

INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION AND PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING

Large Group Exercise

Set Up: Break participants up into groups of up to 5 people by counting off 1 through 5. To role-play the process of collaboration, have each participant play a role in a collaborative relationship (i.e. youth with a particular disability, the parents of the youth, and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Counselor, etc)

Assign each participant within the group to be an actual agency/organization:

#1s are: VR Counselor

#2s are: Youth with a disability

#3s are: Parents or caregivers of the youth

#4s are: Youth development program staff

#5 are: Staff of organization such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters or local YMCA

Case Study:

Samuel is a 17 year-old student who has been recently diagnosed as having a conduct (behavioral) disorder. He was also born with a severe deformity of his left hand. Samuel has a history of involvement in the juvenile justice system, most recently having been released from a short-term correctional program 4 months ago. His offenses are mostly drug related, but none of them are felonies. Samuel has not been able to attend a mainstream school or hold a job due to his incarceration and disability. Despite this he is viewed as intelligent, excelling in creative pursuits such as art and writing, and he states he would like to teach kids someday. He is currently on a medication regimen that has allowed him to control his behavior. Samuel's parents are very active in his life and are searching for services to support him in the community.

(Groups: Please answer the following questions with each participant playing the role they were assigned.)

Question 1: Assuming that you are the only one working with Samuel, what types of strategies would you use to support him in the community?

Question 2: If cross-agency barriers and funding were not an issue, what services or supports do you think would benefit Samuel the most?

Question 3: What may be some barriers to the answer you gave above and how could you use collaboration to address those problems?

Question 4: How would you use person-centered planning to work with Samuel and his family?