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Teri's Topic

TRAINING TOOLS FOR YOUR SUPPORT WORKERS

This month, I wanted to share different resources available for you to use as training tools for the support workers you hire. It is important to keep us all motivated to be the best advocates we can be. I encourage you to take the time to check each resource out to see which one will work best for you.

Conversation that Matter – Norman Kunc

www.conversationthatmatter.org

Norman and Emma developed Conversations That Matter because they recognized that enduring attitudinal change best occurs when people are engaged in ongoing dialogues about provocative and challenging issues. As a result, the goal of Conversations That Matter is not to inspire people, but to provoke self-reflection, deep-thinking and meaningful change.

Inclusion Network – Jack Pearpoint

www.inclusion.com

Jack Pearpoint and his wife, Lynda Kahn, conduct workshops, consults with organizations, and collaborate with people with disabilities and their families. Jack was also a contributor in developing person-centered planning tools such as: Circle of Friends, PATH and MAPS.

Neighbours International – Patti Scott

www.neighbours-international.com

Patti Scott co-founded Neighbours International, an innovative non-profit organization, created specifically to support people with disabilities and their families in choosing and designing a life for themselves within their local towns and neighborhoods.

Open Future Learning – Ben Drew

www.openfuturelearning.org

Ben Drew is the founder of Open Future Learning, an online learning site for support staff of people with disabilities. You can sign up and select the different learning modules you would like your support staff to take.

RATE INCREASES!

The State of Kansas granted a rate increase for HCBS waiver services, effective July 1, 2018. The new pay ranges are as follows:

| | OLD | NEW |
|---|----------|----------|
| Intellectual/Developmental Disability | \$ 9.85 | \$ 10.30 |
| Intellectual/Developmental Disability— PARENT | \$ 10.65 | \$ 11.15 |
| Physical Disability | \$ 10.60 | \$ 11.05 |
| Physical Disability— PARENT | \$ 11.45 | \$ 11.95 |
| Traumatic Brain Injury | \$ 11.15 | \$ 11.60 |
| Technology Assisted | \$ 12.40 | \$ 12.95 |
| Overnight Respite | \$ 73.60 | \$ 76.30 |
| Enhanced Care Services | \$ 73.60 | \$ 76.30 |
| Frail Elderly | \$ 10.15 | \$ 10.60 |
| VALUE ADDED - NO CHANGE | \$ 9.50 | \$ 9.50 |

As the employer, what do you need to do?

- If your employees are already at the maximum hourly rate, Life Patterns will automatically increase your employees to the new maximum rate unless we hear differently from you. **If you don't want to increase, you will need to let us know.** If you are not sure if your employees are at the maximum rate, do not hesitate to call us at 785.273.7189 to check.

- If your employees are not currently at the maximum rate, you will need to contact us in writing to let us know if you would like to make any pay changes. **If we do not hear from you, no changes will be made.**

* By mail – 3300 SW 29th ST, Ste 100, Topeka, KS 66614

* By email – kristen@lifepatternsks.org

* By fax – 785.273.3816

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call.

Amerigroup Members - PLAN AHEAD

The State of Kansas recently announced that the contract with Amerigroup has not been renewed. The new MCO is Aetna.

Consumers will have the opportunity to select a new MCO during open enrollment in October.

If you are currently enrolled with Amerigroup, take some time now to start checking with your doctors and providers to determine which MCOs they will accept.

Sign up to view AuthentiCare

Have you ever thought—wouldn't it be nice if I could keep track of how many hours have been used and what do I have left?

The good news is—YOU CAN!

Give Sarah a call or send her an email at:

sarah@lifepatternsks.org

Sarah will help you get set-up and going!

Is there something you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter?

A topic you are interested in that we can research?

A story or tip you would like to share?

Let us know and we will do our best to get you the information you need.