Session Description:
The physical environment is not passive; we enter into a relationship with it for better or for worse. Increased disability and loss of control are the consequences of the wrong environment for an individual. This presentation will show examples of homes that are healthy and safe, that eliminate obstacles, and increase individual control, independence, and choice for individuals with behavioral and physical disabilities. This profound shift empowers individuals with developmental disabilities and fundamentally changes their relationships with their supports and their environment.

Target Audience: Social Workers, Clinicians, Behavior Specialists, Nurses, and Educators

Level of Course Information:  
☑ Beginner  ☐ Intermediate  ☐ Advanced

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’ knowledge about the role of the physical environment in developing appropriate supports for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Objectives:  
1. Participants will be able to identify the key barriers to people’s independent use of their homes.  
2. Participants will be able to identify the safety issues that can be addressed by modification to the environment.  
3. Participants will be able to identify the design of homes that will make sense for the people who will live there and support their lifestyles.

Timed Outline
9:30 Introduction  
9:40 Power Point Presentation exploring the role of the physical environment in the person-centered plan. Shifting the balance toward choice, control and participation.  
10:45 Break  
11:00 What if Home Depot had an Autism isle – what might you find? Three case studies  
12:15 Questions and answers  
12:30 End of session
Title: From Diagnosis to Treatment Planning: Where Does the Diagnostic Manual-Intellectual Disability Fit In?

Presenter: Jarrett Barnhill, M.D.
Professor
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
Chapel Hill, NC

Date: Friday, October 10, 2008

Session Description:
The diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders among individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) requires integration of several information sources, including functional behavioral analysis and psychiatric assessment. First, we must address the variability of both mental disorders and IDD. Second, we must do a better job of integrating new information from the neurosciences into treatment planning and monitoring clinical efficacy. This presentation will provide an overview of the bio-behavioral approach to better match the individual to available treatments.

Target Audience: Social Workers, Clinicians, Behavior Specialists, Nurses, and Educators

Level of Course Information:
✓ □ Beginner   ✓ □ Intermediate   □ Advanced

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, clinicians, guardians, school social workers, administrators, and policymakers.

Goal: To increase participants’ knowledge about the process of differential diagnosis and treatment planning.

Objectives:
1. Participants will be able to discuss the bio-behavioral approach to better match the individual to available treatments.
2. Participants will be able to discuss how the information from functional behavioral analysis and psychiatric assessment as part of the differential diagnosis.
3. Participants will be able to apply the principles of basic psychopharmacology to treatment planning, monitoring, and assessment of efficacy.

Timed Outline
9:30  Introduction
9:40  Overview of the bio-behavioral approach to target symptoms and psychiatric symptoms
10:10 Differential Diagnosis of psychiatric disorders
10:45  Break
11:00 Matching treatment to presenting problems: neuroscience, mental disorders, and functional behavioral analysis
11:40  Therapeutic drug monitoring
12:15  Questions and answers
12:30  End of session
Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series

Title: The Future is Now: Improving Job Outcomes for People with Disabilities

Presenter: Dale DiLeo, M.Ed.
President
Training Resource Network, Inc.
St. Augustine, FL

Date: Friday, October 24, 2008

Session Description:
This presentation will describe quality employment services and outcomes in terms of business benefits for employers and lifestyle enhancement for people with disabilities. The role of agencies, schools, and employers to maximize the promise of community jobs will be discussed. The presenter will offer an overview of the need for changing services to more integrated approaches. Participants will learn current best practices to support career choices for people with disabilities using new technology and research.


Level of Course Information:
☑ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

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’ knowledge of the strategies and opportunities to find well-matched jobs and help youth and adults with disabilities enjoy more successful work outcomes.

Objectives:

1. Participants will be able to design a basic marketing plan for job development services to employers.

2. Participants will be able to develop effective working relationships with employers.

3. Participants will be able to develop strategies for developing natural supports on the job and ways of analyzing work cultures to better understand social relationships at the worksite.

Timed Outline
9:30  Introduction
9:40  Overview of the Role of Employment, Obstacles to Jobs, and the Values of Supported Employment
10:45 Break
11:00 The Process and Tools of Supported Employment
12:15 Questions and answers
12:30 End of session
Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series

Title: Building A New Paradigm: A Values-Based Response to Demographic and Economic Realities

Presenter: Nancy Thaler, M.S.
Executive Director
National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS)
Alexandria, VA

Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2008

Session Description:
Faced with a growing demand for services, limited resources, and a shortage of working age adults, state developmental disabilities agencies are expanding services for people living with their families. With service systems rooted in 24 hour residential models, we are being challenged to design service systems that meet the needs of individuals and their families. We must plan the services that will be available, rethink the role of case managers, strengthen self advocacy, and most importantly, learn to work with families.

Target Audience: Social Workers, Case Managers, Agency Administrators and Policy Makers

Level of Course Information:

Beginner  Intermediate  Advanced

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’ knowledge on how societal and economic changes strongly affect the capacity of public service systems to meet the needs of people with disabilities and that such changes demand that leaders of public systems rethink the design of services and their management structures.

Objectives:
1. Participants will be able to discuss the economic challenges and demographic changes facing public developmental disabilities agencies.
2. Participants will be able to describe the future direction of services for people with developmental disabilities.
3. Participants will be able to describe the benefits and challenges involved in supporting adults living with their families.

Timed Outline
9:30  Introduction
9:40  History of paradigm shifts in disability services
      Current realities driving change: economic and demographic
10:45  Break
11:00  The next service paradigm: Preparing to provide services in a new paradigm
12:15  Questions and answers
12:30  End of session