



Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series Spring 2011

Title: **Augmentative Communication: A Parent's View**

Presenter: **Julia Pearce**
Team Manager, Granite School District
Communication Technology Team
Board member and Family Issues Committee Chair, NADD
Local Network Leader, Utah Family to Family Network
Salt Lake City, UT

Date: **Friday, April 8, 2011**

Target Audience: Case Managers Social Workers
 Healthcare Providers Educators
 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors

Level of Course Information:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Session Description: This session will show how functional communication can be achieved in different settings and across the lifespan. Ms. Pearce will share the story of her son's augmentative communication history, from age 2 years old until his present age of 20. The presentation will include how the progression of low, mid, and high technology was created; how his changing medical needs affect his communication; and how he makes his own accommodations. Photos and examples will be presented, along with a Top 10 list of augmentative communication devices and supports.

Relevance to social work: The audience for the series is primarily comprised of staff from the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, and community provider organizations. Social workers are employed by the State of NJ, community organizations, and school districts in various roles, such as case managers, guardians, school social workers, administrators, and policymakers.

Goal: To increase participants' awareness of how functional communication can be achieved in different settings across the lifespan.

Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to create and use augmentative communication supports to help a person with disabilities communicate their wants and needs.
2. Participants will be able to utilize ideas and concepts of communication to work with a person's rights and preferences.
3. Participants will be able to identify the role that communication plays in daily decision making for each person with a disability.

Timed Outline

9:30 Introduction
9:40 Human Dignity
The Ongoing Road to Augmentative Communication Success – A Parents View
10:45 Break
11:00 Top 10 Augmentative Picks
12:15 Time for Questions
12:30 End of Session



Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series Spring 2011

Title: Community Building, Friendships, and Social Relationships

Presenter: **Angela Amado, Ph.D.**
Executive Director
Human Services Research & Development Center
Research Associate, Institute on Community Integration
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

Date: Friday, April 15, 2011

Target Audience: Case Managers Social Workers
 Healthcare Providers Educators
 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors

Level of Course Information:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Session Description: People with disabilities often experience social isolation despite living in the community. This presentation will summarize the most promising practices in community building and social networking. Examples will be provided about a wide range of people and environments. Practical strategies and exercises will be presented that can be used to help people with disabilities expand friendships and relationships thus increasing their community connections and sense of belonging.

Relevance to social work: The audience for the series is primarily comprised of staff from the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, and community provider organizations. Social workers are employed by the State of NJ, community organizations, and school districts in various roles, such as case managers, guardians, school social workers, administrators, and policymakers.

Goal: To equip participants with strategies designed to increase relationships between people with disabilities and community members.

Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to identify at least one specific action they can take with someone with disabilities to increase their community membership and relationships with community members.
2. Participants will be able to identify seven strategies for connecting individuals with disabilities and community members.
3. Participants will be able to identify at least two reasons why it is important to connect individuals with disabilities and community members in good relationships.

Timed Outline

9:30 Introduction
9:45 Historical Context: Physical Versus Social Integration
10:00 Reasons why it is Important to Promote Relationships with Community Members
10:30 Overall Approaches: Identifying Interests and Where People Meet Others
10:45 Break
11:00 Seven Strategies for Connecting – Participants Identify 3 Ideas to Try with Individuals They Support
12:15 Time for Questions
12:30 End of Session



Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series Spring 2011

Title: Realizing Better Employment Outcomes for People with Disabilities

Presenter: William Kiernan, Ph.D.
Director and Research Professor
Institute for Community Inclusion
University of Massachusetts at Boston
Boston, MA

Date: Friday, April 29, 2011

Target Audience: Case Managers Social Workers
 Healthcare Providers Educators
 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors

Level of Course Information:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Session Description: Interest in the employment of persons with disabilities has been front and center for many years, yet the number of people with disabilities in competitive integrated employment remains low and is not advancing. In this session, Dr. Kiernan will explore the current state of employment for people with disabilities, systemic and policy challenges, and strategies that may assist us in realizing better employment outcomes.

Relevance to social work: The audience for the series is primarily comprised of staff from the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, and community provider organizations. Social workers are employed by the State of NJ, community organizations, and school districts in various roles, such as case managers, guardians, school social workers, administrators, and policymakers.

Goal: To provide a comprehensive overview of the impact of policy, labor force economics, and employer perceptions on the sustained employment and evaluation of individuals with disabilities.

Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to identify the critical factors that can enhance employment for persons with disabilities.
2. Participants will be able to discuss cutting edge strategies that can be considered by programs in supporting increased employment of people with disabilities
3. Participants will be able to describe the importance of helping persons with disabilities enter and remain in competitive integrated employment.

Timed Outline

9:30 Introduction
9:40 Overview of National Employment Data and Policy
10:45 Break
11:00 Strategies for Supporting Increased Employment of People with Disabilities
12:15 Time for Questions
12:30 End of Session



Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series Spring 2011

Title: A Personal Approach to Quality

Presenter: Tina Campanella, M.A.
Executive Director
Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities
Washington, DC

Date: Friday, May 6, 2011

Target Audience: Case Managers Social Workers
 Healthcare Providers Educators
 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors

Level of Course Information:

Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Session Description: Measuring quality in human services is a dynamic challenge. We must make sure to achieve good outcomes in health, safety, and protection from harm - yet this alone will not ensure people have full and meaningful lives. This presentation will explore an approach to quality that integrates individualized supports and compliance with basic requirements, using the assessment of quality as both a feedback system and management tool. Strategies for balancing individual, professional, and system expectations will be discussed.

Relevance to social work: The audience for the series is primarily comprised of staff from the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, and community provider organizations. Social workers are employed by the State of NJ, community organizations, and school districts in various roles, such as case managers, guardians, school social workers, administrators, and policymakers.

Goal: To introduce a coherent approach to quality in services to people with developmental disabilities that effectively integrates expectations for basic compliance and customized supports for individually valued outcomes.

Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to describe how to organize the assessment of quality in services with a commitment to individualized services.
2. Participants will be able to describe the connection between general standards for health, safety, and prevention of abuse to individualize quality in services.
3. Participants will be able to identify tools and strategies for balancing individual, professional, and system expectations around quality.

Timed Outline

9:30 Introduction
9:40 What We Know About Quality
Making Quality Personal
10:45 Break
11:00 Quality Assessment as a Feedback System
Using Quality Data for Change: Individual, Organizational, and System
12:15 Time for Questions
12:30 End of Session