

Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Facilities

The Next Generation of Career Development

***Providing Educational Supports
For Individuals
With Psychological Disabilities
In Pennsylvania***

A One Day Symposium

**Dixon University Center
2986 North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110**

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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Education has a significant impact on employment in today's "New Economy" that increasingly requires more knowledge and skills. The data pertaining to the work lives of persons with serious mental illness is grim, due in part to diminished educational attainment, that significantly impacts labor force participation, type of job obtained, and subsequent wages, benefits and job tenure. The low rate of educational attainment is due, in large measure, to a lack of supports available on college campuses and other post-secondary school programs. Both students and college staff feel that the current services offered at their campuses are not adequate to meet the complex needs of students with intellectual and cognitive disabilities.

From supported education (a strategy that has existed for over twenty years) has come a significant body of literature suggesting best practices in the field. This one-day symposium on supported education will review those strategies, address the specific needs that students with intellectual and cognitive disabilities have, and present the interventions that are working now to increase student retention, graduation rates, and employment. You will learn, first hand, from students as well as college personnel, what has worked for them.

At the end of the day, participants will join in developing a plan to increase supported education services throughout Pennsylvania.

Agenda

Tuesday - November 18, 2008

8:30 am Registration

9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks

*Gene Bianco, Pennsylvania Association Rehabilitation Facilities
William Boyer, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare,
Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services*

Presentation of data from University of Pennsylvania research on use of services on campuses by students with psychiatric disabilities

*Mark Salzer, University of Pennsylvania Collaborative on
Community Integration*

9:30 am Keynote Address

An Overview of Supported Education: History and Current Practice
Anne Sullivan Soydan, Boston University

10:15 am Coffee Break

10:30 am Staying in School: What Supports Work

Presentation by Successful Students –
Sue Edwards (Moderator)

**11:30 am Models and Implementation of Supported Education:
On and Off Campus**

*Arlene Solomon, Horizon House
Kim Collins, University of Illinois*

12:30 pm Lunch

**1:15 pm Career Development and Utilization of
Community and Career Colleges**

*Richard Baron, University of Pennsylvania Collaborative
Therese Tsai and Lisa Burton-Griksa, Community College of
Philadelphia*

Kim Kleinsmith, Reading Area Community College

2:30 pm Break

**2:45 pm Creating a plan for developing supported education
programs in PA: A Call to Action**

Arlene Solomon and Richard Baron (Moderators)

4:00 pm Final Remarks

Morning Sessions

Mark Salzer is Director and Principal Investigator of the UPENN Collaborative and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Salzer is also Principal Investigator on other federally-funded grants from NIH and SAMHSA and Co-Investigator in other NIDRR funded efforts, including the Matrix/Penn RRTC on Work and Serious Mental Illness (1994-2001). He is a faculty member and mentor in the NIDRR-funded UMDNJ postdoctoral training program on psychiatric rehabilitation. Dr. Salzer has published more than 55 articles and book chapters on topics including self-help groups, peer-delivered services, employment issues, and empowerment. He is editor of a book on psychiatric rehabilitation skills (Psychiatric Rehabilitation in Practice: A CPRP Preparation and Skills Workbook. United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association. Columbia, MD.). He is Associate Editor for the Administration and Policy in Mental Health journal and on the Editorial Board for the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal. He is Director of Evaluation and Research at Horizon House, Inc. and the Mental Health Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Dr. Salzer is currently the Principal Investigator on a study of peer supports for students with a psychiatric disability funded through the RRTC.

Anne Sullivan Soydan, Sc.D., CRC is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at Sargent College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at Boston University. Dr. Sullivan-Soydan is currently collaborating with the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Dentistry and Medicine in New Jersey in the design and implementation of an empirical research study evaluating the effectiveness of SEd on post-secondary retention. She has done extensive work in Supported Education via the BU Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation. Most recently Anne was the project director of the Boston University-based Supported Education Program, developing and implementing service programs for young adults with psychiatric disabilities as they return to college and providing statewide technical assistance and consultation in supported education. Currently, Anne is conducting research, training, and consultation in the areas of educational support, and reasonable accommodations; program and curriculum development, eating disorders and trauma and quality of care in women with psychiatric disabilities. She was recently awarded a NIDRR Mary Switzer fellowship to conduct a national study in postsecondary higher education disability service use by students with psychiatric disabilities.

Kim Collins, Ph.D. is Assistant Director of Academic Disability Support Services at the College of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Collins is also an adjunct faculty in Educational Psychology at the University of Illinois and is involved in training counseling and clinical psychology students to work effectively with people with disabilities. Dr. Collins earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1995. She obtained licensure in Illinois as a licensed clinical psychologist in 1996 and is also a certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC). She has made over 50 presentations at international, national, and regional professional conferences on topics of providing supports for college students with cognitive and psychological disabilities, including being an invited speaker at NAMI, USPPRA, and the First Annual Depression in College Campuses Conference at the University of Michigan to discuss the innovative programs she has developed. Dr. Collins presently serves as the Psychological Disabilities Coordinator for the Midwest Alliance. In addition, her ongoing research interests include supported employment; the impact of being diagnosed with ADHD or a learning disability at the college level; outcomes and best practices in providing supports for students with psychological disabilities in post secondary education; and how exercise programs can help mitigate some of the symptoms of psychological disabilities.

Sue Edwards has worked as an Educational Specialist with the Education-Plus Program at Horizon House in Philadelphia almost since its inception at the beginning of 2003. In that capacity, she has worked at any given time with up to 25 individuals who have a diagnosis of mental illness and supported them in attending college. Ms. Edwards has extensive experience with a peer counseling network. She earned her Bachelor's degree at Oberlin College and her Master's degree in Early Childhood Education and Conflict Resolution at Vermont College. In her previous careers, she has taught pre-school and has worked in a manufacturing facility as a drill press set-up and operate person while a union shop steward. She is also a peace and justice activist.

Arlene Solomon is Director of Employment Services at Horizon House in Philadelphia and is Coordinator for Technical Assistance and Training for the University of Pennsylvania Collaborative on Community Integration. She holds a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling, is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), and a Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Professional (CPRP). She has served on the board of directors of PAPSRS for the past 12 years as co-chair of the annual conference. She has extensive experience in community integration, employment, supported education, and psychiatric rehabilitation and is a frequent presenter at conferences on these topics. She recently co-authored the chapter on Foundation Skills in the recently published Psychiatric Rehabilitation Skills in Practice: A CPRP Preparation and Skills Workbook published by USPRA. Her past experience also includes teaching at the Medical College of PA, Division of Behavioral Healthcare Education.

Afternoon Sessions

Richard Baron, M.S. is Collaborative Consultant, University of Pennsylvania Collaborative on Community Integration. The Collaborative is a rehabilitation research & training center promoting community integration of individuals with psychiatric disabilities. Mr. Baron serves on the University of Pennsylvania RRTC Steering Committee and also as an independent consultant for the project. Mr. Baron is Lead Director on the RRTC Training Project: Improving Definitions of Community Integration: A Cross-Disability Conceptual and Technology Transfer. He is former Program Director at the OMG Center on Collaborative Learning where he led a team that administers grants made by the Pew Fund for Health & Human Services in Philadelphia. He is also former Executive Director of Matrix Research Institute, a research and training center focused on employment programs and policies targeted to people with disabilities. Baron has conducted a unique qualitative assessment of the long-term career patterns of people with serious mental illness.

Kim Kleinsmith is Adaptive Technology/Educational Support Specialist at the Center for Academic Success at Reading Area Community College. The Center for Academic Success coordinates appropriate accommodations for enrolled students. The mission and goals of the disability staff are to educate individuals about self-advocacy, postsecondary access and academic accommodations.

Dr. Theresa Tsai, associate professor and counselor in the Counseling department and Center on Disability. She has published and presented sessions on counseling, challenges to students with disabilities, universal instructional design, and various disability issues. She has been honored by the Horizon House Education Plus program, an academic support program providing services to college students in the Philadelphia area who have psychiatric disabilities. Theresa received an award to recognize her service to students with disabilities.

REGISTRATION FORM

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**Dixon University Center
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Harrisburg, PA 17110**

Name _____ Title _____
Organization _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Tel () _____ Fax () _____
Email address _____

Registration Cost: *Cost includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials.*

Deadline to register is November 10, 2008

_____ **PARF Members - \$99.00**

_____ **Non-Members - \$129.00**

_____ Check # _____ for \$ _____ is enclosed. Payable to: **PARF**

_____ Charge (Circle one): Visa MasterCard

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Amount \$ _____

Cardholder's Signature _____

Mail or fax registration to:

**PARF, 2400 Park Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Fax # (717) 657-8265**

Cancellation Policy: If you need to cancel your registration, you are eligible for a 50% refund if you notify PARF by close of business five days prior to the event. Failure to provide notice by this date will result in the loss of the full registration fee. Substitutions are welcome.