

# Medicaid Waiver, Self Direction & Independent Housing

*Donna Maxon*

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# PARENT

Donna Maxon January 2023

My name is  
Donald...



# Agenda

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## Medicaid Waiver

- What Is It
- Who Is Eligible
- Steps to take



## Self Direction

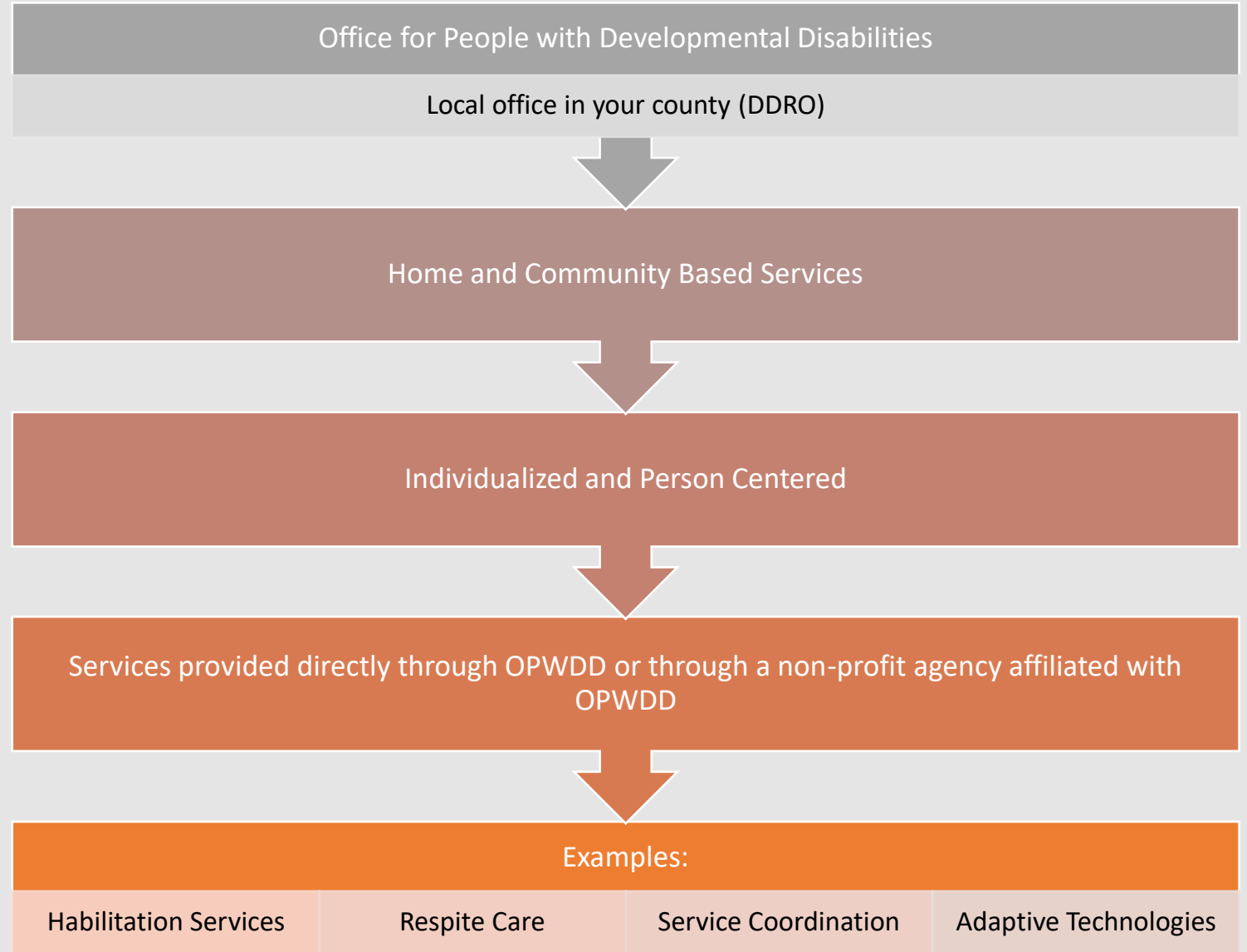
- What Is It
- Who Is Eligible
- Steps to Take



## Independent Housing

- What Is It
- Strong Independent Housing Plans
- Steps to take
- New Project in Eastchester/Tuckahoe

Medicaid  
Waiver :  
OPWDD  
(opwdd.ny.gov)



# Who is eligible?

- Have a diagnosis of a developmental disability
- Onset prior to age 22
- Front Door process
  - Psychological Report
  - Medical or Specialty Reports (diagnostic findings to support)
  - Social/developmental history, psycho-social report
  - Other information requested by Eligibility Coordinator

# Steps to Take: Front Door

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- Front Door Regional Offices:  
<https://opwdd.ny.gov/contact-us>
- Attend a Front Door Info Session:  
<https://opwdd.ny.gov/get-started/information-sessions>
- Evaluations
- Follow-up, Persistence, and Patience

A close-up photograph of a hand with a dark skin tone giving a thumbs-up gesture. The hand is the central focus, with the thumb pointing upwards. In the background, other hands are visible but out of focus, also giving thumbs-up gestures. The background is a solid light blue color.

# Approval

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- Care Manager
- LifePlan: Guiding Document/ “Prescription” for Services
  - Section 1: Narrative
  - Section 2: Goals
  - Section 3: Safeguards
  - Section 4: Medicaid Funded Services
  - Section 5: State Funded Items, Contacts, Doctors/Pharmacy
  - Reviewed twice per year

# Traditional Services

## Agency Services- Examples

- Site Based Respite: programs, trips, camp
- Respite Staff
- Agency Community Habilitation Staff- Work on Goals
- Day Habilitation Programs
- Housing - Certified Settings
- Housing – Independent
- SEMP (Supportive Employment)

Unlimited Budget

Limited Items Available

# Self Direction : What is it?

International movement for social reform

- Focus person and advocates have control

Medicaid Waiver Service

Budget Authority

Employer Authority

Limited/finite budget

Large variety of services and supports

Strong Circle of Support/Personal Network:

- High level of involvement

# Budget – PRA (Personal Resource Amount)

- Based on DDP2 scores: Care Manager
- Related to level of disability
  - Children vs Adults
- Finite amount
- Annual Budget; Refreshed with new funding every year
- Medicaid funded and State funded items
- Certain items only available:
  - **Family Reimbursed Respite**
  - **IDGS – ex: Classes, Memberships, Transportation, Paid Neighbor, Household Supports**
  - **OTPS- ex: Staff Activity Fees, Clothing, Utilities, Internet, Phone, Transportation**
  - **Support Brokerage**
  - **Live In Caregiver**

Self Direction-> Community ->Dance->  
**Viral Video**

Keywords:

Donald Simon, Dancing ,Dunkin, Autism





# Human Kindness Art Show

# Who is eligible?

Medicaid Waiver Approved, Care Manager, and LifePlan

Want to be involved and have control

Manage budget, handle paperwork

Recruit, train and supervise Staff

# Steps to take:

- Attend OPWDD Self Direction Info Session
  - Care Manager completes SARF; receives NOD-09 for SD
- Develop a Team: Broker, Fiscal Intermediary Agency, Care Manager, Self Hired Staff
- Apply for a Start Up budget
  - Allows a Broker and FI to join the Team
- Develop a person-centered proposal
  - Budget
  - Staff Action Plan
  - Safeguards
- Implement and manage plan
- Monitor expenditures, manage monthly paperwork, supervise Staff, meet with Team, revise Plan and budget as needed



# Housing: Certified vs Non-Certified

# Certified Housing: What is it?

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- **Supervised IRA** (Individual Residential Alternatives)
- **Supportive IRA**
- **ICF** (Intermediate Care Facilities)
- **Specialty Hospital**
- **Steps to Take: Care Manager**
  - **CRO** (Certified Residential Opportunities)
    - [https://opwdd.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/h005\\_cro-residential-referral-form\\_3-5-19.pdf](https://opwdd.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/h005_cro-residential-referral-form_3-5-19.pdf)

# Non-Certified (Independent) Housing: What is it?

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- Independent in the community
- Apartment/Condo/Co-op/House/ Legal ADU  
(Accessory Dwelling Unit)
- Focus person's name on Deed/Lease
- More information?
  - NY Housing Resource Center: <https://nyhrc.org>
  - Downstate Independent Housing Forum:  
[donnamaxon@aol.com](mailto:donnamaxon@aol.com)

# OPWDD Rent Subsidy

- Formerly known as the ISS Housing Subsidy
- Stand alone through a Traditional Waiver
- Built into the Self Direction Budget
- How is it calculated?
  - Income sources (adjusted income)
  - Deductions
  - Utility & Insurance offsets
  - Maximum payment standards by county
    - 2022 HUD FMR Rates

\* Transition Stipend Available

\* Regulations outlined:

<https://opwdd.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/03/adm-housing-subsidy-final-3.10.22.pdf>



# Self Direction & OPWDD Rent Subsidy

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- Rent payments deducted from PRA
- Support available through Self Direction:
  - IDGS – ex: Paid Neighbor, Household Supports
  - OTPS- ex: Utilities, Internet, Phone, OTPS Items that Support Health, Safety and Independence
  - Live In Caregiver
  - Self Hired Staffing
  - Housing Navigator ([nyhrc.org](http://nyhrc.org))
  - Fiscal Intermediary provides landlord monthly check for rent or the portion of the rent that is approved for payment



# ArchCare's St Frances Cabrini Apartments at Immaculate Conception Church

Projected Opening date- early 2024

Eastchester/Tuckahoe NY



# Convent of Immaculate Conception Church



Donna Maxon January 2023

# Project Highlights

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Apartment building converted from unused convent

Private funding used for development

Newly renovated building - 10 apartments

Affordable housing

HUD compliant apartments

Common areas and amenities

One year lease; full tenancy rights  
Landlord: Tenant Relationship

Apartments set aside for adults with autism, who have potential to live independently with supports and modifications

Third party consultant conducts selection interviews

All apartments are studios with single occupancy only (utilities and internet are not included in rent)

Tenant Council/Family Council

Published calendar through Tenant Council

Interaction and activity with the greater community  
...in the community and for the community...

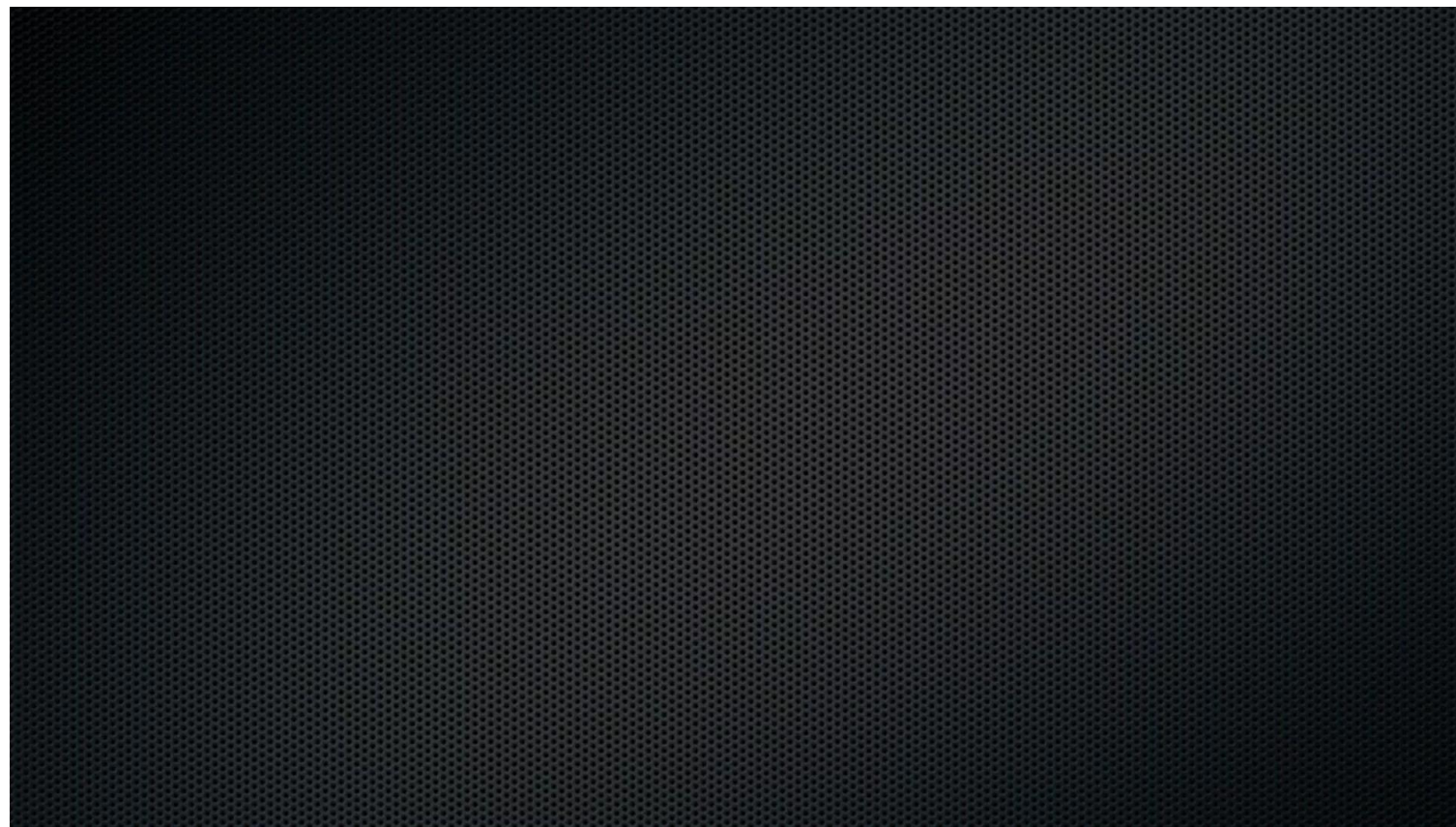
Community Support



ArchCare at St Teresa  
Open since 1/1/2020

Donna Maxon January 2023

Meet the Meet  
the tenants...  
“Thank you  
Cardinal Dolan”



# Application Process

- Applications are now are posted on the ArchCare website
  - Community Resources- ArchCare Independent Housing
- Select and Click into appropriate application (Waitlist Staten Island or New Building in Tuckahoe)
  - Application will download
  - Complete all sections of application, sign the last page
- Mail application USPS to: ArchCare, 205 Lexington Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, NYC, NY 10016 Att: Donna Maxon (only accepted by USPS delivery)
- Application period: 1/1/2023- 3/31/2023 (must be postmarked by midnight 3/31/23)
- An ArchCare representative will contact the applicant after the application is reviewed and logged into our system
- Lottery to order applications to be held in early April
  - Three witnesses including a Staff attorney
  - System will create sequence: parishioners, applicants from the Primary Service Area, all other applicants

Referrals are accepted now – Call Donna Maxon at 917-848-7510 for more information or assistance [dmaxon@archcare.org](mailto:dmaxon@archcare.org)



# Donna Maxon

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- Independent Self Direction Broker
- Certified Housing Navigator
- Certified PLAN Network Facilitator
- Independent Housing Managing Agent
- PARENT, ADVOCATE, FRIEND

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