

About the Training

This one-day training is offered by the Partnership for People with Disabilities in response to the following realities:

- ❖ Children with disabilities are at increased risk for all types of abuse and neglect.
- ❖ Abuse and neglect of these children occurs more often in out-of-family settings.
- ❖ It can be more difficult to recognize abuse or neglect of children with disabilities.
- ❖ Many professionals are unaware of specific risk factors and indicators of abuse and neglect for children with disabilities.
- ❖ Many professionals are unfamiliar with the special needs of children with disabilities.
- ❖ Children with disabilities experience a “cascade of injustices” following abuse and neglect, in which their reports are not believed, or are not investigated, or are not prosecuted.
- ❖ Children with disabilities may not receive adequate treatment for the effects of abuse and neglect.

Trainers

This course is presented by an interdisciplinary team of expert trainers, including an educator, a law enforcement officer, a child protective services professional, and a parent advocate for children with disabilities.

Trainers model interdisciplinary collaboration and foster discussion among participants about ways to improve the local collaborative response to abuse and neglect of children with disabilities.

*Continuing Education Credits
and Partial Inservice Credit for Law
Enforcement available.*

Target Audience

This training is appropriate for all professionals who serve children with disabilities, including:

- ❖ Educators
- ❖ Child Protective Services
- ❖ Law enforcement
- ❖ Foster care
- ❖ Children’s Advocacy Centers
- ❖ CASA staff and volunteers
- ❖ Community Services Board staff
- ❖ Multidisciplinary team members
- ❖ Guardians ad litem

Questions addressed in the training:

- ◆ How widespread is the problem of abuse and neglect of children with disabilities?
- ◆ What is the relationship between abuse and disability?
- ◆ Why are children with disabilities at greater risk for abuse and neglect?
- ◆ What types of abuse and neglect are experienced by children with disabilities?
- ◆ Why is it more difficult to recognize abuse and neglect of children with disabilities?
- ◆ What are some specific signs and indicators of abuse and neglect of children with disabilities?
- ◆ What are the roles of parent advocates and professionals in identification and reporting of abuse and neglect of children with disabilities?
- ◆ How can professionals and parent advocates collaborate to prevent abuse and neglect of these children, and to improve the outcomes for those children with disabilities who experience abuse and neglect?

Registration limited to 40 participants.

Please register by May 14, 2009

Registration Fee (nonrefundable):
\$25 payable to “Partnership/VCU”

Lunch Preference:

vegetarian non-vegetarian

Name: _____

Parent Advocate

Professional

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Best way to contact: _____

Special Needs/Accommodations:

**Return registration form and \$25 fee by
May 14, 2009 to:**

**Betty Harrell, Events Coordinator
Partnership for People with Disabilities
Virginia Commonwealth University
P.O. Box 843020
Richmond, VA 23284-3020
FAX: 804.828.0042**

*Confirmation and directions
will be e-mailed or faxed*

**The Abuse and Disabilities Training Project
Partnership for People with Disabilities,
A University Center for Excellence in
Developmental Disabilities at**
Virginia Commonwealth University
700 East Franklin Street, 10th Floor
P.O. Box 843020
Richmond, VA 23284-3020
804.828.3876 (Telephone)
804.828.2494 (TDD)
804.828.0042 (Fax)

The Abuse and Disabilities Training Project began in 1997 with federal funding to develop a model interdisciplinary curriculum for educators, child protection workers, law enforcement officers, and parents of children with disabilities. Since 2000, this interdisciplinary training has been offered by the Partnership for People with Disabilities in a number of localities throughout Virginia, with the co-sponsorship of the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, and the Virginia Department of Social Services.



Original support for this training was provided by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to the Partnership for People with Disabilities, formerly the Virginia Institute for Developmental Disabilities (VIDD) at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). The Partnership is the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCE) at VCU, which is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation, or disability. If special accommodations or alternative document formats are needed, please contact Betty Harrell at 804-828-0359.

Partnership for People with Disabilities
Virginia Commonwealth University
P.O. Box 843020
Richmond, VA 23284-3020

Abuse and Neglect Of Children with Disabilities: A Collaborative Response

**Interdisciplinary Training
For parent advocates
and professionals serving
children with disabilities**

May 28, 2009

9:00am to 4:00pm

(8:30 - 9a.m. Registration)

The address is:

Festival Conference/Student Ctr.

Conference Room 6

1301 Carrier Drive

Harrisonburg, VA 22807

For more information contact:

Dianne Koontz Lowman

James Madison University

Phone: 540.568.7051

Email: lowmandk@jmu.edu

Sponsors

The Partnership for People with Disabilities,
Virginia Commonwealth University
in collaboration with

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Virginia Department of Education
Virginia Department of Social Services

and hosted by

James Madison University
Training and Technical Assistance Center