CIL-NET Presents... Assisting Individuals to Find Affordable, Accessible, Integrated Housing

Choice: Making it Real

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CIL-NET, a project of ILRU - Independent Living Research Utilization



Outreach

The first step in helping people move is finding people who want to move.

- Outreach to people in nursing homes
- Outreach to case managers/case workers in the service system
- Check to see if the State Olmstead plan has an outreach component
- It is important for systems to be sure that access to housing services is widespread.



Steps in Supporting Choice

- Strengths-based assessment
- Exploring choice what do I want in a new place?
- Exploring choice resources
- Exploring choice barriers
- Written plans

Strengths-Based Assessment and Planning



Elements of the Strengths Approach to Practice

- Engaging the Person & Building a Relationship
- Assessing for Strengths
- Planning Goals
- Developing a Personal Plan
- Linking into the Natural Community Resources



Strengths-Based Assessment and Planning, cont'd.

What are strengths?

- Personal Characteristics
- Talents and Skills
- Environmental Strengths
 - Strengths within the family
 - Strengths within the community
 - Strengths within the culture
- Interests, Hopes & Aspirations



Strengths-Based Assessment and Planning, cont'd. 2

Assessing for Strengths

- The qualities of the person
- The skills and talents the person already has
- The strengths that already exist in the person's surroundings, family, community, and culture
- The person's own interests/aspirations/hopes for the future



Strengths-Based Assessment and Planning, cont'd. 3

Assessing for Strengths

- Across important life domains
 - Daily Living Situation
 - Financial
 - Vocational/Educational
 - Social Supports
 - Intimate Relationships
 - Leisure/Recreation
 - Health and Wellness
 - Spirituality



Steps in Supporting Choice

Strengths-based assessment:

Let's take a look at Kay's personal scenario. Just based on what is written here, what are her strengths?

What barriers need to be overcome?



What do I want in a new place?

It helps to ask the person about the good and bad things in their current setting. What will be missed from "here" once the person moves?

Are these things essential?



What do I want in a new place? Some more conversation starters:

- "If you could change ONE thing, what would it be?"
- "Why do you want to move?"
- "Why did you come to [the nursing home/institution]?"



Family and friends –

Don't forget to ask the person how the family or guardian feels about the proposed move.

Obtain contact information for people close to the prospective tenant.



"What do I want in a new place?"

At your table, please do a role play. One person is Kay, another person is her housing specialist.

Each table will take different sections of the worksheet.



For more information

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