Communication Partners Training

IM4Q Statewide Training

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The Communication Project was supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council

Please visit the Council’s website at
www.paddc.org
Our Initiative

We believe effective communication is a basic human right for all individuals.
Problem Statement

Overview

- Of the individuals that Montgomery County Office of Developmental Disabilities Serve 24.5% do not communicate effectively with speech (as of 2011).
- Of the individuals that Montgomery County Office of Developmental Disabilities Serve 16% are in a minority group i.e. African American, Asian, or other.
- Of the 24.5% that do no communicate effectively with speech minorities make up 20%.
- Montgomery County is consistent with the National Core Indicator project in that we have between 20-30% of individuals receiving developmental disabilities services do not use spoken language to communicate and that there is a formal communication system in place for only approx. 1/3 of those who don’t use spoken language.

*data as of 2011
Project Implementation

- Montgomery County Office of Developmental Disabilities intent is to ensure that direct support professionals receive training to facilitate effective communication for all recipients of service with a focus on minority consumers.
Progression of IM4Q Data

IM4Q Data → QM Subcommittee → Communication Leadership Council → Communication Partners Training → Communication Assessments → Next Steps
Specifics of the Project

- Data Utilization
- Selection Criteria
- Training Description and Logistics
- Measuring Success
- Next Steps
Kevin J. Cohen M.S. CCC-SLP

Mr. Cohen is a speech and language pathologist specializing in Augmentative Communication and Assistive Technology
Faculty of the College of New Jersey where he teaches Augmentative Communication
Previously worked as a direct care provider for individuals with developmental disabilities prior to completing his degree in speech pathologist
Training Dates

September 25th
October 23rd
November 27th
December 11th
January 22nd
February 26th

All Trainings will be held from 10am – 2pm at the Montgomery County Human Services Center 1430 Dekalb Street Norristown Pennsylvania 19404. Lunch will be provided
Training Topics to be Covered

• An Introduction to Communication, Language and Augmentative Communication
• Structuring the Environment to Promote Communication and Remove Communication Barriers
• Creating and Using a Light Tech Communication System
• Creating a Communication Profile
• High Tech Communication devices/Light Tech Communication devices
• Using the Ipad to meet Communication needs
• Selecting Appropriate Vocabulary
• Addressing Challenging Behavior through Increased Communication
• Promoting Social Relationships and Inclusion through Increased Communication
• All non-verbal minority consumers have been identified and have been matched with service provider team members
• IM4Q Team responses was cross-referenced with minority consumer identification
Project Impact

- January 2014 - 40+ people were directly impacted by the project

- July 2014 - 15 additional people directly impacted by the project through next steps
Thank you