

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Community Mental Health

Michael Orth, M.S.W.
Commissioner

Day Habilitation Programs Update

Westchester County

February 28, 2022

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To: Parents, Advocates, and Professionals;

I am providing to you an updated version of the Day Habilitation programs in Westchester County based on recent concerns expressed from parents, advocates and professionals in terms of locating a program with openings; in particular for those aging out of the school system in June and who are in need of such a program. Each of the 18 agencies represented below provide information on their current openings, waitlists, contact people, transportation, type of day habilitation program provided, along with other information shared about their program now and looking ahead to the future.

I do hope that you find this updated version a helpful resource. For further information and to provide answers to the questions that you may have, please reach out to the contact people listed from each agency. They are there to assist you. If I can assist please feel free to reach out to me at my contact information at the bottom of each page. Thank you so much!

Respectfully,

Matthew Faulkner

The following agencies are listed in the order the responses were received. I am also providing the 2021 version of the directory and the 2019 version which gives a more in-depth summary of each of the programs and where they are located.

TACONIC INNOVATIONS

Current Openings: There are currently 10 in our site-based and 15 in our community-based programs. Also, there are openings in their supplemental day habilitation program on Saturdays only.

Waitlists: None

Contact Person: Gladys Justiniano (914) 530-5992 (office)
gladys@taconicinnovations.com

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Day Habilitation Program: both site-based and community-based.

Other: Our program works toward increasing community integration and life skills by choosing activities based on the interests of the participants. The program also provides a center-based learning approach combined with community inclusion and opportunities for real-life practice and development of new skills.

Community Based Services

Current Openings: 1 opening in our certified program.

Waitlists: Our community-based programs has a waiting list.

Contact Person: Magda Piacentino (914) 236-1150
mpiacentino@commbasedservices.org

Transportation provided: Yes (geographical areas: Ossining, Mt. Kisco, Yorktown, Katonah, North Salem, Goldens Bridge, and neighboring areas.)

Type of Program: Both site-based and community-based.

Other: Nothing shared at this time.

Another Step

Current Openings: None at this time due to the current staffing shortages.

Waitlists: We are meeting with families and those interested but cannot give a definitive timeframe as to when we can take new enrollments.

**Contact Persons: Lynn Policastro (914) 946-2288 Lpolicastro@anotherstep.org
Mary Lattari mlattari@anotherstep.org**

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Day Habilitation program: community-based only

Other: We will continue to meet with families and individuals that are interested in our program with the hopes that the staffing shortages in NYS are resolved in the not so distant future.

Cardinal McCloskey

Current Openings: Yes, we anticipate 10 openings in our current program when our newer program McCloskey Works opens in the Spring.

**Contact Person: Noreen O'Connor (914) 999-0871.
Noconnor@cmcs.org**

Transportation provided: At this point additional enrollments will be utilizing Para Transit.

Type of Day Habilitation Program: site-based and community-based.

Other: We are providing virtual information sessions regarding our programs on a monthly basis. We are currently accepting applications for both our current program (Valhalla) and our McCloskey Works Program (Ossining) which will open in the spring.

Hawthorne Foundation

Current Openings: **There are currently 10 openings in the site-based program.**

Waitlists: **None**

Contact People: **Ann Maria Babcock (914) 592-8526x3165**
ambabcock@hawthornecountryday.org

Anna Chopra, Day Hab Coordinator (914) 372-7173x4030

Warren Dillon (914) 372-7173x4000

Transportation provided: **Yes**

Type of Day Habilitation Program: **Both site-based and community-based.**

Other: **ABA trained staff**

Hawthorne Foundation has several registered Behavior Technicians

About 50% of our Direct Support Staff have completed College.

For those interested in their brochure, please reach out to one of the contact people above.

Cerebral Palsy of Westchester

Current Openings: **20 openings currently but some of our classrooms are at capacity so if the individual is only appropriate for a specific classroom, that individual may have to be placed on our waitlist for that classroom.**

Waitlists: **Yes if only appropriate for a specific classroom.**

Contact Person: **Michele Stramiello (914) 937-3800 x234**

Michele.Stramiello@cpwestchester.org

Transportation provided: **Yes for Westchester County residents.**

Type of Day Habilitation program: **site-based only.**

Other: **Currently we do not have a Behavior Specialist and therefore at this time cannot serve individuals who exhibit behavioral needs beyond what our current staff can handle.**

Richmond Community Services

Current Openings: There are currently 15 openings in our Day program North in Mount Kisco and 7 openings in our Day Program South in Yonkers.

Waitlists: We have a wait list due to severe staffing shortages and are not admitting Day Habilitation participants at this time. The Yonkers site has not yet re-opened.

Contact People: Twinette Feliciano is the Manager of the Day Program North
(914) 471-4183
tmcfadden@richmondcommserv.org

Monique Johnson is the Manager of the Day Program South.
(914) 471-4176.
mjohnson@richmondcommserv.org

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Day Habilitation program: site-based only.

Other: We look forward to re-opening our Day Program South in Yonkers and accepting new participants at both sites soon. The Day Program in Mount Kisco provides a Nurse, QIDP, and clinical coordinators in addition to physical therapists. Day program South has a clinical coordinator on-site.

Arc Westchester

Current Openings: We have very few opportunities at this time due to a lack of staffing. We currently have 8 openings in our site-based day programs located in Southern Westchester. We do not have openings in our community-based or WOW (without walls) day programs at this time.

Waitlists: We will begin screening individuals once we have the resources, staff, and time to do so. We are accepting applications and referral packets for our programs with openings; however, we will not be going forward until we hire more staff and our administrators have the time to review.

Contact Person: Jacie Feuer (914) 949-9300 jfeuer@arcwestchester.org

We will begin touring and screening individuals once we have the resources, staff, and time to do so. Candidates interested in programs without openings may email Jacie Feuer and ask about being added to the interest list for Arc Westchester's day programs. Contacts on this list will be notified in the future when we begin screening candidates, and processing new applications and referrals.

Transportation provided: Yes, however transportation resources are limited and enrollment may be delayed depending on staffing, program availability, and geographic location.

Type of Day Habilitation program: both site-based and community-based.

Other: The Arc Westchester is diligent about health and safety. We continue to develop policies and procedures that support good health including steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We thank you for your patience!

YAI

Current Openings: None. YAI does have an extensive waiting list and we are unsure if we will be able to accommodate any new students this year.

Waitlists: Yes. Families that are interested in placing their family members name on our intake waiting list should submit the individual's most current IEP/Life Plan, Psychological and psycho-social to Elizabeth Andrade via email. Please call for the application.

Contact Person: Elizabeth Andrade (914) 631-2400 x1334
Elizabeth.andrade@yai.org

Transportation provided: Yes.

Type of Day Habilitation program: YAI Tarrytown Day Hab has site-based and community based programs. The Peekskill program is community-based only.

Other: We appreciate family's patience and support as we continue to deal with COVID restrictions along with workforce challenges that come with that. We look forward to going back to full capacity and being able to support your loved ones.

Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health

Current Openings: None at this time but we are looking into the possibility of adding some slots.

Waitlists: Not at this time.

Contact Person: Krista Scibelli-Wingard (845) 443-8943 KSCIBELL@devereux.org

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Dah Habilitation Program: Community-based

Other: Nothing new at this time.

IAHD

Current Openings: IAHD has openings and we have begun screening individuals who are aging out this year.

Waitlists: None

Contact People: Ana Rodriguez (914) 220-4326 ARodriguez@IAHDNY.ORG

Program Administrator: Kenny Hudson (914) 220-4301

khudson@IAHDNY.ORG

Assistant Program Administrator: Kemeido Deans (914) 220-4306

kdeans@IAHDNY.ORG

Transportation provided: Yes through an outside contractor.

Type of Day Habilitation Program: IAHD's Westchester program only offers site-based.

Other: Please be advised that IAHD no longer provides lunch.

IAHD does not offer OT, PT, or Speech therapy.

The program does not have a full-time nurse on site during program hours.

SPARC

Current Openings: There are openings at our Port Chester location M-W-F from 9-2pm.

Waitlists: We are at full-capacity at our White Plains location and there is a waiting list.

Contact Person: Gwyn Jones (914) 243-0583x1109 gwyn@sparcinc.org

Transportation provided: No, transportation is provided by the family.

Type of Day Habilitation program: community-based program, respite unit services.

Other: There is a Link Up flyer for both sites in White Plains and Port Chester. If you are interested in obtaining them please contact Gwyn Jones at the information above.

Special Citizens

Current Openings: By June of 2022 we should have about 10 openings since we are expanding.

Waitlists: Presently there are 2 openings available and there is a waitlist right now with 2 people on it.

Contact Person: Katrina Potter (718) 885-4630 x204 and (917) 439-6428
Katrina.potter@specialcitizens.org
Eric Rodriguez (929) 246-3297 Eric.Rodriguez@specialcitizens.org

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Day Habilitation program: site-based and community-based.

Other: An intake packet is requested which should include: A current Life Plan, a LOC (level of Care), a Psychological Evaluation, a Psychosocial Evaluation, an OPWDD waiver approval and a behavior plan if applicable along with any other supportive documentation.

Opengate

Current Openings: None

Waitlists: Yes

Contact Person: Lynda Guzman (914) 277-3661 x1235
Lyndag@opengateinc.org

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Day Habilitation program: site-based and community-based

Other: We have a great deal of volunteer activities that individuals are trained to perform in order to develop vocational skills.

Ability Beyond

Current Openings: There are currently 10 openings in our community-based program or WOW (without Walls) and no openings in our site-based program.

Waitlists: There is a waitlist for our site-based program.

Contact Person: Debbie Reinehr 1-888-832-8247 x3070

Debbie.reinehr@abilitybeyond.org

Transportation provided: Yes transportation is provided by our agency. If Paratransit is available for use, Ability Beyond pays for the required fee for the individuals to use the service.

Type of Day Habilitation program: both site-based and community-based.

Other: Things have changed significantly because of the Pandemic. While the above information serves as a general guide, we are happy to have conversations with applicants to educate them on our programs. Please feel free to reach out for more information. We operate a Without Walls program and a site-based program out of Chappaqua, NY. We have internships embedded in both programs and offer a vocational training program through those internships.

Community Living Corporation: Community Connections

Current Openings: Yes there are many openings.

Waitlists: None

Contact People: Deidre Tracey (Day Habilitation Coordinator)

Deirdre@ADlcares.org, Amy Schintzer-Berman Amy@adicares.org and Jack Mungovan Jack3mungovan@yahoo.com (914) 244-9688

Transportation provided: Yes

Type of Day Habilitation Program: A WOW program or community-based.

Other: Our program's philosophy is based on meaningful engagement. We have a therapeutic model and motivational point system that encourages engagement, growth, socialization and creativity.

Jawonio

Current Openings: **Yes**

Waitlists: **n/a**

Contact Person: **Shedricka Edwards (914) 963-8666 x8311**

Shedricka.edwards@jawonio.org

Additional contact is Tamara Salmon (Assistant Director) (914) 963-8666 x8332

tamara.salmon@jawonio.org

Transportation provided: **Yes**

Type of Day Habilitation program: **site-based and community-based.**

Other: **Our Day program offers individuals with developmental disabilities a person-centered full or part-time program that facilitates life skills through community and center-based activities. Services may be combined with part-time supported employment, volunteer work, “without walls” options, and/or pre-vocational services. We also have a sensory-based program for adults with complex physical and medical needs that significantly impair their ability to perform activities of daily living.**

Without Walls (WOW) Westchester – Using the community as its classroom, small groups (up to 4) participants with I/DD engage in planned activities in the community all day such as volunteer work, attending classes at various colleges and some engage in part-time supported employment and/or internships in the Rockland community.

Westchester “After the Day” Respite Services – “After the Day” Respite services provides a strong focus on learning community life, wellness activities, and developing independence in the community. It is offered 3 afternoons per week and transportation home is provided.

Abbott House/Keon

For information and questions please contact **Cindy Belcasto (914) 400-9347 cbelcasto-Keon@abbotthouse.net**