



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Peter Mason
Deputy Commissioner

Memo

TO: DDS Qualified Providers

FROM: David David, Director of Service Development and Support, Operations Center

CC: Jordan Scheff, Commissioner, Peter Mason, Deputy Commissioner, Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff, Scott McWilliams, Chief of Fiscal/Administrative Services, Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Resource Administrators

DATE: March 13, 2019

SUBJECT: Step Up/Down Unit – Provider Partnership Opportunity

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is seeking letters of interest from DDS qualified providers that would like to partner with the department to expand their work with individuals with intellectual disability and behavioral health needs. This initiative is an effort to expand capacity within the provider network to offer high quality community-based supports to individuals with more complex needs. In particular, providers committing to this process will work with individuals who may be transitioning back to community-based supports from higher levels of care, or requiring these supports to be put in place planfully and rapidly, in order to prevent crisis escalation.

Providers will be expected to commit to work with DDS to enhance their experience in behavioral health supports for at least two years. Expectations may vary, depending upon the referral source for the individual. For individuals transitioning to community-based supports from the DDS Step Up/Down Unit, expectations will include participation at weekly rounds and monthly Regional Director meetings. Overall, expectations will include active participation in planning, transitioning, and follow-up, as well as commitment to resource availability for rapid support development.

DDS is requesting letters of interest from DDS qualified providers detailing the agency's current experience in this area, including existing programs and resources. In addition, the letters should include agency programmatic, clinical and administrative needs in order to successfully bolster and expand community-based supports for individuals fitting the criteria outlined above. DDS will select a small number of providers to pilot this initiative, taking into consideration agency history, experience, and success in this area.

Please submit letters to David David (David.David@ct.gov) by April 12, 2019. Prior to submission of letters, DDS will host an informational meeting on this initiative for all interested providers. The meeting will take place at the DDS Wallingford Office (35 Thorpe Avenue) on April 1, 2019 at 2:00pm. Please RSVP to Julie Bouchard (Julie.Bouchard@ct.gov) by March 27, 2019 if you plan to attend. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to David David at David.David@ct.gov or 860-418-6040.