



New England Consortium for Technical Assistance and Training



C.a.T.T.T

Consultation and Training Through Technology

A Bridge to better teaching via technology.

The New England Consortium is offering technical assistance via technology to select teams working with children who have combined vision and hearing loss. This unique approach will afford teachers and service providers the opportunity to increase their competency and implement promising practices with the support of experienced, trained professionals. Your team will be one of the first to receive this intensive assistance using new and exciting technologies.

Using technology to help teachers working with children who have combined vision and hearing loss.

Even the best teachers are often unprepared to instruct children with multiple disabilities, especially sensory loss, present unique challenges for instructors.

- In these situations, it is critical that teachers have access to experienced practitioners who can help them develop an educational program that considers the

child's unique needs.

- Traditionally this has meant waiting long periods for a consultant to visit the school. New technologies, however, allow us to bridge this gap and deliver promising and evidence-based practices in a timely and effective manner.
- Research has shown that interactive video

conferencing can increase the likelihood that knowledge transfers to the settings in which it will be relevant. It creates new learning opportunities and increases communication between consultants and teachers.

**(Interactive Videoconferencing as a Medium for Special Education: Knowledge Acquisition in Pre-Service Teacher Education; Angie Dal Bello, Earle Knowlton, Jerry Chaffin; Intervention in School and Clinic, Vol43, No.1, Sept. 2007)*

Overview

- Expert consultation is provided for approximately 12 weeks to select teams working with students with multiple disabilities, including sensory loss (Visually Impaired, Hearing Impaired, Deaf-Blind). Students must be between the ages of birth-21.
- Consultation is provided by professionals who have expertise in the field of deafblindness, sensory loss and multiple disabilities.
- Teams working with school-age children must include the child's primary teacher, parent or guardian, a paraprofessional/ intervener, and an administrator. Each team will appoint a contact person for purposes of communication and consistency.
- The C.A.T.T.T. Project typically begins with an on-site visit to meet the team, establish expectations, ensure the requisite technology equipment and skills exist, and gather permission forms.
- Teams will agree to collect video of the child in his/ her customary environments and share this with the consultants. Outcomes are selected in advance and measured over time.
- A wiki site will serve as an electronic repository for the project, hosting video samples, action plans, best-practice resources, and a discussion forum.

Benefits

- Teachers and teams of professionals will receive timely assistance and immediate feedback on suggested best practice interventions.
- Interactivity between the consultants and providers is markedly increased.
- Children will receive the benefit of 'best practice' interventions, enhanced via data collection and review.

Costs

- There is no cost to the district as technical assistance is provided by the Maine Deafblind Project, NEC via funding from OSEP.

Timeline

- Consultations will last approximately 12 weeks.

Certificates

- Certificates are provided for the actual hours you participate for.

Contact

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