

An Update on... Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region

INFORMATION BULLETIN: JULY 1, 2011

CHANGE IS COMING... NEXT MONDAY, JULY 4, 2011!

Starting July 4, 2011, Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) Central West Region will help adults with developmental disabilities apply for developmental services and supports.

People will be able to apply for:

- Residential Services and Supports
- Caregiver Respite
- Community Participation Supports (with social and recreational activities, work activities, and volunteer activities, including Passport)
- Specialized Services, such as Service Coordination or Clinical Services; and,
- Person-Directed Planning Supports.

If you are already on a waiting list for adult services in your community, you will be contacted in the coming weeks about transferring your information to the DSO.

Sunbeam Residential Development Centre will operate the DSO for Central West Region. Central West Region includes Waterloo Region, Wellington and Dufferin Counties, and Peel and Halton Regions.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU CALL: OUR TOLL-FREE NUMBER

You can call our agency toll-free at 1-888-941-1121. A receptionist will answer your call. Our reception services will be provided in both English and French. You can also call 7-1-1 to reach us via TTY, using the Bell Relay Service.

When you call our agency, a receptionist will ask where you live. They will then connect you with a DSO coordinator in your community who can provide information and talk about the application process with you.



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YOU... AND YOUR COMMUNITY DSO OFFICE

Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region will have five community offices. The offices will be located in Brampton, Mississauga, Milton, Guelph, and Kitchener.

A team of DSO coordinators and “assessor/service navigators” will be assigned to a community office. But we will meet with people in places that work for them – typically, their home or another community setting. This will help make our services accessible to you!

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADULT SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

The Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act (2008) states that adults must have a developmental disability in order to access services. There are several important things that you need to know about this:

- 1) If you are an adult who is currently on a waiting list for a service, then you will not need to go through an eligibility confirmation process.
- 2) If you are a new applicant, we will need to confirm your eligibility for a service or support. This will include confirmation of your date of birth, your place of residence, and a review of a valid psychological assessment.
- 3) Once you have been confirmed as eligible, we can proceed to complete an application package with you.

ONTARIO’S APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Adults seeking developmental services and supports will complete a new provincial application form and needs assessment. This “application package” is typically completed in two meetings. The first meeting focuses on completion of the application form itself. The application form includes:

- Current contact information
- Communication abilities and needs
- Things that the person does each day, and their personal preferences
- Things that are important to and for the person, including goals and dreams
- Current services and supports being used by the person
- Services and supports that are being requested
- Caregiver needs and care concerns
- Additional information that is important for service planning

THE SUPPORTS INTENSITY SCALE

After completing the application form, a second meeting is set up to complete the Supports Intensity Scale. The Supports Intensity Scale defines what kind of support people need to be successful with different things they do in their everyday lives. If



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allows us to identify areas where support is needed. Our focus is on understanding what kind of support a person might need to enjoy a positive quality of life!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE APPLICATION MEETINGS

Once eligibility for services and supports has been confirmed, we will call you to schedule the application meetings. We will provide you with detailed information that will help you prepare for these meetings.

There are two things that are especially important to know about the meetings.

- 1) We need at least two respondents for each meeting who can provide information during the interviews. These respondents should know the person and the kind of support they need at home and in the community.
- 2) The adult with a developmental disability is **always** part of the process. If you have any questions or concerns about this, we would be happy to discuss these with you.

SEEKING ADVICE: WHO IS HELPING US

Sunbeam Residential Development Centre has set up an Advisory Committee. This group of volunteers, including service provider and community members, are providing advice and support as we launch Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region. Bringing together the expertise and viewpoints of the Advisory Committee will help Sunbeam Residential Development Centre to strengthen its connections in each community. The Advisory Committee is focusing on planning, communication, and implementation of Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region.

We are looking forward to serving our communities! If you would like to receive future bulletins by email or for further information, please contact:

Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region
Email: dsocwr@rogers.com
1-888-941-1121, starting July 4, 2011



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