



STATEN ISLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

The Elizabeth Connelly Resource Center
930 Willowbrook Road – Building 41A
Staten Island, New York 10314
(718) 983-5276

September 2023

DIANE PERUGGIA
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(718) 984-0344

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(347) 466-0882

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Treasurer
(917) 922-3266

PAMELA MINKOFF
Recording Secretary
(718) 490-6569

Dear Friend,

As we begin our 53rd year at the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council (SIDDC) it is important more than ever that we continue to advocate for State dollars to preserve vital supports and services for the rising numbers of individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities on Staten Island. The SIDDC is the official advisory body to the New York Department of Mental Hygiene and Department of Health, to the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), and to the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Services office (SIDDSO).

We work tirelessly to **advise** the City and State about present priorities and gaps in services in addition to **recommending** new or continuing services that should be adopted by New York State funding sources. In addition, we strive to **educate** and keep our membership informed by hosting monthly General Council meetings both virtually and in person.

One of the goals of the council is to grow our membership, as there is strength in numbers. If you are not yet a member, we urge you to become one and to spread the word to others in our disabilities community. Membership is open to parents, self-advocates, caregivers, siblings, provider agencies, vendors, and ANYONE interested in our Staten Island disabilities community. As a member you will be connected to a network of caring, concerned, and knowledgeable people who want to make a difference. Your membership will provide you with an opportunity to take part in one or more of our 12 standing committees that align with your interests. Together, we address real-life community issues which present challenges to daily living and quality of life. Attending meetings and events, visiting our website, and receiving our emails will help you stay informed.

Together with our Executive Board, agency partners and leadership team – First Vice-Chair, Jason Harr, Second Vice-Chair Dina Klein, Treasurer Jayne Cooper, and Recording Secretary Pam Minkoff - we will continue our effort to achieve our goal of ensuring the best possible quality of life for Staten Islanders with special needs throughout their life span.

I look forward to working with everyone during the 2023-24 year! Together we will make a difference.

Sincerely,

Diane Peruggia
Chairperson, SIDDC

Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council



**930 Willowbrook Road
Building 41A
Staten Island, NY 10314
718-983-5276
contactsiddc@siddc.org • www.siddc.org**

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**FIND MORE INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.SIDDC.ORG**

What is the SIDDC?

The Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council (SIDDC) was established in 1969 to assist in the planning, promotion, and development of supports and services for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and their families throughout their lifespan. The SIDDC works to ensure the best possible quality of life for Staten Islanders with special needs through advocacy and relevant information. Members include self-advocates, their parents/family, friends, and service providers.

Monthly meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Presentations by guest speakers keep members informed about current issues. The SIDDC committees provide monthly reports, describing their work and advocacy efforts on the latest issues and trends impacting individuals with developmental/ intellectual disabilities.

The SIDDC communicates the needs of families to public and elected officials using various media outlets, legislative information exchanges and an annual Community Breakfast. The SIDDC offers numerous events throughout the year to support our members. These include a Family Resource and Transition Fair, Celebrating Achievements, Direct Support Professional Awards Ceremony, Educational forums and Adult Transitioning forums.

**Visit our Website for an Updated Schedule
of SIDDC Meetings
www.siddc.org/calendar**

Diane Peruggia ~ Chair

Jason Harr ~ First Vice-Chair

Dina Klein ~ Second Vice-Chair

Jayne Cooper ~ Treasurer

Pamela Minkoff ~ Recording Secretary

Marissa Corio ~ Community Outreach Coordinator

Angela Edwards ~ Administrative Assistant

To become a member today:

 **visit www.siddc.org**

 **call 718-983-5276**

 **email contactsiddc@siddc.org**

STANDING COMMITTEES

Adult Services:

Purpose: To identify and address issues and needs pertaining to adults with developmental disabilities (age 18 years and older).

Advocacy:

Purpose: To actively engage with and inform representatives of governing agencies e.g. Office of People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) and all elected public officials of the needs, concerns and ongoing issues impacting people with I/DD and their families. The Advocacy committee arranges meetings and rallies of all interested stakeholders on a variety of specific and relevant topics, coordinates, and participates in regularly scheduled meetings with provider associations, elected officials, and State agency representatives, develops the SIDDC's annual position paper and hosts the Annual Community Breakfast. Advocacy is a year-round effort.

Care Management:

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for Care Managers who are employed by Care Coordination Organizations (CCO's) and interested parties to network, exchange ideas, share resources and discuss current issues and trends. Topics of relevance to Care Managers are presented to guest and/or committee members at monthly meetings.

Community Outreach:

Purpose: To disseminate and publicize council information and other relevant issues to the community through the SIDDC website, social media, flyers, newsletters, local newspapers, and presentations in the community.

Education:

Purpose: To identify and address issues pertaining to the education of individuals with developmental disabilities (birth to age 22). Continuous review of educational programs available to students with developmental disabilities and support driven practices to develop school cultures becoming more collaborative through family engagement practices and parent voice.

Family Support Services Advisory Council (FSSAC):

Purpose: The FSS Advisory Council (FSSAC) is open to anyone living on Staten Island who has a family member with a developmental disability living in their family home, as well as to individuals with developmental disabilities. A family member may remain a member even if their family member no longer lives in their

home or is deceased. The FSSAC represents the needs of local individuals and families and works in partnership with the local office known as the Developmental Disabilities Regional Office (DDRO), to plan, develop and monitor Family Support Services (FSS) programs. The Council may also make recommendations about how to improve the quality and effectiveness of FSS programs. The local FSSAC also seeks to increase community outreach and to promote awareness of FSS programs.

Health and Clinical Services:

Purpose: To focus on issues concerning all aspects of health services, including medical, rehabilitative and mental health that impact individuals with developmental challenges.

Residential Quality of Life:

Purpose: To identify and address issues pertaining to the quality of life of I/DD living in residential settings. Discuss all aspects of residential programming, including regulations, role of staff/clinicians and residential opportunities. Meetings are held on a monthly basis and the committee participates in an annual presentation containing various topics in conjunction with the direct support profession and recognition.

Self-Directed Supports:

Purpose: Fiscal Intermediary Providers, Care Managers, Self-hired Support Staff and all other valuable stakeholders to share resources and discuss issues to support people who choose to take direct responsibility to manage their services and lead a self-directed life. Meetings are held 6-12 times per year and guest speakers present on a variety of topics at these meetings.

Willowbrook Legacy:

Purpose: The Willowbrook Legacy Committee's mission is to develop a sustaining presence of the experience of Willowbrook State School. The committee has developed a collaborative relationship with the College of Staten Island (CSI) and the CTV cable station. These collaborations have created two ongoing projects, "The Willowbrook Mile" and the television series, "Willowbrook Revisited." Members of the committee serve on the CSI Steering Committee which is planning and implementing The Mile which is a walking trail through the former grounds of Willowbrook. Signs/milestones along the path give insightful perspectives and information about the Willowbrook experience. The Willowbrook Revisited show is a retrospective look at the institution including interviews with those who experienced the impact of Willowbrook.

SUPPORTS & SERVICES ON STATEN ISLAND

- **Care Management**

- **Waiver Services**

1. Care at Home Waiver
2. Home and Community Based Services Waiver (HCBS)

- **HCBS Waiver Services**

1. Community Habilitation
2. Day Habilitation
3. Supported Employment
4. Pathway to Employment
5. Respite
6. Adaptive Devices
7. Environmental Modifications

- **Residential Services**

1. Individualized Residential Alternatives (IRA)
2. Community Residences (CR)
3. Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF)
4. Family Care
5. Non-Certified Housing Options
6. Individualized Support Services (ISS)

- **Family Support Services**

1. Family Reimbursement
2. Recreation
3. Counseling, Training, and Supports
4. Advocacy

- **Self Direction**

1. Brokerage Services
2. Fiscal Intermediary Services
3. Individual Directed Goods

HOW TO ESTABLISH OPWDD ELIGIBILITY

The **Front Door** is the way OPWDD connects individuals to the services they need and want.

Once you enter, a person-centered planning process begins which helps you learn about and access service options taking your needs and desires into consideration.

Everyone new to OPWDD will go through the Front Door regardless of their age or the nature of the services they are seeking.

The first step to receiving assistance is to determine if the person seeking services is eligible to receive services and supports. Once someone is determined eligible to receive services, they can begin the planning process.

Where to begin?

Contact the **OPWDD regional office** that covers your county to access the Front Door to help you get ready to plan for OPWDD services, you will be asked to attend an information session.

Staten Island Front Door Access Number 718-982-1913

OPWDD Info Line 1-866-946-9733
www.opwdd.ny.gov

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

DDRO Region 4, Staten Island Contacts:

Delia Tucker
Director of OPWDD - Regional Office 4
718-217-5890
Delia.M.Tucker@opwdd.ny.gov

James Doherty
Deputy Director OPWDD - Regional Office 4
646-766-3466
James.X.Doherty@opwdd.ny.gov

Siobhan Hunt
Regional Field Office Administrator
718-983-5217
Siobhan.Hunt@opwdd.ny.gov

Kerry Panarella
Front Door Team Leader
718-982-1904
Kerry.Panarella@opwdd.ny.gov

Chrystal Sharpe
Regional Office 4 FSS Lead
718-722-2957
Chrystal.Sharpe@opwdd.ny.gov

Nicole Holt
Family Care Coordinator
718-982-1912
Nicole.R.Holt@opwdd.ny.gov

Vilma Gilling
Regional Office 4
Front Door/Service Amendment Unit Lead
718-982-1943
Vilma.Gilling@opwdd.ny.gov

Christine Grova, LMSW
Community Services Team Leader
718-982-1903 • Cell: 347-415-5379
Christine.Grova@opwdd.ny.gov

RESOURCES

Staten Island Developmental Disabilities
Council www.siddc.org

SIDDC membership list of provider
agencies with direct links to their website
www.siddc.org/program-opportunities

Office for People with Developmental
Disabilities www.opwdd.ny.gov

OPWDD Front Door
www.opwdd.ny.gov/welcome-front-door/home

Self-Advocates of New York
State www.sanys.org

Parent to Parent New York
State www.ptopnys.org

Medicaid
www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/medicaid/

Acronym List
www.opwdd.ny.gov/opwdd_regulations_guidance/.../acronym_list

CARE COORDINATION AGENCIES

Advance Care Alliance
www.acany.org
833-692-2269

Tri-County Care
www.tricountycare.org
844-504-8400

Care Design
www.caredesign.org
518-235-1888

PROVIDER AGENCIES

- Adapt Community Network
- AHRC, NYC Chapter
- ArchCare Senior Life PACE
- A Very Special Place (AVSP)
- CASC/Community Agency for Senior Citizens
- Catholic Charities of Staten Island
- Center for Family Support
- Children At Play
- City Access New York, Inc.
- College of Staten Island-Creative Exchange
- Community Resources
- Constructive Partnerships Unlimited
- Crossroads Unlimited, Inc.
- Eden II Programs
- HeartShare Human Services
- Include NYC
- Independent Living Association
- Jewish Community Center of Staten Island (JCC)
- Lifespire
- Lifestyles for the Disabled
- Metropolitan Development Center
- Mercy Drive
- Modest Community Services Association
- NYS Institute for Basic Research (IBR)
- New York State Institute on Disability, Inc.
- On Your Mark, Inc.
- Person Centered Care Services (PCCS)
- Partners Health Plan
- Proud Moments Therapy
- Public School 37R
- Rainbow's Reach
- Richard H. Hungerford School
- Richmond University Medical Center
- Seton Foundation for Learning
- SIUS-Services for the Underserved
- Staten Island Center for Independent Living
- Staten Island University Hospital/Northwell Health
- The Good Shephard, Inc.
- The GRACE Foundation
- Tri-County Care
- Vita Care Pharmacy/Enexia

BECOME A MEMBER

- **Parents/Guardians**
 - **Advocates**
 - **Vendors**
- **Professionals**

Join the SIDDC in our efforts to ensure the best possible quality of life for individuals with special needs across their lifespan.

**BE INFORMED.
BE EMPOWERED.
JOIN TODAY!**

To become a member:

Visit our website: www.sid dc.org/join-today

Email: contactsid dc@sid dc.org

Call: 718-983-5276



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Disabilities Council**
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www.SIDDC.ORG



Facebook.com/statenislanddevelopmentaldisabilitiescouncil



@StatenIslandDDC



@SIDDCResources

contactsiddc@siddc.org

contactfssac@aol.com

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Phone: (718) 983-5276 E-mail: Contactsiddc@siddc.org Fax: (929)-308-0017 Website: www.siddc.org

2023-2024 Membership Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Are you a: Self-advocate _____ Parent/Caregiver _____ Professional _____ Other _____

Diagnosis of Individual _____ Age of Individual _____

Are you a new member? Yes _____ No _____

Agency, Please Indicate One Primary and One Alternate Representative

Agency Name: _____

Name of Primary Representative: _____

Name of Alternate Representative: _____

E-mail of Alternate Representative: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Floor: _____ Apt: _____ City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Annual Membership Dues (Make checks payable to SIDDC)

Select the applicable category of membership below:

_____ \$100.00	Agency	May have many participating members, but must designate a primary representative and an alternate (votes in primary's absence)
_____ \$100.00	Lifetime Membership	Entitled to vote on business for lifetime
_____ \$25.00	Vendor	A non-voting member
_____ Fee Waived	Self-Advocate	Entitled to one vote on business
_____ \$10.00	Parent/Caregiver	Entitled to one vote on business
_____ \$10.00	Individual	Entitled to one vote on business. To qualify for this category person must demonstrate commitment to SIDDC mission
_____ Fee Waived	Associate	A non-voting member. (e.g., family member, agency associate)

Select the committee you would like to serve on:

_____ Adult Services	_____ Education	_____ Residential Quality of Life
_____ Advocacy	_____ Family Resource & Transition Fair	_____ Self-Directed Supports
_____ Care Management	_____ Family Support Services Advisory Council	_____ Willowbrook Legacy
_____ Community Outreach	_____ Health & Clinical Service	

How did you learn about the SIDDC? _____

For Office Use Only: Received: _____ Entered : _____

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Telephone: (718) 983-5276

Website: www.siddc.org E-mail: contactsiddc@siddc.org

September 2023- June 2024

General Council Meeting Schedule

Friday, September 22, 2023

Friday, October 20, 2023

Wednesday, October 25 @ 7:00 pm (Recap)

Friday, November 17, 2023

December 15, 2023

(Celebrating Achievements)

Friday, January 19, 2024

Friday, February 16, 2024

Friday, March 22, 2024

Wednesday, March 27 @ 7:00 pm (Recap)

Friday, April 19, 2024

Friday, May 24, 2024

Friday, June 21, 2024

(Residential Quality of Life ~DSP Awards)

Other important dates for SIDDC:

Virtual Family Resource & Transition Fair – TBD

Virtual Annual Community Breakfast – TBD

Please Note: Meetings **virtually** or **in person** will be announced. Meetings begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and end at approximately 11:30 a.m.

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Website: www.siddc.org E-mail: contactsiddc@siddc.org Fax: (929) 308-0017

Standing Committees

Adult Services:

Purpose: To identify and address issues and needs pertaining to adults with developmental disabilities (age 18 years and older).

Co-Chair: Lea Graham: lea.graham@cuiny.org

Advocacy:

Purpose: To actively engage and inform representatives of governing agencies (e.g. OPWDD) and all elected public officials of the needs and concerns of intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals and their families. The committee arranges meetings on a variety of specific and relevant topics, coordinates a quarterly Legislative Information Exchange, develops the SIDDC's annual position paper and hosts the annual Legislative Breakfast.

Co-Chair: Barbara Devaney: vandev52@msn.com Co-Chair: Donna Long: donnalong13@aol.com

Care Management:

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for Care Managers and interested parties to network, exchange ideas, share resources and discuss current issues and trends. Topics of relevance to Care Managers are presented to guest and/or committee members at monthly meetings.

Chair: Janet LaMantia: SIDDC.MSC@Gmail.com Nick LaBruna: SIDDC.MSC@Gmail.com

Community Outreach:

Purpose: To disseminate and publicize council information and other relevant issues to the community through the SIDDC website, flyers, newsletters, local newspapers, and presentations at council meetings; to oversee the Sub-committee that plans the annual Family Resource & Transition Fair.

Co-Chair: Melissa D'Accordo, Ph.D.: mdaccordo@cpofnys.org

Co-Chair: Mary Jacobson: mjacobson@adaptcommunitynetwork.org

Education:

Purpose: To identify and address issues pertaining to the education of individuals with developmental disabilities (birth to age 21).

Co-Chair: MaryBeth Bergren: mbergren@includenyc.org

Co-Chair: Christina Silva-Soto: C.Silva-Soto@tricountycare.org

Family Resource and Transition Fair:

Purpose: Our annual family support and transition fair offers individuals, families, and agency personnel the opportunity to interact with providers and governmental agencies to learn about service options and the issues and options surrounding the transition process.

Co-Chair: Irene Cavanagh: icavanagh@eden2.org

Family Support Services Advisory Council (FSSAC):

Purpose: The FSS Advisory Council (FSSAC) is open to anyone living on Staten Island who has a family member with a developmental disability living full time in their family home, as well as to individuals with developmental disabilities. A family member may remain a member even if their family member with developmental disability no longer lives in their home or is deceased.

The FSSAC represents the needs of local individuals and families and works in partnership with the local Office of People with Developmental Disabilities office, known as the Developmental Disabilities Regional Office (DDRO), to plan, develop and monitor Family Support Services (FSS) programs on Staten Island. The FSSAC works with the DDRO to evaluate current FSS programs to determine whether they meet the needs of families and individuals. They also provide direct input regarding program viability and whether or not programs should be renewed based on merit and performance. The Council may also make recommendations about how to improve the quality and effectiveness of FSS programs.

The local FSSAC also seeks to increase community outreach and to promote awareness of FSS programs on Staten Island.

Join the FSSAC if you want to have a voice in advocating for services for your loved one.

Co-Chair: Diane Peruggia: dperuggia@aol.com **Co-Chair: Maryann Virga:** marvirga@yahoo.com

Health and Clinical Services:

Purpose: To focus on issues concerning all aspects of health services, including medical, rehabilitative and mental health.

Co-Chair: Jayne Cooper: jacooper@rumcsi.org

Co-Chair: Maggie Scarsella: mscarsella@northwell.edu

Membership and Guidelines:

Purpose: To review new applications for council membership, assess membership status, and outreach for new members. Requests for by-laws changes must be submitted to and reviewed by this committee and then brought to the executive board before being submitted to the full council.

Co-Chair: Linda Coull: llcoull@yahoo.com **Co-Chair: Gail Decker:** gaiser6@aol.com

Residential Quality of Life:

Purpose: To identify and address issues pertaining to the quality of life of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in residential settings. We discuss all aspects of residential programming, including regulations, role of staff/clinicians and residential opportunities. Meetings are held on a monthly basis and our committee participates in an annual presentation.

Co-Chair: Jason Harr: jharr@onyourmark.org **Co-Chair: Iris Goldberg:** ijed4@aol.com

Self-Directed Supports:

Purpose: Fiscal Intermediary Providers, Care Managers, Self-hired Support Staff and all other valuable stakeholders to share resources and discuss issues to support people who choose to take direct responsibility to manage their services and lead a self-directed life. Meetings are held 6-12 times per year and guest speakers present on a variety of topics at these meetings.

Co-Chair: Fidaije Nesimi: fnesimi@gmail.com **Co-Chair: Melissa Chapman:** mchapman@pccsny.org

Willowbrook Legacy:

Purpose: The Willowbrook Property Planning Committee's mission is to develop a sustaining presence of the experience of Willowbrook State School. The committee has developed a collaborative relationship with the College of Staten Island (CSI) and the CTV cable station. These collaborations have created two ongoing projects, "The Willowbrook Mile" and the television series, "Willowbrook Revisited." Members of the committee serve on the CSI Steering Committee which is planning and implementing the Mile which is a walking trail through the former grounds of Willowbrook. Signs/milestones along the path give insightful perspectives and information about the Willowbrook experience. The Willowbrook Revisited show is a retrospective look at the institution including interviews with those who experienced the impact of Willowbrook.

The committee drives both projects and meeting as a committee 3 times a year to discuss the direction and progress of the projects.

Co-Chair: Diane Buglioli: dbuglioli@avspny.org **Co-Chair: Eric Goldberg:** eric2985@icloud.com



The Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council

BE EMPOWERED & STAY INFORMED

- MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO SELF-ADVOCATES, PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, SIBLINGS, AGENCIES, VENDORS AND ALL PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE LOCAL DISABILITIES' COMMUNITY
- THE **OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (OPWDD)** IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING THE SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM. STAY CURRENT AND INFORMED ON WHAT AFFECTS YOUR LOVED ONES
- MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO *12 STANDING COMMITTEES* THAT ALIGN WITH YOUR INTERESTS
- LEARN ABOUT AVAILABLE PROGRAMS & RESOURCES
- NETWORK AND CONNECT WITH OTHERS

Advocate for yourself and loved ones!!

JOIN TODAY!
www.sidcdc.org

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