

A WORK IN PROGRESS – DEVELOPING A STATEWIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING CURRICULUM AND SYSTEM

ISETPG has approached the development of a statewide education and training system by researching what is taking place across Indiana and the country. Through this process the system developed in North Dakota has emerged as the one curriculum that features many of the components that have been identified by ISETPG as important and desirable (e.g., career ladder with associated salary increases).

ISETPG has initiated discussion with the faculty of Minot University in North Dakota (the developers of the curriculum), to explore the potential of purchasing several courses within this curriculum. It is the intent of ISETPG to incrementally build Indiana's statewide education and training system. A curriculum committee has been established and is in the process of reviewing two courses for purchase. Topics that have emerged as priorities for direct support professional training are positive behavioral supports, and the prevention of abuse and neglect.

To sample the North Dakota curriculum see website:

<http://ndcpd.misu.nodak.edu/projects/cstp/>



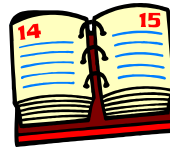
MISSION. . .

The mission of ISETPG is to provide leadership in planning, coordinating, and evaluating an effective, comprehensive educational system. By promoting and facilitating access to this system, for all members of an individual's support team, we seek to ultimately improve the quality of life for all.

ISETPG Training Calendar Features Indiana and National Conferences and Trainings

Over forty (40) events are posted each month on the newly developed ISETPG training calendar. Unable to attend a topic of interest? Many of the listings are linked to additional resources and related events. In some instances copies of trainer's PowerPoint presentations are available via the website library.

See the ISETPG website at www.iidc.indiana.edu/Training for a listing of upcoming training events and accompanying materials.



An Invitation to Join ISETPG's Efforts

The Indiana Statewide Education and Training Planning Group (ISETPG) is comprised of representatives from state agencies serving persons with disabilities, community based service providers, case management organizations, advocacy organizations, professional trade associations and higher education.

If you are interested in finding out how to participate in a committee or would like to provide a suggestion to ISETPG members, please call Mary Held at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community at 812-855-6508 or send her an email at maheld@indiana.edu

If you are planning a training you may want to consider including the information on the ISETPG calendar. A notice of an upcoming event may be submitted for the calendar via the website. For more information contact Larry Schaaf at ljschaaf@indiana.edu

Self-Advocates of Indiana, Inc.

Self-Advocates of Indiana, Inc. (SAI) has graciously volunteered to write a column for the ISETPG newsletter. This first entry is to introduce the readers to the organization. SAI is a member of the Indiana Statewide Education and Training Planning Group (ISETPG).

Self-Advocates of Indiana, Inc. (SAI) is an independent, not-for-profit organization led by and for people with developmental disabilities whose mission is *"to learn our rights and to speak out about our rights so that we get the respect we deserve."*

The self-advocates are adults with disabilities who for years have been told they must accept the decisions of others, including limited job opportunities, segregated living arrangements, and limited educational opportunities. This has often included being on the receiving end of charity and pity.

SAI advocates for the supports needed for people to be able to help themselves. Members believe that all people with disabilities have gifts and talents to offer their families, friends and communities. Self-advocates have the same rights and responsibilities as other citizens under the law, and should be accepted as equals and be supported to make choices based on reliable information.

The goals of the Self-Advocates of Indiana are to:

1. Continue to educate members of the organization and to build on people's abilities.
2. Provide leadership and support to all people with developmental disabilities in Indiana.
3. Expand the organization's capacity to influence policy and public opinion by education and outreach.
4. Seek opportunities to contribute to Indiana's communities.

Self-advocates of Indiana representatives bring to the ISETPG committee insights into the fundamentals of quality services and supports gained from years of their personal experiences as service recipients.

In recent months, SAI has developed a document called *The Voice of the People*. It contains their thoughts about education and training. Excerpts from this piece will be highlighted in the next few issues.

SAI is also working on short video introductions to the trainings in our system. To date, they have produced one for each training topic.

Additional Resources

Quality Jobs/Quality Care is a free e-mail newsletter that covers issues concerning direct-care workers in long-term care. It's published twice a month by the National Clearinghouse on the Direct Care Workforce www.directcareclearinghouse.org, which provides reliable, up-to-date information related to the direct-care workforce nationwide. The Clearinghouse is a project of the Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute www.paraprofessional.org

Visit the DDINFoSource Newsstand for Direct Support professionals at <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/training/newstand.htm/> for addition Direct Support Professional online resources.

Update on Department of Justice



Review of Indiana Services for People with Disabilities

Progress in Indiana's service system is evident in the most recent report from the U.S. Department of Justice. And challenges remain. Many of DOJ's recommendations are related to the education and training of the people who support individuals with disabilities in our state. Highlights of the report include the following recommendations

- Ensure new staff are trained about ISP's and PCP's and how to use them
- Ensure that all staff know the person they are working with
- Train all staff so that they understand ICF-MR Regulations
- Ensure all staff know how to use behavior plans
- Train all staff so that they understand medication side effects
- Train IDT Teams to work together in an interdisciplinary manner
- Teach all staff about how to support individuals in living meaningful lives based on their interests, preferences, and strengths

For a detailed report see the DDINfoSource website at <http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/training/>

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