August 2015

Dear Friend:

The past year has been quite a challenging one for voluntary service providers and 2015-16 promises to be the same if not more so, with the State’s continued transformation and transition to managed care. It is critically important to be fully informed so that your organization’s staff, and the individuals and families you serve, will be able to continue accessing essential services and programs. Comprised of self-advocates, parents, family members, guardians and caregivers, voluntary service providers, government representatives, and other interested parties partnering to insure dignity, opportunity, and choice for the people we represent, the SIDDC is in its fourth decade of service to the Staten Island community.

An Executive Board of parents and professionals provides leadership and guides the work of the various committees which address crucial issues in our field. We maintain an excellent relationship with city, state and federal elected officials whose decisions directly impact future planning and overall quality of life for Staten Islanders. We also serve in an advisory capacity to the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), the SIDDRO (SI Developmental Disabilities Regional Office), and the NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene, all of which are responsible for establishing and overseeing programs and services.

In these ever changing and challenging times, we must work together to preserve what has been accomplished and make sure that the future continues to meet the needs of our most vulnerable citizens. The SIDDC is a non-profit association and we rely on annual membership dues to partially offset the cost of office overhead for the secretarial staff, refreshments for general and executive council meetings, printing of the Council’s brochure (the cost is shared with the FSSAC), and special advocacy efforts (e.g. the Town Hall Meeting with the Acting Commissioner of OPWDD).

We ask that you please renew your SIDDC membership by August 24th so that your agency’s name will appear as a Provider Member in our brochure which will go to print in September. Remember that our strength as a council lies in each member’s contribution to committee work, so please indicate the committee(s) you and your staff wish to serve when you return your membership dues (payable to the SIDDC) at: 930 Willowbrook Road, Bldg. 41A, Staten Island, N.Y. 10314.

If you are not yet a council member we hope you will consider that your membership in the SIDDC will not only enable you to keep current with what is happening, but provide you with the opportunity to join in the work that is before us. Together, we can be productive, effective and achieve positive results. Join us today.

Sincerely,

Michael Weinberg
Chair, SIDDC

Website: www.siddc.org E-mail: contactsiddc@siddc.org
2015-2016 Membership Form

Name: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Are you a: Self-advocate ___ Parent/Caregiver ___ Professional ___ Other _______

Diagnosis of Individual: ___________________________ Age of Individual: ______

Agency Please Indicate One Primary and One Alternate Representative

Agency Name: ___________________________

Name of Primary Representative: ___________________________

Name of Alternate Representative: ___________________________

Mailing Address: ___________________________

Floor: ______ Apt: _________ City/State: __________ Zip Code: __________

Telephone: ___________________________ Fax: ___________________________

E-mail: ___________________________ Are you a new member? Yes____ No____

Annual Membership Dues (Make checks payable to SIDDC)

Select the applicable category of membership below:

____ $100.00 Agency May have many participating members, but must designate a primary representative and an alternate (votes in primary’s absence)

____ $10.00 Self-Advocate Entitled to one vote on business

____ $10.00 Parent/Caregiver Entitled to one vote on business

____ $10.00 Individual Entitled to one vote on business. To qualify for this category person must demonstrate commitment to SIDDC mission through professional/voluntary efforts

____ Fee Waived Associate A non-voting member. Receives mailings, attends meetings.

Select the committee you would like to serve on:

____ Adult Services ______ Family Support Services Advisory Council* ______ Service Development

____ Advocacy ______ Family Resource & Transition Fair ______ Residential Quality of Life

____ Community Outreach ______ Health & Clinical Services ______ Service Coordination

____ Education ______ Membership & Guidelines ______ Willowbrook Property Planning

*Must be a family member to serve on this committee (formerly the Consumer Council)

For Office Use Only: Received: __________ Entered: __________
General Council Meeting Schedule 2015-2016

September 18, 2015

October 2015 - TBA

November 20, 2015

December 11, 2015
(Celebrating Achievements)

January 15, 2016

February 26, 2016
(SIDDC Annual Community Breakfast)

March 18, 2016

April 15, 2016

May 20, 2016

June 17, 2016

Other important dates for SIDDC:

October 30, 2015 — Family Resource & Transition Fair
February 26, 2016 — SIDDC Annual Community Breakfast

Please Note: Meetings will be held at the Elizabeth Connelly Resource Center unless otherwise indicated. Meetings begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and end at approximately 11:30 a.m. The meeting room is open at 9:00 a.m. for coffee and light breakfast. An evening meeting will be held, date and topic to be determined.
Dear Council Member:

Over the past several years, the Council has sponsored presentations on various topics which have been of interest to you, your family or Agency. At this time, we would like to request your feedback on the areas that interested you and/or on topics you would be interested in learning about.

Please indicate your level of interest in the following topics: (Y)

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<th>Topic</th>
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<th>Interested</th>
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<td>Adaptive Equipment</td>
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<td>Advocacy Training for Families</td>
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<td>Autism Spectrum Disorders</td>
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<td>Celebration of Achievements for those with Developmental Disabilities</td>
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<td>Employment Opportunities for those a with Developmental Disabilities</td>
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<td>Environmental Modifications</td>
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<td>Medicaid Waiver Services</td>
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<td>Medications-Pharmacology and the Developmental Disabled</td>
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<td>Parent Perspective on Residential Placement</td>
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<td>Psychiatric Services</td>
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<td>Recreation - After School Programs</td>
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<td>Secondary Educational Opportunities for those with Developmental Disabilities (College)</td>
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<td>Special Needs Trusts</td>
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<td>Transition to Adult Services</td>
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<td>Transition from Early Intervention</td>
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Please indicate any other areas of interest to you: ________________________________

______________________________
Name: (Optional)______________________________

Please circle all that apply: Self-Advocate ~ Parent /Caregiver ~ Professional ~ Other ________________________________
The Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council, established in 1969, advocates for the needs of Staten Islanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The Council is comprised of self-advocates, family members/guardians, professionals and provider agencies, schools, government officials, and other interested parties, and assists in the planning, promotion, and development of services for people with I/DD and their families. The Council also serves in an advisory capacity to the government agencies associated with these services.

The Council works in a unified effort to ensure the quality of life of Staten Islanders with I/DD by:

- Providing a forum for sharing information and concerns
- Disseminating information to the general public about developmental disabilities and our service delivery system
- Developing an Annual Plan specifying needed services and priorities
- Reviewing the outcomes of Front Door planning meetings for development of services
- Assisting in the implementation of new programs and the refinement of existing programs
- Coordinating with other Borough Councils and city and statewide committees to promote needed supports and services

The Council meets monthly at the Elizabeth Connelly Resource Center. Meetings include guest speakers and special presentations on various topics. Council members also participate in a variety of committees as listed below:

- Adult Services
- Advocacy
- Community Outreach
- Education
- Family Support Services Advisory Council
- Health and Clinical Services
- Membership and Guidelines
- Service Development
- Residential Quality of Life
- Service Coordination
- Willowbrook Property Planning

The Council sponsors quarterly Legislative Information Exchange meetings with our local elected officials, and the Annual Community Breakfast where public and elected officials are apprised of the concerns of Staten Islanders with I/DD. A resource conference is also held each year so that self-advocates, families, caregivers, and professionals can obtain information on I/DD and respective supports and services in our own and neighboring boroughs.

Website: www.siddc.org E-mail: contactsiddc@siddc.org
Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council

The Elizabeth Connelly Resource Center
930 Willowbrook Road, Building 41A
Staten Island, New York 10314
Phone (718) 983-5276
Website: www.siddc.org E-mail: contactsiddc@siddc.org

Standing Committees

Adult Services:
Purpose: To identify and address issues and needs pertaining to adults with developmental disabilities (ages 18 and older).

Advocacy:
Purpose: To actively engage and inform representatives of governing agencies (e.g. OPWDD) and all elected officials of the needs and concerns of intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals and their families. The Committee arranges meetings on a variety of specific and relevant topics, coordinates a quarterly Legislative Information Exchange, develops the SIDDCC's annual position paper and hosts the annual Legislative Breakfast.

Community Outreach:
Purpose: To disseminate and publicize council information and other relevant issues to the community through flyers, newsletters, local newspapers, and presentations at council meetings; to oversee the Sub-Committee which plans and implements the Family Resource & Transition Fair.

Education:
Purpose: To identify and address issues pertaining to the education of individuals with developmental disabilities (birth to age 21).

Family Support Services Advisory Council (FSSAC):
Purpose: To participate in the development of SIDDRO family support plan and monitor the supports provided pursuant to the plan. The FSSAC shall represent the interests of families and individuals with developmental disabilities in all priority, planning, and funding decisions, and shall work in partnership with the SIDDRO. Only family members and individuals with developmental disabilities are eligible for membership in this council.
**Health and Clinical Services:**
*Purpose:* To focus on issues concerning all aspects of health services, including medical, rehabilitative and mental health.

**Membership and Guidelines:**
*Purpose:* To review new applications for council membership, assess membership status, and outreach for new members. To requests changes to By-Laws, it must be submitted to and reviewed by this committee and then brought to the executive board before being submitted to full council.

**Service Coordination:**
*Purpose:* To provide an opportunity for Service Coordinators /Case Managers and interested parties to network, exchange ideas, share resources and discuss current issues and trends. Topics of relevance to service coordination are presented to guest and/or committee members at monthly meetings.

**Service Development:**
*Purpose:* To ensure the outcomes of Front Door planning meetings are addressed. Committee will compile a list of requested services in order to review the process OPWDD has established to meet the need for services (i.e. day program, employment or residential).

**Residential Quality of Life:**
*Purpose:* To identify and address issues pertaining to the quality of life of individuals with developmental disabilities living in residential settings.

**Willowbrook Property Planning:**
*Purpose:* Advocating and participating in the development of a comprehensive plan for the future use of the Willowbrook property.