



DDAWNY Mission Statement

The Developmental Disabilities Alliance of Western New York (DDAWNY) is a collaborative group of member voluntary agencies that provide services to people with developmental disabilities.

While honoring individual agency missions, it is the intent of the Alliance to assist agencies to develop relationships, promote unified strategies and share risks for the mutual gain with and for the benefit of people with developmental disabilities.

Principles, Standards and Quality Pledge

DDAWNY member organizations commit to the following prescribed standards and principles of quality, which apply to the supports provided in the professional relationship with persons served, parents and guardians of individuals served, colleagues, related agencies and professions, and the community at large. In abiding by this pledge, it is understood that the member organization views its obligation in as wide a context as the situation requires, taking all the principles into consideration and choosing a course of action consistent with the spirit and intent by which they were created.

AS A MEMBER OF DDAWNY, THIS ORGANIZATION WILL:

- Contribute ideas, findings, concepts, understanding, knowledge and practice to the body of community supports; and support continuing education and expanded knowledge of leading practices in providing supports and services in the field of disabilities;
- Provide supports and services as a public trust that requires integrity, compassion, and respect for individual differences and choice;
- Provide supports and services designed to meet the needs of the individual with emphasis on promoting choice, self-determination, inclusion and accommodation, growth and development;
- Respect the privacy of persons served and protect the rights of confidentiality;
- Give preference to professional responsibility over any personal or organizational interests and provide full disclosure of potential conflicts of interest;
- Advocate for standards that promote outcomes of quality for people;
- Advocate for and provide supports and services that can best assure the health and safety of individuals served;
- Encourage and advocate for the protection of the individual and the community against unethical and/or illegal practices or actions by other individuals or organizations engaged in providing supports;
- Not discriminate because of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or national ancestry, and shall work to eliminate or prevent such discrimination in providing supports and act toward improvement of such situation;
- Promote inclusion and equitable treatment of all people including those receiving supports, staff, friends, families and the public;
- Serve as a responsible steward for public and private funds; and
- Be accountable for statements made with respect to individuals with disabilities and shall distinguish clearly, where appropriate, statements and actions made as an individual and those made as a representative of DDAWNY.

Signature of Chief Executive: _____

Date: _____

