Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series Spring 2009

Title: Planting Two Trees with One Seed: Communication Supports for Problem Behavior

Presenter: Pat Mirenda, Ph.D.
Professor
University of British Columbia, Department of Education and Counseling, Psychology and Special Education, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Date: Friday, April 3, 2009

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

Level of Course Information:
☑ Beginner ☑ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

Session Description:
This session will focus on the relationship between communication and behavior, and the design and implementation of empirically supported augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) supports for individuals with problem behavior. Dr. Mirenda will provide a rationale for the use of AAC and examples of augmented input supports, including visual schedules and contingency maps. Augmented output interventions, such as functional communication training using AAC and choice-making supports, also will be described, with case study examples.

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 four types of evidence-based communication interventions that can be used to support individuals with problem behavior.

Objectives:
1. Participants will be able to explain the relationship between communication and problem behavior
2. Participants will be able to describe essential elements in the design of visual schedule and contingency map interventions
3. Participants will be able to describe four essential elements of functional communication training

Timed Outline
9:30 Introduction
9:40 Relationship between communication and problem behavior
10:00 Visual schedule supports and contingency maps
10:45 Break
11:00 Functional communication training and choice-making interventions
12:15 Questions and answers
12:30 End of session
Title: The Dance of Change in a Perfect Storm

Presenter: Renee Pietrangelo, Ph.D.
Executive Director
American Network of Community Options Resources (ANCOR)
Alexandria, VA

Date: Friday, April 17, 2009

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

Level of Course Information:
☑ Beginner ☑ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

Session Description:
The provider community nationwide is challenged with figuring out how to build our capacity for delivering supports and services in new ways, while at the same time, understanding that it’s not enough to change strategies, structures, and systems unless the thinking that produced them also changes. As we begin to test our assumptions, all of the stakeholders in the disabilities community need to ask some key questions. This session will provide an overview of the leader as change agent, creating a shared vision, leadership development and succession planning, and the paradoxes implicit in any major industry change.

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 in actions provider leaders must take to not only survive, but thrive in a rapidly changing era of service delivery models and funding strategies.

Objectives:
1. Participants will be able to discuss the components of change, and change versus transition
2. Participants will be able to discuss the breadth and depth of the demographic and service delivery changes taking place nationwide
3. Participants will be able to identify the reasons for doing business in new ways; developing emerging leaders; and the critical role of collaboration

Timed Outline
9:30 Introduction
9:40 Building our capacity for delivering supports and services in new ways
10:45 Break
11:00 Overview of the leader as change agent; creating a shared vision; leadership development and succession planning;
11:40 Paradoxes implicit in any major industry change
12:15 Questions and answers
12:30 End of session
Title: A Delicate Balance: Supporting Choice While Minimizing Risk

Presenter: Sharon Krevor-Weisbaum, Esq.
Partner
Brown, Goldstein & Levy
Baltimore, MD

Date: Friday, May 1, 2009

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

Level of Course Information:
- Beginner
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Session Description: Those involved in supporting individuals with disabilities, whether providers, advocates, families, regulators, or funding agencies, share a common goal: providing individuals with disabilities real opportunities and real choices. However, each stakeholder comes to the table with different concerns and perspectives, including how best to achieve this common goal while minimizing risk to the individual and to others. This session will provide a framework in which these different perspectives may be considered and interests balanced, to find common ground in which to promote the delivery of excellent 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’ knowledge about opportunities to support individuals in the way they want to be supported while minimizing risk for all involved.

Objectives:
1. Participants will be able to discuss the importance of choice
2. Participants will be able to discuss the nature of risk
3. Participants will be able to develop strategies for determining how to balance the importance of choice and the nature of risk

Timed Outline
9:30 Introduction
9:40 How practicing in this field has changed; Does this topic seem to matter more today than in the past? Working definition of choice and risk. Threshold for risk and perceived versus real risk.
10:45 Break
11:00 How does one balance choice and risk? Can risk be minimized without compromising choice? Practical application of this difficult balance.
12:15 Questions and answers
12:30 End of session
Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series Spring 2009

Title: Lessons, Issues and Next Steps in Healthcare Decision Making and Care at End of Life

Presenter: Leigh Ann Kingsbury, MPA
CEO
InLeads Consulting and Training
New Bern, NC

Date: Friday, May 8, 2009

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

Level of Course Information:
☑ Beginner  ☑ Intermediate  ☐ Advanced

Session Description: In this presentation, Ms. Kingsbury will provide an overview of current issues, topics, and lessons learned through planning with people with intellectual disabilities/developmental disabilities around healthcare decision making and care at the end of life. The difference between competency and capacity, living wills and advance directives, and the importance of honoring cultures and rituals will be explored. The session will conclude with identifying the needs for expanding our knowledge and skills in providing support for people at the end of their lives.

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 current and key issues in healthcare decision making and care at end of life for people with ID/DD.

Objectives:
1. Participants will be able to identify the difference between competency and capacity as they relate to healthcare decision making and care at end of life
2. Participants will be able to describe the importance of honoring culture and rituals around end of life
3. Participants will be able to discuss the differences between living wills and advance directives

Timed Outline
9:30  Introduction
9:40  Introduction to key issues and topics in healthcare decision making and care at end of life, including competency and capacity, surrogate decision making, palliative and hospice care
10:45  Break
11:00  Lessons we have learned and where we go next
12:15  Questions and answers
12:30  End of session