



M. Jodi Rell
Governor

State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Peter H. O'Meara
Commissioner

Kathryn du Pree
Deputy Commissioner

Memorandum

TO: *All Staff*

FROM: *Peter H. O'Meara, Commissioner*
Kathryn du Pree, Deputy Commissioner

DATE: *July 31, 2009*

RE: *Public Sector CLA Conversion*

Many of you are engaged in projects and activities designed to assist the department find new ways to do business as we adjust to a shrinking workforce. As you are aware, the numbers of people we serve increase each year and we are all challenged by unmet needs experienced by some of our consumers.

The department must be creative as it seeks to continue the quality of our service delivery system. We are writing to inform you of one particular plan that will be implemented over the next nine months.

Seventeen (17) publicly-operated Community Living Arrangements (CLAs) will be transitioned to the private sector. These homes are in the North, South and West Regions. We are undertaking this change because of the number of positions we have lost as part of the Retirement Incentive Program (RIP). We have lost 395 employees and will not be able to fill many of the positions they vacated. This conversion will help us maintain quality residential services, adjust to our refill rate and refill other critical positions in case management, clinical and support functions.

Consumers will not have to move and permanent employees will not lose their jobs. We are refilling vacancies in these homes with retirees or temporary staff that we hope may be hired by the private sector agency that is awarded the CLA. Once the CLA is transitioned to a provider, the permanent employees of the Department of Developmental Services in that CLA will be redeployed to other publicly operated residential settings to provide the staffing necessary to meet the needs of the residents.

We will use the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to select qualified providers. Joe Drexler is the statewide coordinator for this project. The regional contact person for North is Sheryl Kemp, South is Christine Rich and West is Shannon O'Brien. Family members and consumers will participate on the selection committees. We hope to have homes transition between January and June 2010.

Additional information on the public CLA Conversion plan will be available on the DDS website.