



DIRECTIONS IN INDEPENDENT LIVING, Inc.

Program Description & Contact Information

Children's Health Home of Upstate New York (CHHUNY)

Children's Health Homes is a newly formed entity established to plan for and operate as a Health Home for Children. CHHUNY uses a model of care management. This model works on family strengths and also ensures that families have "voice of choice," at every stage in the care management process. CHHUNY was created in order to provide quality family driven, youth guided care management to children and youth with needs in the region by partners experienced in both managing and providing care to children and their families. This is done primarily through a care manager who oversees and provides access to all of the services the individual needs to assure good health. CHHUNY is available in Allegany and Cattaraugus counties. Eligibility to enter this program is to age restricted from birth to 21, enrolled in Medicaid and have one or more of the following: at least two chronic conditions, Diagnosed Severe Mental Illness (SMI) including Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED) or HIV. Pending approval from CMS, "trauma, and at risk for another chronic condition" will be added to these eligibility criteria.

Contact:

- **Kate Steigerwald – Program Development Manager – (716) 379-8670 Ext. 301 ksteigerwald@oleanilc.org**
- **Tarah Tarr, CHUNNY Coordinator – (716) 379-8670 – Ext. 314 ttarr@oleanilc.org**

Health Homes of Upstate New York (HHUNY)

Health Homes provide Case Management services to help make sure everyone, ages 18 and up, involved in an individual's care is working well together and sharing information that is important in supporting a person's recovery. A Health Home Care Manager is expected to help coordinate not just medical, mental health, substance abuse services, but the social service needs of the individual as well. Eligibility to enter program is to have active Medicaid, reside in Allegany and Cattaraugus County, have two chronic conditions, HIV/AIDS, one or more serious mental illnesses, and has significant behavioral, medical or social risk factors which can be address through Care Management.

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- **Kate Steigerwald – Program Development Manager – (716) 379-8670 Ext. 301 ksteigerwald@oleanilc.org**
- **Tarah Tarr HUNNY Coordinator – (716) 379-8670 – Ext. 314 ttarr@oleanilc.org**

Youth and Family Special Education Coordination

The Youth and Family Special Education Coordinator provides advocacy to youths and their families during the special education process within the school district. This coordinator is able to attend CSE meetings to help the family and the school district come together in a positive way. This program is also affiliated with United Way of Cattaraugus to provide social events and groups activities to youth in the catchment area.

Contact:

- **Andrea Niece – Youth and Family Special Education Coordinator/Advocacy (716)-379-8670 - Ext. 303 aniece@oleanilc.org**

Directions in Independent Living, Inc.

512 W. State St. Olean, NY 14760

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OPWDD (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities) Services

Our agency serves people with Developmental Disabilities under OPWDD in multiple ways. We provide MSC services, transition services, a recreational dance program, and assist individuals and families of individuals obtain OPWDD eligibility. We also facilitate OPWDD Front Door sessions throughout the year.

Contact:

- **Kate Steigerwald – Program Development Manager – (716) 379-8670 Ext. 301 ksteigerwald@oleanilc.org**
- **Andrea Niece – OPWDD and Special Education Coordinator – (716) 379-8670 Ext. 303 aniece@oleanilc.org**

Outreach and Eligibility

Our agency provides information on OPWDD and the services that they provide. In addition this program walks individuals and families of individuals through the OPWDD eligibility process including collecting all necessary documentation and submitting application. This program is provided in Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Chautauqua counties.

Contact:

- **Mariah Wolford - OPWDD and Eligibility Coordinator – (716) 379-8670 – Ext. 302 mwolford@oleanilc.org**

Transition Services of Young Adults

This program provides transition services to youth and young adults ages 14-25 with developmental disabilities. Services include working one on one or in a group on independent living skills, higher education and employment readiness skills. This program is provided in Allegany and Cattaraugus counties.

Contact:

- **Suzanne Visciano – (716) 379-8670 Ext. 313 svisciano@oleanilc.org**

Recreational Line Dance Program

This program is a line dance program for individuals who are 12 and older, have a Developmental Disability, and are OPWDD eligible. It occurs a few Saturdays a month and is taught by Patti Putt, an experience dance teacher with 25+ years of experience working with individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

Contact:

- **Kate Steigerwald – Program Development Manager – (716) 379-8670 Ext. 301 ksteigerwald@oleanilc.org**

Care Management

Our agency is contacted with a Care Coronation Organization call Prime Care to provide OPWDD Care Management services to assist individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their families through the OPWDD system and to obtain services. Care Managers are qualified individuals who use person-centered planning in developing, implementing, and maintaining an Individual Life Plan for the individual that helps guide the individual to meet their goals. The Care Manager is the point person for the individual regarding their OPWDD services.

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Community Habilitation

Community Habilitation services are habilitation services that can be provided to individuals 2-3 times a week. Community Habilitation services can be delivered at any non-certified location, including the individual's home. This program offers 1 on 1 support from a Com Hab Specialist (or CHS) to work with on a weekly basis totaling anywhere from 2-15 hours a week. Supports include adaptive skill development, assistance with activities of daily living (hands-on), community inclusion and relationship building, training and support for independence in travel, transportation, adult educational supports, development of social skills, leisure skills, self-advocacy and informed choice skills, and appropriate behavior development to help the individual access their community. Three of our most common goals areas: *Socialization, Overall Health and Wellness, and Money Skills.*

Contact:

- **Kate Steigerwald – Program Development Manager (716) 379-8670 – Ext. 301 ksteigerwald@oleanilc.org**
- **Emily Sullivan – Community Habilitation Coordinator (716) 379-8670 Ext. 308 esullivan@oleanilc.org**

Non-Medicaid Care Coordination

This program provides Care Coordination Services to Adults with Mental Illness who do not qualify for Medicaid. To be eligible for this program an individual must live in Cattaraugus County, have significant Mental Health issues, and does not have Medicaid but can have Medicare or Third Party insurance to qualify. This program's mission is to avert repeat hospital emergency room visits in Cattaraugus County.

Contact:

- **Rhema Tom– (716) 373-4602 rtom@oleanilc.org**

Benefits Advisement Services

This program assists individuals with all types of disabilities to understand all areas of the Social Security Administration. Advocacy in completing Social Security applications (SSI/SSD), compiling medical records for review, Work Incentive Programs, and in understanding the denial and appeal process.

Contact:

- **D.J. Moore – (Allegany and Cattaraugus - 18 and Older) - (716) 373-4602 dmoore@oleanilc.org**
- **Jeff Capitani (Youth to 21yrs.) – (716) 373-4602 jcapitani@oleanilc.org**
- **Theresa Klice (Cattaraugus County Mental Health – Any Age) (716) 373-4602 tklice@oleanilc.org**

Mental Health Advocacy

Our agency provides advocacy services for adults with disabilities transitioning from Hospital and Incarceration back into community living. The Transitional Coordinator can assist with benefit advisement, locating doctors, housing, applying for Food Stamp (SNAP) benefits. This program can also facilitate Support Groups upon request.

Contact:

- **Theresa Klice – (716) 372-4602 tklice@oleanilc.org**

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Facilitated Enrollers for Health Care

Our agency has on staff two Medicaid Facilitated Enrollers to enroll individuals in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties who are Disabled, Deaf/Blind, and/or over the age of 65.

Contact:

- Kurt Klein – (716) 373-4602 kkline@oleanilc.org
- Allegany County office - 585-296-3408

Representative Payee Program

Our Life Skills Advocates manage the monthly SSI & SSDI benefits for consumers in our Rep Payee program. The Rep Payee program ensures that SSI/SSDI consumers, who need assistance with their finance, have their basic housing and medical needs managed each month to make certain that they are safe and secure in their housing. After all basic housing and medical needs are paid, any surplus funds are provided to the consumers in weekly Personal Needs Allowance (PNA).

Our Rep Payee program, currently serves the following counties: Allegany, NY, Cattaraugus, NY. McKean, PA. and Potter, PA. There is a \$42.00/month fee for the Rep Payee service.

Contact:

- Cortney Lathrop – (716) 373 – 4602 clathrop@oleanilc.org

Accessibility Advisement

Directions offers various services regarding accessibility issues for businesses, public buildings, schools, churches, and homes. Some of the services include accessibility studies on-site, consultation on ramp design and placement, as well as advisement on residential interior accommodations such as bathrooms.

Contact:

- Howard Cornwall – Accessibility Consultant / Facilities Manager (716) 373-4602 hcornwall@oleanilc.org

Southern Tier Advocacy Without Walls (STRAWW) Program

Our agency has two STRAWW Recovery Guides in our office who are funded by Housing Options Made Easy. They assist individuals and families in finding their “Spark in Life”.

Contact:

- Krissy Williams – (716) 379-8670 kwilliams@oleanilc.org

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Cattaraugus County Compeer Program

Compeer is a friendship program. This program matches volunteers from the community with persons who are receiving treatment for mental health. The person who is receiving treatment is referred to this program by their mental health provider. The volunteer is “cleared” through background checks, references, and fingerprints. The volunteer is then trained. If we find a “match” for the volunteer, the volunteer and the Compeer coordinator will meet with the client’s mental health provider before making the “match”. Once a “match” has been made, the volunteer sends in monthly updates depicting time they have spent together or any concerns about the relationship. The volunteer’s time commitment is for four hours a month for one year.

Contact:

- **Jean Cousins – (716) 373-4602 jcouains@oleanilc.org**

Consumer Directed Personal Assistant Services

This program empowers Medicaid-eligible patients to hire, monitor, and terminate their own home based caregivers. CDPAS gives elderly, disabled, or ill individuals independence and control by choosing who provides their homecare. They can be siblings, relatives, children, parents, friends, or trusted neighbors. Personal attendants must be 18 years of age and meet the requirements of the consumer’s plan of care.

Contact:

- **Sue Hannon (716) 373-4602 suehannon@oleanic.org**

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

Adult BH HCBS are an enhanced benefit package of services available to those who are determined eligible and enrolled in a Health and Recovery Plan (HARP). A HARP is a new type of managed care product that manages physical health, mental health, and substance use services in an integrated way for adults 21 and older who have significant behavioral health needs (serious mental health and/or substance use disorders). Adult BH HCBS provide opportunities for eligible individuals to receive services in their own home or community. These services are designed to help individuals gain motivation, functional skills and personal improvement while allowing them to live in their own homes or communities.

Contact:

- **Sue Hannon (716) 373-4602 suehannon@oleanilc.org**

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Department of Aging – NY Connects

NY Connects is a point of entry into the long term services and support system for older adults and people of all ages with disabilities. NY Connects programs are locally based where anyone - individuals, concerned family members or friends, or helping professionals - can go for help in finding the information, services, and supports that they need. Long term services and supports can be provided in the home or in other community-based or residential settings to help someone stay healthy and independent.

Contact:

- **Chelsea Sader – Cattaraugus County Department of Aging, NY Connects - Independent Living Specialist**
Olean County building,
One Leo Moss Drive Olean, NY 14760
716-701-8032 ext. 3217
csader@oleanilc.org
- **Michael Freeland – Allegany County Department of Aging, NY Connects - Independent Living Specialist**
Allegany County building
6085 NY- 19, Belmont, NY 14813
585-268-9390
mfreeland@oleanilc.org

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