

CENTER FOR DISABILITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

# Possibilities in Education and Training

*A quarterly publication of the Center for Disabilities and Development, Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1011*

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## ***Visions for Tomorrow brings Hope and Support***

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Are you the parent or caregiver of a child or adolescent who experiences mental illness? If so, Visions for Tomorrow may be for you.

Sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness Iowa (NAMI Iowa), Visions for Tomorrow is a 15-hour course which is team taught by caregivers of young people with mental illness. The course begins with informational sessions which discuss the anatomy of the brain and various types of mental illness. Subsequent topics include coping strategies, interacting with schools and service providers, the juvenile justice system, and community resources.

"Visions is designed around a peer support model," says teacher Mary McCue of Iowa City. "Participants learn that they have many things in common with the teachers and with other participants. Many have gone on to start support groups and to teach school personnel about mental illness."

McCue says that there are 25 Visions teachers throughout the state.

"The weekend training session was rigorous and prepared me well to teach and support caregivers," she said. "I encourage anyone who is interested in providing such support to sign up for the training."

If you would like to become a Visions teacher or learn more about this innovative program, contact:

State Coordinator Jackie Elfmann  
5911 Meredith Dr., Suite E  
Des Moines, IA 50322-1903  
800-417-0417  
JKElfmann@aol.com

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## Employment Cues ... from the Disability Resource Library

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The Center for Disabilities and Development **Disability Resource Library:**  
*A lending library and health information center for lowans*

To order materials from the Disability Resource Library, call **1-800-272-7713**

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### MEDIA

#### A life of choices: Lois and Elaine's story

[videorecording] : produced by Institute on Human Development and Disability The University of Georgia, ©2004.

Highlights personal stories of individuals with disabilities as they seek employment opportunities in their communities. Each of the featured individuals is a former institutional resident who is now living in the community with appropriate supports.

#### Open futures: people with disabilities at work

[videorecording on DVD] : produced by InfoUse; distributed by Program Development Associates, ©2003.

A youth-focused DVD featuring role models with disabilities in a wide range of employment settings. The role models talk about their career paths, what inspires them about their work, and why work is important. The video encourages young people with disabilities and their families to explore a variety of exciting career options.

#### Success at work: transitions to employment

[videorecording on DVD] : directed and produced by Susanne Tabata. Eaton Coull Learning Group, ©2003.

Six high school students/graduates with learning disabilities and/or ADHD discuss their successful transition to work.

#### Untapped talents: pursuing employment

[videorecording] : produced by Kim Davis. Indiana Resource Center for Autism, Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, ©2001.

Adults with autism spectrum disorders share their workplace experiences and offer employers ideas on the strengths and abilities of people with autism.

## BOOKS

### **Able!: how one company's disabled workforce became the key to their extraordinary success**

by Nancy Henderson Wurst. Dallas: BenBella Books, ©2005.

### **The Job developer's handbook: practical tactics for customized employment**

By Cary Griffin, David Hammis, and Tammara Geary. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co., ©2007.

### **Real work for real pay: inclusive employment for people with disabilities**

by Paul Wehman ... [et al.]. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Pub., ©2007.

### **Tunnels and cliffs: a guide for workforce development practitioners and policymakers serving youth with mental health needs**

Washington, DC : National Collaborative on Workforce & Disability for Youth, Institute for Educational Leadership, ©2007.

### **Women, work, and autoimmune disease: keep working girl!**

Rosalind Joffe, Joan Friedlander ; edited by L.G. Mansfield. New York : Demos Medical Pub., ©2008.

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## **Education and Training Events**

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### **A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS**

*Visitors to disabilitytraining.org no doubt discovered that the calendar experienced technical difficulties during May and June. We apologize for the inconvenience, and are happy to report that the problems have been resolved. En lieu of posting events from the calendar, we are including two timely articles about upcoming events which we believe will be of interest to many of you. Please share your feedback on this new format, and know that we always welcome information about upcoming training sessions and events.*

**YOU'RE INVITED! SAVE THE DATES!**



## **THE OLMSTEAD SUPREME COURT DECISION 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Town Hall Meetings 2009!**

The Olmstead Supreme Court Decision was a milestone decision for people with disabilities. Grounded in the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Decision requires States to develop a comprehensive plan to offer disability-related services in the most integrated setting appropriate to each individual's needs, so that people with disabilities are not forced to live in institutions.

Come and celebrate this historic Decision, hear from people with disabilities how this Decision has helped them to remain independent and have choice, and learn ways you can become involved in promoting the home and community based services philosophy of the Olmstead Supreme Court Decision.

- **Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**1-4 pm, in Oskaloosa, at Smoky Row Coffee House**
- **Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**1-4 pm, in Waterloo, at Pinecrest Chapel**
- **Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:30 to 11:30 in Iowa City, Newman Catholic Student Center/University of Iowa,**  
**and 1:00 to 3:30 in Rock Island, Illinois, at the Illinois/Iowa Center for**  
**Independent Living**

**Provided through the combined efforts of:** Iowa Olmstead Consumer Task Force; Iowa Centers for Independent Living in Council Bluffs, Oskaloosa, Waterloo, Iowa City, and Rock Island, Illinois; the Iowa Statewide Independent Living Council; the Iowa Department of Human Services; and the University of Iowa Center for Disabilities and Development.

## **POSITIVE APPROACHES TO CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS**

### **A Two-Day Regional Training Program**

“Positive Approaches to Challenging Behaviors” is a 2-day, regional training program, open to all providers of home- and community-based services interested in helping individuals transition to homes in community settings through Iowa’s Money Follows the Person (MFP) program. This training will take place in Clear Lake, Iowa, hosted by Opportunity Village.

*Training location:*    **Opportunity Village**  
the Forum at the Kinney Lindstrom Activity Center  
**Clear Lake, Iowa**

*Dates and time:*     **July 9 and 10**  
from **10:00 a.m.** to **4:00 p.m.**

This training program was developed by John Lee, a member of the behavioral psychology staff at the Center for Disabilities and Development at the University of Iowa, and Stacie Lane, a transition specialist for Iowa’s MFP program. They each have considerable experience in behavior supports training and providing supports to individuals with challenging behaviors. John Lee has a background in special education and Stacie Lane is a certified instructor for crisis prevention.

“Positive Approaches to Challenging Behaviors” was developed to align with the web-based curriculum offered by the College of Direct Support, designed to train members of the direct care workforce. In addition to information on current best practices in providing behavior supports, this program will offer participants interactive, practical opportunities to apply the training to their own case studies, and resources to share with other staff at provider sites.

The training is intended for direct care workforce supervisors and senior direct care worker staff, who are willing to mentor other team members at their provider sites. Because of a high level of interest in the training and limited space (a facility capacity of 50), providers may be asked to limit the number of staff they send to allow a variety of provider staff to attend.

There is no charge to attend the training, and training materials and lunch will be provided. Funding for this training program is being provided by Iowa’s Real Choices Systems Transformation and Money Follows the Person grants. Providers may apply for a \$300 scholarship from the “Road to Community” grant to help cover the expenses of provider staff who attend the training.

**For more information or to register for the training**, please contact Meredith Field, Center for Disabilities and Development, at [meredith-field@uiowa.edu](mailto:meredith-field@uiowa.edu) or 319-384-6797.

**To apply for scholarships through Road to Community**, please email requests to [roadtocommunity@q.com](mailto:roadtocommunity@q.com) or mail requests to Road to Community, c/o Michael J. Davis, 820 45<sup>th</sup> Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265. Please see the attached documents for additional information, scholarship guidelines and application.

To make this program available to as many supervisors and senior staff as possible, while limiting the amount of travel to the trainings, regional trainings throughout the state are planned. Providers interested in hosting the training should get in touch with Meredith Field at CDD or with their MFP Transition Specialist.

**C**ourage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than one's fear.

*Ambrose Hollingworth Redmoon*

## How to get in touch with POSSIBILITIES:

### Mail

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100 Hawkins Dr. Rm. 140  
Iowa City IA 52242-1011

### E-mail

<mailto:michael-hoenig@uiowa.edu>

**FAX** 319-356-8284

**Phone** 319-353-6448

### Disability Resource Library

**PHONE:** 800-272-7713

**EMAIL:** <mailto:disability-library@uiowa.edu>

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.healthcare.uiowa.edu/CDD>

click on "Disability Resource Library"

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