

College of Education

Pennsylvania's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service

Safer Options Initiative

A Collaboration between the
Office of Developmental Programs
and the
Institute on Disabilities, Temple University

Institute on Disabilities

Background

- > The Safer Options program in 1992
- It's purpose was to develop a statewide network of support for people with intellectual disabilities and problematic sexual behaviors.

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2016 - 2017 Objectives

- 1. Training Delivery and Technical Assistance
- Regional and agency teams supporting individuals with:
 - Problematic sexual behavior;
 - Sexuality/gender identity/LGBTQ issues;
 - Forensic; and
 - Sexual victimization issues

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2016 - 2017 Objectives

- 2. Conduct Training for Individuals Receiving Services
- 3. Consultation Services to:
- ODP clinical staff on emerging/best practices related to Safer Options; and
- Team members external to ODP this may include staff from OMHSAS, OCYF, Education and Corrections

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2016 - 2017 Objectives

- 4. Program Management Support
- Review the current ODP sexuality guidelines (Bulletin # 00-96-23) and identify training needed to fully implement.

Update – A revised sexuality bulletin and guidelines was submitted to ODP in June, 2017 for their review and approval.

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2016 - 20170bjectives

4. Program Management Supports (cont.)

- · Develop and maintain a statewide resource list of trainers and professionals that can provide support with identifying the needs of individuals assessed; and
- Update the Safer Options Manual and assist with developing a communication that announces a new version of the manual

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Committee Members:

- Karen Boyce, PMHCC
- Dr. Gregory Cherpes, Medical Director ODP Bureau of Supports for People with ID Kevin Dressler, ICF Director ODP Bureau of Supports for People with ID
- Cheryl Dougan, Parent activist
- Tom Graves, ODP consultant and private practice
- Arry Nemicow, ODP Regional Clinical Director
 Stacy Nonnemacher, ODP Bureau of Autism Services
- Marlinda Smith, ODP Bureau of Supports for People with ID

 Natalie Symons, Milestones West HCQU
- Nancy Richey, ODP Tara Viens, ODP Regional Clinical Director
- Becky Fahs, The Advocacy Alliance
- Benjamin Flerer, Self-advocate
- Carol Sumner, Geisinger HCQU Susan Martinko, Community Services Group
- Bey Frantz, Institute on Disabilities. Temple University

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You Can Help Us By-

- 1. Identifying training needs for agency staff and treatment teams;
- 2. Identify professionals trained to conduct assessments for individuals with ID/D and problematic sexuality
- 3. Reviewing the draft of the revised sexuality policy and/or other materials related to the Safer Option initiative; and
- 4. Identify individuals and their contact information who participated in either Safer Option One and/or Two

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FOR INFORMATION contact:

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Institute on Disabilities, Temple University, Safer Options Initiative

Provider Questionnaire

Thank you for your support of this important issue. Here are some questions that have come up when discussing sexuality and folks with IDD and provider agencies.

1. What is consent? Legal, informed, expressed or provider definition?
2. How is consent assessed? If an individual fails, in what time period can the person be re-assessed? Is any type of sexuality education offered to provide the individual who did not pass the consent assessment? And, who provides this training?
3. Does your agency have a sexuality policy? If yes, how long ago was it written/reviewed?
4. Would having a generic sexuality policy be helpful? Why or why not?
5. What do you think should be included in a sexuality policy?
6. What sexuality issues does your agency encounter most frequently?
7. If you had a magic wand what would you like to see regarding sexuality for your agency?