



DHS News

Newsletter of the Allegheny County
Department of Human Services



July 2020

OID becomes ODS

This month, the Office of Intellectual Disability (OID) debuted its new name: Office of Developmental Supports (ODS).

ODS has always provided support for people with an intellectual disability and started supporting people with autism two years ago. Beyond connecting people to paid services, ODS has spent the last few years promoting the importance of unpaid, natural resources that benefit the family, not just the individual with the diagnosis. This has been accomplished through the work of supports coordinators along with the use of Charting the LifeCourse Planning Tools. (Read more about these efforts in the [July 2019 edition of DHS News](#).)

Additionally, ODS now includes the multi-system team, which was previously under Integrated Program Services (IPS). This team will work to provide support and resource options to cases that are active across DHS program offices.

"We've been working with individuals and families to learn what they need from us to assist them in leading a meaningful, productive life, and our new name reflects the responsibilities we've added to help our families meet their goals," said Brenda Bulkoski, ODS deputy director. "We're very excited for this next chapter in engaging individuals, families and community partners."

Over the next several months, updates will be made to documents, brochures, information packets and social media platforms to reflect the name change. To learn more about the transition, contact Lynn Pugliano at Lynn.Pugliano@Alleghenycounty.us.