



CDPAP Under Attack: What You Can Do Now!

A frequent question that our team has received recently: **“What’s going on with CDPAP?”**

You can trust that the Community Care Advocacy Team will always provide you with the most up to date information regarding this. *The Governor’s final budget bill includes language that calls for one “Statewide Fiscal Intermediary (FI).”*

This proposal threatens to dismantle the network of local FIs that play a vital role in managing CDPAP, which is designed to empower individuals with disabilities. *It threatens to drastically change how this vital program operates and could force many individuals from their home into institutions.* Instead of a community-based system, a single, out-of-state corporation will control CDPAP.

This means:

- **Loss of Choice:** Consumers will lose the ability to select an FI that best meets their needs.
- **Reduced Services:** Expect disruptions, delayed paychecks, and potential cuts to benefits.
- **Increased Costs:** Lower wages for caregivers could lead to higher turnover and difficulty finding qualified staff.

Please contact your elected officials and demand they protect CDPAP. **LET’S UNITE TO REPEAL THIS BILL.**

What can you do:

- Visit [Alliance to Protect Home Care](#)’s website to contact your elected officials.
- Share the [Alliance to Protect Home Care PSA](#) on social media.
- Tell your story and share your fears by [clicking here](#).

In this issue:

A Word From Our Leadership

Staff Member Spotlight

Regional Office Spotlight

“We Care” Corner

Upcoming Events

Employee Corner

Wellness Corner

Success Story



A Word From Our Leadership

I am delighted to welcome you to the inaugural edition of our company newsletter! This marks the beginning of a new chapter in our journey together, where we celebrate our successes, share our stories, and stay connected as a united team. As we continue to innovate and grow, this newsletter will serve as a platform to highlight our achievements, recognize outstanding efforts, and keep everyone informed about the exciting developments within our company. I am incredibly proud of the dedication and hard work each of you brings to our mission every day. Together, we are building something remarkable, and I look forward to sharing this journey with you. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and enthusiasm. Here's to our continued success and many more milestones ahead!

Mark Gatién

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter! At Community Care, exceptional care starts at home – our company culture. We believe a supportive, inclusive environment empowers our team to deliver the highest standards of service and compassion to patients. Honesty, integrity, service, and respect are our cornerstones. This fosters open communication, collaboration, and a shared purpose to exceed expectations. Empowered caregivers are the heart of our success. When they feel valued, they can focus on building trust and strong relationships with patients and families which, in turn, ensures a patient's comfort, dignity, and well-being.

I urge you to come experience the Community Care difference!

Marcos Matez

Staff Member Spotlight



Marilu Infante, Scheduling Coordinator, went above and beyond for a patient's daughter. Marilu's empathy and dedication to the patient needs ensured a smooth scheduling experience that left such a positive impression, the daughter sent a personalized thank you card and mug! Thank you, Marilu, for your commitment to excellence!

Regional Office Spotlight



Michael Middlebrooks, PCA, Buffalo Office - A dedicated caregiver with years of experience, Michael's passion and commitment to his patients are truly exceptional. His positive impact on our team and our lives of those he serves is immeasurable. Thank you, Michael, for your commitment to excellence!

“We Care” Corner - Serving Your Community!



CDPAP Team Serves as Panelists

Event hosted by Falcon Rappaport & Berkman, LLP

Our very own CDPAP aficionados - Megan Shergill, VP and Brett Gatien, Director -- were asked to join a panel of experts on the topic of “Aging with Options: Navigating Senior Living, Home Care, and Long-Term Care.” They report that the discussion was lively, and the audience members had a lot of thoughtful questions about traditional home health care services, NHTD/TBI Waiver Services, and CDPAP.



Jamaica Older Adult Community Center Event

Brett Gatien, Director of Outreach & Education; Tobiann Dyer, Scheduling Coordinator; and Lauren LaFontaine, Intake Manager, participated in the Jamaica Older Adult Community Center Outreach Event held at the First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry in Jamaica, Queens.



Alzheimer's Association Walk Kick-off Event

Kelly Woolsey, Regional Director of Business Development; Rose Wyman, Contracting Credentialing Specialist; and Lauren Lafontaine, Intake Manager, attended the Kick-Off Event for the Alzheimer's Association - Yaphank at Blue Point Brewery in Patchogue, NY.



Tri-County Elder Law Committee Dinner

The Home Care Advocacy Team was invited to join in the festivities at the Annual Tri-County Elder Law Committee Dinner for Queens, Nassau and Suffolk County. Brett Gatien, Director of CDPAP Outreach & Education, addressed the attendees and provided education regarding the variety of home care services that their clients may benefit from using.

SCAN FOR FULL EVENT LIST AND TO REGISTER:



CDPAP “5 Easy Steps To Enroll” Video Launched! Check It Out and Share It!

As the dedicated CDPAP advocates, the Community Care CDPAP Team has made it their mission to go out into the communities they serve and clearly and concisely explain the “whats and wherefores” of CDPAP. To further that cause, Megan Shergill, VP, has just released a video that outlines the “5 Easy Steps To Enroll” in CDPAP. This step-by-step video guide will go a long way in helping our referrals and families alike in better understanding the world of CDPAP and how to benefit from it. **Please check out the video and share it far and wide!**

Employee Corner - Congratulations and Thank You!



Susana Lawson

White Plains - Aide of the Month

Susana Lawson, our dedicated Aide of the Month for the White Plains office, is a shining example of a compassionate and dedicated caregiver. Her patients consistently praise her for her exceptional care and her positive attitude. We're fortunate to have Susana on our team. Thank you, Susana, for your commitment to excellence!



Mister Softee

Ice Cream Visits Us!

To celebrate the start of summer -- and thank our Smithtown Office staff for everything they do, Mister Softee paid a visit to share the sweet treats of summer with us. Many of the staff members were surprised by the nostalgic truck's arrival and reminisced about their childhood summers spent listening for the ice cream truck's bell in their neighborhoods.



- Monica Marroquin – CDPAP Operations Coordinator
- Christina Chebuske - CDPAP Operations Coordinator
- Candice Forman – CDPAP Operations Manager
- Welcome back to Ryan Gannon, Temporary Compliance Specialist
- Jennifer Lopez – Compliance Specialist Rochester Office

Job Seekers!

Available Positions - Come Work With Us!

- Personal Care Aide/Home Health Aide - Buffalo/Rochester/NYC boroughs/Westchester/Nassau/Suffolk
- Per Diem Nurses - NYC boroughs/Smithtown
- Talent Acquisition Specialist - Buffalo/Rochester
- Compliance Specialist - Rochester
- Field Registered Nurse - Rochester
- Fee for Service NHTD/TBI Waiver Service Coordinator - Buffalo

Community Care Employee Benefits and Corporate Perks

HEALTH INSURANCE - We offer Anthem health insurance for you and your family, including prescription benefits, vision, and dental.

401K RETIREMENT PLAN - You can contribute 1% to 15% every pay period. Enrollment is strictly voluntary.

CORPORATE PERKS - Save money on everyday and luxury items, including clothing and cars.

DIRECT DEPOSIT - Never worry about getting to the bank or paying check cashing fees. Have you pay directly deposited into your checking or savings account.

CONTACT HUMAN RESOURCES FOR MORE DETAILS ON ALL EMPLOYEE PROGRAMS.

SCAN HERE
FOR ALL
JOB
POSTINGS
AND TO
APPLY:



Wellness Corner - *Tips to Keep You Healthy*



Summer Healthy Strategies

Summer's arrival often motivates us to get healthy or maintain fitness goals. The warm weather and longer days provide ample opportunities to engage in outdoor activities and exercises

Here are some summer healthy strategies:

- Remember to hydrate! Start small. Try substituting water for your usual sugary drink. Add a wedge of lemon and strawberries or a fruit of your choice if you want a flavored drink. Include light refreshing meals like salads, fruits and yogurts in your diet.
- Simply walk at least 20- 30 mins per day. Why walk alone? Bring a furry friend along if you have one. Walking with a friend always helps and will keep you accountable and motivated. Pick up the pace for 30 seconds during your walk and while walking pump your arms. Remember any extra movement will contribute to calorie loss and building a healthy heart.. Log your walks so that you can see your progress. Did you know that just doing small but consistent healthy habits can have a positive effect on your mental state and body?
- Roslyn Suarez, our Regional Compliance Director, sometimes works out with her sister who lives 60 miles from her but stays on the phone together so they can push each other. "You're going to feel great!", says Roslyn.
- Protect your skin: Wear sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses to prevent sun damage.
- Monitor your health: Keep an eye on your blood pressure, and hydration levels to ensure you're staying healthy.
- Exercising outdoors in the summer provides an opportunity to get some fresh air and vitamin D from the sun, which is essential for bone health. However, avoid heat-related illnesses and be aware of signs of heat exhaustion and heatstroke, and seek medical attention if you or someone is experiencing symptoms.
- Stay connected with friends and family who may be vulnerable to heat- related illnesses, such as the elderly or young children.

Enjoy the season! Make the most of the summer months by enjoying outdoor activities, spending time with loved ones, and taking time to relax and recharge.



Chickpea Salad Easy and delicious!

Chickpea Salad
29 Oz Can Chickpeas
1 Package small Grape Tomatoes
Halved (may substitute red pepper)
Half a Cucumber Diced
1 6oz can of Black Olives Sliced
½ cup Italian Vinaigrette

Rinse chickpeas and place in a bowl. Slice tomatoes and olives, and dice cucumber, then add to the bowl. Add Italian vinaigrette. Stir. Cover and place in refrigerator for thirty minutes, then serve.

Going on Vacation? Safety Checklist for Before You Go

- **Put lights on timers** indoors and outdoors.
- **Ask a trusted neighbor** to keep watch.
- **Avoid packages deliveries in your absence** - a telltale sign that no one's home.

**SCAN FOR MORE
WELLNESS TIPS FROM
NATIONAL INSTITUTES
OF HEALTH:**





Centenarian Edwin Pyser - His Reflections on Life and Help From Community Care

THANK YOU, ANNA!

Edwin Pyser turned 101 years old this July, and Community Care interviewed him about his life and the care he receives from Anna.

Mr. Pyser was born into a world of 2-cent stamps, \$500 automobiles, and \$5,000 houses. He remembers the Depression as a child and, even more so, America's entry into World War II. Just days after Japanese forces attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, he enlisted in the Army Air Forces at age 18 and became a mechanic on B-17 bombers in England. That's where he met his wife, Edie, and they married in 1945.

Back home after the war, he and his wife settled in Brooklyn, and welcomed two sons. Mr. Pyser

worked for years at his father's diamond setting shop in New York City's diamond district.

Then, after his wife died, Mr. Pyser moved closer to family on Long Island, and they arranged home health services through Community Care.

Welcome Help from Anna

Mr. Pyser says that Community Care HHA Anna Doria has made a big difference in his life. She prepares nourishing meals, completes household tasks, and makes sure he takes his medicine. He also enjoys hearing Anna's stories about her dog Lily's escapades!

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU - LET'S CONNECT!

OUR MISSION:

AT COMMUNITY CARE, WE ARE DEDICATED TO PROVIDING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF HOME HEALTH CARE AND PERSONALIZED SERVICE TO OUR PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. OUR MISSION IS TO ENSURE THEY CAN MAINTAIN THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE AND DIGNITY BY SAFELY STAYING IN THE COMFORT OF THEIR OWN HOMES.

Licensed Home Care Services Agency

888.886.2433 communitycarehhs.com | info@communitycarehhs.com

Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP/CDPAS)

888.401.4539 communitycarecdpap.com | contactus@communitycarecdpap.com

Regional Offices: Smithtown (Long Island) - 631.549.9500 Queens - 718.206.2700
White Plains - 914.946.2810 Rochester - 585.454.4930 Buffalo - 716.852.5900

For new referrals, please email intake@communitycarehhs.com.



Community Care
HOME HEALTH SERVICES