



# Georgetown UCEDD Transition Plan

The Department on Disability Services (DDS) is committed to providing high quality services that enable people with disabilities to lead meaningful and productive lives as vital members of communities in every neighborhood in the District of Columbia. We appreciate the work that Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, which is also the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), has done in partnership with DDS to build capacity and strengthen our system. Below is the detailed Transition Plan for the services formerly provided under the Georgetown UCEDD contract.

## 1. Consultations for People with Complex Needs

DDS prepared and disseminated to the providers on August 1, 2019, a protocol detailing the processes for requesting consultation by the physician contractor and the DDS transition specialist. Referrals may come from a DDA Service Coordinator, DDS Health and Wellness staff, a person's provider or a person's advocate. Referrals during business hours are submitted to the Deputy Director for DDA, with copies provided to the two supervisors of the agency Health and Wellness Units (both nurses who are supervised by the DDA Deputy). After hours referrals are made via telephone to the agency duty officer, who will immediately contact the respective health care provider to connect them to the person requesting services. Referrals to the newly assigned staff will begin on August 12. This will allow time for the existing Georgetown staff to complete any work on existing cases by the end of the month and to staff any cases with DDS and contract staff, which were referred prior to August 12 and will require additional follow-up after August 31.

### Part A: Clinical Consultations for Complex Needs

DDS has contracted with MOTIR, a certified business enterprise (CBE), for the services of physician Dr. Ernest G. Brown. Dr. Brown graduated from Howard University, and completed his post-graduate training at Georgetown University and Providence Hospital. He brings experience in community-based care and working with people with intellectual disabilities (ID) and people with complex care needs in their homes. Dr. Brown's contract began July 22. He was on-boarded as a contractor with DDS on August 2, and will begin receiving referrals of new cases August 12.

### Part B: Transition Consultations

DDS's Nurse Practitioner, Isoke Baptiste, has served for several years as a transition specialist for people DDA supports who live in their natural homes. Ms. Baptiste's responsibilities have been adjusted so that, beginning August 12, she will manage all hospital and long-term acute care facilities transitions, whether a person is moving to a stepped-down level of care (i.e. a rehabilitation care facility) or returning home. Isoke brings experience in community-based care, hospital transitions and working with people with ID. Ms. Baptiste is in one of the agency's two Health and Wellness Units. She is supervised by a nurse. These units are in the Developmental Disabilities Administration, supervised by the Deputy for DDA.

## 2. Parent Education & Support

There are two choices for people who wish to continue to receive Parent Education and Support. First, under a grant from DC Health, 16 parents can choose to continue to receive services through the Georgetown UCEDD. Second, since the HCBS waiver renewal in November 2017, DDS has included parenting supports as a waiver service. Service coordinators in the Service Planning and Coordination Division of DDA are reaching out to people who currently work with Georgetown to assist them in choosing a new provider. Presently seven providers offer professional or peer services.

- Azure Healthcare Services, LLC
- Health Resources Services Intake Center
- Innovative Life Solutions
- KBEC Group, Inc.
- MT & G Enterprise, LLC
- Verigreen, Inc.
- Vested Optimum Community Services, Inc.

## 3. Health Promotion

Health promotion covers several services, including fitness, nutrition, sexuality education and more. Sexuality education has been available through the HCBS waiver for more than seven years. With the waiver renewal in 2017, working with Georgetown UCEDD and the stakeholder community, DDS made purposeful changes to make these services more accessible, and to increase the number of providers. Service coordinators are reaching out to people who have been connected to the Health Educator from Georgetown to discuss their service needs so that authorizations for waiver services can be completed. Our network has both the capacity and experience providing these services, including the following seven providers.

- 1Axiom, LLC
- Community Wellness Ventures, LLC
- Global Resources and Supports, LLC
- JA Community Services, LLC
- MBI Health Services
- Petticare, Inc.
- Verigreen, Inc.

## 4. Developmental Disabilities Nursing Standards

Registered Nurse Michael Sigelman, began working with the DDS State Office of Policy Planning & Innovation (SOPPI) on August 5, 2019. He has 10 years of experience in nursing and seven years working with people with ID. A Trained Medication Employee (TME) Master Trainer and a Person-Centered Thinking Trainer for nurses, Mr. Sigelman has a master's of science in nursing. He will be supervised by Crystal Thomas, Program Manager for SOPPI, and will also be connected to a Health and Wellness Unit to ensure that he receives appropriate supervision by a nurse.

## 5. Dissemination of Best Practices

DDS and Georgetown UCEDD have agreed that Georgetown will provide DDS all documents on the DDA Health Initiative website, which DDS will make available on its website, appropriately credited to Georgetown. Mr. Sigelman will be responsible for updating these materials with innovative and

evidence-based practices. In addition, he will continue to facilitate the monthly nursing roundtables to provide ongoing education available to all provider nurses.

## 6. Trauma Informed Care

DDS is working with **two subject matter experts** in Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) and trauma informed care to integrate training for providers to uses PCT tools and skills to create a healing environment for people who have experienced trauma. We will launch this year-long initiative on September 12th at the Direct Support Professionals conference. We also will be working with providers that are Person-Centered Organizations and working on trauma informed care to advise on curriculum development. Crystal Thomas, the SOPPI Program Manager coordinates the agency's person-centered practice contract work.

[Karyn Harvey](#) has worked as a clinician in the ID field for over 25 years. She holds a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology and a Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology from the University of Maryland. She consults with various state and individual agencies throughout the United States and Canada, as well as trains staff, administrators and clinicians on trauma informed care.

**Tanya M. Richmond**, MSW, LCSW, of [Support Development Associates](#), has more than 22 years of experience as a licensed clinical social worker with expertise in direct practice with adults with developmental and cognitive disabilities. She is a certified PCT trainer, a mentor for PCT trainer candidates, and is an officer on the Board of Directors for the International Learning Community for Person Centered Practices.

## 7. Mortality Review

Beginning in September 2019, Dr. Brown will review mortality investigations and participate in regular mortality review meetings. Mortality review comes under the Quality Assurance & Performance Management Administration and is supervised by the DDS Director.