

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 1:23 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Consumer Compensation ABI Waiver Program

David –

As previously explained, DSS has no knowledge or documentation that SLG compensates consumers.

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 1:08 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Consumer Compensation ABI Waiver Program

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.

11/15/2023

FOIA Appeal for Request

Dear CT DSS FOIA Appeals Officer,

I am writing to appeal the response to my Freedom of Information Act request regarding the compensation details for Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program consumers. The response I received, stated: "This does not occur, so this information does not exist."

I am concerned about the definitive nature of this statement and seek further clarification and supporting documentation. Specifically, I request the following:

1. Detailed Explanation: A comprehensive explanation or official statement detailing how the Department determined that compensation for ABI Waiver Program consumers "This does not occur." This should include any analyses, reports, or internal reviews that support this conclusion.
2. Policy Documentation: Copies of any policies, guidelines, or internal memos that outline the procedures and criteria used to assess compensation matters related to ABI Waiver Program consumers.
3. Historical Data: Any historical data or records that the Department used to ascertain that such compensation has never occurred.

This request is made under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, which ensures public access to government records and information. The statement "this does not occur" implies a level of certainty that necessitates thorough documentation and evidence. As a concerned citizen and in the interest of public transparency, I believe it is imperative to understand the basis of such definitive claims made by a government agency.

I appreciate your attention to this appeal and look forward to a timely response.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 12:09 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Consumer Compensation ABI Waiver Program

David –

As explained in previous correspondence, responding to complaint submissions does not fall under the purview of FOIA.

Please see the answered responses below.

1. Records of Complaints and Actions Taken: Documentation regarding the receipt and subsequent actions taken in response to the complaint filed on September 20, 2023, concerning the Supported Living Group.
 - a. This category of complaints is already being addressed in your previous requests as explained to you on 11/14/2023
2. Compensation Details for ABI Waiver Program Consumers:
 - a. This does not occur, so this information does not exist
3. Nature and structure of compensation provided to consumers for services at SLG.
 - a. See 2.-a.
4. Amounts, frequency, and criteria of compensation.
 - a. See 2.-a.
5. Funding sources and any limitations or conditions attached.
 - a. See 2.-a.
6. Documentation of consumer agreements or contracts relating to compensation.
 - a. See 2.-a.

7. **Investigations and Audits:** Records of any complaints, investigations, or audits related to consumer payment or compensation within the ABI Waiver Program, specifically regarding the Supported Living Group, including outcomes of these inquiries.
 - a. **See 1.-a.**
8. **Policies and Regulations:** Any guidelines, policies, or regulations governing consumer compensation within the ABI Waiver Program, particularly in relation to services provided by the Supported Living Group.
 - a. **See 2.-a.**
9. **Safeguards and Administration Integrity:** Documents detailing how the integrity of consumer compensation is maintained within the ABI Waiver Program, including measures to prevent misuse or misallocation of funds.
 - a. **See 2.-a.**

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 12:13 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Consumer Compensation ABI Waiver Program

Importance: High

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.

11/15/2023

Appeal Subject: Follow-Up on Formal Complaint Records and Freedom of Information Act Request - ABI Waiver Program and Supported Living Group.

Dear Connecticut FOIA Officer

I am writing to follow up on a formal complaint submitted on September 20, 2023, regarding employment concerns at the Supported Living Group (SLG) within the ABI Waiver Program. This complaint was addressed to the DSS Commissioner and Amy Dumont, DSS Chief Operating Officer. Despite the electronic confirmation of delivery, there has been no acknowledgment or response to this serious matter.

Given the lack of response and the gravity of the concerns raised, I am invoking the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act § 1-200 to request the following information:

1. Records of Complaints and Actions Taken: Documentation regarding the receipt and subsequent actions taken in response to the complaint filed on September 20, 2023, concerning the Supported Living Group.
2. Compensation Details for ABI Waiver Program Consumers:
3. Nature and structure of compensation provided to consumers for services at SLG.
4. Amounts, frequency, and criteria of compensation.
5. Funding sources and any limitations or conditions attached.
6. Documentation of consumer agreements or contracts relating to compensation.
7. Investigations and Audits: Records of any complaints, investigations, or audits related to consumer payment or compensation within the ABI Waiver Program, specifically regarding the Supported Living Group, including outcomes of these inquiries.
8. Policies and Regulations: Any guidelines, policies, or regulations governing consumer compensation within the ABI Waiver Program, particularly in relation to services provided by the Supported Living Group.
9. Safeguards and Administration Integrity: Documents detailing how the integrity of consumer compensation is maintained within the ABI Waiver Program, including measures to prevent misuse or misallocation of funds.

I require these records in an accessible electronic format due to my disability. If some documents are exempt from disclosure, please provide a Vaughn index detailing the reasons for such exemption.

Your prompt attention to this matter is crucial for ensuring the welfare and fair treatment of ABI Waiver Program consumers. I trust that the Department of Social Services will address these concerns with the urgency and professionalism they warrant.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources LLC
860 942-0365
AabiWR@live.com

Re: 11.19.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 (BINDER 1) Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Tue 11/21/2023 3:50 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <foi@ct.gov>

Bcc: ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com <AABIWR@live.com>

11/21/2023

Subject: Legal Appeal Concerning Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear CT DSS FOIA officer,

Pursuant to Section 1-206(b) of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, I hereby submit a formal appeal regarding the response to my FOIA request dated November 19, 2023. This request was directed to the relevant Connecticut State Departments for information pertaining to the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Programs 1 and 2.

The response from the Department of Social Services FOIA Officer, asserted the non-existence of the requested documents, except for the ongoing verification of service and intervention plans. This reply appears inconsistent with statutory requirements under Section 1-210(a) of the CT FOIA, which obligates the disclosure of public records unless explicitly exempted.

Basis for Belief in Record Existence:

Given the statutory requirements under the Medicaid program and state regulations governing ABI Waiver Programs, it is reasonable to expect that documents such as grievances, complaints, financial audits, policies, and service plans are regularly maintained and monitored. The absence of such records would not only be atypical but potentially indicative of non-compliance with state and federal regulatory standards.

Legal Grounds for Appeal:

Public Records Definition: Section 1-200(5) of the CT FOIA defines public records in broad terms, encompassing the categories of documents I have requested.

Mandatory Disclosure: Section 1-210(a) mandates the disclosure of all public records unless they fall under specific exemptions delineated in Section 1-210(b).

Disability Accommodation: Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), my request for electronic format records is not only reasonable but required to ensure equal access.

Public Interest Considerations:

The requested information is vital to assess the effectiveness, integrity, and legal compliance of the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs. Transparency in these matters directly impacts public health and welfare, thereby serving a significant public interest.

Request for Exemption Justification:

In accordance with Section 1-210(b), should you assert that any portion of the requested documents is exempt from disclosure, I request a detailed justification for each exemption claimed, including the precise statutory language relied upon.

I trust that this appeal will prompt a re-evaluation of my FOIA request and the subsequent release of the records in question. As required by Section 1-206(b)(1) of the CT FOIA,

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros

ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 3:04 PM**To:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <foi@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: 11.19.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 (BINDER 1) Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2

David –

In regard to your request below, the Division of Financial Services does not have any of the requested documents. The only portion of this request we are still verifying is below:

1. All service and intervention plans related to Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2 within Connecticut.

Thanks,

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 6:23 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: 11.19.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 (BINDER 1) Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2
Importance: High

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.

Dear CT DSS Officer Mr. Giovanni Pinto – Communications Manager with the Department of Social Services,

I hope this message finds you well. I appreciate your dedication to managing the FOIA requests and acknowledge the significant workload that 26 requests since 9/26/2023 represent, especially with the limited staffing resources.

I understand that my situation as a TBI and stroke survivor necessitates certain accommodations, and I'm grateful for the Department's efforts to provide these. I want to ensure that my requests are not perceived as burdensome but rather as a pursuit of necessary information in compliance with FOIA guidelines.

In the spirit of constructive collaboration and understanding the constraints under which the Department operates, I would like to propose the following:

1. Prioritization: If possible, could we prioritize the requests based on urgency or relevance? This might streamline the process and ease the workload on your end.
2. Regular Updates: Periodic updates on the status of the requests would be highly appreciated. This would help in managing expectations and planning accordingly.
3. Feedback Mechanism: If any part of my requests is unclear or overly broad, I welcome your feedback for clarification or refinement.
4. Accommodations Acknowledgement: I assure you that my requests for accommodations are made in good faith, aimed at ensuring equal access to information. Any assistance in this regard is greatly valued.
5. Constructive Dialogue: I am open to any suggestions or advice from your end on how to make this process smoother for both parties.

I am committed to working cooperatively and ensuring that our communications remain respectful and productive. Thank you for your time and attention to these matters. I look forward to your response and positive engagements.

Warm regards,
 David Medeiros
 ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 4:26 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: 11.19.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 (BINDER 1) Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The Department of Social Services currently has only one FOIA officer who has been continuously working on the **26 FOI requests** you have submitted since 9/26/2023. His information has been shared with you previously as a part of an official request and in regular email correspondence. His information again is as follows:
 - Giovanni Pinto – Communications Manager with the Department of Social Services
- Please also find highlighted portions of your request below that include information, documents, and records that have already been requested, and/or have already been completed

Thank you,

FOIA Officer
 Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 8:50 AM
To: FOI <FOI@ct.gov>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: 11.19.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 (BINDER 1) Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2
Importance: High

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.

11/19/2023

Freedom of Information Act Request

To Whom It May Concern at Relevant Connecticut State Departments:

I am writing to request records under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act. This request concerns documents and information related to the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Programs 1 and 2, specifically targeting grievances, complaints, and associated government response records or investigations within the state of Connecticut. Binder 1 is included in this FOIA record request.

Specifically, I am requesting records:

All Documents and Correspondence:

1. Any and all documents, emails, memos, and correspondences related to grievances and complaints concerning the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2 within Connecticut. – already requested and being finalized with your 10/23/2023 request

Financial Audits and Reviews:

2. Complete financial audits, reviews, and any related documents concerning these programs, focusing on financial integrity and potential irregularities.

Policies and Procedures:

3. Copies of all current and past policies, procedures, and guidelines governing the operation of Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2 in Connecticut, particularly regarding care management and provider selection. – already provided to you on 11/14/2023 @ 10:37 AM

Provider Directories and Information:

2. The most recent and any past versions of provider directories for these programs, including any information previously not disclosed publicly. – already requested and being finalized with your 11/13/2023 request

Service and Intervention Plans:

1. All service and intervention plans related to Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2 within Connecticut.

Investigation Reports and Findings:

1. Any reports, findings, or documents resulting from investigations conducted in relation to these programs within Connecticut. – The Department does not have any records pertaining to this portion of the request

Communication Records:

3. Records of all communications regarding Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2, specifically relating to filed grievances and complaints within Connecticut. – already requested and being finalized with your 10/23/2023 request and your 9/26/2023 request, which pinged over 18,000 emails and has been explained would take over a year to complete

Reference to Attached Documents:

1. Please refer to the attached documents for specific instances and details relevant to and for this request of all related records.

Rationale for Request:

1. This information is requested in the public interest to understand the operation, management, and legality of services provided under Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs 1 and 2 within Connecticut, and to ensure compliance with legal and ethical standards.

Disability Accommodation Request:

1. Due to a disability, I request that the information be provided in an electronic format to facilitate accessibility.

Contact Information for FOIA Officer:

1. For effective communication, please provide the name and contact information of the FOIA officer handling this request in your department.

Anticipated Exemptions:

Should any part of the requested documents be exempt from disclosure, I seek a comprehensive written explanation for each exemption, citing the relevant statutory exemption. I request that only the exempted portions be redacted, maintaining the integrity of the remaining document.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address or via email.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Allied Community Resources ACR

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 2:51 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:04 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Allied Community Resources ACR**Importance:** High**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.

11/21/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA - [Allied Community Resources ACR](#)

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU

Office of the Commissioner

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Dear CT DSS FOIA Officer,

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to [Allied Community Resources](#) through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specific Records Requested:

1) Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the services billed for and the annual disbursements for each of the following years and to the present current date:

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

2) Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between the agency and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

3) If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

4) I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

5) Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

6) For effective communication, I respectfully request records of the name and title of the specific FOIA officer handling this request. This will assist in any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request.

12/1/23, 6:36 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Connecticut Community Care CCC

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 2:53 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:05 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Connecticut Community Care CCC**Importance:** High**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.

11/21/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA - [Connecticut Community Care CCC](#)

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU

Office of the Commissioner

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Dear CT DSS FOIA Officer,

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to [Connecticut Community Care CCC](#) through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specific Records Requested:

1) Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the services billed for and the annual disbursements for each of the following years:

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

2) Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between the agency and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

3) If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

4) I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

5) Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

6) For effective communication, I respectfully request records of the name and title of the specific FOIA officer handling this request. This will assist in any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

12/1/23, 6:35 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. CT Community Options Unit COU

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 2:56 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services**From:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:05 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. CT Community Options Unit COU**Importance:** High**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.

11/21/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA - [CT Community Options Unit COU](#)

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU

Office of the Commissioner

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Dear CT DSS FOIA Officer,

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to [CT Community Options Unit COU](#) through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specific Records Requested:

1) Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the services billed for and the annual disbursements for each of the following years:

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

2) Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between the agency and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

3) If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

4) I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

5) Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

6) For effective communication, I respectfully request records of the name and title of the specific FOIA officer handling this request. This will assist in any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

12/1/23, 6:34 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Employment Options EO

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 2:59 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:07 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Employment Options EO**Importance:** High**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.

11/21/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA - [Employment Options EO](#)

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU

Office of the Commissioner

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Dear CT DSS FOIA Officer,

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to [Employment Options EO](#) through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specific Records Requested:

1) Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the services billed for and the annual disbursements for each of the following years:

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

2) Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between the agency and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

3) If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

4) I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

5) Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

6) For effective communication, I respectfully request records of the name and title of the specific FOIA officer handling this request. This will assist in any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

12/1/23, 6:33 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Goodwill

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 2:58 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services**From:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 7:06 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.21.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. Goodwill**Importance:** High**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.

11/21/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA - [Goodwill](#)Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU
Office of the Commissioner
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear CT DSS FOIA Officer,

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to [Goodwill](#) through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specific Records Requested:

1) Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the services billed for and the annual disbursements for each of the following years:

- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

2) Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between the agency and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

3) If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

4) I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

5) Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

6) For effective communication, I respectfully request records of the name and title of the specific FOIA officer handling this request. This will assist in any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: Connecticut Community Care Referrals | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 1:34 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
 Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

1 attachments (14 MB)

ABI Waiver Complaint.zip;

David –

As I clarified in one of four of your 11/20/2023 requests, you have had multiple requests with the same ask for complaint records. I have compiled all complaint records requested and have included them in the attached ZIP file.

For reference, all 33 complaints we have received/are included in the ZIP file, are from you.

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services as the final portion is included in your 9/26/2023 request, which I have explained will take over a year to complete.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
 Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:34 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Connecticut Community Care Referrals | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Please find updates in red, and portions of this request completed and highlighted below:

1. All records, communications, and documents pertaining to Connecticut Community Care's referral practices under the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program from January 1, 2019, to the present date. Still working on this portion. As explained in the initial response on 10/23/2023, this is anticipated to take over a year to complete due to the volume and complexity of your additional requests.
2. Documentation of any payments, incentives, or benefits provided to consumers by the Supported Living Group as a result of their participation in services under the ABI Waiver Program. This does not occur, so this information does not exist.
3. Policies, guidelines, or internal memos detailing the criteria and process for Connecticut Community Care's referrals to the Supported Living Group under the ABI Waiver Program. The Department of Social Services does not have any record of this form of documentation.
4. Records of any complaints, investigations, or audits concerning Connecticut Community Care's referral practices or the Supported Living Group's incentive programs related to the ABI Waiver Program. Still working to verify and compile this information.
5. Correspondence between the State of Connecticut and Connecticut Community Care or the Supported Living Group regarding the ABI Waiver Program, referrals, and consumer incentives. This has not occurred, so this information does not exist.
6. Any evaluations, reports, or studies conducted by or on behalf of the State of Connecticut concerning the effectiveness, integrity, and compliance of the ABI Waiver Program, particularly in relation to referrals and consumer incentives. I Please find the attached DSS HCBS CAHPS De-Identified annual reports from UCONN. This is the only report we do that includes ABI information. Because no specific dates were requested, I have included the annual reports for 2022 & 2023. (See Attached)

FOIA Officer
 Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 9:46 AM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Connecticut Community Care Referrals | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* This request, in addition to your other pending requests is anticipated to take over a year to complete due to the volume and complexity of information requested. I appreciate your patience.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 9:40 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: Connecticut Community Care Referrals | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

Importance: High

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.

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request – Medicaid ABI Waiver Program and Connecticut Community Care Referrals

Connecticut Department of Social Services
Office of Legal Affairs, Regulations, and Administrative Hearings
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

I am writing to submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request pursuant to the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, C.G.S. § 1-200 et seq. I am seeking information related to the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program, specifically concerning Connecticut Community Care's referral practices and any potential financial incentives provided to consumers for participating in services offered by the Supported Living Group.

Please provide the following information:

All records, communications, and documents pertaining to Connecticut Community Care's referral practices under the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program from January 1, 2019, to the present date.

Any contracts, agreements, or MOUs between Connecticut Community Care and the Supported Living Group related to the ABI Waiver Program, including details on financial arrangements and incentives.

Documentation of any payments, incentives, or benefits provided to consumers by the Supported Living Group as a result of their participation in services under the ABI Waiver Program.

Policies, guidelines, or internal memos detailing the criteria and process for Connecticut Community Care's referrals to the Supported Living Group under the ABI Waiver Program.

Records of any complaints, investigations, or audits concerning Connecticut Community Care's referral practices or the Supported Living Group's incentive programs related to the ABI Waiver Program.

Correspondence between the State of Connecticut and Connecticut Community Care or the Supported Living Group regarding the ABI Waiver Program, referrals, and consumer incentives.

Any evaluations, reports, or studies conducted by or on behalf of the State of Connecticut concerning the effectiveness, integrity, and compliance of the ABI Waiver Program, particularly in relation to referrals and consumer incentives.

If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/21/2023 1:01 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

1 attachments (576 KB)

ABI Directory - Statewide.pdf;

David –

Please find the Provider Directory attached.

We are still working to see if we can compile the requested “Statistical Data” within this request.

Thanks,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2023 10:27 AM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

Apologies for any confusion, yes these are the contacts we have, I am just waiting for a response as Ms. Giannelli and Ms. Flag are out of the office.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 11:05 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Cc: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@live.com>

Subject: Re: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

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.

These are the appropriate Allied Community Resources contacts. It is concerning that DSS does not have this information.

Valerie Giannelli vgiannelli@alliedgroup.org

Nicole Simmons nsimmons@alliedgroup.org

Marihonor Flag mflagg@alliedgoup.org

David Medeiros

ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 10:51 AM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

I reached back out to Allied today to get this information. Unfortunately, I was directed to submit a formal “Information Request Form” through their web portal, which projects a 5 to 8 day turnaround. I am working to get a more direct contact with Allied now to hopefully expedite this request.

Thank you for your patience.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 6:25 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023
Importance: High

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.

11/15/2023 Appeal

In response, regarding my Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for the DSS Medicaid ABI Waiver program directory of providers, specifically addressing portions a) & g) of my request.

While I appreciate the efforts made by the Department to contact Allied Community Resources for verification of the directory, it is important to emphasize that the requested directory is a matter of public interest and should be accessible under the FOIA. The FOIA is designed to ensure transparency and access to public records, which includes records maintained or monitored by government agencies.

Your response indicates that Allied Community Resources maintains such a directory but does not distribute it. As this directory is managed and monitored by DSS, it falls within the scope of documents that should be available under FOIA. The assertion that the department does not have access to any documentation or records that include this directory seems incongruent with the nature of the DSS's oversight and management responsibilities.

Therefore, I formally appeal the decision of the Department on the following grounds:

1. Public Interest: The directory in question is a vital resource for individuals and families seeking information about qualified providers under the DSS Medicaid ABI Waiver program. Its availability is crucial for ensuring informed decision-making and access to necessary services.
2. Agency Oversight: As the DSS oversees and monitors the ABI Waiver program, it is reasonable to expect that the Department would have, or could easily obtain, access to such an essential directory maintained by Allied Community Resources.
3. Transparency and Accountability: Withholding this directory contradicts the principles of transparency and accountability that are foundational to public service and the FOIA.

In light of these considerations, I respectfully request that the Department reevaluate its position and provide access to the ABI Waiver program directory of providers. Additionally, I seek clarification on why this directory is not readily available and any reasons for its restricted distribution.

Again and additionally;

g) related to records of public accessibility and procedure.

I am specifically seeking records pertaining to the directory maintained by your department, with a focus on its creation, maintenance, presentation to consumers, and accessibility to the public. This request stems from a concern regarding the apparent lack of visibility and utilization of this directory. For clarity and completeness, I am requesting the following records:

Records on the Creation of the Directory:

4. Documents detailing who is responsible for creating the directory.
5. Records outlining the guidelines or criteria used during its creation.
6. Documentation identifying the specific department or team tasked with this responsibility.

Records on the Maintenance of the Directory:

1. Documents specifying who is in charge of maintaining and updating the directory.
2. Records indicating the frequency and procedures for updates.
3. Documentation related to the measures in place to ensure accuracy and relevance of the information in the directory.

Records on Presentation to Consumers:

1. Documents describing how the directory is presented to consumers.
2. Records of the formats or platforms used (e.g., online portal, printed material).
3. Any user feedback or evaluations that assess the user-friendliness and navigability of the directory.

Records on Public Access:

1. Documents illustrating how the public can access this directory.
2. Records of any restrictions or prerequisites for accessing the directory.
3. Documentation on any efforts made to promote or advertise the directory to the public.

Records on Transparency and Accountability:

1. Documents pertaining to measures ensuring transparency in the management of the directory.
2. Records on public notifications or announcements about the directory's existence and utility.

The provision of these records is crucial in evaluating the effectiveness of the directory as a public resource. Your cooperation in this matter is highly appreciated, and I trust that your department will expediently facilitate the provision of these records in compliance with FOIA guidelines.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
 David Medeiros
 ABI Resources

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to a timely response and am hopeful for a positive resolution.

Sincerely,
 David Medeiros
 ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 3:53 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

Thank you for your response.

Pertaining to portions a) & g) of your request, the Department of Social Services does not have access to any documentation or records that include a Directory of Qualified Providers. This type of directory and subsequent procedures are maintained by Allied Community Resources. I provided the 2-1-1 map as a means of assisting even though we do not have access to your requested information. It does not fall under the purview of FOIA to create such a document if one does not already exist within the agency.

As I continue to ensure that DSS provides you with accurate and transparent information, I contacted Allied to obtain verification of such a maintained directory. Allied confirmed that they do have such a directory, but that they do not send it out. If your hope is to get added to such list, Allied confirmed that you can [reach out to them here](#), fill out an application, and they will review the submission.

For record retention and tracking on my end, DSS considers all portions of this request, except for d), completed.

Thank you for your patience as we work to compile the additional requested data,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 3:02 PM

To: FOI <FOI@ct.gov>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Subject: Fw: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

Importance: High

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.

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 2:11 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@live.com>

Subject: Re: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am writing in response to your correspondence, regarding my Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request concerning the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program. I appreciate your efforts in addressing some of the items listed in my request. However, I would like to bring to your attention a significant discrepancy that requires immediate rectification.

a) Directory of Qualified Providers:

In your response, you referred me to the 2-1-1 interactive map for the Directory of Qualified Providers. I must clarify that this reference does not fulfill the specific request made as 2-1-1 is not the Directory of Qualified Providers. The information provided via the interactive map does not constitute a formal directory and lacks comprehensive details found in the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Directory of Qualified Providers, such as full contact information, qualifications, and specific services offered by each provider.

Therefore, I reiterate my request for an official, documented Directory of Qualified Providers related to the ABI Waiver Program. This directory should include detailed information about each provider, their qualifications, contact information, and services offered, as initially requested. Additionally, there is an agency provider list and a private provider list, I am requesting both.

Moreover, I request that this information be provided in a document format, rather than a web link, to ensure a comprehensive and accessible review.

Providing accurate and complete information is essential for transparency and effective public oversight of the ABI Waiver Program.

In light of your query for clarification regarding item **g) related to records of public accessibility and procedure**.

I am specifically seeking records pertaining to the directory maintained by your department, with a focus on its creation, maintenance, presentation to consumers, and accessibility to the public. This request stems from a concern regarding the apparent lack of visibility and utilization of this directory. For clarity and completeness, I am requesting the following records:

Records on the Creation of the Directory:

1. Documents detailing who is responsible for creating the directory.
2. Records outlining the guidelines or criteria used during its creation.
3. Documentation identifying the specific department or team tasked with this responsibility.

Records on the Maintenance of the Directory:

1. Documents specifying who is in charge of maintaining and updating the directory.
2. Records indicating the frequency and procedures for updates.
3. Documentation related to the measures in place to ensure accuracy and relevance of the information in the directory.

Records on Presentation to Consumers:

1. Documents describing how the directory is presented to consumers.
2. Records of the formats or platforms used (e.g., online portal, printed material).
3. Any user feedback or evaluations that assess the user-friendliness and navigability of the directory.

Records on Public Access:

1. Documents illustrating how the public can access this directory.
2. Records of any restrictions or prerequisites for accessing the directory.
3. Documentation on any efforts made to promote or advertise the directory to the public.

Records on Transparency and Accountability:

1. Documents pertaining to measures ensuring transparency in the management of the directory.
2. Records on public notifications or announcements about the directory's existence and utility.

The provision of these records is crucial in evaluating the effectiveness of the directory as a public resource. Your cooperation in this matter is highly appreciated, and I trust that your department will expediently facilitate the provision of these records in compliance with FOIA guidelines.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 10:37 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Subject: RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

Please find the attached Policy information as a portion of this request, an explanation of having only a portion of the requested documents, and my second attempted follow-up question in red. **All completed fields will be highlighted.**

a) The Directory of Qualified Providers. – You can find the list on the [2-1-1 interactive map here](#).

b) Process and Criteria Documentation: All documents outlining the criteria and processes used to establish provider qualifications for the ABI Waiver Program, including how providers are vetted and approved. – Allied does the enrollment and credentialing, so this would need to be requested through them. Provider qualifications are specified in the waiver document itself, which is developed by DSS and approved by the legislature and then CMS. You can find that on the [CMS Web Portal](#) and downloading the "Approved Application" ZIP File.

c) Provider Directory: Any current directories or lists of qualified providers for the ABI Waiver Program, including contact information and services offered. – Included in a)

d) Statistical Data: Detailed reports or statistics on the number of individuals currently enrolled in the ABI Waiver Program, including demographics and service types received.

e) Policy Manuals and Guidelines: Copies of policy and procedure manuals or guidelines governing the ABI Waiver Program's administration, including any changes made within the last two years. – See attached.

f) Internal Communications: Relevant internal communications, including emails and meeting notes, discussing the management, policy decisions, or changes related to the ABI Waiver Program. – This is criteria already included in your 9/26/2023 request that is projected to take over a year to complete.

g) Records of the public accessibility and procedure. – I am not sure what you mean by this, can you please elaborate?

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 10:02 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Subject: RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

Please find a response to portions of your request highlighted below and a follow-up question in red.

Thanks,

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 9:49 AM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 6:52 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: Directory of Qualified Providers, Medicaid ABI Waiver Program | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

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11/13/2023

Connecticut Department of Social Services

Office of Legal Affairs, Regulations, and Administrative Hearings

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request – Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Directory of Qualified Providers

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), I am requesting access to and copies of all records and documents maintained by the Connecticut Department of Social Services related to the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program.

Specifically, I seek the following information:

a) The Directory of Qualified Providers. – You can find the list on the [2-1-1 interactive map here](#).

b) Process and Criteria Documentation: All documents outlining the criteria and processes used to establish provider qualifications for the ABI Waiver Program, including how providers are vetted and approved.

c) Provider Directory: Any current directories or lists of qualified providers for the ABI Waiver Program, including contact information and services offered. – Included in a)

d) Statistical Data: Detailed reports or statistics on the number of individuals currently enrolled in the ABI Waiver Program, including demographics and service types received.

e) Policy Manuals and Guidelines: Copies of policy and procedure manuals or guidelines governing the ABI Waiver Program's administration, including any changes made within the last two years.

f) Internal Communications: Relevant internal communications, including emails and meeting notes, discussing the management, policy decisions, or changes related to the ABI Waiver Program. – This is criteria already included in your 9/26/2023 request that is projected to take over a year to complete.

g) Records of the public accessibility and procedure. – I am not sure what you mean by this, can you please elaborate?

If certain records are exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, please provide a Vaughn index, as per Vaughn v. Rosen (484 F.2d 820, D.C. Cir. 1973), detailing each exempt document and the specific FOIA exemption applied.

Due to my disability, I request that the information be provided in an accessible electronic format. This accommodation is essential for my accessibility and participation.

12/1/23, 6:38 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

Thank you for your attention to this request. I look forward to your prompt response within the statutory 20-business-day period.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros

ABI Resources

RE: ** Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 Cognitive Behavioral Services Behavior Analysts in Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1 (Exclusively)

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Mon 11/20/2023 4:07 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 6:58 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: ** Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 Cognitive Behavioral Services Behavior Analysts in Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1 (Exclusively)

Importance: High

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.

11/19/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request – **Cognitive Behavioral Services Behavior Analysts in Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1 (Exclusively)**

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am submitting a request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552) to obtain records specifically related to Cognitive Behavioral Services and the integration of **Behavior Analysts** under the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1. This request is exclusively for information related to Waiver Program 1 and should not include information pertaining to Waiver Program 2 or any other programs.

Specific Records Requested:

Integration and Approval Records (**Waiver 1 Only**):

1. Documents confirming the approval for the inclusion of Behavior Analysts in providing Cognitive Behavioral Services under Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1.
2. State or federal records indicating when this integration was officially approved and implemented in Waiver Program 1.

Operational and Implementation Records (Waiver 1 Only):

1. Records detailing the initiation and operational framework for Behavior Analysts providing Cognitive Behavioral Services under Waiver Program 1.
2. Agreements, protocols, or guidelines specifically related to the role of Behavior Analysts in Waiver Program 1.

Financial Records (**Waiver 1 Only**):

1. Detailed financial statements or invoices showing payments made to Behavior Analysts for providing Cognitive Behavioral Services under Waiver Program 1.
2. Audit reports or financial analyses pertaining exclusively to the expenditure on Cognitive Behavioral Services in Waiver Program 1.

Recorded Time Frame (**Waiver 1 Only**):

This request encompasses the period from the integration of Behavior Analysts in providing Cognitive Behavioral Services under Waiver Program 1 up to the current date.

Explicit Exclusion of Waiver Program 2:

To emphasize, this request is strictly for information regarding Waiver Program 1.

12/1/23, 6:39 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

I assert that the requested information is not protected from disclosure under the Connecticut FOIA, as it is essential for public understanding and does not fall under privileged or confidential categories.

In case any part of the requested documents is exempt from disclosure, I request a detailed written justification for each exemption, citing the relevant statutory exemption, and ask for only the exempted portions to be redacted, keeping the rest of the document intact. In the event of a partial or complete denial of my request, I seek a written explanation, specifying the exact statutory exemptions that justify the denial.

For accessibility reasons due to my disability, I request the provision of electronic records. Your assistance in this matter is highly appreciated.

Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

For effective accommodation communications, I respectfully request the name and title of the specific FOIA officer handling this request. This will facilitate any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request. Please include this information in your response to this request, rather than through a separate communication.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1 (Exclusively) Care Management Consultation Services

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Mon 11/20/2023 4:03 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 6:08 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.19.2023 Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1 (Exclusively) Care Management Consultation Services

Importance: High

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11/19/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request – Care Management Consultation Services in Medicaid **ABI Waiver Program 1 (Exclusively)**

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am submitting a request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552) to obtain information specifically related to Care Management Consultation Services under the **Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1**. Please note that this request is exclusively for information related to Waiver Program 1 and should not include information pertaining to Waiver Program 2 or any other programs.

Specific Records Requested:

Legality and Authorization (**Waiver 1 Only**):

1. Documents confirming the permissibility of delegating Care Management Consultation Services to an external entity, such as Connecticut Community Care (CCC), under the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program 1 only.
2. State or federal records of approvals specifically for Waiver Program 1 related to this delegation.

Initiation and Implementation Records (**Waiver 1 Only**):

1. Records showing the initiation of CCC's involvement in providing Care Management Consultation Services under Waiver Program 1 only.
2. Agreements or contracts specific to Waiver Program 1 facilitating this service provision.

Financial Records (**Waiver 1 Only**):

1. Detailed financial statements / invoices showing payments to CCC for Care Management Consultation Services under Waiver Program 1 only.
2. Audit reports or financial analyses related exclusively to Waiver Program 1.

Recorded Time Frame (**Waiver 1 Only**):

1. This request covers the period from the beginning of CCC's provision of these services under Waiver Program 1 up to the current date.

Explicit Exclusion of Waiver Program 2:

1. To reiterate, this request is solely for information regarding Waiver Program 1.

12/1/23, 6:40 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

I assert that the requested information is not shielded from disclosure under the Connecticut FOIA, as it is pertinent to the public's affairs and is not classified as privileged or confidential.

Should any part of the requested documents be deemed exempt from disclosure, I request a comprehensive written justification for each exemption, referencing the pertinent statutory exemption, and ask that only the exempted portions be redacted, leaving the remainder of the document intact. In the event of a partial or full denial of my request, I ask for a written explanation, citing the specific statutory exemptions that justify the denial.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Request for FOIA Officer's Contact Information:

In the interest of accommodations for clear and direct communication, I respectfully request the name and title of the specific FOIA officer who will be handling this request. This information will greatly assist in facilitating any necessary follow-up communication regarding this FOIA request. Please provide the accommodation of this information within the response to this particular request, and not through a separate communication chain or thread.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources



A.B.I. Resources LLC

39 Kings Highway, Suite C

Gales Ferry CT, 06335

Phone: (860) 942-0365

Fax: (860) 465-9591

<https://www.CTbrainINJURY.com>

Date: 12/17/2023

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) to request access to and copies of all detailed records of communications and interactions between various state and federal officials, including but not limited to all records, reports, documents, and communications concerning but not limited to:

Disability civil rights grievances, complaints, whistleblower complaints or retaliation, and resolution outcomes, Medicaid federal funding, and FOIA freedom of information requests both state and federal, as well as tips and watchdog submissions reports.

- The legal case of David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220.'
- Whistleblower Report, Comprehensive Grievance Report and Request for Clarity. Addressing Issues within the Connecticut Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program. Whistleblower Report Prepared by:

David Medeiros and ABI Resources LLC

Date: November 21, 2023

ABI Resources LLC

39 Kings Hwy STE C

Gales Ferry, CT. 06226

860 942-0365

These records are crucial for understanding the dynamics of interactions with these key figures in the context of disability rights and whistleblower protections.

Documentation from Federal and State Department Executives and Associated staff:

- Connecticut Department of Social Services Commissioner Andrea Barton Reeves
- U.S. Senators Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy
- U.S. House Representatives John Larson, Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes, and Jahana Hayes
- Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont
- Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz
- Secretary of State Denise Merrill
- Attorney General William Tong
- State Treasurer Shawn Wooden
- State Comptroller Kevin Lembo
- State Auditors John Geragosian and Rob Kane
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Attorney General Merrick Garland
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Chair Charlotte A. Burrows
- Office of Special Counsel (OSC) Special Counsel Henry J. Kerner
- Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at HHS Acting Director Melanie Fontes Rainer
- The Department of Labor DOL
- Government Accountability Office GAO
- Connecticut General Assembly CGA

As well as communication with recognized esteemed organizations.

National and International Organizations:

- American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
- The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD)
- Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)
- Disabled in Action (DIA)
- Equip for Equality
- National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
- National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)
- Disability Rights Advocates (DRA)

National Whistleblower / Retaliation Advocates

- Government Accountability Project (GAP)
- The Whistleblower Project
- ExposeFacts
- Freedom of the Press Foundation
- National Whistleblower Center
- Project On Government Oversight (POGO)
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- Whistleblower Aid

News Media Outlets and Journalists:

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, The New York Times, The Washington Post The Associated Press (AP), ProPublica, The Wall Street Journal, National Public Radio (NPR) Reuters, CNN, BuzzFeed News, VICE News, Fox News etc.

Expedited Processing Request:

Due to the legal case of David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220, I request expedited processing as this information is urgently needed for public knowledge on this significant matter.

Format of Records:

As a result of my disability, I kindly request accommodations, Please provide all records in an accessible electronic format, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Unique Nature of Request:

This request is unique due to its comprehensive scope and relevance to ongoing public and legal discussions.

Contact Information of FOIA Officer:

I request the contact details of the FOIA officer responsible for this request.

If any part of this request is denied, please cite the specific exemptions and provide appeal procedures under the law.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Best regards,
David Medeiros
David Medeiros
ABI Resources, CEO, Director, Team Member
Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Support Provider.





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- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Attorney General Merrick Garland
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David Medeiros
ABI Resources, CEO, Director, Team Member
Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Support Provider.





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- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra
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- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Attorney General Merrick Garland
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Chair Charlotte A. Burrows
- Office of Special Counsel (OSC) Special Counsel Henry J. Kerner
- Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at HHS Acting Director Melanie Fontes Rainer
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Expedited Processing Request:

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Format of Records:

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Contact Information of FOIA Officer:

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If any part of this request is denied, please cite the specific exemptions and provide appeal procedures under the law.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Best regards,
David Medeiros
David Medeiros
ABI Resources, CEO, Director, Team Member
Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Support Provider.





Thank you for visiting FOIA.gov, the government's central website for FOIA. We'll continue to make improvements to the site and look forward to your input. Please submit feedback to National.FOIAPortal@usdoj.gov.

Submission ID: 991636

Success!

Your FOIA request has been created and is being sent to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

You'll hear back from the agency confirming receipt in the coming weeks using the contact information you provided. If you have questions about your request, feel free to reach out to the agency FOIA personnel using the information provided below.

Contact the agency

 Joseph Tripline, Acting FOIA Officer

410-786-5353

joseph.tripline@cms.hhs.gov

 FOIA Requester Service Center 

410-786-5353

 Joseph Tripline, FOIA Public Liaison 

410-786-5353

joseph.tripline@cms.hhs.gov

 Joseph Tripline, Acting FOIA Officer, Central Building Room C5-11-06

7500 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21244

FOIA_Request@cms.hhs.gov

Request summary

Request submitted on **December 18, 2023**.

The confirmation ID for your request is **991636**.

The confirmation ID is only for identifying your request on FOIA.gov and acts as a receipt to show that you submitted a request using FOIA.gov. This number does not replace the

information you'll receive from the agency to track your request. In case there is an issue submitting your request to the agency you selected, you can use this number to help.

Contact information

Name

David Medeiros

Mailing address

215 Mountain St
Willimantic, CT 06226
United States

Phone number

8604633638

Company/organization

ABI Resources LLC

Email

aabiwr@live.com

Your request

12.18.2023 Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request for CMS HHS records. Dear Freedom of Information Officer, Under the Freedom of Information Act, I request detailed records related to the stop of companion authorizations within the Connecticut Departments of Social Services systems for consumers under the Medicaid ABI Waiver program after December 31st, 2023 serviced by ABI Resources. This request specifically seeks to uncover: Records of the decision-making process and rationale. Records of the individuals and departments involved in this decision. Records of the timeline of events leading to this decision. Records of directives or communications instructing the implementation of this change. Records of corrective actions and resolutions. Expedited Processing Request: In light of the legal case David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220, I request expedited processing as this information is urgently needed for public knowledge on this significant matter. Format of Records: Due to my disability, please provide all records in an accessible electronic format, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Unique Nature of Request: This request is unique due to its comprehensive scope and relevance to ongoing public and legal discussions. Contact Information of FOIA Officer: Please provide the contact details of the FOIA officer responsible for handling this request. If any part of this request is denied, I request that you cite the specific exemptions and provide appeal procedures under the law. Thank you for your prompt attention to this urgent and significant matter.

Additional information



12.17.2023 Binder Comprehensive FOIA Request for Records on Disability Rights and Whistleblower Protections .pdf

Fees

Fee waiver

no

Request expedited processing**Expedited processing**

yes

Justification for expedited processing

• The legal case of David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220.' • Whistleblower Report, Comprehensive Grievance Report and Request for Clarity. Addressing Issues within the Connecticut Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program. Whistleblower Report Prepared by: David Medeiros and ABI Resources LLC Date: November 21, 2023 ABI Resources LLC 39 Kings Hwy STE C Gales Ferry, CT. 06226 860 942-0365 These records are crucial for understanding the dynamics of interactions with these key figures in the context of disability rights and whistleblower protections.

**FOIA.gov****CONTACT**

Office of Information Policy (OIP)
U.S. Department of Justice
441 G St, NW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20530
E-mail: National.FOIAPortal@usdoj.gov

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Submission ID: 995941

Success!

Your FOIA request has been created and is being sent to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

You'll hear back from the agency confirming receipt in the coming weeks using the contact information you provided. If you have questions about your request, feel free to reach out to the agency FOIA personnel using the information provided below.

Contact the agency

 Joseph Tripline, Acting FOIA Officer

410-786-5353

joseph.tripline@cms.hhs.gov

 FOIA Requester Service Center 

410-786-5353

 Joseph Tripline, FOIA Public Liaison 

410-786-5353

joseph.tripline@cms.hhs.gov

 Joseph Tripline, Acting FOIA Officer, Central Building Room C5-11-06

7500 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21244

FOIA_Request@cms.hhs.gov

Request summary

Request submitted on **December 21, 2023**.

The confirmation ID for your request is **995941**.

The confirmation ID is only for identifying your request on FOIA.gov and acts as a receipt to show that you submitted a request using FOIA.gov. This number does not replace the

information you'll receive from the agency to track your request. In case there is an issue submitting your request to the agency you selected, you can use this number to help.

Contact information

Name

David Medeiros

Mailing address

215 Mountain St
Willimantic, CT 06226
United States

Phone number

8604633638

Company/organization

ABI Resources LLC

Email

aabiwr@live.com

Your request

12.21.2023 Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request for Records Related to Dr. Cherron Payne and Associated Connecticut Matters Dear Freedom of Information Officer, I am writing to request all records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) pertaining to communications, complaints, whistleblower retaliations, and disability discrimination involving any employee of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) and representatives of the Department of Social Services (DSS) in relation to Dr. Cherron Payne of Farmington, Connecticut. This request is specifically directed towards her role as an administrative law judge and chief human rights referee for the CHRO, as appointed by Governor Ned Lamont. Nature of Request: This FOIA request seeks to uncover communications records relevant to a whistleblower complaint addressing systemic injustice, particularly concerning disability discrimination and whistleblower retaliation. Expedited Processing Request: Given the ongoing legal case, David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220, I request expedited processing of this FOIA. The information is urgently required for public knowledge and understanding of this significant matter. Format of Records: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), I request that all records be provided in an accessible electronic format. Unique Nature of Request: This request is of a comprehensive scope and is particularly significant due to its relevance to ongoing public and legal discussions. It is imperative that these records are disclosed to ensure transparency and accountability in public service. Contact Information Request: Please provide the contact details of the FOIA officer responsible for the processing of this request. Appeal Procedures: If any part of this request is denied, I kindly ask that you cite the specific FOIA exemptions applied and provide detailed appeal procedures as per the law. Conclusion: I appreciate your prompt attention to this urgent and significant matter. The disclosure of these records is essential for maintaining public trust and ensuring justice in our legal and civil rights systems. David Medeiros ABI Resources Connecticut Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury ABI Waiver Program Provider.

Fees

Fee waiver

no

Request expedited processing

Expedited processing

yes

Justification for expedited processing

Given the ongoing legal case, David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220, I request expedited processing of this FOIA. The information is urgently required for public knowledge and understanding of this significant matter.



FOIA.gov

CONTACT

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Thank you for visiting FOIA.gov, the government's central website for FOIA. We'll continue to make improvements to the site and look forward to your input. Please submit feedback to National.FOIAPortal@usdoj.gov.

Submission ID: 995981

Success!

Your FOIA request has been created and is being sent to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

You'll hear back from the agency confirming receipt in the coming weeks using the contact information you provided. If you have questions about your request, feel free to reach out to the agency FOIA personnel using the information provided below.

Contact the agency



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Baltimore, MD 21244

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Request summary

Request submitted on **December 21, 2023**.

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Mailing address

215 Mountain St
Willimantic, CT 06226
United States

Phone number

8604633638

Company/organization

ABI Resources LLC

Email

aabiwr@live.com

Your request

12.21.2023 Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request Urgent FOIA Request for Records: David Medeiros & ABI Resources - Legal Case and Public Interest Matters Dear Freedom of Information Officer, I, David Medeiros, in my capacity as the founder and owner of ABI Resources and as an individual living with a brain injury and a stroke survivor, hereby submit this request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552). 1. Description of Records: I request a comprehensive list and copies of all Freedom of Information Act requests submitted by myself, David Medeiros, and/or ABI Resources to any department of the government. I am requesting expedited processing of the records for my FOIA requests based on the criteria set forth in the FOIA guidelines, which allow for such processing when the requester demonstrates a compelling need.

a. Compelling Need for Urgency: This request is directly related to the ongoing legal case, David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220. The timely processing of this request is crucial as the information sought is urgently needed for ongoing legal proceedings that are of immediate public interest. This case holds significant implications for civil rights, disability advocacy, and whistleblower protections – matters that are of acute public concern.

b. Public Interest: The information requested is not just for my personal use but is intended to inform public understanding of operations or activities of the government, particularly in the areas of civil rights, disability support, and whistleblower retaliation law. As a public figure in these domains and a business owner providing disability support services, the information will assist in my advocacy efforts and contribute to the public's understanding of government actions in these critical areas.

c. Personal Circumstances: Additionally, my personal circumstances as an individual living with a brain injury and a stroke survivor underscore the urgency of this request. The information sought is vital for my ongoing advocacy and legal efforts, directly impacting my ability to effectively operate within these realms. Given these factors, I respectfully request that this FOIA request be processed on an expedited basis. The urgency and public interest involved justify this request for

expedited processing. 2. Expedited Processing Request: In relation to the ongoing legal case, David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220, I request expedited processing. The information sought is of public interest and urgently needed for ongoing legal proceedings and public discourse, especially concerning whistleblower retaliation and disability rights advocacy. 3. Format of Records: Due to my disability, I request that all responsive records be provided in an accessible electronic format, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). 4. Unique Nature of Request: This request is of a unique and comprehensive nature, holding significant relevance to ongoing public and legal discussions, particularly in the realms of civil rights, whistleblower protection, and disability advocacy. 5. Contact Information: Please provide the contact details of the FOIA officer responsible for handling this request. 6. Appeal Procedures: If any part of this request is denied, please cite the specific exemptions that justify such denial and provide details of the appeal procedures available under the law. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response within the 20 business day period as stipulated by the FOIA. David Medeiros ABI Resources Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury ABI Waiver Program Provider

Fees

Fee waiver

no

Request expedited processing

Expedited processing

yes

Justification for expedited processing

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Submission ID: 991636

Success!

Your FOIA request has been created and is being sent to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

You'll hear back from the agency confirming receipt in the coming weeks using the contact information you provided. If you have questions about your request, feel free to reach out to the agency FOIA personnel using the information provided below.

Contact the agency

 Joseph Tripline, Acting FOIA Officer

410-786-5353

joseph.tripline@cms.hhs.gov

 FOIA Requester Service Center 

410-786-5353

 Joseph Tripline, FOIA Public Liaison 

410-786-5353

joseph.tripline@cms.hhs.gov

 Joseph Tripline, Acting FOIA Officer, Central Building Room C5-11-06

7500 Security Boulevard

Baltimore, MD 21244

FOIA_Request@cms.hhs.gov

Request summary

Request submitted on **December 18, 2023**.

The confirmation ID for your request is **991636**.

The confirmation ID is only for identifying your request on FOIA.gov and acts as a receipt to show that you submitted a request using FOIA.gov. This number does not replace the

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Contact information

Name

David Medeiros

Mailing address

215 Mountain St
Willimantic, CT 06226
United States

Phone number

8604633638

Company/organization

ABI Resources LLC

Email

aabiwr@live.com

Your request

12.18.2023 Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request for CMS HHS records. Dear Freedom of Information Officer, Under the Freedom of Information Act, I request detailed records related to the stop of companion authorizations within the Connecticut Departments of Social Services systems for consumers under the Medicaid ABI Waiver program after December 31st, 2023 serviced by ABI Resources. This request specifically seeks to uncover: Records of the decision-making process and rationale. Records of the individuals and departments involved in this decision. Records of the timeline of events leading to this decision. Records of directives or communications instructing the implementation of this change. Records of corrective actions and resolutions. Expedited Processing Request: In light of the legal case David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220, I request expedited processing as this information is urgently needed for public knowledge on this significant matter. Format of Records: Due to my disability, please provide all records in an accessible electronic format, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Unique Nature of Request: This request is unique due to its comprehensive scope and relevance to ongoing public and legal discussions. Contact Information of FOIA Officer: Please provide the contact details of the FOIA officer responsible for handling this request. If any part of this request is denied, I request that you cite the specific exemptions and provide appeal procedures under the law. Thank you for your prompt attention to this urgent and significant matter.

Additional information



12.17.2023 Binder Comprehensive FOIA Request for Records on Disability Rights and Whistleblower Protections .pdf

Fees

Fee waiver

no

Request expedited processing**Expedited processing**

yes

Justification for expedited processing

• The legal case of David Medeiros v. State of CT, Department of Social Services, CHRO No. 2410220.' • Whistleblower Report, Comprehensive Grievance Report and Request for Clarity. Addressing Issues within the Connecticut Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program. Whistleblower Report Prepared by: David Medeiros and ABI Resources LLC Date: November 21, 2023 ABI Resources LLC 39 Kings Hwy STE C Gales Ferry, CT. 06226 860 942-0365 These records are crucial for understanding the dynamics of interactions with these key figures in the context of disability rights and whistleblower protections.

**FOIA.gov****CONTACT**

Office of Information Policy (OIP)
U.S. Department of Justice
441 G St, NW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20530
E-mail: National.FOIAPortal@usdoj.gov

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RE: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/14/2023 4:10 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Thank you for clarifying portion 4. of this request.

Upon reviewing your response, it appears that this portion of the request is duplicative to your 10/23/2023 request where you ask for all complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions in regard to the ABI Waiver programs. As of current, the only complaints and grievances we have on file are from you, so we are working to compile those and ensure a thorough search for anything additional.

In order to maintain efficient record retention and tracking on the 16 FOIA requests you have sent in since 9/26/2023, DSS will include the response to portion 4. of this request in our response to your 10/23/2023 request.

Pertaining to your addition to portion 5. I will review and verify if we have any of the requested information; however it does appear that this information would still fall under the jurisdiction of the individual access agency's in-house systems.

Thanks,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 3:31 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

Importance: High

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.

I am writing in response to your recent correspondence regarding my Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS).

4. Quality and Compliance Records: We are seeking all records related to the quality and compliance of the referral processes, including but not limited to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions. This request encompasses records pertaining to all agencies and is not limited to incidents related to ABI Resources. **I still am unclear what you mean by this. Are you looking for audit history with the access agencies?**

I am specifically seeking comprehensive data and records related to the referral processes within the DSS. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Complaints: All records of complaints filed, including the nature of each complaint and any associated documentation.
2. Grievances: Detailed records of grievances raised, their evaluations, and resolutions.
3. Investigations: Documentation of any investigations conducted, including methods, findings, and conclusions.
4. Audit Reports: Copies of all audit reports pertaining to the referral processes, highlighting any identified issues or concerns.
5. Outcomes: Detailed records of the outcomes of the aforementioned complaints, grievances, and investigations.
6. Corrective Actions: Comprehensive documentation of any corrective actions taken in response to the issues identified in complaints, audits, and investigations.

It is imperative that the records provided are complete and encompass all relevant data to ensure a thorough understanding of the processes and practices within the DSS.

5. Electronic System Accountability Records: We appreciate your clarification regarding the absence of an electronic referral system. However, if any digital tools or platforms are utilized in any capacity by related to the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs by Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Care Management Consultation Providers, please provide any associated records. **Each access agency has their own electronic system where they house client information, their personal health information and any documentation associated with the case. DSS does not have any records regarding this request, this is considered complete.**

I appreciate your clarification on the absence of a dedicated electronic referral system for the ABI Waiver Program. However, it is essential to expand the scope of our inquiry to include any digital tools, platforms, or systems that may be used, even partially, in the administration, management, of the **referral processes** within the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program, particularly by Care Management Consultation Providers.

In pursuit of a comprehensive understanding of the electronic infrastructure supporting the ABI Waiver Program, I hereby request the following:

1. Records of Electronic Systems in Use: Any and all records detailing the electronic systems, platforms, or tools employed at any stage of the Medicaid referral process within the ABI Waiver Program. This includes, but is not limited to, systems used for patient tracking, data management, referral processing, and communication among providers.
2. System Accountability Records: Documentation pertaining to the oversight, auditing, and accountability measures in place for these electronic systems. This encompasses records of system updates, maintenance logs, compliance reports, and any other relevant quality assurance documentation.

3. System Utilization Records: Detailed descriptions or records showing how these electronic systems are used by Care Management Consultation Providers in the context of the ABI Waiver Program. This should cover the scope, frequency, and nature of their usage.
4. Data Privacy and Security Measures: Information on the data protection and privacy measures implemented within these systems, particularly concerning patient information and referral data.

Please note that this request is specifically for records and documentation.

I trust that the Department of Social Services will facilitate a thorough and prompt response to this expanded inquiry. If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$[specified amount].

Thank you for your cooperation and dedication to transparency.

Best,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 1:55 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

David –

I am following up again with you for more clarity on the below request:

4. Quality and Compliance Records: We are seeking all records related to the quality and compliance of the referral processes, including but not limited to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions. This request encompasses records pertaining to all agencies and is not limited to incidents related to ABI Resources. I still am unclear what you mean by this. Are you looking for audit history with the access agencies?

Thanks,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 2:26 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

David –

I also wanted to follow-up with another questions and response to your queries:

4. Quality and Compliance Records: We are seeking all records related to the quality and compliance of the referral processes, including but not limited to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions. This request encompasses records pertaining to all agencies and is not limited to incidents related to ABI Resources. I still am unclear what you mean by this. Are you looking for audit history with the access agencies?

5. Electronic System Accountability Records: We appreciate your clarification regarding the absence of an electronic referral system. However, if any digital tools or platforms are utilized in any capacity by related to the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs by Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Care Management Consultation Providers, please provide any associated records. Each access agency has their own electronic system where they house client information, their personal health information and any documentation associated with the case. DSS does not have any records regarding this request, this is considered complete.

Thank you,
FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 12:16 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

David –

Thank you for the clarifications. Specifically pertaining to bullet number 7, these correspondence are already included in your 10/11/2023 request, which pinged over 18,000 emails. I will consider this portion of your request complete as it pertains to this chain, and include it in the 10/11/2023 request.

PLEASE NOTE* I sent you an email on 10/23/2023 asking if we could filter down your search as 18,000 emails will take me over a year to get through. That email has not received your acknowledgement.

Best,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 11:28 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

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10/30/2023

Dear Mr. Giovanni Pinto FOIA Officer,

I would like to provide additional clarity on the requested records to facilitate a comprehensive and expedited response to our FOIA request.

1. Referral Records: We are seeking complete documentation of all referrals facilitated by Connecticut Community Care for Medicaid ABI Waiver 1, ABI Waiver 2, and the MFP Program. This request includes referrals to all agencies, as our aim is to analyze the referral processes and ensure compliance with all applicable regulations.
2. Funding Documentation: Thank you for clarifying that the ABI Waiver program is funded through a combination of state and federal Medicaid funds. We would appreciate it if you could provide the specific allocation of these funds for Care Management Consultation referrals for the programs in question, broken down by fiscal year from January 1, 2015, to the present date. If possible, please provide this information in a detailed and categorized format to facilitate our analysis.
3. Record of Referral Limitations and Conditions: We are interested in understanding the limitations, restrictions, or conditions attached to the referrals processed by Connecticut Community Care for the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs. This includes any criteria used to assess eligibility, prioritize, or reject referrals, and how these criteria have been applied over the period from January 1, 2015, to the present date.
4. Quality and Compliance Records: We are seeking all records related to the quality and compliance of the referral processes, including but not limited to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions. This request encompasses records pertaining to all agencies and is not limited to incidents related to ABI Resources.
5. Electronic System Accountability Records: We appreciate your clarification regarding the absence of an electronic referral system. However, if any digital tools or platforms are utilized in any capacity by related to the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs by Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Care Management Consultation Providers, please provide any associated records.
6. Guidance and Regulation Records: We are seeking all prevailing policies, guidelines, regulations, and communications that govern the referral practices within the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs. This includes any internal or external communications that provide guidance on how referrals should be managed, assessed, or prioritized.
7. FOIA and DSS Communication Records: We are seeking all communication records between FOIA officers and CT DSS representatives that pertain to the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and associated referral processes from January 1, 2015, to the present date.

Thank you for confirming the contact information for Mr. Giovanni Pinto as the acting FOIA Officer communicating with me. We appreciate your diligence and look forward to a thorough response as mandated by the Freedom of Information Act.

Sincerely,

Thank you,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:17 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

David –

Please find additional information needed for your request in red, and completed portions of your request highlighted below:

1. Referral Records: Complete documentation of all referrals facilitated by Connecticut Community Care for Medicaid ABI Waiver 1, ABI Waiver 2, and the MFP Program. Please specify which referrals you are referencing. Are they referrals to your agency?
2. Funding Documentation: Records specifying the sources of funding for the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program referrals, elucidated under the aforementioned programs. The ABI Waiver program is funded through a combination of state and federal Medicaid funds.
3. Referral Limitations and Conditions: Detailed information on any limitations, restrictions, or conditions attached to the aforementioned referrals. Please specify what you mean by this/what documents you are looking for. Is this related to your agency and where there are limitations or restrictions based on your staffing availability?
4. Quality and Compliance Records: Comprehensive data including but not limited to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions related to the referral processes. Please specify what exact documents you are seeking. Are you looking for critical incidents that were related to your agency? Are you looking for grievances in general through the access agencies? Are you looking for our audit reports from our access agency reviews?
5. Electronic System Accountability: Documents related to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and corrective actions pertinent to the use of electronic referral systems employed in delivering Medicaid program services. We don't have an electronic referral system that we use.
6. Guidance and Regulation: All prevailing policies, guidelines, regulations, and communications that govern the referral practices within the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs. Working to verify if we have these requested documents.
7. FOIA and DSS Communication Records: Any and all communication records involving FOIA officers and CT DSS representatives related to the subject matter herein. Are you seeking all communications related to this request?
8. Kindly furnish records including the name, title, and contact information of the FOIA officer handling this request. This information has been previously provided to you. For clarification, Giovanni Pinto is the acting FOIA Officer and handles all FOIA requests. The additional name provided on the previous request was the FOIA Officer prior to Mr. Pinto's hiring.
9. Records in instances where any part of this request is denied, I respectfully request a detailed justification for non-disclosure, citing the specific statutory exemptions that underpin the decision. This information is always provided upon request completion.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 9:17 AM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* This will be your 5th currently open FOIA inquiry and 12th overall since 9/26/2023. These requests require substantial information-gathering and are often times duplicative to pending requests, and/or ask for information not under the purview of the Connecticut FOIA. I will review this request to filter down what has already been requested, what falls under FOIA, and what needs further clarification.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 8:00 AM

To: FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Subject: 10/30/2023 Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

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10/30/2023

Subject: Formal Request under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act FOIA – Records Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs and Related Referral Processes

Dear Connecticut FOIA officers,

I am writing to submit a formal request under the provisions of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, § 1-200, with the intention of obtaining comprehensive Connecticut records and documents pertaining to the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Programs, and the associated referral processes conducted by Connecticut Community Care, located at 43 Enterprise Drive, Bristol, Connecticut, 06010. This request covers the period from January 1, 2015, to the present date.

The nature of the records requested is detailed as follows:

1. Referral Records: Complete documentation of all referrals facilitated by Connecticut Community Care for Medicaid ABI Waiver 1, ABI Waiver 2, and the MFP Program.
2. Funding Documentation: Records specifying the sources of funding for the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program referrals, elucidated under the aforementioned programs.
3. Referral Limitations and Conditions: Detailed information on any limitations, restrictions, or conditions attached to the aforementioned referrals.
4. Quality and Compliance Records: Comprehensive data including but not limited to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and subsequent corrective actions related to the referral processes.
5. Electronic System Accountability: Documents related to complaints, grievances, investigations, audit reports, outcomes, and corrective actions pertinent to the use of electronic referral systems employed in delivering Medicaid program services.
6. Guidance and Regulation: All prevailing policies, guidelines, regulations, and communications that govern the referral practices within the Medicaid ABI Waiver Programs.
7. FOIA and DSS Communication Records: Any and all communication records involving FOIA officers and CT DSS representatives related to the subject matter herein.
8. Kindly furnish records including the name, title, and contact information of the FOIA officer handling this request.
9. Records in instances where any part of this request is denied, I respectfully request a detailed justification for non-disclosure, citing the specific statutory exemptions that underpin the decision.

Given the nature of my work and due to a disability, I kindly request that all responsive documents be provided in an accessible, electronic format.

Your timely attention to this matter is highly appreciated, and I anticipate the reception of the requested records within the statutory timeframe. Should you require any further clarification or additional information to expedite this request, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

Thank you for your cooperation and dedication to transparency.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Re: 11.02.2023 | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov.

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Fri 12/1/2023 6:55 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Re: Appeal of FOIA Request Denial Dated 11.02.2023

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am writing to appeal the decision of the Department of Social Services, dated November 2, 2023, concerning my Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for specific information related to the email address providerfraud.dss@ct.gov.

Legal Basis for Appeal

Comprehensive Disclosure Requirement: Under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200 et seq., public agencies are mandated to provide full access to public records unless expressly exempt. While I appreciate the provision of a list of names with access to the requested email, this response does not fully satisfy the scope of my request.

Detailed Information Requested: My request specifically seeks information beyond the names of individuals with email access. It includes the roles and responsibilities of those individuals, the department or division overseeing the operation, and any relevant contact information for official correspondence.

Public Interest Consideration: The requested information is essential for understanding the administration and oversight of potentially sensitive email communications. This transparency is crucial for public accountability, especially concerning an email address designated for reporting provider fraud.

Disability Accommodation: As previously stated, due to a recognized disability, I require the requested information in an electronic format. This is not merely a preference but a necessary accommodation to ensure equal access to information under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Complete Response Expected: The FOIA obligates your department to conduct a thorough search for all records responsive to the request. If certain parts of the request are exempt from disclosure, a detailed explanation citing specific statutory exemptions is required.

Action Requested

In light of these considerations, I respectfully request a reevaluation of my FOIA request. Please provide a comprehensive response that includes all requested details related to the management and oversight of the email address providerfraud.dss@ct.gov.

If parts of my request are denied, I ask for a detailed justification, explicitly citing the relevant exemptions under the Connecticut FOIA.

I appreciate your attention to this appeal and anticipate a response that aligns with the principles of transparency and openness as embodied in the Connecticut FOIA.

Thank you for reconsidering this important matter.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Best regards,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 10:05 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: 11.02.2023 | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov.

David –

Unfortunately, there are no relevant documents related to the specifics of your request. I was however able to get a list of names of those with access to the requested email:

- Angela Malena
- Amy Hayden
- Marcus Campbell
- Miliza Allen

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 8:23 AM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: 11.02.2023 | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov.

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 7:03 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Subject: 11.02.2023 | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov.

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11.02.2023 | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov.

Dear FOI Officer,

Under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act § 1-200 et seq., I am requesting access to and a copy of the following records from 01/01/2015 to the present day:

- a) The names and official titles of the State of Connecticut employees who are responsible for monitoring and managing the email address providerfraud.dss@ct.gov.
- b) The department or division within the State of Connecticut's Department of Social Services that oversees the operation of the email address providerfraud.dss@ct.gov.
- c) Any available contact information for the department or division that manages the email address providerfraud.dss@ct.gov, which may be used for official correspondence.
- d) The names and official titles of the State of Connecticut employees who are responsible for monitoring and managing the email address providerfraud.dss@ct.gov on **Thursday, September 28, 2023 10:38:16 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time**.

I understand that under the Connecticut FOIA, the government is not required to create new records, answer questions or conduct research. However, if any of the requested information is available in an electronic format, I would prefer to receive it in that format.

"Due to a recognized disability, I find that email communications provide the most effective and accessible means of communication for me. I kindly request that this preferred method of correspondence be accommodated."

If you deny any part of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering my request. I expect your response within the statutory time frame as provided by the law.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Re: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Thu 11/16/2023 12:14 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <foi@ct.gov>

Bcc: ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com <AABIWR@live.com>

CT DSS FOIA Officer,

To clarify and specify my request, I am seeking detailed information regarding the care management and consultation services provided to consumers enrolled in the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1. My request is focused on understanding the unique practices and compliance measures that differentiate the services provided under ABI Waiver Program 1 from those in ABI Waiver Program 2.

Specifically, I am requesting access to and copies of the following documents and records:

1. Detailed Reports and Records: Documents detailing the nature, scope, and methodology of consultation services provided by care managers to consumers in the ABI Waiver Program 1. This includes any formal descriptions, procedural guidelines, or policy documents that delineate the roles and responsibilities of care managers within this program.
2. Comparative Analyses: Any records or reports that compare or contrast the care management services provided in ABI Waiver Program 1 with those offered in ABI Waiver Program 2. This would include comparative studies, evaluations, or internal discussions that highlight the differences or similarities between the two programs.
3. Compliance Reports and Internal Audits: I am particularly interested in obtaining all compliance reports or internal audits conducted concerning the provision of consultation services by care managers to ABI Waiver Program 1 consumers. This includes any findings, recommendations, or actions taken as a result of these audits.
4. Training Materials and Guidelines: Copies of any training materials, educational resources, or guidelines provided to care managers specifically for ABI Waiver Program 1. This should encompass any specialized training or instructions unique to this program.
5. Consumer Feedback and Evaluations: Records of any consumer feedback, evaluations, or surveys that relate to the experiences of individuals enrolled in ABI Waiver Program 1 with their care managers.
6. Administrative Correspondence: Any relevant administrative correspondence that discusses or refers to the care management and consultation services in ABI Waiver Program 1, including memos, emails, or meeting minutes.

David Medeiros

ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 11:37 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

David –

Can you please explain what it is specifically you are looking for pertaining to portion 3?

Thanks,

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 10:33 AM**To:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* Portion 4 of this request is included in the parameters of your 9/26/2023 request which I have explained will take over a year to complete.

Thank you,

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 11:59 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

Importance: High

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.

Subject: FOIA Request – Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), I request access to and copies of records and documents pertaining to care managers providing consultation services to consumers enrolled in the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1, a practice reportedly exclusive to ABI Waiver Program 2.

Specifically, I am requesting:

1. Records of Services: Detailed records of care managers who have provided consultation services to ABI Waiver Program 1 consumers, including dates, types of services, and consumer demographics.
2. Policy Documents: Copies of any policy documents, guidelines, or internal memos that detail the roles and limitations of care managers in both ABI Waiver Program 1 and 2.
3. Compliance Reports: Any compliance reports or internal audits conducted regarding the provision of consultation services by care managers to ABI Waiver Program 1 consumers.
4. Internal Communications: Relevant internal communications, including emails and meeting minutes, discussing the assignment of care managers to provide consultation services in ABI Waiver Program 1.
5. Training Materials: Training materials or guidelines provided to care managers regarding their roles and limitations in ABI Waiver Program 1 and 2.

Please ensure that the provided records are in an accessible electronic format. If certain documents are exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, kindly provide a Vaughn index, detailing each document and the rationale for its exemption.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Thu 11/16/2023 11:37 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Can you please explain what it is specifically you are looking for pertaining to portion 3?

Thanks,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 10:33 AM**To:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* Portion 4 of this request is included in the parameters of your 9/26/2023 request which I have explained will take over a year to complete.

Thank you,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2023 11:59 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program**Importance:** High**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.

Subject: FOIA Request – Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), I request access to and copies of records and documents pertaining to care managers providing consultation services to consumers enrolled in the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1, a practice reportedly exclusive to ABI Waiver Program 2.

Specifically, I am requesting:

1. Records of Services: Detailed records of care managers who have provided consultation services to ABI Waiver Program 1 consumers, including dates, types of services, and consumer demographics.
2. Policy Documents: Copies of any policy documents, guidelines, or internal memos that detail the roles and limitations of care managers in both ABI Waiver Program 1 and 2.
3. Compliance Reports: Any compliance reports or internal audits conducted regarding the provision of consultation services by care managers to ABI Waiver Program 1 consumers.
4. Internal Communications: Relevant internal communications, including emails and meeting minutes, discussing the assignment of care managers to provide consultation services in ABI Waiver Program 1.
5. Training Materials: Training materials or guidelines provided to care managers regarding their roles and limitations in ABI Waiver Program 1 and 2.

Please ensure that the provided records are in an accessible electronic format. If certain documents are exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, kindly provide a Vaughn index, detailing each document and the rationale for its exemption.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: 11.16.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Management Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program 1

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Thu 11/16/2023 12:12 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* Portion 3 of this request is included in the parameters of your 9/26/2023 request which I have explained will take over a year to complete.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services**From:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 6:49 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** 11.16.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Management Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program 1**Importance:** High

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.

11/16/2013

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), I am requesting access to and copies of all documents, communications, emails, memos, guidelines, and reports related to the following:

- a) Current Guidelines and Policies: Any and all documents detailing the guidelines and policies governing care management consultation services within the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program, with specific emphasis on distinctions between Program 1 and Program 2.
- b) Program Administration Changes: Documents pertaining to any recent changes or updates in the administration or scope of ABI Waiver Program 1, particularly those authorizing care management consultation services in Program 1.
- c) **Internal Communications: Correspondence, memos, or emails within the Department of Social Services discussing the introduction or implementation of care management consultation services in ABI Waiver Program 1.**
- d) Compliance and Oversight Reports: Any reports or analyses related to compliance and oversight of the ABI Waiver Program, focusing on the adherence to program guidelines and authorized services.
- e) Consumer Impact Assessments: Documents assessing the impact of care management consultation services on consumers in ABI Waiver Program 1, including any feedback or complaints received from consumers or their families.
- f) Market Analysis and Competitive Impact: Reports or studies examining the market dynamics and competitive impact of the introduction of potentially unauthorized services in the ABI Waiver Program.

It contributes significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material.

I require these records in an accessible electronic format due to my disability. If some documents are exempt from disclosure, please provide a Vaughn index detailing the reasons for such exemption.

I look forward to your prompt response within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Re: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Thu 11/16/2023 12:14 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <foi@ct.gov>

Bcc: ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com <AABIWR@live.com>

CT DSS FOIA Officer,

To clarify and specify my request, I am seeking detailed information regarding the care management and consultation services provided to consumers enrolled in the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1. My request is focused on understanding the unique practices and compliance measures that differentiate the services provided under ABI Waiver Program 1 from those in ABI Waiver Program 2.

Specifically, I am requesting access to and copies of the following documents and records:

1. Detailed Reports and Records: Documents detailing the nature, scope, and methodology of consultation services provided by care managers to consumers in the ABI Waiver Program 1. This includes any formal descriptions, procedural guidelines, or policy documents that delineate the roles and responsibilities of care managers within this program.
2. Comparative Analyses: Any records or reports that compare or contrast the care management services provided in ABI Waiver Program 1 with those offered in ABI Waiver Program 2. This would include comparative studies, evaluations, or internal discussions that highlight the differences or similarities between the two programs.
3. Compliance Reports and Internal Audits: I am particularly interested in obtaining all compliance reports or internal audits conducted concerning the provision of consultation services by care managers to ABI Waiver Program 1 consumers. This includes any findings, recommendations, or actions taken as a result of these audits.
4. Training Materials and Guidelines: Copies of any training materials, educational resources, or guidelines provided to care managers specifically for ABI Waiver Program 1. This should encompass any specialized training or instructions unique to this program.
5. Consumer Feedback and Evaluations: Records of any consumer feedback, evaluations, or surveys that relate to the experiences of individuals enrolled in ABI Waiver Program 1 with their care managers.
6. Administrative Correspondence: Any relevant administrative correspondence that discusses or refers to the care management and consultation services in ABI Waiver Program 1, including memos, emails, or meeting minutes.

David Medeiros

ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 11:37 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

David –

Can you please explain what it is specifically you are looking for pertaining to portion 3?

Thanks,

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 10:33 AM**To:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* Portion 4 of this request is included in the parameters of your 9/26/2023 request which I have explained will take over a year to complete.

Thank you,

FOIA Officer

Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 11:59 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>

Subject: 11.15.2023 Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. | Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

Importance: High

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.

Subject: FOIA Request – Care Managers' Consultation Services in ABI Waiver Program

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), I request access to and copies of records and documents pertaining to care managers providing consultation services to consumers enrolled in the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program 1, a practice reportedly exclusive to ABI Waiver Program 2.

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4. Internal Communications: Relevant internal communications, including emails and meeting minutes, discussing the assignment of care managers to provide consultation services in ABI Waiver Program 1.
5. Training Materials: Training materials or guidelines provided to care managers regarding their roles and limitations in ABI Waiver Program 1 and 2.

Please ensure that the provided records are in an accessible electronic format. If certain documents are exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, kindly provide a Vaughn index, detailing each document and the rationale for its exemption.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Fri 12/1/2023 7:01 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; foi@ct.gov <foi@ct.gov>

Bcc: ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com <AABIWR@live.com>

12.01.2023

Re: Appeal of FOIA Request Response Dated 10.27.2023

Dear FOIA Officer,

I am writing to appeal the response provided by the Department of Social Services on October 27, 2023, to my Freedom of Information Act request dated October 23, 2023. This request sought detailed information about communications between your department and myself, including names and official titles of all FOIA officers, dates and times of interactions, and all related FOIA requests and responses.

Basis for Appeal

Incomplete Disclosure: While I acknowledge the response provided, it appears that the disclosure did not fully address all elements of my request, specifically concerning the comprehensive details of all interactions and related correspondence as outlined in sections a, b, and c of my original request.

Legal Obligation Under FOIA: Under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-200 to 1-206, public agencies are mandated to provide full access to public records, except for those expressly exempted. This encompasses a comprehensive disclosure of all relevant documents and information pertaining to the request.

Public Interest: The information requested is crucial for understanding the nature and extent of the communications between ABI Resources and the Department, which is a matter of public interest and pertains to the principles of transparency and accountability in government.

Accommodation for Disability: As previously stated, due to a recognized disability, I require the requested information in an accessible electronic format. This accommodation is necessary to ensure my equal access to the requested information.

Clarification on Exemptions: If any part of the requested information is exempt from disclosure, I request a detailed written explanation for each exemption, citing the specific statutory provisions.

Action Requested

I respectfully request a reevaluation of my FOIA request, ensuring that a thorough and complete disclosure of all requested information is provided. If certain parts of my request are deemed exempt, I seek a detailed justification for each specific exemption.

I trust that the Department of Social Services will adhere to the principles of transparency and accountability as mandated by the Connecticut FOIA and provide a comprehensive response to my request.

Thank you for your attention to this appeal. I look forward to a prompt and complete resolution of this matter.

Best regards,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

A.B.I. RESOURCES**From:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 2:18 PM**To:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Cc:** DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

As discussed in previous requests, FOIA does not include producing documents that do not already exist, nor does it include answering specific questions. That being said, we do strive to ensure all requests are thoroughly addressed:

- Sub-Section A
 - Giovanni Pinto – Communications Manager
 - David Seifel – Legislative Manager
- Sub-Section B
 - All dates and time stamps are included on each email provided

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 1:09 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

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.
Request for Complete Disclosure of Information under the Freedom of Information Act

Date: October 27, 2023

Dear Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer,

I am writing to follow up on my previous request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), seeking access to specific information held by your agency.

Upon reviewing your response to my initial request, I noticed that while you have indicated that the information sought is included within the documents provided, it appears that there are certain parts of the requested information that have not been fully disclosed. Specifically, I am referring to items A and B, which were outlined in my original request.

I understand that the FOIA process involves a thorough examination of the requested information and appreciate the efforts taken by your team to respond to my inquiry. However, I would like to ensure that my request is comprehensively addressed, and all pertinent information is provided.

In light of the above, I kindly request that you revisit my initial application and **ensure that items A and B are included in the response**. If these items are exempt from disclosure under any specific FOIA exemption, I would appreciate if you could provide a detailed explanation of the exemption applied, as well as the specific reasons why these items cannot be released.

Please know that the information I am seeking is crucial for my ongoing research, and having complete access to it is of paramount importance. I am confident that your agency is committed to upholding the principles of transparency and accountability, and I trust that you will take the necessary steps to address this matter promptly.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this request. I look forward to your prompt and positive response.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
 ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 3:33 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

In response to your request below:

- A. I request a record of names and official titles of all FOIA officers within your department who have engaged in communications with Mr. David Medeiros and/or representatives from ABI Resources.
 - i. **Included in C**
- B. I seek information on the dates and times of all such interactions.
 - i. **Included in C**
- C. I request all FOIA requests submitted by Mr. David Medeiros and/or ABI Resources, alongside any corresponding responses and related correspondence from your department.
 - i. **Please [click here to access and download the zip file](#) including the above requested materials – The link will be active for 30 days**

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
 Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:38 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

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.

The following years:

2007 to present date.

Thank you.
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 2:08 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* Can you please provide a date timeline you would like me to initiate this request for regarding to section c.?

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 11:29 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023
Importance: High

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.

10/23/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: Communications with David Medeiros and ABI Resources

Dear Connecticut Department of Social Services,

I am writing to formally submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, as stipulated by Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-200 to 1-206, seeking disclosure of communications between your department and both Mr. David Medeiros and ABI Resources.

The specifics of my requested records are as follows:

- a. I request a record of names and official titles of all FOIA officers within your department who have engaged in communications with Mr. David Medeiros and/or representatives from ABI Resources.
- b. I seek information on the dates and times of all such interactions.
- c. I request all FOIA requests submitted by Mr. David Medeiros and/or ABI Resources, alongside any corresponding responses and related correspondence from your department.

I assert that the requested information is not shielded from disclosure under the Connecticut FOIA, as it is pertinent to the public's affairs and is not classified as privileged or confidential.

Should any part of the requested documents be deemed exempt from disclosure, I request a comprehensive written justification for each exemption, referencing the pertinent statutory exemption, and ask that only the exempted portions be redacted, leaving the remainder of the document intact. In the event of a partial or full denial of my request, I ask for a written explanation, citing the specific statutory exemptions that justify the denial.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Fw: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sat 10/28/2023 8:00 AM

To:foi@ct.gov <foi@ct.gov>;Vincent.Candelora@housegop.ct.gov <Vincent.Candelora@housegop.ct.gov>;Tom.ODea@housegop.ct.gov <Tom.ODea@housegop.ct.gov>;David.Rutigliano@housegop.ct.gov <David.Rutigliano@housegop.ct.gov>;tim.ackert@housegop.ct.gov <tim.ackert@housegop.ct.gov>;jason.perillo@housegop.ct.gov <jason.perillo@housegop.ct.gov>;Lezlye.Zupkus@housegop.ct.gov <Lezlye.Zupkus@housegop.ct.gov>;christie.carpino@housegop.ct.gov <christie.carpino@housegop.ct.gov>;Tami.Zawistowski@housegop.ct.gov <Tami.Zawistowski@housegop.ct.gov>;Devin.Carney@housegop.ct.gov <Devin.Carney@housegop.ct.gov>;John.Piscopo@housegop.ct.gov <John.Piscopo@housegop.ct.gov>;dave.yaccarino@housegop.ct.gov <dave.yaccarino@housegop.ct.gov>;joe.polletta@housegop.ct.gov <joe.polletta@housegop.ct.gov>;Jay.Case@housegop.ct.gov <Jay.Case@housegop.ct.gov>;Nicole.Klarides-Ditria@housegop.ct.gov <Nicole.Klarides-Ditria@housegop.ct.gov>;Charles.Ferraro@housegop.ct.gov <Charles.Ferraro@housegop.ct.gov>;David.Labriola@housegop.ct.gov <David.Labriola@housegop.ct.gov>;Cara.Pavalock-DAmato@housegop.ct.gov <Cara.Pavalock-DAmato@housegop.ct.gov>;Kurt.Vail@housegop.ct.gov <Kurt.Vail@housegop.ct.gov>
Bcc:ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com <AABIWR@live.com>;robbrule@icloud.com <robbrule@icloud.com>

10/28/2023

Subject: Urgent: Request for Assistance and Clarification on Medicaid ABI Waiver Consumer Compensation and Compliance with FOIA

To whom it may concern,

I trust this email finds you in good health and spirits. My name is David Medeiros, and I am writing to you in my capacity as a business owner, disability advocate, and concerned Connecticut resident.

I am reaching out to seek your assistance and intervention in a matter that has significant implications on transparency, accountability, and the welfare of individuals under the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program.

Background:

On September 20, 2023, I submitted a formal complaint and a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Social Services (DSS) concerning the employment practices and consumer compensation within the ABI Waiver Program, specifically related to the Supported Living Group (SLG). Unfortunately, the responses received from the DSS have been inadequate, raising concerns about compliance with FOIA and the overall commitment to transparency and accountability.

Key Issues:

Incomplete Response to FOIA Request: Despite my explicit request for comprehensive information regarding consumer compensation, the responses from the DSS have been partial and unclear, without any specific citation of FOIA exemptions for withholding information.

Lack of Clarity on Consumer Compensation: There are serious concerns about the compensation of consumers within the ABI Waiver Program, including potential violations of wage standards, workplace safety issues, and exploitation of individuals with disabilities.

Non-Compliance with FOIA: The DSS's responses seem to disregard the principles of FOIA, which mandates federal agencies to disclose requested information unless specific exemptions apply, with the burden of justification resting on the agency.

Request for Assistance:

Given the gravity of the issues at hand and the potential impact on vulnerable individuals, I am seeking your support to:

Ensure Comprehensive Compliance with FOIA: Prompt the DSS to provide a complete and detailed response to my FOIA request, including specific reasons for any withholding or redaction of information.

Address Concerns on Consumer Compensation: Facilitate a thorough review and investigation into the employment practices and compensation of consumers within the ABI Waiver Program, ensuring fair treatment and compliance with legal standards.

Uphold Transparency and Accountability: Advocate for transparency, accountability, and the protection of the rights and welfare of individuals with disabilities participating in the ABI Waiver Program.

Attached to this email, you will find a comprehensive chronology of the email communications and requests made to the DSS, outlining the issues in detail.

I am hopeful that with your intervention, we can ensure that the concerns raised are addressed promptly and comprehensively, upholding the principles of transparency, accountability, and justice.

Thank you for your attention to this crucial matter. I am available for any further discussions or clarifications needed and look forward to your positive response.

Best Regards,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

Disability Advocate and Concerned Connecticut Resident

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 1:43 PM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; foi@po.state.ct.us <foi@po.state.ct.us>**Cc:** DSS, Commis <commis.dss@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.p.dinnall@ct.gov>; Governor.Lamont@ct.gov <Governor.Lamont@ct.gov>; clientfraud.dss@ct.gov <clientfraud.dss@ct.gov>; providerfraud.dss@ct.gov <providerfraud.dss@ct.gov>; ltgovernor.bysiewicz@ct.gov <ltgovernor.bysiewicz@ct.gov>**Subject:** Re: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

10/27/2023

Dear FOIA Officer,

We have received your message stating that you consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services. However, after careful review of our correspondence and the provided documents, it appears that there are outstanding items and issues that need to be addressed to ensure full compliance with the FOIA

and to adequately respond to David Medeiros and ABI Resources' request.

Under the FOIA, federal agencies are required to disclose any information requested unless it falls under one of nine exemptions which protect interests such as personal privacy, national security, and law enforcement. The burden is on the agency to substantiate why an exemption applies to a requested record.

In our case, we have not received a complete response to our request, and no specific exemption has been cited for withholding any part of the requested information. We kindly request that the Department provide the following:

A detailed list of all documents responsive to our FOIA request, including those that have been withheld, partially redacted, or are otherwise not provided in full.

Clear and specific reasons for any withholding or redaction, citing the relevant FOIA exemption.

Information on how to appeal any decisions to withhold or redact information.

An estimated date by which any additional responsive documents will be provided.

We understand that the FOIA process can be complex, and we appreciate the Department's efforts to respond to our request. However, compliance with the FOIA is of paramount importance to ensure transparency, accountability, and public trust. We are committed to working collaboratively with the Department to resolve any outstanding issues and to complete this request to the satisfaction of all parties involved.

Please consider this message as a formal appeal to the Department's initial response to the FOIA request. We expect that the Department will re-evaluate the request, conduct a thorough search for responsive documents, and provide a complete response in accordance with the FOIA. We kindly request a response to this appeal within the statutory 20-working day period.

Would please provide the FOIA request?

Additionally Would please provide your full name and supervisor's name?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to resolving this issue promptly and amicably.

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

10/27/2023

Here's why this information falls under the FOIA:

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) is a law that gives you the right to access information from the federal government. It is often described as the law that keeps citizens in the know about their government. The information in question relates to the employment practices and treatment of a specific consumer in a program funded by Medicaid under the ABI Waiver, overseen by the Department of Social Services (DSS). Here's why this information would fall under the FOIA:

1. Agency Accountability:

Federal and State Involvement: The letter addresses concerns to the United States Department of Labor, Connecticut Department of Labor, and Connecticut Department of Social Services, all of which are government entities.

Public Funding: The ABI Waiver program is federally funded through Medicaid, making it subject to public accountability and transparency.

2. Public Interest:

Welfare and Rights of Individuals: The complaint highlights potential violations of labor laws, workplace safety, discrimination, and exploitation, all of which are of public interest.

Integrity of Public Programs: Ensuring that public programs are administered fairly, legally, and safely is in the public interest, as it promotes trust in government institutions.

3. Transparency and Oversight:

Review of Government Action (or Inaction): The letter expresses concern that the complaint has not been acknowledged or acted upon, suggesting a need for oversight and transparency in how complaints are handled.

Potential Violations of Law: The issues raised in the complaint could indicate violations of labor laws, safety regulations, and rights of individuals with disabilities, which warrant transparent investigation and accountability.

4. Empowering Citizens:

Right to Know: Under FOIA, citizens have the right to know what actions are being taken by government entities and to ensure that these actions are lawful and ethical.

Ensuring Fair Treatment: Access to information via FOIA empowers citizens to hold government entities accountable for the fair treatment of individuals in public programs.

5. Addressing Grievances:

Formal Investigation: The letter requests a formal investigation into the matter, which aligns with FOIA's role in facilitating access to information that may be used to address grievances and seek redress.

Conclusion:

The FOIA plays a crucial role in ensuring government transparency, accountability, and responsiveness to citizens. In this case, accessing information about the handling of the complaint, the employment practices at Supported Living Group, and the oversight provided by the Department of Social Services is essential to addressing potential injustices, upholding labor standards, and ensuring the welfare of vulnerable individuals in publicly funded programs. The FOIA officer's involvement is crucial in ensuring that this matter is treated with the urgency, transparency, and thoroughness it deserves, in line with the principles of open government and the rights of citizens under the Freedom of Information Act.

Again, Would please provide the FOIA request.

Additionally Would please provide your full name and supervisors name?

Thank you,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 2:20 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Your request does not fall under the required duties of the [Connecticut Freedom of Information Act](#).

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 6:03 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

Importance: High

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.

I am writing to bring to your attention a matter that requires urgent review and action. On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 7:58 AM, a formal complaint was submitted to the DSS Commissioner and Amy Dumont, DSS Chief Operating Officer, with the subject title "Request for Investigation: ABI Waiver Program Consumer Employment Concerns at Supported Living Group (SLG)."

The electronic system confirmed the successful delivery of the complaint. However, as of the date of this letter, there is no record indicating that the aforementioned representatives have opened or read the submitted complaint.

We acknowledge that the Department of Social Services (DSS) has a responsibility to ensure the welfare and fair treatment of consumers in the ABI Waiver Program, and we trust that this matter will be treated with the urgency and attention it deserves. It is crucial for the integrity of the DSS and the well-being of the consumers that all complaints are thoroughly reviewed and addressed in a timely manner.

We kindly request that the FOIA officer ensures that this complaint is promptly brought to the attention of the relevant parties and that a formal investigation is initiated without further delay.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this serious matter. We are confident that you will handle this issue with the professionalism and urgency it warrants.

I have included a copy of the complaint for your records.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365

09/20/2023

Commis DSS;
Amy Dumont

ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com;

To: The United States Department of Labor (DOL), Connecticut Department of Labor, and Connecticut Department of Social Services.

Subject: Request for Investigation: Employment Concerns at Supported Living Group (SLG)

Dear Sir/Madam,

The information presented in this letter is based on joint communications and inputs received both from the said consumer and their conservator. It is intended to ensure that relevant authorities are made aware of potential concerns for their due consideration and investigation. Neither David Medeiros, ABI Resources, nor any affiliated entities or individuals claim full accuracy of the details however believe that they warrant the attention of the mentioned authorities. The representation of facts is made in good faith, and it is hoped that any action taken in response is with the objective of ensuring fair and just employment practices for all individuals involved.

I am writing to formally express concerns and request an investigation into the employment practices at the Supported Living Group (SLG) located in the Executive Office of Bethany, 23 Amity Rd, Bethany, CT 06524. The details provided below pertain to a brain-injured adult man from Madison, CT who may appear to be both a consumer and employee of SLG's Medicaid federally funded ABI Waiver day program.

Employment Details:

Wage and Hour Standards: The consumer works approximately 21 hours a week but may appear to be compensated at a rate of just \$10 a day. This does not meet the federal minimum wage standards. The format of this payment (cash or check) may appear to be unclear, which can raise concerns about wage documentation and tax implications.

Workplace Safety and Health: The consumer's duties involve several physically demanding tasks. The consumer aids with PCA services, which include assisting other consumers to the restroom, setting up commodes, and transferring them to and from these commodes. The consumer also aids attendees prone to falling and even assists in lifting these individuals from the floor. Given his own health challenges due to a spinal cord injury, these tasks pose significant risks. The consumer may appear to be advised against heavy lifting and has balance and impulsivity issues, which compound the health and safety risks. It's imperative to assess if this environment may appear to be compliant with Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) regulations.

Employment and Training: The consumer was handed supervisory duties with minimal instructions, potentially jeopardizing the welfare of both himself and those the consumer oversees.

Workplace Discrimination: The potential exploitation due to his disability, given the disparity between his responsibilities and his compensation, may appear to be concerning.

Employee Benefits Security: The ambiguity about his employment status raises questions on whether the consumer receives any employee benefits.

Unemployment Insurance and Workers' Compensation: With unclear employment details and payment methods, there's uncertainty about his coverage under unemployment insurance or workers' compensation in case of a workplace incident.

Motivation and Future Prospects:

The consumer's commitment to his role, despite the challenges, seems largely influenced by the \$10 daily pay and the potential promises of full-time employment after a year with SLG.

Communication and Conflict of Interest:

It seems there may have been some level of coercion or undue influence in the consumer's appointment to this role.

A significant conflict of interest exists, as the consumer's ABI Waiver cognitive behaviorist provider may appear to be also an SLG employee, which can hinder transparent communication about workplace grievances or concerns.

Attendees' Profile:

The attendees, supervised by the consumer, are brain injury survivors with behavioral challenges, making the consumer's responsibilities even more demanding given his own health issues.

Conclusion:

The concerns outlined underscore potential breaches in labor standards and regulations for Connecticut's Medicaid ABI Waiver day programs. The potential exploitation, safety hazards, and conflicts of interest necessitate a comprehensive investigation into SLG's employment practices to ensure the rights and welfare of all its workers, including this specific consumer, are upheld.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros

ABI Resources
860 942-0365
AabiWR@live.com

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 3:55 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

The Department is not aware of the compensation of consumers within the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program.

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 2:06 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 10:57 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

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.

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA

I am writing to you under the provisions of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act § 1-200 to request access to and a copy of all records related to the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program, specifically focusing on the involvement of the Supported Living Group and any compensation provided to consumers for participating in Medicaid ABI Waiver program services.

I am seeking the following records.

- a. Records of amounts of compensation paid to consumers.
- b. Records of frequency of payments.
- c. Records of criteria for eligibility for compensation.
- d. Records of funding sources for the compensation.
- e. Records of any limitations or conditions attached to consumer compensation.
- f. Records of complaints, investigations, or audits related to the payment or compensation of consumers participating in the ABI Waiver Program through the Supported Living Group.
- g. Records of policies, guidelines, or regulations that govern the payment or compensation of consumers within the Medicaid ABI Waiver Program, specifically in relation to services and payments provided by the Supported Living Group.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 9:43 AM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Thank you for reaching out. Unfortunately, FOIA requests do not include answering questions. If there specific documents – that already exist – that you would like to be searched for?

Best,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 8:47 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: Consumer Compensation | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

Importance: High

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.

10/23/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request Regarding Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program and Consumer Compensation

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU

Office of the Commissioner

55 Farmington Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA

I am writing to you under the provisions of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act § 1-200 to request access to and a copy of all records related to the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program, specifically focusing on the involvement of the Supported Living Group and any compensation provided to consumers for participating in services.

To assist in locating the information, I am seeking answers to the following questions:

Are consumers under the ABI Waiver Program paid or compensated in any way for participating in services provided by the Supported Living Group or affiliates? If so, could you provide details on the nature and structure of this compensation, including:

- a. Amounts of compensation
- b. Frequency of payments
- c. Criteria for eligibility for compensation
- d. Funding sources for the compensation
- e. Any limitations or conditions attached to the compensation

Have there been any complaints, investigations, or audits related to the payment or compensation of consumers participating in the ABI Waiver Program through the Supported Living Group? If so, what were the outcomes of these inquiries?

Are there any policies, guidelines, or regulations that govern the payment or compensation of consumers within the ABI Waiver Program, specifically in relation to services provided by the Supported Living Group?

How is the integrity and proper administration of consumer compensation within the ABI Waiver Program ensured, and what safeguards are in place to prevent misuse or misallocation of funds?

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros

ABI Resources

RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Tue 11/7/2023 11:09 AM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>

1 attachments (19 KB)

The Supported Living Group ABI Payments 6.01.12-10.31.23.xlsx;

David –

Apologies, I do not know why that info was not included. Please find the updated spreadsheet attached.

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 7:17 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

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.

Would you please provide the complete FOIA request, to the present date? The information provided ends in July of 2023.

Thank you,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

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

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 3:59:26 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

David –

Please find the attached information regarding your request below. Please note, there were no payments prior to October 2016.

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 8:26 AM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

David –

We are still working on this request.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2023 7:14 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

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.

11/01/2023

Hello Mr. Giovanni Pinto FOIA Officer,

Would you please provide a FOIA request status update?

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 12:07 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

David –

Thank you for the clarification. It appears as though you sent an identical request for Project Genesis around 20 minutes after this request was sent. The project genesis information was mistakenly attached to this email thread instead – apologies.

Let me work to verify and compile this information for you now.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 11:52 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; FOI <FOI@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

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.

10/30/2023

Dear Mr. Giovanni Pinto FOIA Officer,

Please review the FOIA-provided data and notice a discrepancy between the requested information and the contents of the Excel attachment. I had requested *The Supported Living Group* information whereas the received attachment information FOIA is for Project Genesis.

I understand the demands placed on the FOIA office and appreciate your efforts. To ensure the success of my ongoing matter, I kindly ask for a review of my initial request and the resubmission of the correct data.

Thank you,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

10/17/2023

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU
Office of the Commissioner
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to The Supported Living Group through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the annual disbursements to The Supported Living Group for each of the following years:

2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018

2019
2020
2021
2022
2023

The Supported Living Group is a Medicaid provider operating within the state of Connecticut, and I am seeking information to better understand the financial relationships between this organization and the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made to The Supported Living Group for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between The Supported Living Group and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 9:39 AM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

David –

Your response was both acknowledged and completed on 10/17/2023. Please see the attached email chain, which includes the statutory initial response, correspondence with you, and the requested data (sent twice as an Excel attachment).

Best,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 6:59 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023
Importance: High

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.

Subject: Status Inquiry for FOIA Request dated 10/17/2023

Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) and Community Options Unit (COU)
Office of the Commissioner
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inquire about the status of my Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on October 17, 2023, to the Connecticut Department of Social Services and Community Options Unit. In the request, I sought information regarding the total payments made to The Supported Living Group through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

As of today's date, I have not yet received any acknowledgment or response related to the request. I kindly request an update on the progress of my inquiry, and if possible, an estimated date for when the requested documents or information might be available.

Given my accessibility needs, as mentioned in my original request, I would appreciate if any communications or updates could be provided in an electronic format to facilitate my participation.

I understand the importance and weight of FOIA requests and truly appreciate the effort put into processing these demands. Your assistance and transparency in this matter are greatly valued.

If there are any fees associated with processing or delivering the requested documents, please inform me in advance, so we can make necessary arrangements.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to receiving an update soon.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 7:26 AM
To: foia.dss@ct.gov <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: Janice.p.dinnall@ct.gov <Janice.p.dinnall@ct.gov>; Commis DSS <commis.dss@ct.gov>
Subject: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.17.2023

10/17/2023

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU
Office of the Commissioner
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, regarding the total payments made to The Supported Living Group through the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs from 2013 to the present day.

Specifically, I am interested in obtaining financial data detailing the annual disbursements to The Supported Living Group for each of the following years:

2013
2014
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2017
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2019
2020
2021
2022
2023

The Supported Living Group is a Medicaid provider operating within the state of Connecticut, and I am seeking information to better understand the financial relationships between this organization and the Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

Please provide any documents, records, reports, or other relevant information that pertains to the payments made to The Supported Living Group for the specified years. This information could include, but is not limited to, financial statements, invoices, payment logs, contracts, and any other documents that outline the financial transactions between The Supported Living Group and Medicaid Connecticut ABI Waiver programs.

If any part of my request is denied, please provide a written explanation of the specific exemptions under which the information is withheld.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Fri 10/27/2023 2:19 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

David –

As discussed in previous requests, FOIA does not include producing documents that do not already exist, nor does it include answering specific questions. That being said, we do strive to ensure all requests are thoroughly addressed:

- Sub-Section A
 - Giovanni Pinto – Communications Manager
 - David Seifel – Legislative Manager
- Sub-Section B
 - All dates and time stamps are included on each email provided

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>

Sent: Friday, October 27, 2023 1:09 PM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

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.

Request for Complete Disclosure of Information under the Freedom of Information Act

Date: October 27, 2023

Dear Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer,

I am writing to follow up on my previous request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), seeking access to specific information held by your agency.

Upon reviewing your response to my initial request, I noticed that while you have indicated that the information sought is included within the documents provided, it appears that there are certain parts of the requested information that have not been fully disclosed. Specifically, I am referring to items A and B, which were outlined in my original request.

I understand that the FOIA process involves a thorough examination of the requested information and appreciate the efforts taken by your team to respond to my inquiry. However, I would like to ensure that my request is comprehensively addressed, and all pertinent information is provided.

In light of the above, I kindly request that you revisit my initial application and **ensure that items A and B are included in the response**. If these items are exempt from disclosure under any specific FOIA exemption, I would appreciate if you could provide a detailed explanation of the exemption applied, as well as the specific reasons why these items cannot be released.

Please know that the information I am seeking is crucial for my ongoing research, and having complete access to it is of paramount importance. I am confident that your agency is committed to upholding the principles of transparency and accountability, and I trust that you will take the necessary steps to address this matter promptly.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this request. I look forward to your prompt and positive response.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 3:33 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

In response to your request below:

- A. I request a record of names and official titles of all FOIA officers within your department who have engaged in communications with Mr. David Medeiros and/or representatives from ABI Resources.

i. **Included in C**

- B. I seek information on the dates and times of all such interactions.

i. Included in C

C. I request all FOIA requests submitted by Mr. David Medeiros and/or ABI Resources, alongside any corresponding responses and related correspondence from your department.

i. Please [click here to access and download the zip file](#) including the above requested materials – The link will be active for 30 days

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <AABIWR@LIVE.COM>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:38 PM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

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.

The following years:

2007 to present date.

Thank you.
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

From: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 2:08 PM
To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

PLEASE NOTE* Can you please provide a date timeline you would like me to initiate this request for regarding to section c.?

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services



From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 11:29 AM
To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>
Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>
Subject: Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 10.23.2023
Importance: High

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10/23/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: Communications with David Medeiros and ABI Resources

Dear Connecticut Department of Social Services,

I am writing to formally submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, as stipulated by Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 1-200 to 1-206, seeking disclosure of communications between your department and both Mr. David Medeiros and ABI Resources.

The specifics of my requested records are as follows:

- a. I request a record of names and official titles of all FOIA officers within your department who have engaged in communications with Mr. David Medeiros and/or representatives from ABI Resources.
- b. I seek information on the dates and times of all such interactions.

12/1/23, 6:58 AM

Mail - ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 - Outlook

c. I request all FOIA requests submitted by Mr. David Medeiros and/or ABI Resources, alongside any corresponding responses and related correspondence from your department.

I assert that the requested information is not shielded from disclosure under the Connecticut FOIA, as it is pertinent to the public's affairs and is not classified as privileged or confidential.

Should any part of the requested documents be deemed exempt from disclosure, I request a comprehensive written justification for each exemption, referencing the pertinent statutory exemption, and ask that only the exempted portions be redacted, leaving the remainder of the document intact. In the event of a partial or full denial of my request, I ask for a written explanation, citing the specific statutory exemptions that justify the denial.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: Governor Ned Lamont and the Connecticut Department of Social Services

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Thu 10/26/2023 2:20 PM

To: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; Governor Lamont <Governor.Lamont@ct.gov>

Cc: DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; Client, Fraud <ClientFraud.DSS@ct.gov>; DSS, Fraud-Recoveries <providerfraud.dss@ct.gov>; Lt. Governor Bysiewicz <LtGovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov>

David –

Your request does not fall under the required duties of the [Connecticut Freedom of Information Act](#).

Following this response, I will consider this request completed within the Department of Social Services.

Thank you for your patience,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services

From: ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 4:58 PM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; Governor Lamont <Governor.Lamont@ct.gov>**Cc:** DSS, Commis <Commis.DSS@ct.gov>; Dinnall, Janice <Janice.P.Dinnall@ct.gov>; Client, Fraud <ClientFraud.DSS@ct.gov>; DSS, Fraud-Recoveries <providerfraud.dss@ct.gov>; Lt. Governor Bysiewicz <LtGovernor.Bysiewicz@ct.gov>**Subject:** Governor Ned Lamont and the Connecticut Department of Social Services**Importance:** High

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10/25/2023**Re: Follow-Up on Formal Complaint and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request**

To the attention of:

Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont and the Connecticut Department of Social Services.

10/23/2023

I am again writing to bring to your attention a matter that requires urgent review and action. On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 7:58 AM, a formal complaint was submitted to the DSS Commissioner and Amy Dumont, DSS Chief Operating Officer, with the subject title "Request for Investigation: ABI Waiver Program Consumer Employment Concerns at Supported Living Group (SLG)."

The electronic system confirmed the successful delivery of the complaint. However, as of the date of this letter, there is no record indicating that the aforementioned representatives have opened or read the submitted complaint.

We acknowledge that the Department of Social Services (DSS) has a responsibility to ensure the welfare and fair treatment of consumers in the ABI Waiver Program, and we trust that this matter will be treated with the urgency and attention it deserves. It is crucial for the integrity of the DSS and the well-being of the consumers that all complaints are thoroughly reviewed and addressed in a timely manner.

We kindly request that the FOIA officer ensures that this complaint is promptly brought to the attention of the relevant parties and that a formal investigation is initiated without further delay.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this serious matter. We are confident that you will handle this issue with the professionalism and urgency it warrants.

I have included a copy of the complaint for your records.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365

09/20/2023Commis DSS;
Amy Dumont

ABI RESOURCES LLC www.CTbrainINJURY.com

To: The United States Department of Labor (DOL), Connecticut Department of Labor, and Connecticut Department of Social Services.

Subject: Request for Investigation: Employment Concerns at Supported Living Group (SLG)

Dear Sir/Madam,

The information presented in this letter is based on joint communications and inputs received both from the said consumer and their conservator. It is intended to ensure that relevant authorities are made aware of potential concerns for their due consideration and investigation. Neither David Medeiros, ABI Resources, nor any affiliated entities or individuals claim full accuracy of the details however believe that they warrant the attention of the mentioned authorities. The representation of facts is made in good faith, and it is hoped that any action taken in response is with the objective of ensuring fair and just employment practices for all individuals involved.

I am writing to formally express concerns and request an investigation into the employment practices at the Supported Living Group (SLG) located in the Executive Office of Bethany, 23 Amity Rd, Bethany, CT 06524. The details provided below pertain to a brain-injured adult man from Madison, CT who may appear to be both a consumer and employee of SLG's Medicaid federally funded ABI Waiver day program.

Employment Details:

Wage and Hour Standards: The consumer works approximately 21 hours a week but may appear to be compensated at a rate of just \$10 a day. This does not meet the federal minimum wage standards. The format of this payment (cash or check) may appear to be unclear, which can raise concerns about wage documentation and tax implications.

Workplace Safety and Health: The consumer's duties involve several physically demanding tasks. The consumer aids with PCA services, which include assisting other consumers to the restroom, setting up commodes, and transferring them to and from these commodes. The consumer also aids attendees prone to falling and even assists in lifting these individuals from the floor. Given his own health challenges due to a spinal cord injury, these tasks pose significant risks. The consumer may appear to be advised against heavy lifting and has balance and impulsivity issues, which compound the health and safety risks. It's imperative to assess if this environment may appear to be compliant with Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) regulations.

Employment and Training: The consumer was handed supervisory duties with minimal instructions, potentially jeopardizing the welfare of both himself and those the consumer oversees.

Workplace Discrimination: The potential exploitation due to his disability, given the disparity between his responsibilities and his compensation, may appear to be concerning.

Employee Benefits Security: The ambiguity about his employment status raises questions on whether the consumer receives any employee benefits.

Unemployment Insurance and Workers' Compensation: With unclear employment details and payment methods, there's uncertainty about his coverage under unemployment insurance or workers' compensation in case of a workplace incident.

Motivation and Future Prospects:

The consumer's commitment to his role, despite the challenges, seems largely influenced by the \$10 daily pay and the potential promises of full-time employment after a year with SLG.

Communication and Conflict of Interest:

It seems there may have been some level of coercion or undue influence in the consumer's appointment to this role.

A significant conflict of interest exists, as the consumer's ABI Waiver cognitive behaviorist provider may appear to be also an SLG employee, which can hinder transparent communication about workplace grievances or concerns.

Attendees' Profile:

The attendees, supervised by the consumer, are brain injury survivors with behavioral challenges, making the consumer's responsibilities even more demanding given his own health issues.

Conclusion:

The concerns outlined underscore potential breaches in labor standards and regulations for Connecticut's Medicaid ABI Waiver day programs. The potential exploitation, safety hazards, and conflicts of interest necessitate a comprehensive investigation into SLG's employment practices to ensure the rights and welfare of all its workers, including this specific consumer, are upheld.

Sincerely,

David Medeiros

ABI Resources
860 942-0365
AabiWR@live.com

10/23/2023

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request Regarding Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program and Consumer Compensation

Connecticut Department of Social Services DSS and Community Options Unit COU
Office of the Commissioner
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request FOIA

I am writing to you under the provisions of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act § 1-200 to request access to and a copy of all records related to the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver Program, specifically focusing on the involvement of the Supported Living Group and any compensation provided to consumers for participating in services.

To assist in locating the information, I am seeking answers to the following questions:

Are consumers under the ABI Waiver Program paid or compensated in any way for participating in services provided by the Supported Living Group or affiliates? If so, could you provide details on the nature and structure of this compensation, including:

- a. Amounts of compensation
- b. Frequency of payments
- c. Criteria for eligibility for compensation
- d. Funding sources for the compensation
- e. Any limitations or conditions attached to the compensation

Have there been any complaints, investigations, or audits related to the payment or compensation of consumers participating in the ABI Waiver Program through the Supported Living Group? If so, what were the outcomes of these inquiries?

Are there any policies, guidelines, or regulations that govern the payment or compensation of consumers within the ABI Waiver Program, specifically in relation to services provided by the Supported Living Group?

How is the integrity and proper administration of consumer compensation within the ABI Waiver Program ensured, and what safeguards are in place to prevent misuse or misallocation of funds?

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

RE: Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Waitlist | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>

Mon 11/13/2023 10:02 AM

To: DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>; ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>

David –

Please find a response to a portion of your request highlighted below and in red.

Thanks,

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services**From:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 9:46 AM**To:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>; DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Subject:** RE: Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Waitlist | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

David –

Your request for information has been received.

The Department will respond in accordance with the requirements of the CT FOIA.

If there are any costs associated with complying with your request, an estimate will be provided to you before the records are compiled and provided to you.

Thank you.

FOIA Officer
Department of Social Services**From:** ABI RESOURCES 860 942-0365 <aabiwr@live.com>**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 6:37 AM**To:** DSS, FOIA <FOIA.DSS@ct.gov>**Subject:** Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Waitlist | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023**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.

11/13/2023

Connecticut Department of Social Services
Office of Legal Affairs, Regulations, and Administrative Hearings
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

Subject: Medicaid ABI Waiver Program Waitlist | Freedom of Information Act FOIA Request | Connecticut Gov. 11.13.2023

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I am requesting access to and copies of all records and documents maintained by the Connecticut Department of Social Services pertaining to the waiting list of individuals for the Medicaid Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) services in section 17b-260a-4(d) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Specifically, I am seeking the following:

a) Documents Describing the Waiting List Process: Any and all documents that describe the process and criteria used for maintaining the waiting list for ABI services.

b) Statistical Data: Any statistical data or reports on the number of individuals on the waiting list, including the duration of their wait and the reasons for their ineligibility as per section 17b-260a-4(d).

c) Policy and Procedure Manuals: Copies of any policy and procedure manuals or guidelines regarding the administration of the ABI waiting list.

d) Internal Communications: Relevant internal communications discussing the management or policy decisions related to the ABI waiting list. – This is criteria already included in your 9/26/2023 request that is projected to take over a year to complete.

Please note, if certain records or documents are exempt from disclosure under the FOIA, I request that you provide an index of such documents as required under Vaughn v. Rosen, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), along with a detailed explanation of why each document is exempt from disclosure.

I kindly request accommodations due to my disability. To facilitate my accessibility and participation, I would greatly appreciate the use of electronic records. Your support in this matter is highly valued.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Sincerely,
David Medeiros
ABI Resources

A.B.I. Resources LLC

39 Kings Highway, Suite C

Gales Ferry CT, 06335

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 a password for consumers of the ABI Waiver Program.
- Many of the disabled ABI Waiver Program population cannot afford the internet and the equipment needed to access the internet to navigate their listing.
- Many disabled ABI populations cannot navigate and understand internet-based communication processes.
- Many disabled ABI Waiver populations live with communication and memory challenges. Calling the DSS contracted fiduciary, waiting on hold, leaving voicemail requests for callbacks, or requesting the listing mailed to their home address is a highly complex 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 giving the complete DSS



contracted fiduciary listing. This action is not ethical and maybe biased as disabled ABI waiver consumers are not afforded their complete full and unbiased selection of providers that may provide a more beneficial Case Management relationship. ABI Waiver and MFP consumers may appear not completely informed or misled during decision-making and may be left entirely 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 in 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 a referral before a consumer is wholly informed or provided their complete options by a Case Management selected provider.

- DSS, Case Management providers, and the contracted, the fiduciary listing provider may be aware of these discriminatory processes and practices.
- How does DSS ensure the disabled population is not discriminated against and provide the procedural validation system to ensure civil rights are completely adhered to?
- Additionally, it may appear that the DSS contracted fiduciary listing is discriminatory and biased to confuse the disabled ABI Waiver consumer in this way. Below are the first two 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) 523-1418	West Hartford
Juniper Homecare LLC	●	(860) 523-1418	West Hartford
Absolute Independence LLC		(860) 347-3082 melhornahkj288@gmail.com	Middletown
The Supported Living Group LLC	●	(860) 774-3400 kbrisson@slg-ct.com	Danielson
The Supported Living Group LLC	●	(860) 774-3400 kbrisson@slg-ct.com	Danielson
The Supported Living Group LLC	●	(860) 774-3400 kbrisson@slg-ct.com	Danielson
Handz-On Inc.	●	(860) 560-7700 myra@handzon.org	Hartford
Handz-On Inc.	●	(860) 560-7700 myra@handzon.org	Hartford
Handz-On Inc.	●	(860) 560-7700 myra@handzon.org	Hartford
Change A Life Time Companies Inc	●	203-526-2496 changealifetime@yahoo.com	Stratford
Change A Life Time Companies Inc	●	203-526-2496 changealifetime@yahoo.com	Stratford
Change A Life Time Companies Inc	●	203-526-2496 changealifetime@yahoo.com	Stratford
Lifeline Nursing LLC	●	(203) 891-8243 info@lifelinenursing.net	Orange
Lifeline Nursing LLC	●	(203) 891-8243 info@lifelinenursing.net	Orange
Change Inc	●	(860) 346-0771 dgibbs@changeinonline.org	Middletown
Change Inc	●	(860) 346-0771 dgibbs@changeinonline.org	Middletown
Change Inc	●	(860) 346-0771 dgibbs@changeinonline.org	Middletown
Home Healthcare Companions LLC		(860) 908-7870 annjea.cormier@gmail.com	Waterford
Simple Home Care Solutions LLC	●	(860) 944-2770 nancyhackbarth@att.net	Bristol
Simple Home Care Solutions LLC	●	(860) 944-2770 nancyhackbarth@att.net	Bristol
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	●	(203) 495-1900 joronzo@carefinders.org	New Haven
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	●	(203) 495-1900 joronzo@carefinders.org	New Haven
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	●	(203) 495-1900 joronzo@carefinders.org	New Haven
A & B Homecare Solutions LLC dba Northwest Home Care LLC	●	(203) 495-1900 joronzo@carefinders.org	New Haven

- Note that ABI Resources is listed once.

Positive Outlooks	●		sherrylmccowan@positiveoutlookslc.com	Waterbury
Positive Outlooks	●		sherrylmccowan@positiveoutlookslc.com	Waterbury
ABI Resources LLC	●	(860) 942-0365	ABI@CTBRAININJURY.COM	Gales Ferry
24/7 Harmony Home Care Services LLC	●	(860) 646-4193	asumaduj@247hhcare.com	Manchester
24/7 Harmony Home Care Services LLC	●	(860) 646-4193	asumaduj@247hhcare.com	Manchester
Helping Others to Succeed Inc	●	(877) 885-8516	afreeman@hotsabi.com	Newington
Helping Others to Succeed Inc	●	(877) 885-8516	afreeman@hotsabi.com	Newington
Helping Others to Succeed Inc	●	(877) 885-8516	afreeman@hotsabi.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	rmancell@caregivershpc.com	Manchester
CareGivers Connecticut LLC	●	(860) 436-2779	rmancell@caregivershpc.com	Manchester
CareGivers Connecticut LLC	●	(860) 436-2779	rmancell@caregivershpc.com	Manchester
Second Chance Home Care LLC		860-263-8259	info@secondchancehomecare.com	East Hartford
Advanced Cognitive Development LLC		(860) 478-1910	crystalj_acdabi@outlook.com	Mansfield Center
Angel Touch Care LLC	●	(860) 461-7123	odski@sbcglobal.net	West Hartford
Angel Touch Care LLC	●	(860) 461-7123	odski@sbcglobal.net	West Hartford
Angel Touch Care LLC	●	(860) 461-7123	odski@sbcglobal.net	West Hartford
Liberty HomeCare Options LLC	●	(860) 357-4112	sylvia@libertyhcoct.com	New Britain
Liberty HomeCare Options LLC	●	(860) 357-4112	sylvia@libertyhcoct.com	New Britain
Liberty HomeCare Options LLC	●	(860) 357-4112	sylvia@libertyhcoct.com	New Britain
A&D Home Health Solutions Inc		(860) 667-2275	dfisher@adhomehealthsolutions.com	Newington
A.L.L. Homemakers and Companions	●	(860) 507-6796	all216@att.net	Farmington
A.L.L. Homemakers and Companions	●	(860) 507-6796	all216@att.net	Farmington

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

"Creating Opportunities for People"

Portal > 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: ABI

Provider Types:

Click to Select Provider Types

- Agency
- Private-Household
- Private-SE & H
- Private-Self-Empl.
- Click to Select Towns

Regions:

Click to Select Regions

Services:

Select All Clear

Click to Select Services

☐ All ☒ Any [Need Help?](#)

Additional Languages:

Click to Select Additional Languages

Directory List

HOME ABOUT US PROGRAMS & SERVICES CUSTOMER SERVICE QUALITY SERVICE PROVIDER INFORMATION CONTACT US

Font Size

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Portal Log Out

- Note that 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.

"Creating Opportunities for People"

Portal > 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: ABI

Provider Types:

Regions:

Services:

 Assistive Technology
 Environmental Accessibility Adapt.

Towns:

Additional Languages:

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 - Font Size +
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 Portal Log Out

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

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

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

