

Island news

Reorganization of UCP staff to eliminate jobs

A reorganization of the administrative staff is under way at United Cerebral Palsy of New York State, which will leave a "minimal" number of people without positions, according to agency officials.

"We've made some cuts, and we want to get service positions back onto the wards," said Robert Schonhorn, executive director of UCP. "But no decisions have been made on any firings."

Cora Hoffman, UCP assistant executive director, described the changes as "a normal process" that will change some positions and eliminate others.

"Nothing is going to be finally resolved until next week," she added. "I would assume that because of the reorganization, some will be left out of a job, but we are talking about very minimal numbers."

She said the number of people left without jobs will probably be less than five.

Mrs. Hoffman said Schonhorn is currently reviewing staffing needs and meeting with administrators to determine what form the reorganization should take.

Schonhorn and Mrs. Hoffman denied rumors that UCP is undergoing a "purge." One source had told the Advance that the reorganization will include the firing of about 20 administrators.

"There's no truth in that," Mrs. Hoffman said.

UCP supervises care of about 650 mentally retarded persons, including 250 persons living at the Karl D. Warner Center on the grounds of the Staten Island Developmental Center, and 50 at the Nina Eaton Center on the grounds of the South Beach Psychiatric Center.