Gala: Annual fundraiser for DAWN's Franki's Fund arts program. Tricky tray, silent auction, 50/50, good food, great company, and samples of the beautiful work created by our Franki's Fund participants. Sorry, transportation is not provided for this event. Located at Zeris Inn: 372 U.S. 46, Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046 . Cost: \$75.

November 19, 6:00 pm - Annual Membership Meeting: DAWN's annual membership meeting is a time when members gather to learn what is going on with the organization and eat a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. This is also when members vote on administrative issues and elect board members. Located at Trinity House: 212 E Moore St., Hackettstown, NJ 07840. Cost: \$15 for dues paid members and \$25 for non dues paid members and other guests.

December 7, 12 pm - Holiday Gala: DAWN's annual holiday gala. Music, food, dancing and great company! Located at Skylands: 792 New Jersey 10, Randolph, NJ 07869. Cost: \$30 for dues-paid members and \$40 for non-dues-members and their guests.

Upcoming Morris County Recreation Events

Date/Time	Event	Location	Cost	Transportation
October 11 7 - 10 pm	Halloween Dance (Young Adults)	Christ Episco- pal Church, Budd Lake	\$15	Not Provided
October 24 7 - 9 pm	Dinner Out	Applebee's, Parsippany	Cost of Meal	Provided

Upcoming Membership Meetings - Transportation Provided

Date/Time	Location	Topic
Oct. 25, 2:00 - 4:00 pm	Hackettstown Senior Center	Employment Services
Oct. 28, 6:30 - 8:30 pm	DAWN Office, Denville	Employment Services

Congratulations to Marc Molde: 10 Years at DAWN



On Friday, May 17, 2013, DAWN staff celebrated Marc Molde's tenth anniversary as a DAWN employee.

Marc's official title is "Independent Living Information and Referral Specialist," but he wears many hats. In addition to providing an encyclopedic knowledge of local resources, he coordinates DAWN's recreation program, organizes membership meetings, and helps people apply for energy assistance, among other duties.

As the staff member behind the info@dawncil.org e-mail address and a frequent first contact point for consumers, Marc is truly one of the faces of DAWN. His ten years of dedicated service to the DAWN

community have had a tremendously positive impact on all of us.

Marc brightens the Denville office with his subtle sense of humor, and is never afraid to speak his mind. DAWN just wouldn't be the same without him.

Congratulations to Marc Molde on ten years of a job well done!



How to Get Help Understanding the Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act (commonly referred to as "Obamacare") is about to make significant changes to our nation's healthcare system. Open enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace begins on October 1st. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, on January 1, "most individuals who can afford it will be required to obtain basic health insurance coverage or pay a fee to help offset the costs of caring for uninsured Americans." These changes are happening now, so it's important to understand the law. Here are some online resources that may help answer your questions:

What happens when? <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/timeline/timeline-text.html>

Where can I get help understanding my options? <https://www.healthcare.gov/>

Where can I get the latest info? <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/>

What about info specific to NJ? <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/bystate/nj.html>

As always, DAWN is here to help you get the answers to questions like these so you can make informed decisions. To speak with an Independent Living Specialist, please call 1-888-383-DAWN.



Update on New DAWN Programs

SkIL Program Update

DAWN's first 72-hour cycle of the curriculum-based comprehensive life skills program for youth and young adults, Skills for Independent Living (SkIL) ran from February to June 2013 in Morris County. Congratulations to our June 2013 SkIL program "graduates!" DAWN is funded by the United Way and other partners to deliver the SkIL program to eligible youth and young adults with disabilities residing in Morris and Sussex counties. The next cycle of SkIL at DAWN's Sparta office in Sussex County is slated to begin October 15, 2013. DAWN is now accepting registrations from interested parties.

DAWN's Employment Programs

A new program, DAWN Employment Network Services, was launched in early 2013. Since then, Independent Living Employment Specialist Lindsay Tuman has worked with several adult consumers in connection with their employment-related goals. Services range from developing a resume, to helping to advance the work between consumers and their DVRS Counselors, to creating a plan for self-employment, and more. Recently, DAWN's application to become an Employment Network serving adults with disabilities under the federal Ticket to Work program was approved by the U.S. Social Security Administration. DAWN is undergoing a final qualification process before services can be delivered, and members are invited to contact Lindsay Tuman for more information. In September, DAWN plans to launch another new program, **It's All About Work**. This program is comprised of three Tiers: (1) a school-based curriculum for pre-transition age youth (14 and up), (2) a school-based curriculum for transition age youth (16 and up), and (3) a non-school based curriculum for adult learning groups. In addition to these three tiers, there is a menu of targeted one-on-one and small group services available to eligible transitioning youth and adults with disabilities.



Morris County Early Intervention

As of January 2, 2014, DAWN will begin administering the grant for the Morris County Early Intervention Service Coordination Unit. Early Intervention is a program for children 0-3 years old with developmental delays that provides families with resources and strategies to address these delays. DAWN is currently gearing up for this new and exciting expansion, and will be moving to a larger office very close to our current Denville location. With this contract award, DAWN aims to serve roughly 500 additional families in Morris County.

DAWN in the Community

- DAWN staff members Carmela Slivinski, Tatiana Smith and Helena (Nina) Matava attended the **Warren County Fair** on July 29, 2013 at the Warren County fair grounds in Belvidere. They distributed information about DAWN and its programs.
- Staff members from DAWN's Early Intervention office in Sparta participated in the **Sussex County Fair** on August 6, 2013.
- DAWN attended the **Warren County Public Hearing on the Area Plan on Aging** on August 22, 2013. Although many issues will negatively impact resources supporting programs for the county's aging population, DAWN will continue its strong, successful partnership with Warren County to meet the needs of older residents and residents with disabilities.
- DAWN staff members Carmela Slivinski and Marc Molde participated in **Parsippany Day** on September 21, 2013 along with members of the Morris County AKTION Club.

Emergency Preparedness: Sign Up for Register Ready

Many disasters (both natural and man-made) in recent years have taught us how important it is to be prepared for emergencies. Having an emergency kit ready and going over an emergency plan with your friends and loved ones are some of the steps everyone can take to be ready for emergencies.

People with disabilities may need to take greater precautions to ensure their safety. NJ Register Ready is a free, voluntary and confidential program designed to identify the needs of people who may find it difficult to remain safe in their homes in the event of an emergency. Sign up for NJ Register Ready at www.registerready.nj.gov or by calling 2-1-1.

Upcoming Employment Workshop

On October 10, 2013, with support from the Kessler Foundation, DAWN is hosting a training and informational event open to local employers who are interested in creating opportunities in their workplaces for the successful employment of people with disabilities. The event, titled *Community Partners in Workforce Inclusion*, is part of DAWN's efforts in response to focus group and survey feedback from our members and consumers indicating that expanding opportunities for competitive, inclusive employment should be a high priority in the agency's work.

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 Fax: 973-625-1942
 TTY: 973-625-1932
 Email: info@dawncil.org

DAWN MISSION STATEMENT

DAWN Center for Independent Living empowers people with disabilities to strive for equality and to take control of their own lives by:

- Providing the tools that encourage independence and self-advocacy.
- Promoting public awareness of the needs, desires and rights of individuals living with disabilities.
- Offering community activities that create new experiences and opportunities.
- Creating informed communities that advance the Independent Living Philosophy.

DAWN PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- School-to-Adult Life Transition Services
- Nursing Facility Transition
- Living Well with a Disability
- SkIL Curriculum-Based Life Skills Training
- Additional Independent Living Skills Training
- Aktion Club (Morris County only)
- Brain Injury Alliance Support Group
- Working Well with a Disability
- Advocacy
- Peer Support
- Recreation
- Information and Referral
- Next Chapter Book Club
- Care Management
- Crafty Corner
- Employment Services

We are on the web!
www.dawncil.org
Follow us on Twitter:
twitter.com/dawncil