

Consumer Directed Personal Assistant Program **Rensselaer County Department of Social Services**

What is it?

It is a home care program which permits eligible individuals to select, train, supervise and terminate persons who provide services to them.

A personal assistant is an individual who is paid to assist you with your daily living tasks. These tasks may include but are not limited to assisting with dressing, grooming, hygiene, mobility, transfers, toileting and health maintenance as well as light housekeeping tasks.

Who Qualifies?

In order to participate in the patient managed home care program the individual must:

1. Be eligible for or currently receiving long term care and services provided by a certified home health agency, long term home health care program, private duty nursing services program or personal care aide services program.
2. Be Medicaid eligible.
3. Have an expected home care length of stay of at least 180 days.
4. Reside in the district in which the social services contracts with approved consumer directed personal assistant .
5. Be medically stable and self-directing person which means an individual who is able, willing and capable of making choices about his/her clinical care and activities of daily living, understands the impact of the choices and assumes responsibility for the result of the choice; or has a designated guardian or adult willing and able, in an informed and reasonable way to assist in making choices and to carry out the patient's responsibilities, in accordance with State law.

How to Apply?

Persons interested in participating in the Consumer Directed Personal Assistant Program should contact the Home Care Unit at the Rensselaer County Department of Social Services. The phone number is 833-6181. The office is open Monday-Friday 9:00 am through 4:30 pm.