OPWDD
Office of People With Developmental Disabilities

Kennedy Children’s Center
What is OPWDD? (Office of People With Developmental Disabilities)

• A state agency providing services to people of all ages with intellectual and dev. disabilities
  *many children with autism qualify if there is an intellectual disability and adaptive deficits
  
  *children with other disabilities also qualify including intellectual and physical disabilities

• Disability begins before 22yo and is expected to be permanent and affect independence

• Income is based on child’s income. In most cases your child does not have income
What Services Can I get Though OPWDD?

• Family Support Services
• In-home care and respite care
• Behavior assistance (Crisis Intervention)
• Family Reimbursement (up to $500 annually for clothing, special equipment, furniture, etc.)
• Nursing
• Recreation: Camp, special classes
• Transportation
How to Apply and What You Will Need

- Medical report (within 1 year including child’s diagnosis)
- Psych evaluation (certain tests and diagnosis required)
- Social History (less than 1 year old)
- Front Door training... 2-hour virtual class required

[www.opwdd.ny.gov](http://www.opwdd.ny.gov)

Manhattan (646) 766-3220  Bronx (718) 430-0757
Agencies to Support Families and Assist with the Process

• Include NYC  [www.includenyc.org](http://www.includenyc.org)  (212) 677-6440
• YAI Link  [www.yai.org](http://www.yai.org)  (212) 273-6182
• AHRC  [www.ahrcnyc.org](http://www.ahrcnyc.org)  (212)780-2500
• Sinergia  [www.sinergiany.org](http://www.sinergiany.org)  (212) 643-2840
Other Resources for Autism and Support

• Sinergia Autism Initiative  [www.sinergiany.org](http://www.sinergiany.org)  
  (212) 643-2840

• Autism Speaks  [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)  
  (646) 385-8500

• Advocates for Children  [www.advocatesforchildren.org](http://www.advocatesforchildren.org)  
  (212) 947-9779
SSI Benefits: Supplemental Security Income (Income Eligible Program)

• You will need to: complete an application, school and Dr. will be asked to provide information as well.
• You will need: child’s SS# and birth certificate
• Call # (800) 772-1213 to begin application process on phone
For Further Assistance from Kennedy

• **Bronx**: Cecilia Cuntin; *Family Support Coordinator*
  (718) 842-0200 ext. 233

• **Manhattan**: Elizabeth Puello; *Family Support Coordinator*
  (212) 988-9500 ext. 255

• Nancy Hirsch: *Director of Family Services*
  (646) 771-8162