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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIFEPlan CCO NY announces two local Family Forums Thursday May 3, 2018

If you, or your loved one receives Medicaid Service Coordination in the Broome, Chenango or Tioga County area, please join us for an upcoming Family Forum on Thursday, May 3, 2018 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm at ACHIEVE/CWS 17 Midland Drive, Norwich, NY or from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at ACHIEVE, 47 Riverside Drive, Johnson City, NY. The Family Forum will provide people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their families with the information they need as they transition to a Care Coordination Organization.

Effective July 1, 2018, The Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) is making changes to how services are coordinated for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). Currently, these services are coordinated through Medicaid Service Coordination, a service that is transitioning to Health Home Care Management being offered through regional Care Coordination Organizations. Health Home Care Management is a new way to coordinate care, combining developmental disability services with health and wellness services.

LIFEPlan CCO NY, LLC was designated as a provider-led Care Coordination Organization/Health Home to serve Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in January 2018.

“The change to Care Management will expand the service coordinator’s role,” said Pat Knuth the Executive Director of the Arc of Otsego, one of LIFEPlan’s Partners. “Our service coordinators will continue to support the people they have been working with, and will eventually transition with them to LIFEPlan. Service coordinators are well prepared and have been receiving training for several months.”

LIFEPlan CCO is a partnership of local agencies rooted in the community with a long history of serving people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities including The Arc Otsego,

Pathfinder Village, ACHIEVE, The Arc of Delaware, Franziska Racker Center, Project Independence, HCA and Joshua House, and is the only parent-led CCO in New York State. This network of agencies has been providing advocacy, recreational, educational and vocational services for more than 75 years, and shares a person-centered focus that will improve services and supports.

“Changes can be challenging, especially for family members who may be fearful they are going to be losing services,” said Amy Howard, the Acting Executive Director of ACHIEVE, another LIFEPlan partner. “But, there will be no loss of services. The new model will enhance the current services that people receive by addressing the whole person, not just their disability. We are committed to working with the people we support and providing services that will allow them to be successful in their community, and their future.”

LIFEPlan’s CEO, Nicholas Cappelletti understands the concerns of the families we support on a personal level because he has been faced with the same concerns. “It is important for every parent to have the peace of mind knowing that the supports and services their child needs throughout their lifetime are readily available. As a parent of a child with a disability, I will ensure LIFEPlan will be that peace of mind for you. Together, we can provide a life without limits for your child and mine,” stated Nick.

To register online please visit www.familyrn.org and click the News & Events calendar links. For questions, or to register by phone, please call Sara DeFazio at 315.741.5867

For more information visit www.lifeplancony.com.