

**Carbon-Monroe-Pike MH/DS
Developmental Services Status Report
June 2019**

Early Intervention:

EI staff represented our agency as part of The Children's Team of Carbon County at the Carbon County Safety Day held on Saturday, May 4th at Mauch Chunk Lake. The team provided activities for approximately 150 children at the event and resource information was given to families. EI also sponsored a day of training for EI providers, staff, and Early Head Start personnel on May 23rd at NCC-Monroe Campus. The morning training provided information on coaching, which is an evidence-based practice that is interactive with families and provides support and encouragement for parents to develop new skills to support their infants and toddlers. The afternoon session provided information on CARA's Kit, which stands for Creating Adaptations for Routines and Activities. It helps teachers in early learning adapt the environment to improve engagement and participation in programs.

Developmental Services:

DS is currently experiencing the busiest month over the past year with high demands put on the department by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP). All of the current Individual Support Plans (ISPs) must be recreated into new plans for the upcoming 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. This involves updating all services for the individuals and annualizing any services that were added as a partial year request. ISPs are completed by the Supports Coordinators, then reviewed and revised as needed, and finally approved by the Administrative Entity staff. In addition to the fiscal year renewal of over 1,000 plans, we have been allocated 34 Community Living Waivers for individuals that need increased funding. The waivers are authorized base on the most imminent need and the enrollment must be completed by June 30, 2019. There are an additional 15 Person/Family Directed Supports Waivers that will be provided to June 2019 graduates who will need to be enrolled by June 30th. The enrollment process involves the review of documentation, an assessment by a Qualified Developmental Disability Professional as well as a review of financial information by the County Assistance Office.

In addition, the department must change the Community Participation Supports (CPS) codes to reflect the new rates as mandated by ODP. All individuals that receive CPS must have their ISP updated with the new rates by June 30th. The new CPS rates may cause individuals to exceed the funding cap of \$33,000 for the P/FDS waivers. Those individuals will require a cap exception that must be provided to ODP by June 17th.

Personnel

The EI Department has recently hired a Service Coordinator to fill a vacancy due to a family relocation. A new clerical person was hired to work in all three counties due to the former individual transferring to the DS Department.

DS hired a new floating Supports Coordinator to work in all three Counties as needed in order to assist with coverage including an increase in Waiver individuals. This new floating SC is currently working in the Carbon office to cover one SC on maternity leave. DS also hired a Social Service Aide to help with the increase in Administrative Entity responsibilities and assist with the centralized intake process. DS and EI have a combined total of eight new employees within the past six months.

Respectfully,



Kim Chern
Deputy DS Administrator