

OPWDD

Office of People With Developmental Disabilities

Kennedy Children's Center

What is OPWDD? (Office of People With Developmental Disabilities)

- A state agency providing services to people of all ages with intellectual and dev. disabilities
 - * many children with autism qualify if there is an intellectual disability and adaptive deficits
 - * children with other disabilities also qualify including intellectual and physical disabilities
- Disability begins before 22yo and is expected to be permanent and affect independence
- Income is based on child's income. In most cases your child does not have income

What Services Can I get Through OPWDD?

- Family Support Services
- In-home care and respite care
- Behavior assistance (Crisis Intervention)
- Family Reimbursement (up to \$500 annually for clothing, special equipment, furniture, etc.)
- Nursing
- Recreation: Camp, special classes
- Transportation

How to Apply and What You Will Need

- Medical report (within 1 year including child's diagnosis)
- Psych evaluation (certain tests and diagnosis required)
- Social History (less than 1 year old)
- Front Door training... 2-hour virtual class required

www.opwdd.ny.gov

Manhattan (646) 766-3220

Bronx (718) 430-0757

Agencies to Support Families and Assist with the Process

- Include NYC www.includenyc.org (212) 677-6440
- YAI Link www.yai.org (212) 273-6182
- AHRC www.ahrcnyc.org (212)780-2500
- Sinergia www.sinergiany.org (212) 643-2840

Other Resources for Autism and Support

- Sinergia Autism Initiative www.sinergiany.org
(212) 643-2840
- Autism Speaks www.autismspeaks.org
(646) 385-8500
- Advocates for Children www.advocatesforchildren.org
(212) 947-9779

SSI Benefits: Supplemental Security Income (Income Eligible Program)

- You will need to: complete an application, school and Dr. will be asked to provide information as well.
- You will need: child's SS# and birth certificate
- Call # (800) 772-1213 to begin application process on phone

For Further Assistance from Kennedy

- **Bronx:** Cecilia Cuntin; *Family Support Coordinator*
(718) 842-0200 ext.233
- **Manhattan:** Elizabeth Puello; *Family Support Coordinator*
(212) 988-9500 ext. 255
- Nancy Hirsch: *Director of Family Services*
(646) 771-8162