



DAWN AWAKENINGS

Awaken to Independence

DAWN AWAKENINGS

Summer 2013

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AFFECTING YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Restructuring within NJ state government has moved responsibility for providing services to children with developmental disabilities from the Department of Human Services' Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to the Department of Children and Families' Children's System of Care (CSOC). CSOC has contracted with PerformCare to administer developmental disability service delivery for children up to age 21 (PerformCare has a proven track record, having previously administered the state's Child Behavioral Health System of Care for many years). In addition, CSOC was made responsible for determining eligibility of individuals under age 18 for developmental disability services, and providing support and services to individuals under age 21 with developmental disabilities.

DDD is responsible for providing services to eligible adults with developmental disabilities age 21 and older. In order to receive DDD services, an individual must submit an application. DDD requires documentation to help in determining whether an individual's functional limitations meet eligibility criteria. As of January 2013, DDD's requirements changed such that applicants must be Medicaid eligible to be eligible for DDD services (regardless of whether they meet the functional criteria). **That makes it extremely important for families and individuals who might wish to apply to DDD for services to apply and be deemed eligible for Medicaid before they reach age 21.**

For more information:

DDD: <http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/>

CSOC: <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/divisions/dcsc/>

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Living Well with a Disability Starts This Fall in Warren County

Living Well with a Disability is an 8-week workshop about how to improve quality of life with a disability. The Hackettstown session will begin on Thursday afternoons in September. Sessions are also held at DAWN's Denville office. For more information, call Peter Gimbel at 973-625-1940, extension *219.

DAWN shopping bags for sale! Yellow DAWN logo on dark green.
\$5 per bag/\$4 for each additional bag/or 5 bags for \$20.
Call Sherry at 973-383-0870 or email to spolhemus@dawncil.org to order.

**Save the Date!
NJ Disability
Pride Parade to
be held in
Trenton on
October 4**

The Alliance Center for Independence has started planning the 3rd annual NJ Disability Pride Parade (NJDPP) for 2013.

The city of Trenton will host this event on Friday, October 4.

Check out the facebook page and video:

Video
http://youtu.be/_YkqpVminfQ

Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/njdisabilityprideparade?fref=ts>

In Memoriam

A dear friend and longtime member of DAWNcil, Gloria Philhower passed away on January 25, 2013. She will be missed, and her beautiful smile will long be remembered.

From the Executive Director's Desk

I hope that this email finds you all well and getting ready for what I hope will be a beautiful summer. As you can see from the information in this newsletter, there are changes happening everywhere. There are changes occurring at the state level in many departments including The Division of Developmental Disabilities, The Division of Children and Families and the Divisions of Aging and Disability Services. We are doing our best to keep up to date on all these changes that are impacting so many of the individuals we serve. If you are confused, please call us and we will do our best to help clear up the confusion.

At the same time as these major changes are occurring, DAWN is going through some changes of our own. Our new employment services program, DENS, and youth services program, SkIL, have been launched and are really taking off. If you are interested in hearing more about either of these services, give us a call.

But even as everything seems to be changing, please remember we here at DAWN are always here to assist you with maneuvering this complicated system of disability services.

Best Regards,

Carmela

Rule Change for Disabled Parking Privileges

Effective August 1, New Jersey disabled parking placards and license plates will now have to be medically recertified every three years. Placards were already required to be renewed every three years, but now certification of the qualifying medical condition from a medical professional will be necessary for the renewal. Disabled license plates will still be renewed every year when the vehicle's registration is renewed, but medical recertification will only be required every three years. Disabled placards will also show their expiration dates more clearly. These regulations are intended to reduce fraud.



Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP)

PASP is a program that provides non-medical assistance to adults with disabilities who are employed, involved in community volunteer work, or attending school. This program differs from many other personal assistance services programs, in that the people with disabilities direct their own services.

To be eligible for PASP, individuals must be:

- A New Jersey resident;
- Physically disabled;
- Between the ages of 18 and 70;
- Reside in the community
- Be capable of directing and supervising their services
- Be employed, in school, or actively volunteering in the community.

PASP services include light housekeeping, bathing, dressing, shopping, driving, and others. The amount of help provided depends on individual need, up to 40 hours per week.

Access to PASP is not determined by any financial eligibility criteria. However, there is a modest sliding scale fee that is determined based on the individual's income and household size. In addition, PASP is very flexible, meaning that the individual in the program is given the ability to decide how they want to utilize their budget, hire who they want, when they want it, and purchase items that may help them become more independent.

DAWN staffer Tatiana Smith is the Warren County PASP Coordinator. To apply for Warren County PASP or for more information about the program, call the PASP Consultant at 1-888-383-3296. For other counties, contact PASP's central office at 1-888-285-3036.

Cape May County Beach Access Brochure Released for People with Disabilities

Cape May County has released the 2013 edition of its guide to accessing beaches and surf chairs for people with disabilities. The brochure, published by the Cape May County Department of Aging and Disability Services, includes accessibility information for ten different beaches. Information is given on accessible parking, restaurants, boardwalk access, surf chairs and more. This is a wonderful resource for accessible recreation in the summer months. The brochure is available for free online from the Cape May County website at <http://www.capemaycountygov.net/FCpdf/2013%20Beach%20Access%20Brochure.pdf>.

Upcoming Recreation Events

Upcoming Morris County Recreation Events

| Date/Time | Event | Location | Cost | Transportation |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| July 11 7 - 10 pm | Game Night | DAWN Office, Denville | Free | None |
| August 9 7 - 10 pm | Bowling (Recreation Fundraiser) | Rockaway Lanes: 365 Rt. 46, Rockaway | \$20 minimal donation | None |
| Sept. 12 7 - 10 pm | Game Night | DAWN Office, Denville | Free | None |
| October 11 7 - 10 pm | Halloween Dance (Young Adults) | Christ Episco- pal Church, Budd Lake | \$15 | Provided |
| October 24 7 - 9 pm | Dinner Out | Applebee's, Parsippany | Cost of Meal | Provided |
| December 7 12 - 4 pm | Holiday Gala | Skylands at Randolph | \$40 (dues paid \$30) | Provided |

Upcoming Membership Meetings - Transportation Provided

| Date/Time | Location | Topic |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| June 24, 6:30 - 8:30 pm | DAWN Office, Denville | Emergency Preparedness |
| June 28, 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Hackettstown Senior Center | Emergency Preparedness |
| Oct. 28, 6:30 - 8:30 pm | DAWN Office, Denville | Employment Services |
| Nov. 1, 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Hackettstown Senior Center | Employment Services |
| Nov. 20, 6:30 - 8:30 pm | Trinity House, Hackettstown | Annual Meeting/ Thanksgiving Dinner |

For disability accommodations and transportation call 973-625-1940 at least 2 weeks ahead.

3 Month Calendar Raffle for 2013

| July/August 2013 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
| | 27 \$25 | 28 \$25 | 29 \$25 | 30 \$20 | 31 \$25 | 1 |
| 4 | 5 \$25 | 6 \$20 | 7 \$25 | 8 \$15 | 9 \$25 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 \$20 | 13 \$15 | 14 \$50 | 15 \$25 | 16 \$15 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 \$15 | 20 \$50 | 21 \$20 | 22 \$20 | 23 \$25 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 \$25 | 27 \$25 | 28 \$15 | 29 \$25 | 30 \$20 | 31 |
| September 2013 | | | | | | |
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
| 1 | 2 \$20 | 3 \$50 | 4 \$25 | 5 \$25 | 6 \$25 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 \$25 | 10 \$15 | 11 \$20 | 12 \$25 | 13 \$50 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 \$50 | 17 \$25 | 18 \$25 | 19 \$20 | 20 \$25 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 \$20 | 24 \$20 | 25 \$25 | 26 \$50 | 27 \$20 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 \$25 | | | | | |
| October/November 2013 | | | | | | |
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
| | | 1 \$25 | 2 \$25 | 3 \$50 | 4 \$25 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 \$25 | 8 \$25 | 9 \$25 | 10 \$25 | 11 \$25 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 \$20 | 15 \$25 | 16 \$20 | 17 \$25 | 18 \$40 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 \$25 | 22 \$40 | 23 \$25 | 24 \$25 | 25 \$25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 \$25 | 29 \$25 | 30 \$25 | 31 \$25 | 1 \$200 | |

\$2000

 In Cash Prizes!!!

Donation - \$20 EACH

Over 60 chances to win!

Better odds than the lottery!

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT PROGRAMS SERVING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES IN WARREN, SUSSEX, AND MORRIS COUNTIES

All drawings shall be held on or prior to the dates for which prizes are to be awarded.

Each Monday at 4pm in the DAWN Office in Denville.

All tickets eligible for each and every drawing

All tickets can win more than once

Winner need not be present

No substitution of the offered prizes may be made.

Winners will be notified via mail and winning ticket numbers posted on www.dawncil.org which will be updated weekly Tuesday mornings by 10 AM.

RL#

ID# 104-4-34573

To purchase a ticket for the calendar raffle, ask a DAWN staff member or call us at 973-625-1940.

If gambling is a problem for you or someone in your family, Dial 1-800-GAMBLER.

Paratransit Public Hearings

Each year, the paratransit services providing transportation to people with disabilities in the various counties of New Jersey hold public hearings. These hearings give county residents a chance to share feedback and suggestions to improve paratransit services.

- ♦ Warren County - Monday, June 10 at 1:00 p.m. - Wayne Dumont, Jr. Administration Building, Freeholder Meeting Room, 165 County Route 519 South, Belvidere, NJ 07823.
- ♦ Sussex County - Tuesday, June 11 at 12:00 p.m. - Sussex County Administrative Center, Freeholders' Meeting Room, 1 Spring Street, Newton, NJ 07860. RSVP to 973-383-3600, ext. 5130.
- ♦ Morris County - Monday, June 17 at 10:00 a.m. - MorrisView Healthcare Center, Ground Floor Board Room, 540 W Hanover Ave, Morristown, NJ 07960.

If you were unable to attend, you can provide testimony in writing to your local paratransit office.

Update on New DAWN Programs

SkIL Program

Thanks to generous support from the United Way of Northern New Jersey, DAWN Center for Independent Living has recently launched a new life skills program for teens and young adults with disabilities in Morris and Sussex counties called "Skills for Independent Living" (SkIL). SkIL develops skills for living a rewarding, independent life in the community. The program has four components: (1) SkIL for Daily Living, (2) SkIL in the Community, (3) SkIL for Employment, and (4) SkIL for Self-Expression.

The students have been working hard on the curriculum by completing worksheets, doing online and hands-on activities like cooking and doing laundry, and going to places like the DMV and the grocery store. Guest speakers have come in to talk about banking, realty, fire safety and other topics. Students and parents alike have expressed their appreciation for the program. Parents have shared that their children have performed some of the SkIL exercises at home, such as laundry or cleaning their bedrooms.

There are 6 students currently enrolled in SkIL, ranging in age from 14-20, and they often tell us how much they enjoy the program and how sad they will be when it ends. But they know that after SkIL ends, we can still keep them involved in other DAWN programs.

Crafty Corner

DAWN Center for Independent Living now hosts a monthly social and craft gathering. Crafty Corner is open to everyone of all ages. This program allows people to socialize with their peers while showing their creativity and feeling a sense of accomplishment.

Come make a craft or simply hang out with us! Light refreshments will be available. Sorry, transportation is not provided.

DAWN in the Community

Navigating Your Future Conference for Transitioning Youth

The 2013 "Navigating Your Future" youth-to-adult life transition conference sponsored annually by DAWN and The Morris County Partnership for Transition and Employment Services was held this year on March 21 at Morris Knolls High School. Jennifer Joyce of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) gave a detailed presentation on changes in the DDD service delivery system, DDD's new "Supports Program," and the "Personal Preference Program."

Abilities Expo

The annual Abilities Expo took place at the New Jersey Convention and Expo Center on May 3-5. Over 150 organizations displayed mobility products, assistive technology devices, state services, and other information. There were free workshops, equipment to try, and demonstrations for sports including Quad Rugby and wheelchair dancing. Workshop topics included: selecting the right accessible van/wheelchair for you, Assistive Technology, accessible home modifications, government benefits/life planning, and service animals. DAWN staff members Carl Brand, Lindsay Tuman and Christine Schell attended the event.

Game of Life

On April 24, the Sussex County Vocational School in Sparta held its annual "Game of Life" event to display agencies from Sussex County offering resources to the school's students. Students are given a problem scenario and visit the different agency tables to figure out which agencies can help. Lindsay Tuman, Sherry Polhemus, and Helen Bradfield attended for DAWN.


A few of the scenarios that pertained to us here at DAWN were:

- 1) I am a student in a wheelchair and I want to go to college.
- 2) I want to take a bus with my service dog, but the bus driver won't let me on.
- 3) If I am out of state and I need help pumping gas, what should I do?
- 4) I want to find some recreation and social activities. What agency can help me?

Sussex County Caregivers Conference

On Saturday April 27, 2013, the United Way of Northern New Jersey Caregivers Coalition hosted the first annual Sussex County Caregivers Conference at the Newton Medical Center Conference Center. DAWN staff member Brianne Lermond was in attendance. Tammie Horsfield, President of the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce and Sussex County Economic Development Partnership was the keynote speaker, and shared her experiences as a caregiver throughout her life. 58 caregivers attended the day's event and could attend two of three workshops: Legal Documents 101, Making the Most of Your Doctor's Appointment, and How to Manage Stress as a Caregiver. Sussex County Caregivers Coalition meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month from 12:00-1:30pm at the Tri-Co Building in Augusta.

30 Broad Street
 Suite 5
 Denville NJ 07834




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 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
- Advocacy
- Peer Support
- Recreation
- Information and Referral
- Next Chapter Book Club
- Care Management
- Crafty Corner
- Coming Soon...Working Well With a Disability

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