

ABOUT

The Arc Allegany-Steuben's Outreach Program provides a range of supports for OPWDD (Office for People With Developmental Disabilities) eligible people who live with their families.

This program provides:

- Time-limited service coordination for people who are not currently medicaid eligible or connected to a Care Coordination Organization (CCO);
- Short-term advocacy to prevent or intervene in crisis situations;
- Education on accessing OPWDD services;
- Advocacy, planning, and guidance for anticipated major life changes.

CONTACT

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The Arc[®]
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New York

Outreach Program

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Outreach & Advocacy Program

- Time-Limited Service Coordination for Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Eligible People who live with family but are not currently Medicaid Eligible or connected to a Care Coordination Organization.
- Short Term Advocacy to prevent or intervene in crisis situations.
- Provides education on OPWDD and other supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Advocacy, planning, and guidance for anticipated major life transitions.
- Guidance on how to access OPWDD services and information on Care Coordination Agencies in the area.

Family Support Services

- The Family Support Services (FSS) Program helps families who are caring at home for a relative with a developmental disability by providing aid to the caregiver, enhancing family stability and preserving family unity.
- Family Support Services include Respite, Family Reimbursement, Service Coordination, Family Member Training, Parent to Parent Networking, Recreation, After School Programs, Transportation, Sibling Services, Support Groups, and Information & Referral Services.
- Available to anyone who is OPWDD eligible and lives with their family, regardless if the person is Medicaid eligible or is enrolled in Care Coordination or Home and Community Based Waiver Services (HCBS).

Time-Limited Service Coordination

- Provides benefit management and assists with obtaining Medicaid coverage to access OPWDD services.
- Linkage for needed medical, housing, employment, transportation, and other pertinent services.
- Provide basic case management needs in the absence of OPWDD Care Coordination.
- Advocacy for the person with current services, including Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) planning.

Crisis Prevention & Intervention

- Short Term intervention for imminent or current crisis situations within the family that directly effect the OPWDD eligible family member (i.e. Homelessness, food shortages, loss of income, changes within the family dynamic that negatively effect the person receiving services).
- On-going support for chronic crisis situations which adversely affects the OPWDD eligible family member.

Advocacy & Planning for Major Life Transitions

- Temporary Advocacy is provided for people experiencing or preparing for major life transitions, such as moving into a home of their own, facing a long-term illness such as dementia, advocacy through legal proceedings, continuing education, and other similar transitions that require extensive planning and preparation.

Education & Outreach Services

- Trainings to families, schools, service providers, civic organizations, or other interested parties on the OPWDD eligibility process and how to access OPWDD services.
- Quarterly Trainings and Workshops for parents, service providers, or any other interested people.
- Training and linkage to educational resources for specific needs such as obtaining Legal Guardianship, filing an Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claim, or any other area tailored to specific needs or requests for information.

Guidance - How to Access OPWDD Services

- We provide hands-on assistance with connecting people and families seeking OPWDD services to resources that can help with determining eligibility and connecting to needed services and supports.
- Guidance is provided to people and families with connecting to psychologists, neurologists, clinics, or other resources that do diagnostic evaluations tailored to the requirements of OPWDD.
- Support is provided to people and families that have questions or difficulties navigating the multi-step process of accessing OPWDD services.
- Provide information on the Care Coordination Organizations in the area to help facilitate choice.