



Coalition Of Provider Associations

Representing More Than 250 Provider Agencies in New York State

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Provider Association Meeting Minutes – March 18, 2019

1. **Introductory Remarks** – Commissioner Kastner announced that this meeting will be abbreviated. He remarked that much of the OPWDD’s staff time has been taken by the transition to CFCO, the Qualification Document for the SIP-PL and budget preparations.
2. **Presentation of DQI Agency Review Protocol** – Brian O’Donnell introduced the protocol as part of DQI’s survey redesign. OPWDD intended to roll out the protocol last October 1. The purpose of the review is to gather a more global review of agency systems that can facilitate compliance with regulatory requirements. The review seeks to capture management practices and their effectiveness. DQI staff will utilize existing site review data to seek agency wide patterns and practices that can help determine overall agency quality. DQI will look for an effective QI system within the agency, the degree to which the full organization is committed to quality services, the existence of effective systems and how they trickle down to the quality of life for the people at the program levels. The Agency Review protocol is divided into 12 standards and practice areas. Here is the link for a copy of the 360 pages + manual: www.opwdd.ny.gov/AgencyProtocolManual02-2019.pdf

Provider Association Reps expressed concern over how OPWDD will judge best practices without standards for best practices. While it was understood that many organizations employ best practices and do indeed go ‘above and beyond’ minimum compliance, there were concerns over a range of factors including auditor subjectivity, cultural competency of the auditors and another layer of oversight. DQI staff will review its process and consider our concerns and circle back to the Provider Association.

3. **Managed Care Transition Update** – Kate Marlay provided a few quick updates. PHP is the first mainstream managed care plan approved as a provider for the I/DD population in New York State, for the 9 lower counties, Hudson Valley to Long Island. For the SIP-PL, the Qualification Document will be issued shortly, within a few weeks, possibly April; the Policy Document will follow within 2 months, but likely prior to July 1. The CCO ADM will be finalized in the next few weeks; the document will address Life Plan documentation and clarify many of the questions recently raised. CFCO trainings are commencing during March and April; trainings will occur via a Webinar and in person.

4. **Rate** – Both Kevin Valenchis and Donna Cater have completed their review and now have DOB adding an additional layer of examination. They also seemed frustrated by the delay. Progress on Community Habilitation as it transitions to CFCO is continuing as 3 Regions are reduced to two. More work on Rate analysis continues.

5. **Medicaid Transportation** – The long-awaited ADM on Medicaid transportation was referenced as being back on the radar. They suggested that work is progressing toward issuance. More to come.