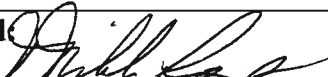


New Mexico Department of Health (DOH) Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)	Policy Number: S-003a Supersedes: S-003 Socialization and Sexuality Education for Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Policy 1-1-07
Policy Title: Socialization and Sexuality Education for Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Policy	
Effective Date: November 24, 2008	
Approved: 	Date: 11-24-08

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to assure that socialization and sexuality education classes will be offered for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) as part of the comprehensive integrated system of sexuality services.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of DDSD to provide socialization and sexuality education classes, taught using the Office of Behavioral Services (OBS) approved *Friends and Relationship Course* (FRC) curriculum, to any interested individual with I/DD in the State of New Mexico.

It is the policy of DDSD to provide FRC classes in the most inclusive environment possible, with emphasis on recruiting students from all levels of cognitive functioning, types of ethnic backgrounds and disabilities, sexual orientations and lifestyles.

It is the policy of DDSD to provide services to students so that the skills they learn in FRC classes are being practiced, reinforced, and expanded in all settings, and that the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) assures that these services are integrated into Individual Service Plan (ISP) and Positive Behavior Supports Plan (PBSP) goals, objectives and strategies.

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) members, DDSD staff, and Developmental Disabilities Waiver (DD Waiver) and State General Fund (SGF) provider agency staff supporting adults with Developmental Disabilities participating in SGF or DD Waiver services on the DD Waiver or SGF programs.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Comprehensive Integrated System of Sexuality Services: Means a multi-component system that provides services to address the socialization and sexuality skills and supports needed for individuals with I/DD to live safely in the community and to obtain and keep jobs and form relationships, including intimate ones.

Friends and Relationship Course: Means the OBS approved curriculum for socialization and sexuality education and training regarding relationship and sexual matters, including (but not limited to) socialization and relationship-building skills, making friends, values clarification, support to couples about dating and intimate relationships, personal boundaries and stranger safety, sexually transmitted disease, birth control, pregnancy, childbirth and sexual choice.

Individual: Means, for the purpose of this policy, a person with a developmental disability over the age of 18 years.

Individual Service Plan (ISP): Means a plan developed by an individual, a group of natural supports and professionals (Interdisciplinary Team) that includes information about history, current status, health needs, long term vision and outcomes of each individual receiving services funded through the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division.

Interdisciplinary Team (IDT): Means a group of support professionals, natural supports, medical supports and the Individual in services that develops the ISP and addresses all planning on behalf of the individual and addresses any emergent needs.

Qualifications: Means education, specialized training, supervised practice, and/or other activities that demonstrate professional competency as defined by OBS.

Refer/Referral: Means the process through which the OBS is notified that an individual with I/DD wants to participate in FRC classes.

Socialization: Means the process whereby individuals are made aware of what is expected of them in social situations from their family, culture, tribe, school, friends, church and other social or environmental settings.

Socialization and Sexuality Education: Means the *Friends and Relationships Course* curriculum and classes; and follow-through by the IDT to promote skills and opportunities.

V. REFERENCES

Code of Conduct and Ethics of Professional Licensing Boards for Behavior Support Consultants

Friends and Relationships Course curriculum

Introduction to Sexuality for People with I/DD Training Manual

Policies or Guidelines of DDS:

- Aversive Intervention Policy
- Behavior Support Consultation Practice Guidelines
- Crisis Prevention/Intervention Policy and Procedure
- The Guidelines Concerning Sexual Contact and Consent 6-30-97
- S-002 & SP-002: Promoting Healthy Relationships for Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Policy and Procedure
- S-003 & SP-003: Socialization and Sexuality Education for Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Policy and Procedure

- S-004 & SP-004: *Friends and Relationships Course* Teacher Certification Policy and Procedure

Regulations:

- Developmental Disability Act [28 –16A-13 (C) (2)]
- 7 NMAC 26.2 - 6;
- 42 CFR 483.400-483.480;
- 7 NMAC 8.2;

Standards:

- Developmental Disabilities Waiver Service Standards
- State General Fund Service Definitions and Standards