



ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Access to Residential Placements for New Yorkers with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

PURPOSE: To examine barriers to accessing residential placements for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and explore ways to ensure adequate residential supports are available to those with varying support needs.

**Monday
November 3rd, 2025
10AM
Hearing Room B
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12210**

ORAL TESTIMONY WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY

Nearly 35,000 of the 130,000 individuals served by the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) live in a Certified Residential Opportunity, housing that is either directly operated by OPWDD or operated by a non-profit service provider overseen by OPWDD. According to service recipients, the process of obtaining a placement for this type of housing can be difficult and lengthy, sometimes taking weeks, months, or years, even for those with the greatest need. For some individuals, long waits for residential placements can cause a delay in receiving other community-based services, such as employment supports.

For those needing lower levels of support, finding non-certified housing opportunities can also be a challenge. Some individuals have reported that it is difficult for them to find housing that is affordable, physically accessible, and provides other components of community living like access to transportation and social interaction. To live in non-certified settings, individuals often rely on support from other OPWDD programs like community habilitation. These programs continue to face staffing challenges, and without proper staffing, individuals can face challenges accessing the supports that make community living possible for them.

The purpose of this hearing is to examine barriers to accessing residential placements for people with intellectual and development disabilities and explore ways to ensure adequate residential supports are available to those with varying needs. The Committee seeks testimony from individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and service providers, concerning challenges related to accessing residential placements, in order to identify strategies to strengthen access across the state.

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form by **Thursday, October 30th**. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to ten minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as soon as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

Attendees and participants at any legislative public hearing should be aware that these proceedings are video recorded. Their likenesses may be included in any video coverage shown on television or the internet.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committee's interest in hearing testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

Angelo Santabarbara
Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on People with Disabilities

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing on Residential Placements for New Yorkers with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities are requested to complete this reply form by **Thursday, October 30th** and mail, email, or fax it to:

Jeffrey Chen
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Assembly Committee on People with Disabilities
Room 442 – Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: chenj@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4371
Fax: (518) 455-4693

- ☐ I plan to attend the following public hearing on Residential Placements for New Yorkers with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to be conducted by the Assembly Standing Committee on People with Disabilities on Monday, November 3rd.
- ☐ I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to five minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
- ☐ I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

- ☐ I do not plan on attending the above hearing.
- ☐ I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- ☐ I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____