Wednesday Plenary Session

5 Star Quality: From Clienthood to Citizenship

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Objectives:

1. Identify effective methods for the practical application of concepts related to improving the delivery of services for persons with developmental disabilities

2. Discuss the ethical issues related to persons with developmental disabilities

3. Identify and emphasize attitudes that enhance the opportunities for persons with DD to achieve their optimal potential

4. Develop strategies to promote community inclusion in meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities.

Notes:
5 Star Quality: From Clienthood to Citizen

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Mike Mayer
Senior Partners

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Some Initial Thoughts

• Urgency
• Opportunity to create real quality
• Far more than compliance
• Our collective responsibility – No abdication!
• What people deserve
• Our duty to collaborate
Funding: There is Not Enough for the Future

- Current service models are not sustainable. ~70% increase in funding needed by 2020 with current models.
- Less per person and less “real dollar” funding predicted – “bending the curve”
- ~70% of all people with disabilities live at home.
- ~80% of the adults live with aging parents.

There Are Not Enough DSPs for Current Models

Figure 5. Demand for DSP Recruits to Meet Projected Demand for LTSS, 2005-2020 at Current 50% Turnover and with Annual Reductions by 2% (50% in 2005, 48% in 2006, 46% in 2007, etc.) to 30%

Thanks to University of MN and CDS
What Makes No Sense?

1. Ask the wrong questions
2. Not using what we know
   - About learning and life
   - From the research
3. Teach the wrong things
4. Health and safety/Compliance
5. Limiting legitimate authority/self-determination
6. Supporting “Learned Helplessness”

Definition of “Client”

• Client =
• Perpetuating Disability
What Perpetuates Disability (Clienthood)?

1. Substituting programs for a life.
2. Replicating “community” with artificial programs and creating unjustifiable barriers…
3. Violating the law (Olmstead, not making reasonable accommodations, etc.)

What Perpetuates Disability?

4. Training people to live in the disability bubble.
5. Insisting “professionals” know what a community can and should be and do.
6. Not supporting logical and natural relationships
7. Equating one or two experiences with failure
What have been the results?

Perpetuating disability/clienthood through the manufacturing of the need to be dependent on the paid system of supports – reinforcing the victimhood self-image and entitlement mindset.

What do we know from the research?

1. Loneliness kills
2. Friends keep you healthy
3. Friends keep you safe
4. Belonging is important
5. Behavior begets behavior
6. Oppression and segregation perpetuate disability
The First Step:

Eliminate “Can’t”
We Have Two Choices:
(1) Predict the Future
-or-
(2) Invent the Future
It's not... 
"I'll believe it when I see it"...
It is...
"I'll see it when I believe it."

Live the values...
Be the difference
Excellence can be attained if you...

• Care more than others think is wise.
• Risk more than others think is safe.
• Dream more than others think is practical.
• Expect more than others think is possible.