

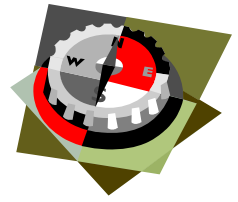


THE DPN ADVANTAGE

A Monthly Newsletter from the Disability Program Navigator

Vol. 1, Issue 8

August 2005



Up & Coming

Headliner

Ask the Experts

EDD Workshop Presentation I

September 8, 2005

8:30am to 1:00pm

(Lunch not provided)

RSVP

Course Objectives:

- Demonstrate the different anxiety reduction techniques used for public speaking.
- Explain the what, when, where, why, and how of using visual aids.
- Name three question-and-answer techniques.
- List the basic tools needed to organize a presentation.

Any Questions, Please Contact your Disability Program Navigator "DPN"

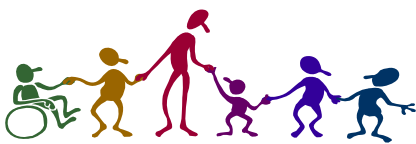
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"The Vision"

"With great power comes great responsibility"

Peter Parker's Uncle Ben Spiderman



Do you have a cartoon, a motivational thought or saying? Please share your encouragement and we will try to put it in the next issue. Send to the contact below.

New Legislation

to

Create More Jobs for People with Severe Disabilities

People with Disabilities want and need the opportunity to earn an honest days pay for an honest days work. Yet despite the tremendous progress people with disabilities have made in the last fifteen years, nearly 78 % of all severely disabled people in the U.S. today are unemployed.

The Employer Work Incentive Act will offer eligible businesses that competitively employ people with severe disabilities the opportunity to participate in the performance of federal contracts and receive a procurement advantage. In addition to providing greater employment opportunities to people with severe disabilities, the legislation will also save taxpayer dollars. If just 94,000 or one percent of people with severe disabilities now receiving federal Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments and related health benefits were to become gainfully and competitively employed, the projected ten-year cost savings to the Federal Treasury would be more than \$45 billion.

For more information please go to:

http://roberts.senate.gov/press_releases.html



QUESTION

"What are some handy ideas's when working with people that have a mental illness?"

Answer:

- If the person becomes delusional or hears voices, do not argue or try to convince them that he is wrong. Do not act alarmed.
- If you are in a public area with many distractions, consider moving to a quiet or private location. Ask if a private or quiet space would help, and offer to take them there.
- They may begin or end conversations abruptly, interrupt or not recognize that a conversation is ending. Help them understand by being firm and direct, but not rude.
- People with psychiatric disabilities may overreact to perceived wrongs or become stressed as a response to certain surroundings. If signs of such reaction begin to emerge or if the person becomes obviously upset, stay calm and do not over-react. Be supportive. Help them feel safe and in control. Do not attempt to restrain them. Speak calmly, in clear and concise manner directly to the person. Allow the person to express their feelings verbally. Send me a quote.
- Ask a person with a psychiatric disability what stresses them and/or what kind of environment they prefer in order to function most efficiently and comfortably.