

The Arc New York
Current State of Challenges and Opportunities
September 29, 2020

- 1) Confusion, Chaos, and Lack of Timely Decision Making Continue
- 2) Impact of Potential OPWDD Leadership Changes and Other State Restructuring
- 3) Possible Litigation Requesting a Temporary Restraining Order / Injunction Delaying October 1 OPWDD Funding Cuts
- 4) The Continuing Impact of COVID-19 on Daily Program Services and the Resulting Incremental Cost and Service Quality Challenges
- 5) Auspice Changes and Affiliations – Will We Have Continued Chaos or Orderly Transitions?
- 6) The Next Federal Stimulus Bill Will Be Between \$1.5 Trillion and \$2 Trillion – Stimulus Provisions May Be Known Before Election Day, Pressure and Potential, As Follows
 - Expanded unemployment benefits during the holidays will be required
 - Another \$1,200 stimulus check would be appropriate for the President to try to influence any remaining independent / undecided voters
 - If we get a State or major County bankruptcy filing, the stimulus legislation will be negotiated and signed within seven days
- 7) Managed Care, CCOs, SIP-PLs – Are We There Yet?
- 8) The New York State Medicaid Program, As Both Eliot Spitzer and George Pataki Predicted, Is Unsustainable! – 7.5 Million Medicaid Eligibles, Increasing Each Month and Blowing Through a \$75-80 Billion Budget Projection – Major Cuts Are Inevitable
 - I thought the Governor's 20% withhold on State contracts was egregious
 - Now, I think we might look back in 2022 and realize that draconian cuts should have been implemented much sooner in the three-phased Rate Rationalization process
 - The failure of OPWDD leadership to force auspice changes as well as terminating contracts with more than 200 financially vulnerable OPWDD Medicaid providers has the service sector in a terribly vulnerable position for the people being served
 - The FEBS bankruptcy and the resulting report entitled "A Call to Action" may be viewed as a missed opportunity
- 9) Discussion of Key Survival Strategies, or, "Getting to the Other Side of the Pandemic"
- 10) If Biden Wins and Democrats Control the Senate, New York and All of Its Health and Human Service Providers Will Be in a Better Position Looking Forward, Although Supreme Court Shift to a 6-3 Conservative Majority is Problematic