

ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

A monthly publication for friends of Family Enrichment Network

OPWDD Services at FEN

Family Enrichment Network currently provides two OPWDD services. First, you may ask what is OPWDD? OPWDD is an acronym for—Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. Eligibility is based on a doctor diagnosed disability before the age of 22. Developmental disabilities are a group of conditions due to an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas. These conditions begin during the developmental period, may impact day-to-day functioning, and last throughout a person's lifetime. There are many different kinds of disabilities and have been categorized into: auditory, visual, mobility, and cognitive. The most common disability has been determined to be intellectual disabilities.

If you or a loved one has a diagnosed disability such as autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and others that affect independent living, and you would like to receive services, you will need to go through what is known as The Front Door. When you go through the Front Door you have access to resources that will most benefit the individual. The Front Door Office in the Southern Tier can be contacted by dialing 607-240-4900. The key component of getting services is choosing a care manager that will advocate on your behalf to seek out the best plan of action—the Front Door is key in helping you connect with a Care Management Agency.

As an approved OPWDD Provider Agency, Family Enrichment Network provides Community Habilitation (Com Hab) and Community Based Prevocational (Community Prevoc) services.

If someone with a disability has a desire to be more involved in their community, engage in hobbies and other areas of interest, learn new or develop healthy, safe and good independent living skills, then Com Hab is for them. They will develop a person centered plan with a member of our staff and care manager which may include: volunteering, walking programs, exercise programs, money management to name a few.

If someone has the desire to seek out a job in the community, then Prevoc is for them. Prevoc will help us discover their capabilities through a variety of skill building experiences in local businesses. This is accomplished through volunteer experiences, classes, skill building activities, shadowing, hands-on experiences, and more. A person centered plan would be developed with a member of our staff and care manager.

For more information about these services or any other services, please contact us by phone at 607-723-8313, ext. 1676.

For more information about Family Enrichment Network Programs, please visit us at www.familyenrichment.org or call (607) 723-8313.



The mission of Family Enrichment Network is to provide supportive services for the optimal development of children and families. We believe in coordinating children and family services using a comprehensive and collaborative approach to improve their quality of life while ensuring the greatest value for our investment in child, adult, and parent development.