



Michelle Brisman, Ph.D.

Director of Clinical Services

Dr. Michelle Brisman comes to us with a B.A. from Binghamton University and a Doctorate of Philosophy from Yeshiva University. She began her formal career as a clinical neuropsychologist at the United Cerebral Palsy Association in NY before undertaking her internship at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in NJ, where she specialized in cognitive rehabilitation of various medical and neurologically compromised populations — a specialization she continued to pursue when she was offered the position of Director of Medical Rehabilitation Services at the Capital Region/Eastern Connecticut Easter Seals in 2001, working closely with neurologically affected groups, such as those with TBI/ABI, stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, seizure disorders, and brain tumors.



A.B.I. Resources LLC

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Phone: (860) 942-0365

Fax: (860) 465-9591

<https://www.CTbrainINJURY.com>

To.

Connecticut Department of Social Services, DSS Legal. Formal FOIA request.

In reference to what may appear to be ABI Waiver program discriminatory and biased practices, challenges, and concerns. Additionally, these concerns also relate to the MFP program.

Appendix D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery

D-1: Service Plan Development (6 of 8)

f. Informed Choice of Providers. Describe how participants are assisted in obtaining information about and selecting from among qualified providers of the waiver services in the service plan.

Case managers share with waiver consumers the provider listing, which is developed by a DSS contracted fiduciary. This listing identifies providers by service type and geographic coverage area who meet the qualifications as set forth by DSS to service waiver participants. The case managers facilitate opportunities for participants to speak with and/or interview prospective providers prior to selection. Program participants are able to contact the fiscal intermediary to get an updated and customized listing of the provider directory. For household employees, a background check is conducted by the fiscal intermediary and the results are shared with the consumer to aid in their selection.

The DSS contracted fiduciary listing may appear to be discriminatory to the disabled ABI Waiver population it serves and Medicaid providers:

- The listing is not accessible or viewable to the public.
- Locked and only accessible via an email address verification process, username and created password for consumers of the ABI Waiver Program.
- Much of the disabled ABI Waiver Program population cannot afford internet and the equipment needed to access the internet to navigate their listing.
- Much of the disabled ABI population are unable navigate and understand internet-based communication processes.
- The majority of the disabled ABI Waiver population live with communication, and memory challenges. Calling the DSS contracted fiduciary, waiting on hold, leaving voicemail requests for call backs or to request the listing be mailed to their home address is a very complicated process for most.
- Case Managers are providing verbal recommendations to ABI Waiver and MFP consumers of providers that they believe would be a good fit for the consumer without providing the complete DSS



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contracted fiduciary listing. This action is not ethical and biased as disabled ABI waiver consumers are not being afforded their complete options and possibly bias selection of providers that may provide a more beneficial Case Management relationship. ABI Waiver and MFP consumers may appear to be not completely informed and misled during the decision-making process and may be left completely out of the selection process. This may appear to be discriminating and misleading to consumers with disabilities and not providing them the same civil rights into their person-centered program decision process. An example of this would be a verbal phone conversation promoting a specific provider, leading or steering a client to meet with or arranging referral before a consumer is completely informed or provided their complete options by a Case Management selected provider.

- It may appear that DSS, Case Management providers and the contracted fiduciary listing provider are aware of these discriminatory processes and practices.
- How does DSS ensure the disabled population is not being discriminated against and provide the procedural validation system used to ensure civil rights are completely adhered to?
- Additionally, it may appear that the DSS contracted fiduciary listing is discriminatory and biased to intentionally confuse the disabled ABI Waiver consumer in this way as well. Below are the first 2 webpages of many, that DSS'S contracted fiduciary is listing, note that agency providers are listed biasedly and misleadingly, listing the same providers in duplicate, triplicate and more.

Juniper Homecare LLC	(860) 529-1818	West Hartford
Juniper Homecare LLC	(860) 529-1818	West Hartford
Absolute Independence LLC	(860) 347-3092	me@honesty288@gmail.com
The Supported Living Group LLC	(950) 774-3400	kbrierson@slg-ct.com
The Supported Living Group LLC	(950) 774-3400	kbrierson@slg-ct.com
The Supported Living Group LLC	(950) 774-3400	kbrierson@slg-ct.com
Handz-On Inc.	(860) 560-7700	myra@handzon.org
Handz-On Inc.	(860) 560-7700	myra@handzon.org
Handz-On Inc.	(860) 560-7700	myra@handzon.org
Change A Life Time Companies Inc	203-526-2496	changealifetime@yahoo.com
Change A Life Time Companies Inc	203-526-2496	changealifetime@yahoo.com
Change A Life Time Companies Inc	203-526-2496	changealifetime@yahoo.com
Lifeline Nursing LLC	(203) 691-6243	info@lifenursing.net
Lifeline Nursing LLC	(203) 691-6243	info@lifenursing.net
Change Inc.	(860) 346-0771	dylibe@changenonline.org
Change Inc.	(860) 346-0771	dylibe@changenonline.org
Change Inc.	(860) 346-0771	dylibe@changenonline.org
Home Healthcare Companions LLC	(860) 808-7670	enjoyee.comma@gmail.com
Simple Home Care Solutions LLC	(860) 944-2770	nancyhackberth@att.net
Simple Home Care Solutions LLC	(860) 944-2770	nancyhackberth@att.net
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	(203) 495-1900	janisoo@carefinders.org
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	(203) 495-1900	janisoo@carefinders.org
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	(203) 495-1900	janisoo@carefinders.org
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	(203) 495-1900	janisoo@carefinders.org

- Note ABI Resources is listed once.

Positive Outlooks			sherry@mccowan@positiveoutlooka.com	Waterbury
Positive Outlooks			sherry@mccowan@positiveoutlooka.com	Waterbury
ABI Resources LLC		(860) 942-0365	ABI@CTBRAININJURY.COM	Gales Ferry
24/7 Harmony Home Care Services LLC		(860) 646-4193	asumadu@247hcare.com	Manchester
24/7 Harmony Home Care Services LLC		(860) 646-4193	asumadu@247hcare.com	Manchester
Helping Others to Succeed Inc		(577) 695-6516	ahewman@hotosabi.com	Newington
Helping Others to Succeed Inc		(577) 695-6516	ahewman@hotosabi.com	Newington
Helping Others to Succeed Inc		(577) 695-6516	ahewman@hotosabi.com	Newington
Prestige Companion & Homemakers LLC		(203) 262-0046	Prestigehcare@gmail.com	Southbury
Prestige Companion & Homemakers LLC		(203) 262-0046	Prestigehcare@gmail.com	Southbury
CareGivers Connecticut LLC		(860) 436-2779	mmanes@caregivershpc.com	Manchester
CareGivers Connecticut LLC		(860) 436-2779	mmanes@caregivershpc.com	Manchester
CareGivers Connecticut LLC		(860) 436-2779	mmanes@caregivershpc.com	Manchester
Second Chance Home Care LLC		860-263-6289	info@secondchancehomecare.com	East Hartford
Advanced Cognitive Development LLC		(860) 478-1910	crystal_ardais@outlook.com	Mansfield Center
Angel Touch Care LLC		(860) 461-7123	odak@edglobal.net	West Hartford
Angel Touch Care LLC		(860) 461-7123	odak@edglobal.net	West Hartford
Angel Touch Care LLC		(860) 461-7123	odak@edglobal.net	West Hartford
Liberty Homecare Options LLC		(860) 357-4112	syvia@libertyhpc.com	New Britain
Liberty Homecare Options LLC		(860) 357-4112	syvia@libertyhpc.com	New Britain
Liberty Homecare Options LLC		(860) 357-4112	syvia@libertyhpc.com	New Britain
A&D Home Health Solutions Inc		(860) 667-2275	dshier@adhomehealthsolutions.com	Newington
A.L.L. Homemakers and Companions		(860) 507-6796	al216@att.net	Farmington
A.L.L. Homemakers and Companions		(860) 507-6796	al216@att.net	Farmington

- Note that disabled ABI Waiver consumers may have significant challenges with understanding the list of provider types.

ABI RESOURCES LLC

“Creating Opportunities for People”

[Home](#) [Directory](#)

Directory Report Criteria

Welcome to the Online Provider Directory. Here you can search for providers based on provider type, services provided, towns serviced, and languages spoken. By selecting the **Directory** button, you will be provided with detailed information for the providers that match your search criteria. By selecting the **List** button, you will be provided with a [call list](#) for providers that match your search criteria.

Program:

Provider Types:
Click to Select Provider Types

Agency

Private-Household

Private-SE & H

Private-Self-Emp.

Click to Select Towns

Regions:
Click to Select Regions

Services:
Click to Select Services

☐ All ☒ Any [Reset](#)

Additional Languages:
Click to Select Additional Languages

[Directory](#) [List](#)

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Font Size

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- Note the services do not list the services that the disabled ABI Waiver consumers understand and are familiar with such as Companion, ILST, homemaker RA and more. This may appear to be misleading and confusing.

The screenshot shows the 'Directory Report Criteria' page of the ABI Resources LLC Online Provider Directory. The page has a blue header with the tagline 'Creating Opportunities for People'. Below the header, there are tabs for 'Portal' and 'Directory'. The main content area contains search filters: 'Program' (set to ABI), 'Provider Types' (Click to Select Provider Types), 'Regions' (Click to Select Regions), 'Services' (Assistive Technology, Environmental Accessibility Adapt), 'Towns' (Click to Select Towns), and 'Additional Languages' (Click to Select Additional Languages). At the bottom, there are 'Directory' and 'List' buttons. A footer contains navigation links (HOME, ABOUT US, PROGRAMS & SERVICES, CUSTOMER SERVICE, QUALITY SERVICE, PROVIDER INFORMATION, CONTACT US), a 'Font Size' adjuster, and copyright information: 'Copyright © 2022 - All Rights Reserved. Third Party Notice Version 2022.0.21.0'. There are also 'Portal' and 'Log Out' buttons in the bottom right corner.

- CBT and or Behaviorist services are not listed on the DSS contracted fiduciary listing. This creates many questionable and concerning challenges that may promote a discriminatory and/or bias decision-making process. Case Managers are not providing the disabled ABI Waiver program listing to choose from and may be selecting, making proactive referrals, and promoting behaviorists that benefit Case management relationships more than the Disabled ABI Waiver consumer. This may appear to be a discriminatory and bias practice.

ABI Resources is formally requesting a Department of Social Services internal investigation of these practices and concerns as well as a FOIA request for the policies and practices of protecting the civil rights of the disabled under the ABI Waiver program guidelines.

Best regards,
 David Medeiros CBIS
 David Medeiros CBIS
 Brain Injury Survivor and
 Founder of
 ABI Resources, LLC



ABI Resources LLC 39 Kings Highway Suite C, Gales Ferry, CT, 06335
 www.CTbrainINJURY.com 860 942-0365

PH

Patricia Hinrichs

To: LAURA CLARK; HENRY C WINIARSKI JR ATTY (henrywiniarski@comcast.net); ABI RESOURCES LLC. CTbrainINJURY.com 860 942-0365

Cc: Guerreiro, John; Kyer, Danielle; Samantha Scott

Mon 10/10/2022 10:17 AM

Good morning,

I received notice that HFSC will no longer be able to provide services for JP, I have made a referral for CBT services with Ms. Brisman through SLG for 4 visits 1xmonth. I will keep the team update on this matter

Thank You,
Patricia A Hinrichs MS-HS-BCP
Lead ABI Care Manager
WCAAA
84 Progress Lane 2nd floor
Waterbury CT 06705
P-203-465-1000 ext 147
f-203-465-1030

A

A.B.I. RESOURCES LLC. 860 942-0365

To: Patricia Hinrichs; LAURA CLARK; HENRY C WINIARSKI JR ATTY (henrywiniarski@comcast.net)

Cc: Guerreiro, John; Kyer, Danielle; Samantha Scott

Mon 10/10/2022 11:04 AM

Hi Patty,

Would you please check with DSS on the CBT referral process in regards to the ABI wavier program?

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

This message is encrypted. What's encryption?

PH

Patricia Hinrichs

To: A.B.I. RESOURCES LLC. 860 942-0365; LAURA CLARK; HENRY C WINIARSKI JR ATTY (henrywiniarski@comcast.net)

Cc: Guerreiro, John; Kyer, Danielle; Samantha Scott

Mon 10/10/2022 11:51 AM

Dave,

I was notified by HFSC and in returned confirmed this with JP and offered the new agency which he accepted. I have to go with what JP agrees to as he is not conserved.

<  Mass text 2 ✓

Monday, October 24

MMS
9:33 AM

Hello Shannon,
apparently SLG is
going to the clients
today. Is ABI being
removed and should
Laura continue with
the new staff that has
been identified?

Index D: Participant-Centered Planning and Service Delivery
D-1: Service Plan Development (6 of 8)

Informed Choice of Providers. Describe how participants are assisted in obtaining information about and selecting among qualified providers of the waiver services in the service plan.

Case managers share with waiver consumers the provider listing, which is developed by a DSS contracted fiduciary listing identifies providers by service type and geographic coverage area who meet the qualifications as set forth by to service waiver participants. The case managers facilitate opportunities for participants to speak with and/or interview prospective providers prior to selection. Program participants are able to contact the fiscal intermediary to get an up and customized listing of the provider directory. For household employees, a background check is conducted by the fiscal intermediary and the results are shared with the consumer to aid in their selection.

MMS 9:44 AM

Thursday, October 27

MMS
4:43 PM

Hello Shannon,
The SLG rep you sent
over has attempted to
poach ABI Resources
employee.



Monday



<  Mass text 3 ▾ ⋮

Wednesday, November 23

Hello Team RR,
It was brought to ABI
Resources' attention
that CCCI's plan is to
use ABI Resources'
service providers intill
December 31, 2022.
Inorder to provide
time for SLG to find
providers, at that time
ABI Resources will
be removed. Is this
correct?

9:32 AM

FW from Pam. Not to
be removed until SLG
has provided staff for
Ronald.

MMS

ABI Resources
resignation from
services is today.

MMS

9:36 AM



PAM sister PC

Meet and greet is

Close Previous Next

CCCI - **Steering** clients

A A.B.I. RESOURCES L.L.C. 860 942-0365

To: Amy Dumont
Cc: CHRISTINE G (ABI SUPPORT SUPERVISOR); ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com; legal@ctbraininjury.com

Wed 4/14/2021 12:31 PM

Hello Amy,

ABI Resources has been working with a family on MFP for over a year now on discharge planning, the client is [REDACTED] in Gales Ferry. Today at the discharge meeting it was brought to our attention that CCCI arranged a meeting with SLG for the client's family. CCCI expressed to everyone, that the family should go with a LARGE agency that can provide all services. ABI Resources is pursuing this legally as a result.

Would you please give me a call? 860 463-3638

All the best,
David Medeiros CBIS



A.B.I. RESOURCES
WEBSITE | FACEBOOK (Meet Abi the Elephant)
Main Office: 1-860-942-0365 | Ledyard Fax: 1-860-464-4960 | Windham Fax: 1-860-465-9591
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ABI RESOURCES | Request / Medicaid care management access agency complaint

A A.B.I. RESOURCES L.L.C. 860 942-0365

To: David.M@ctbraininjury.com; commis.dss@ct.gov; Cavallaro, Jennifer
Bcc: aabiwr@live.com

Mon 11/15/2021 11:55 AM

11/15/2021

Good afternoon Commissioner Gifford and Mrs Cavallaro,

ABI Resources has been informed that the new agency contacted ABI Resources employees who were working with the Gales Ferry MFP client and has hired them to work with the same exact Gales Ferry MFP client. This is a clear conflict of interest. What safeguards does the Department of Social Services have in place to stop what may appear to be inclusion, referral steering and **poaching**?

All the best,
David Medeiros CBIS



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D David.M@ctbraininjury.com

To: commis.dss@ct.gov; Cavallaro, Jennifer
Bcc: aabiwr@live.com

Fri 11/12/2021 12:45 PM

11/12/2021

Good afternoon Commissioner Gifford, Mrs. Cavallaro, and the Department of Social Services,

Would the Department of Social Services please provide ABI Resources a detailed status update in regards to the reported complaint submitted to DSS in early October?

All the best,
David Medeiros CBIS



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RE: This appears to be a corruption of decision-making, patient steering, unfair competition, monopolization efforts, kickbacks, and/or inducements for Medicaid Referrals.

Dumont, Amy E <Amy.Dumont@ct.gov>

Fri 12/9/2022 9:17 AM

To: aabiwr@live.com <aabiwr@live.com>

Cc: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; Cavallaro, Jennifer <Jennifer.Cavallaro@ct.gov>; Slitt, Michael <Michael.Slitt@ct.gov>; Orejuela, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Orejuela@ct.gov>

Good morning! I am not sure the accuracy of this. I believe what you are referencing is a case that CCSN is the provider for however as we indicated yesterday in our meeting please provide specific examples to both Jenn and I for research. Thank you!!

Amy

Amy Dumont, LCSW
Program Manager
CT Department of Social Services
Community Options Unit
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford CT 06105-3725
Tel: 860 424-5173
Fax: 860 424:4963
amy.dumont@ct.gov

From: aabiwr@live.com <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 5:35 AM

To: Dumont, Amy E <Amy.Dumont@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; Cavallaro, Jennifer <Jennifer.Cavallaro@ct.gov>; Slitt, Michael <Michael.Slitt@ct.gov>; Orejuela, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Orejuela@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: This appears to be a corruption of decision-making, patient steering, unfair competition, monopolization efforts, kickbacks, and/or inducements for Medicaid Referrals.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

12/09/2022

Here we go again, blowing the whistle.

Yesterday

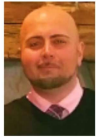
CCCi Care Manager Doreen Andrews informed a client during a quarterly meeting that she referred him to SLG CBT provider Dr Bissman without his consent. Doreen informed the Team that Dr Brissman is the only person he can use. This appears to be a corruption of decision-making, patient steering, unfair competition, monopolization efforts, kickbacks, and/or inducements for Medicaid Referrals. Storrs Mansfield consumer A.J.

Will DSS please stop care management from forcing Medicaid referrals on consumers?

The client may be reporting this to Fed Medicaid fraud.

All the best,

David Medeiros CBIS



A.B.I. RESOURCES

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From: aabiwr@live.com <aabiwr@live.com>

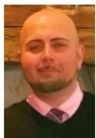
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 3:35 PM

To: Dumont, Amy E <amy.dumont@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; Cavallaro, Jennifer <Jennifer.Cavallaro@ct.gov>; Slitt, Michael <Michael.Slitt@ct.gov>; Orejuela, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Orejuela@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: This appears to be a corruption of decision-making, patient steering, unfair competition, monopolization efforts, kickbacks, and/or inducements for Medicaid Referrals.

All the best,
David Medeiros CBIS



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