



## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual CD Conference

# Creating the Good Life: Improving Outcomes for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

August 10 and 11, 2011  
Sheraton Hotel, Madison, WI

Tentative Sectionals and Round Table Presentations (as of June 1, 2011)

### **Adapted Books: Creating and Implementing for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities**

Students should have access to the same literature as their same-grade peers, regardless of their ability. All students should have exposure to a variety of literacy rich experiences that are interesting, challenging and connected to peers and the general education curriculum. Our team has taken grade-level content books, such as Call of the Wild, A Christmas Carol, and Hatchet, and adapted them for students with severe physical and cognitive disabilities to access. These adapted books are meant to demonstrate an alternate means of presenting information to these students. To assist the students in becoming more active in the literacy process, we offer various visuals and/or object representations, as well as, other AAC tools to enhance the reading experience and student participation.

*Presenters: Diana Sherman and Amy Andersen*

### **KCI (18-21 yr old) Apartment Programming – What We Do With Our Students?**

We will discuss the curriculum and the daily schedule(s) we follow with our students. We'll discuss positive experiences and talk about the difficulties in getting our students into the community for paid employment. Topics around working with the students, the ADRC, DVR, parents, guardianship, and transition will be addressed.

*Presenters: Jennifer Christopherson and Pam Post*

### **Accessing the General Education Curriculum with Assistive Technology**

This session will provide an over view of a variety of assistive technology strategies and devices that teachers can use to provide access and support for students. A variety of free resources available online will be shared. Assistive Technology devices and programs will be demonstrated.

*Presenter: Wendi Dawson*

### **Practical and Easy Examples of Including Students with Cognitive Disabilities in the Regular Education Classroom**

Increase your knowledge and/or skills in including students with cognitive disabilities in the regular education classroom! You will be provided examples of practical and easy strategies and techniques to use in the regular education classroom and how these can be connected to the Extended Grade Band Standards, see short videos of how co-teaching is used to include students with cognitive disabilities in a regular education classroom, and be given the opportunity to brainstorm with others for more strategies and techniques on how to include students with cognitive disabilities.

*Presenters: Shawne Hass and Rebecca Phipps*

### **Staying Positive as you Teach and Re-teach and Teach it Again**

Working with cognitively disabled students can be frustrating. Come learn positive, fun ways to keep the fire burning and prevent burn out. We will examine appropriate expectations, natural learning environments and using technology to enhance math and reading.

*Presenter: Michelle Hokenson Beres*

### **The Who, What, Where, When, Why of Teaching Life Skills**

Teaching Life Skills provides a foundation for students of all skills levels in which they can begin to develop independent living skills. Our presentation will be worthwhile for educators who are thinking of beginning a program or who would like to expand an existing program. Ann and Nancy will be sharing their positive experiences and bloopers from the years they have spent teaching life skills.

*Presenters: Ann Kaderly & Nancy Schaal*

### **Strength Training & Therapeutic Exercise for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities**

In this session Brian will conduct various hands on presentations using methods to help teach strength training, flexibility workouts and therapeutic exercise to individuals with moderate to severe cognitive disabilities. Various pieces of equipment will be demonstrated:

- Flex bands and other resistance bands to facilitate strength and flexibility training
- Foam exercise rollers used as therapeutic devices to release muscle fatigue, soreness and tension
- Active and dynamic exercises that can be done from a wheel chair or directly from the floor to build muscle and stay toned

*Presenter: Brian Kenney, MS, CPT*

### **Meet Me at the Carnival: A Sensory Motor Experience**

For the past four years we have created a theme based sensory motor carnival for students with cognitive disabilities grade K-12 in our district. We set up booths and experiences that target all different sensory areas utilizing all the teachers, speech therapists, OTs and PTs to run the booths. We also use volunteers from the community and high school students. This carnival is the highlight of the year for many of our students. Each booth is adaptable to the ability level of the student. Our themes have been a regular carnival, Hawaiian Luau, Wizard of Oz and Grease. The concepts for developing the event are easy to follow. The experiences are priceless.

*Presenter: Kristine Leonard*

### **Self-Directed Employment**

Having a job is not just about the money. Self-directed employment means that people who need support have the opportunity to discover their strengths and interests determine their employment goals, and choose the supports that make the most sense to achieve those goals. Getting great employment outcomes takes creativity, teamwork, flexibility and individualization. This session will focus on activities within the IRIS program designed to increase self-directed, integrated employment with IRIS participants.

*Presenters: Shannon Munn, Angela Klemm and Jessica Thompson*

### **Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD)**

This session will include a brief overview of the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD), test administration guidelines, and the Assessment Accommodation Matrices. In addition, we will discuss transition to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the future of assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

*Presenter: Kristen Burton*

### **What's hAPPening with Technology for Your Students with Cognitive Disabilities?**

Here's your chance to see some of the new applications (Apps) for the i-pad and i-pod that make learning fun and engaging for students. APPs will be sorted by content area and handouts provided will help you quickly locate the ones you would like to use. Price and description will also be included for each APP. If you are currently using these tools with your students, come prepared to share your favorite APPs.

*Presenter: Karen Stindt*

### **Using the Extended Standards in a Time of Change**

Wisconsin has formally adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Where does this adoption leave teachers who are teaching using the Extended Grade Band Standards? Join Eva Kubinski to strategize how to cope with changing times and curriculum while meeting the needs of your CD students.

*Presenter: Eva Kubinski*

### **Creating the School Family the Conscious Discipline Way**

This highly interactive session based on Conscious Discipline, a brain-based, developmentally appropriate social and emotional curriculum will focus on how to build the School Family. It is critical that learning environments reflect a positive climate and a culture of caring. This positive climate supports the learning of all children, including those viewed as challenging. Participants will learn how to use rituals, routines, activities, music and the physical classroom environment to help challenging children join the School Family, develop the motivation and desire to be cooperative. In this lively presentation, participants will also learn how to use the School Family structures and expectations in the development of a classroom management system that is designed to build self-esteem as well as learning and cooperation in every child. Participants may immediately implement these new skills upon returning to their learning environments.

*Presenters: Kay Zastrow and Peggy Simonis*