

2023 Wellness In-Contract Information Sheet

(Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates counties)

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at Wellness this year as well as meeting some new faces. We recently learned Mr. Wally will be back with his balloon art!!

In December OPWDD found it necessary to revise the Wellness GIFTS contract due to the changes made in Family Reimbursement (FR). FR can no longer supplement another program. Because of this and some changes by the KOA, we needed to make some modifications to the program. I am happy to say, most of the fees to attend will now be covered under the contract.

- **All families will be required to pay a \$150.00 registration fee. This is non-refundable. Families should not/ cannot be reimbursed for this fee through FR or Self Direction (SD). OPWDD added this when they revised the contract. The fee is due at registration. An application is not considered complete without this payment.**
- **If you do not live in one of the counties listed above you are out of our region/ contract area. Please Stop Here - see the Out of Region Information Sheet. You will need to complete an Out of Region application. Priority is given to those in our contract area.**
- We are pleased to add, each family who attends the weekend they register for, will receive an attendance incentive to help offset some of the registration fee. The amount will depend on funds available.
- Through our contract with OPWDD, Wellness **now covers the cost of tuition for attendance of the immediate family** living in the household. 1:1 Aides could be included with documentation (Behavior Plan for home or Nursing Plan) of need due to intensive medical or behavioral needs. Extra attendees would need prior approval and would have to pay a tuition fee. Adults (16+) - \$85.00, Child (15 and under) \$65.00. This needs to be discussed with the Director.
- Wellness reserves lodging (including RV/ tent sites*) at the campground and facilitates the rental process for the family. The **fee for lodging is now paid for out of our contract** with OPWDD. Rental agreements and campground documentation is completed upon arrival. **Any additional charges incurred by the family during their stay are their responsibility.** Some of the things the KOA charges for are: dish washing, garbage removal, smoking in a cabin, excessive cleaning, etc. Please read over the Rental Agreement after check-in to avoid added charges.
*You will indicate this on your application and call us to discuss the type of site needed.
- Due to changes by the KOA, all registrations need to be made three weeks prior to camp. This includes the number of adults, children, and pets staying in each cabin.
- Cabin Choice (ranking) – Please rank cabins by preference. Families with more than 4 in attendance cannot be in the Rustic Cabins, they only sleep 4. Cabins will be assigned by need, then preference. We will make every attempt to give you your preferred lodging. We have to notify the KOA two weeks prior to each retreat the exact count of people and pets to finalize the reservations. You will be notified of your cabin type shortly after this.

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- Canceling - Once registrations are finalized with the KOA, Wellness now has to pay for the **entire amount** for any cancelations made. This will have an impact on the program. Canceling could also affect your ability to attend in the future. We understand that unforeseen things happen. You may be asked for documentation of a significant event. Please make every effort to attend. We want you to be able to keep participating.
- Self-Direction (for the counties listed above) - According to OPWDD as of 1/1/23, for Self-Direction the entire cost should be listed in Contracted Services, Family Support Services, 63 hours @ \$26.80 (the current rate) = \$1688.40. Families in the Finger Lakes Region will no longer utilize Family Reimbursement or other parts of their SD budget to cover part of the cost. All families will be required to pay a \$150.00 registration fee. This is not to be covered by their SD budget. Please make your Broker and FI aware of this so you do not have any last minute surprises. Also, have them send a copy of your budget listing Wellness to wellnessgifts@pathwaysforyou.org.
- Per OPWDD, Wellness is a retreat, not a camp, and therefore does not require a DOH certificate.
- The Friday night meal is now included as well, if you choose, it is served between 5:00–6:00 pm. Please do not sign up if you will not arrive in time to eat. Wellness will have to pay for your meal even if you are not there
- Pets are **only** allowed in the Rustic Cabins or in your own camper. Pet fees need to be paid 30 days in advance.
- If you want to rent a golf cart, you need to make arrangements directly with the KOA. They can be reached at (607) 776-4345.

If you have any questions, please call (607) 937-4502. We will be glad to discuss them with you.

We are excited to offer the Wellness GIFTS retreats again this year!

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