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Housing Navigator Training Course



Support Services

Because There's No Place Like Home..



Introduction

- Certified vs. non-certified housing
 - Residential Habilitation
 - Community Habilitation
- Supports and services **before** bricks and mortar
 - What do I need support with?
 - What are my options for how this support is provided?
- **Sustainable** housing solution



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What do we mean?

Planning support services is NOT

- List of things person can / cannot do
- Assessment-based
- DDP-2, CAS, CANS

Describe the person

- Be specific!
- How do they navigate through their day?
- In what ways are they supported now?
- Who / what provides this support?
- What other options could they consider?



Supports from People

Find Their People!

Community Hab

- Direct-provider/agency-supported
- Self-hire

CDPAP

- Funded by Department of Health
- Type of self-hire staffing

Volunteer / Natural Supports

- Community / Circle of support
- Integral to success

<https://youtu.be/rqN7Stlj1c8>



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Questions?

Self-Direction

Empowerment

Self-determination “is about being in charge”¹

Person-centered planning focuses “on an individual and that person’s vision of what they would like to do in the future”²

Control

“Self-Directed services offer the greatest amount of control in how, where and by whom services are provided.”³

¹PACER. (2019). *Self-Determination*. <https://www.pacer.org/transition/learning-center/independent-community-living/self-determination.asp>

²PACER. (2019). *Person-Centered Planning*. <https://www.pacer.org/transition/learning-center/independent-community-living/person-centered.asp>

³OPWDD. (2022, March 10). *Self-Direction Guidance for Providers*. https://opwdd.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/03/sd_guidance-final_march2022.pdf



Self-Direction Services

Community
Habilitation

Individual-
Directed Goods &
Services (IDGS)

Live-In Caregiver

Other Than
Personal
Services (OTPS)



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Community Habilitation (Com Hab)

- **Self-Hire**
 - Co-employer relationship with Fiscal Intermediary
 - SD participant sets pay rate within certain limits, manages staff
- **Agency Supported**
 - MOU between person and provider agency
 - Agency sets staff pay rate
- **Direct Provider Purchased**
 - Agency manages staff
 - Agency sets staff pay rate



Individual-Directed Goods & Services (IDGS)

- Requires HCBS Waiver authorization
- Self-Direction ONLY
- Services, equipment or supplies to address a need
 - Not provided through HCBS waiver or Medicaid State Plan
 - \$32,000 annual cap
 - Some categories have individual caps



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Individual-Directed Goods & Services (IDGS)

- **Housing-related Items and Services**
 - Household support
 - Cleaning Services
 - Minor maintenance
 - Snow removal, lawn care
 - Appliances that assist a person to live more independently
 - \$1,500 annual cap
- **Staffing Support**
 - Paid support with staff management tasks
 - Cannot be employed by a non-profit
 - Cannot exceed \$20/hour



Individual-Directed Goods & Services (IDGS)

- Clinical Consultants (Non-Direct)
 - Staff Action Plan implementation
 - Staff training
 - Real time support to staff
 - Must provide written outline of services
- Transportation
- Community Classes
- Health Clubs / Memberships / Community Participation



Paid Neighbor (IDGS)

- On-call support
 - Proximity
 - Self-hire community habilitation
- Clear expectations
 - Agreement
 - Types of support
 - Times provided
 - Documentation
- Multiple paid neighbors?



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Live-In Caregiver

- Live with as needed support
- Budget categories
 - Rent
 - Utilities
 - Food
- Free room & board complications
- Low utilization statewide
- Tax benefits

<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/certain-medicaid-waiver-payments-may-be-excludable-from-income>



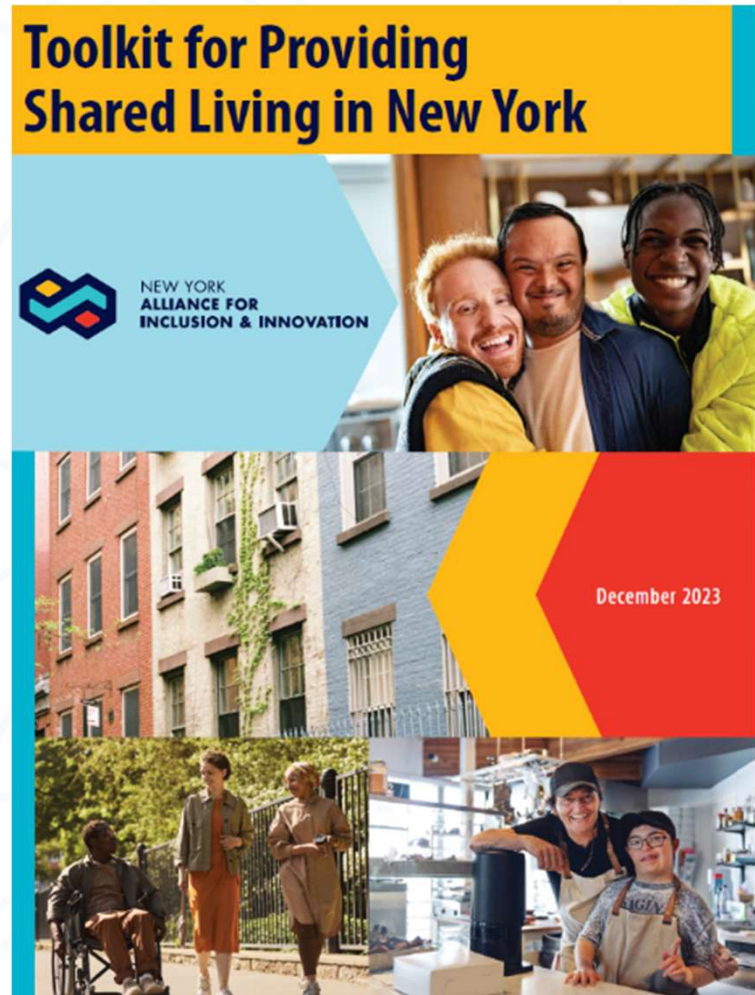
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Shared Living

- Approach to independent living
- Live with or near a paid caregiver
- Supported by self-direction
 - Live-In Caregiver
 - Paid Neighbor
- Shared Living Toolkit



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Other Than Personal Services (OTPS)

- State funded services
- \$3,000 annual cap
- Reimbursement service
 - Reduce out-of-pocket expenses
 - But, difficult for low-income people
- Limited Categories
- Goods or services not funded by Medicaid
 - 4 Question Test

4 Question Test

1. Be related to a valued outcome in the person's life plan
2. Increase the person's independence and/or health & safety
3. Not be an OTPS excluded item
4. Not be funded through any other source



Other Than Personal Services (OTPS)

- Phone and Internet
- Utilities
- Board Stipend
- Other Goods / Services
 - Health & Safety
 - Increase Independence
- Personal Use Transportation
- Staff advertising

4 Question Test

1. Be related to a valued outcome in the person's life plan
2. Increase the person's independence and/or health & safety
3. Not be an OTPS excluded item
4. Not be funded through any other source





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Questions?

Independent Living Centers (ILC)

- Funded through ACCES-VR under NYSED
- Nonprofit organizations
- Governed and staffed primarily by people with disabilities
- Array of services to support independent living



<https://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/independent-living-centers>

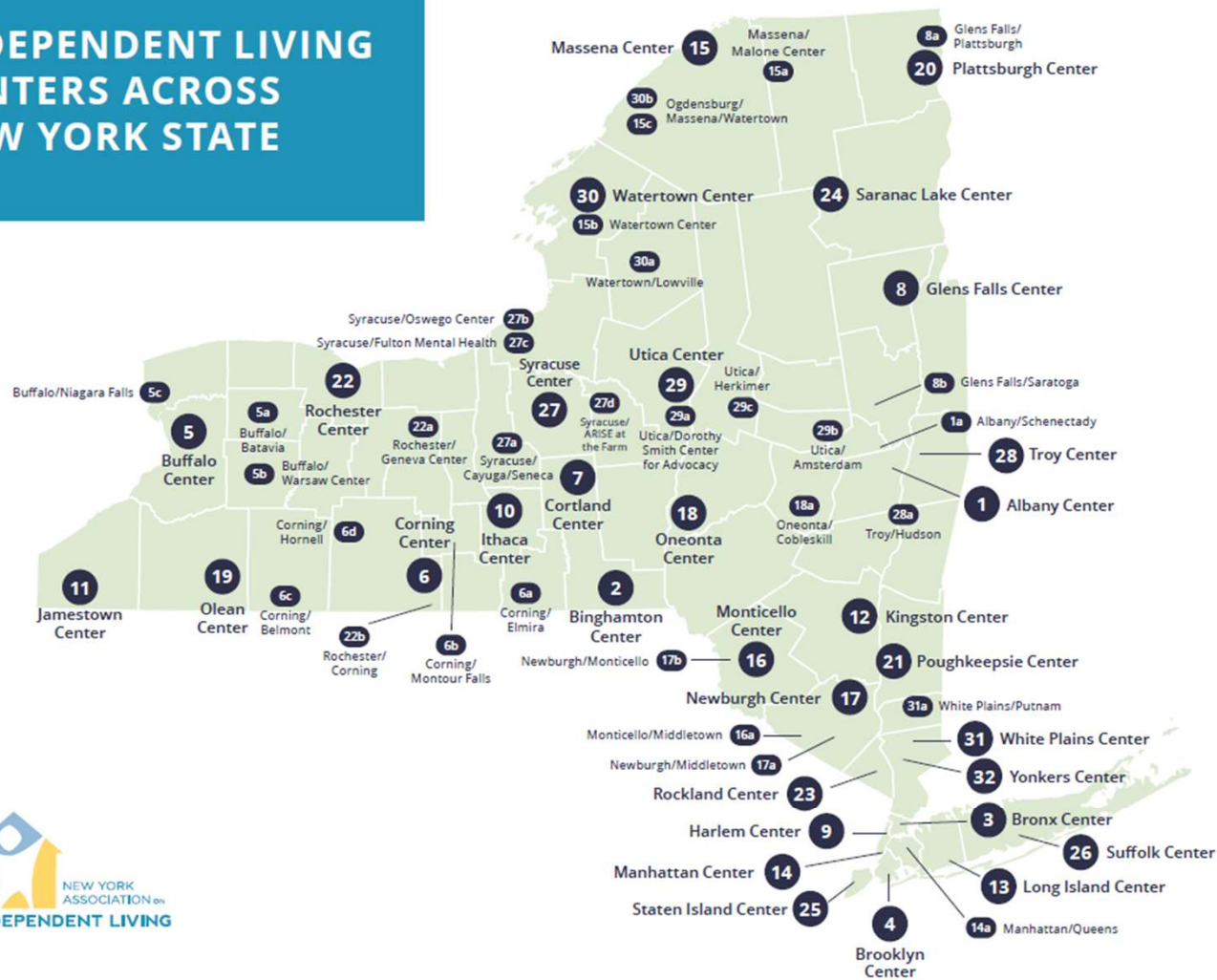


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INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTERS ACROSS NEW YORK STATE





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Questions?

Environmental Modifications

Environmental Modifications (Emods)

Environmental Modifications (E-mods) are internal and external physical adaptations to the home, which are necessary to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the waiver participant. These modifications enable the waiver participant to function with greater independence and prevent institutionalization.



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E-Mods Funding Sources

- **Medicaid Waivers**
 - OPWDD HCBS 1915(c)
 - Department of Health Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD)
- **US Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
 - Section 504 Home Repair program
 - Loans for low-income homeowners
 - Grants for elderly (62 or older)
- **Access to Home**
 - HCR grant through Office of Community Renewal (OCR)
 - Financial assistance for low- and moderate-income people w/ disabilities
 - <https://hcr.ny.gov/access-home>

NYHRC Resource: <https://www.nyhrc.org/resource/overview-of-environmental-modifications/>



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Questions?

Technology as a Natural Support

Assistive Technology:

Durable Medical Equipment

- Augmentative Communication Systems
- Power Wheelchairs
- Environmental Modification

Enabling Technology: Technology that promote independence

- Smart Phone
- Tablets / laptops
- Medication dispensing Units
- Google Home



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Enabling Technology

- **Applications “Apps”**
 - Reminders, Calendars
 - Travel
 - Text to Speech
- **Mainstream Technology**
 - Google / Android
 - Apple
 - Amazon
 - Microsoft



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Enabling Technology

- **Vendor Technology**

- Telehealth
- Remote Supports
- Medication Dispensing Units
- Environmental Controls
- Sensors:
 - Water
 - Stove
 - Activity



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Home Enabling Supports (HES)

- ADM #2024-02
- Status of Service Rollout
- Eligibility:
 - Person enrolled in HCBS Waiver
 - Living in a non-certified home
 - Be of age 15 or older
- HES may include:
 - Assistive Devices / Technology
 - Remote Supports; and
 - Health Assessment and Coordination Services (HACS)
- Be attentive to the authorization process and ensure Person-Centered Planning

<https://opwdd.ny.gov/regulations-guidance/adm-2024-02-home-enabling-supports-provided-opwdd-home-and-community-based>



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TRAID Centers

- Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Program administered by the Justice Center
- Access to assistive technology
- Available to any New Yorker with a disability
- Twelve (12) regional centers
 - Equipment loans and demonstrations
 - Resources and education
- More information:
 - <https://www.justicecenter.ny.gov/traid-program>
 - NYHRC: <https://www.nyhrc.org/resource/traid-center-overview/>

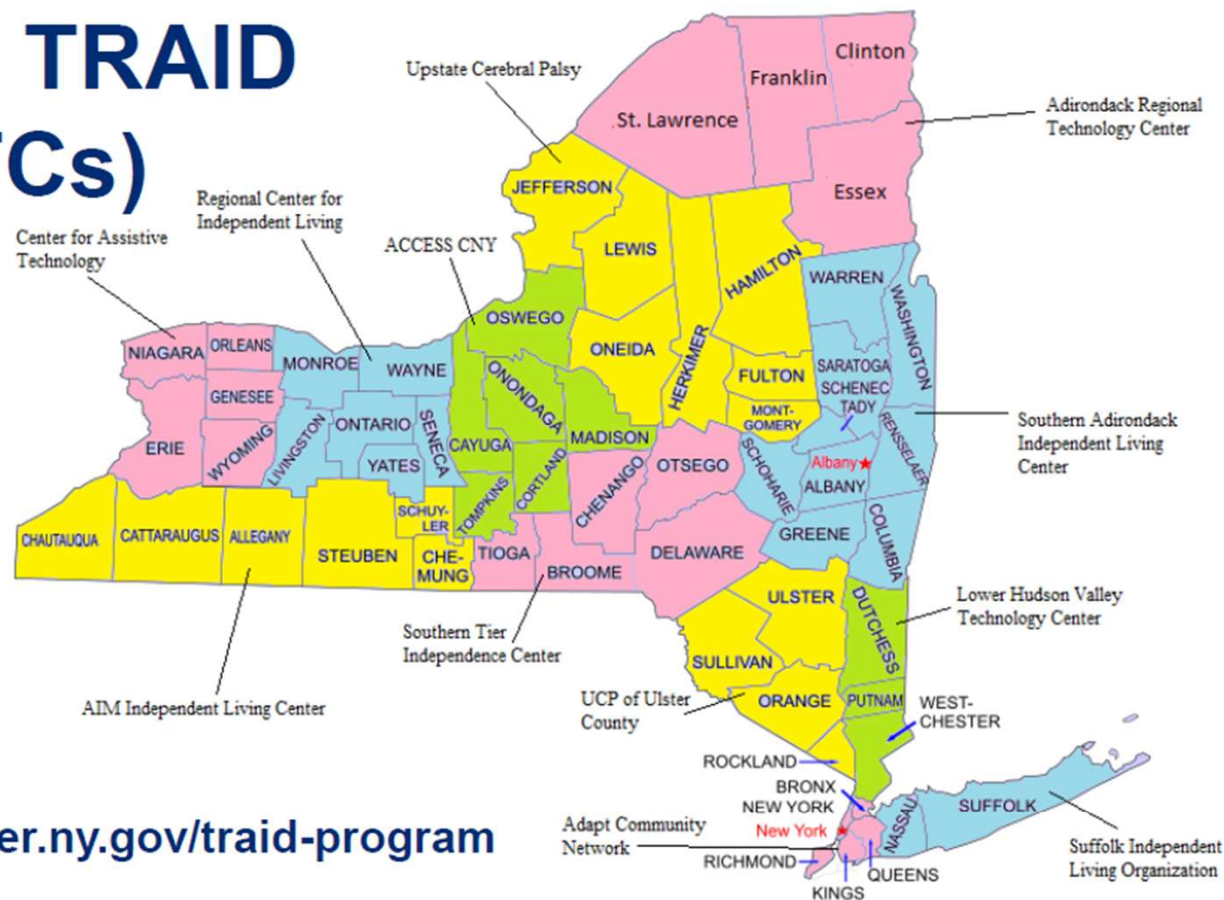


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12 Regional TRAIID Centers (RTCs)



<https://www.justicecenter.ny.gov/traid-program>



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Starting the Conversation

Person Centered Planning:

- ✓ Conversation at all Life Plan meetings

Outcome based:

- ✓ Enabling Technology needs to embody the desire for independence and autonomy

Best Practices and Ethical Considerations:

- ✓ Privacy
- ✓ Support and not monitoring



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Questions?