

January 2009

PDD Contracting – Information for Families/ Guardians

PDD provincially is changing its approach to contracting for services. The changes place more emphasis on the unique needs of individuals, ensures more accountability for services delivered and outcomes achieved, and provides a consistent approach to contracting for all PDD regions in Alberta.

Several service providers in the South volunteered to pilot the new approach to contracting over the past six months and these were all very successful. We are now ready to have full implementation with all service providers by April 1, 2009.

FOR FAMILIES/ GUARDIANS



The new approach will continue to provide families/guardians with three choices in accessing PDD services:

- Families/guardians can hire and pay their own staff (through a Family Managed Services-Direct Hire agreement);
- Families/guardians can hire and pay a PDD approved service provider (through a Family Managed Services Approved Service Provider agreement; or
- Families/guardians can have a service provider deliver supports through a contract the service provider has with PDD.

The approach previously called Individualized Funding (where the family/guardian had an agreement with PDD, but PDD sent funding directly to the service provider on behalf of the family) will no longer be available. Families using this IF approach can now opt to:

- Have the services provided under a contract PDD establishes with the service provider (this is likely to be the primary option for most families)

If a family/guardian using individualized funding does not wish to convert to having services provided under the service provider contract they can:

- Establish a Family Managed Supports- Approved Service Provider agreement with PDD and arrange to hire the service provider to deliver services; or
- Establish a Family Managed Services-Direct Hire agreement to hire and pay their own staff.

The new approach will continue to emphasize an individualized service focus through the Individual Service Agreement that will be set up for each individual regardless of the funding method chosen. The individual service agreement will be established with all families/guardians over the next several months.

Families/guardians currently receiving service from a service provider under a contract with PDD will continue to receive those services. These families/guardians will, however, be asked to establish an Individual Service Agreement with the Service Provider.

.../2

If you feel that you would like additional information about these changes you are encouraged to call PDD. Below is a list of the staff that work with each service provider in the south. These staff will assist you.

Charlene Haley # (403) 381-5505

- Edenbridge Family Services
- L'Arche Association of Lethbridge
- Peak Vocational Services
- Taber Special Needs
- Newell Community Action Group (Brooks)

Janet Rosentreter # (403) 382-4281

- Cardston & District Association for the Handicapped
- Quest Support Services
- Southern Alberta Society for the Handicapped (SASH)
- Solutions Community Inclusion Program
- Wheat Country Special Needs Society

Nancy Morris # (403) 382-4274

- Bluefox Association
- Lethbridge College Inclusion Post Secondary Education Project
- Rehabilitation Society of Southwestern Alberta
- Southern Alberta Community Living Association (SACLA)
- Next Step Residential Services

Mike Durrant # (403) 388-7681

- Crowsnest Community Support Society
- Independent Counseling Enterprises (ICE)
- New Beginnings Association of Southern Alberta
- Rehoboth
- Sterling Handicapped Opportunity Program (SHOP)
- Clients Ongoing Rehabilitation and Equality Association (CORE)

James Smith # (403) 529-3193

- Chinook Health Region
- Health Care Homes
- Lethbridge Family Services
- Palliser Health Authority
- Rehabilitation and Employment for Developing Independence (REDI)
- Ventures Society of Calgary

Tina Zimmer # (403) 381-5737

- Family Managed Supports Coordinator

Please call Tina if you have questions about the 2 family managed options.

***Thank you,
PDD South Community Board***