

Community of Care

2015 Mid-Year Update
Abilities Network | Project ACT

[**Abilities** Network]

SEEING ABILITIES NOT DISABILITIES.

Overview

- Approximately 10% of people receiving training will actually change their practices
- Combined with follow up coaching visits, % increases
- “Bridging the Gap” Model
 - Support community based programs and families
 - Increasing inclusive opportunities
 - Onsite training & follow up coaching and mentoring
- Selected 3 afterschool programs
- Trainings + up to 6 hours of individualized coaching visits



Participants

- 3 Sites
 - Enoch Pratt Public Library
 - Catonsville Presbyterian Preschool
 - Playkeepers – Baltimore County Public Schools
- Participants
 - 65 total
 - Directors, assistant directors, preschool teachers, school age teachers, after school staff, summer camp staff
 - Baltimore city and county

Training

- 6 trainings completed
 - Topics selected by staff members based on need
 - Behavior – high need
- Topics covered included:
 - Benefits of inclusion for all children
 - ADA requirements for inclusion/accommodations
 - Adapting small group and individual activities to meet the needs of all children
 - Adapting classroom environments to meet physical and/or sensory needs
 - Addressing challenging behaviors using a behavior analytic approach
 - Collecting and analyzing behavioral data
 - Developing function-based behavioral interventions
 - Using Social Stories and Peer Buddy system to assist children with social skill delays

Coaching Visits

- 14 hours of coaching visits completed
- Action Plans
 - Individualized to each site
 - Selected professional development goals
 - Increase staff participation
- Focus on implementation of strategies learned in trainings
- Learning how to adapt strategies to meet individual needs of children
- Importance of consistency!

Outcomes

- Pre and post training test scores
 - Average pre test score = 78%
 - Average post test score = 91%
- Training satisfaction surveys given to all attendees
 - 4.6 out of 5 – Increased understanding of topic
 - 4.6 out of 5 – Learned useful techniques and skills that can be immediately implemented
 - 4.7 out of 5 – Overall satisfaction with training experience

Challenges

- Scheduling trainings
 - After school staff
 - Several trainings split into 2 parts
 - One site offered more coaching visits in lieu of training
- Parent involvement low
 - Some parent participation in coaching visits
 - No parent attendance at trainings
- Future planning
 - More formal partnership agreements
 - Include scheduling requirements and participant expectations
 - Advertise trainings to parents via newsletters, flyers, etc.
 - Work with programs to offer food or other incentive to increase parent involvement

Questions?

Thank you!