Out with the old, in with the new!

With 2024 in full swing, TCS is here to support you with everything this year has in store! This month's newsletter includes information on a new training, a reminder about our new staff newsletter, a brief poll, and a tip on how to provide the best services possible.

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Check out the newest of our FREE trainings available now! CEU credits included!

NEW! Introduction to IDD: Foundations for SE

Length: 2 hours  
Sessions: 1  
CEU Credits: 2

Create empathetic and informed perspectives on IDD using the most up-to-date knowledge from professionals and self-advocates!

NEW! SE Overview Training: Welcome to the Field!

Length: 1 hour  
Sessions: 1  
CEU Credits: 1

Build your foundational knowledge of supported employment in New Jersey and learn what this valuable service can do for your clients!
Includes:
- Introductory information designed for attendees with limited knowledge of IDD
- Examination of common client behaviors/experiences and their purposes, including:
  - Self-stimulatory behaviors
  - "Attention-seeking"
  - Communication differences
  - Efficiency challenges
- Explanation of respectful language and communication methods to use with clients
- Discussion on how to manage conflicting accessibility needs
- Interactive exercises to practice perspective-taking and clarify common IDD experiences

Includes:
- Breakdown of the fundamentals of supported employment (SE), including:
  - Purpose and intended outcomes
  - Core tenets and features
  - The three phases and key components of each
- Discussion on how to recognize if a client could benefit from SE
- Explanation of how benefits, Medicaid, and SE interact
- Differentiation between SE funding sources, including:
  - Unique features of each
  - Eligibility for services
  - Overlapping eligibility
- Explanation of the process of obtaining and starting SE

For more information on all of our available trainings, please refer to our Training Catalogue.

Open Trainings in February

Open Training: CARF Accreditation

Date: February 27
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Length: 2 hours
Sessions: 1
CEU Credits: 2

Zoom meeting link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8564079389

Open Training: Interview Questions

Date: February 29
Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Length: 2 hours
Sessions: 1
CEU Credits: 2

Zoom meeting link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8862095826

Do you need training for a small number of people but still want the group
experience? Do you want to train with people outside of your agency, or just don't want the hassle of scheduling private sessions? Open trainings are pre-scheduled virtual sessions that provide the same content, take-home resources, and CEU credits as private trainings do. No prerequisites or scheduling are required — simply enter the Zoom meeting at the correct date and time to join in!

Email sgoldfarb@arcnj.org for more information about open trainings.

Interested but can't make it this time? Contact Samantha to make sure the next open training works with your schedule!

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**Staff Newsletter Available**

A newsletter designed specifically for job coaches and field staff is now available! As well as including the most relevant information from the main newsletter, this publication has additional interactive, educational, and resource-based elements to help staff get the most out of monthly communication with TCS.

To sign your staff up for this newsletter, please contact sgoldfarb@arcnj.org with a list of the emails you would like to be included.

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**Monthly Poll**

Help us provide you with the best experience possible by answering a few questions each month!

Does your agency prefer training sessions to be held virtually or in person?

- Preference for in-person trainings
- Preference for virtual trainings
- It depends on additional factors.

If you have attended an in-person training through TCS, how was your experience?

- It was a positive experience!
- There are ways it could be improved.
- It was a negative experience.

Do any of the following options make it difficult for your agency to hold in-person trainings?

- Scheduling challenges
- Travel distance for staff
- Difficulties with hosting

It's important to be sensitive to the differing perspectives...
Today's Tip from TCS

Today's Tip from TCS clients may have when it comes to how we talk about disability. Some advocates prefer person-first language (ex. "a person with a disability") because it highlights their personhood rather than their disability; others prefer identity-first language (ex. "a disabled person") because it acknowledges the significance of disability in their identity and their pride in this part of themselves. While person-first language is the current standard, you should ask clients how they want you to refer to them (when appropriate).

- **Needs work:** Job coach uses person-first language with all clients because they believe it is the most respectful for all people with disabilities.
- **Improved:** Job coach uses person-first language with their clients until they are able to confirm how they would like to be referred to.

This Month's Office Hours

This Month's Office Hours

**Wednesdays:** 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
**Thursdays:** 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

**Zoom meeting link:**  
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6107930478

**Find your local number:**  
https://us06web.zoom.us/u/ke0RHzfl7

Do you ever find yourself with questions about SE that you wish could be answered right away or without the hassle of scheduling a meeting? The TCS office-hours program is our solution designed specifically to accommodate the busy SE professional!

TCS Director Samantha Goldfarb hosts two recurrent Zoom meetings per week that are available for anyone to attend. These meetings do not have a set agenda, instead providing attendees with the opportunity to discuss SE-related topics and questions immediately and without the need for prior communication. Drop-ins at any time during the meeting periods are welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there!
All trainings are customizable to fit your agency’s needs. Change the length, add a topic, learn in a different way - the choice is yours! We'd love to hear your ideas and feedback! Your input helps us create the best material possible for everyone who receives our trainings. Not seeing what you're looking for? Let us make a training specific to your agency. If it's related to supported employment, we want to help!

TCS exists to help DDD supported-employment providers and their staff provide the highest quality of support available to their clients. All services are completely free of charge. We'll teach you how to use realistic strategies to achieve the ideals of supported employment so that you can continue to provide the excellence in service that your clients deserve.

Contact Samantha Goldfarb with all inquiries.
sgoldfarb@arcnj.org
(732) 749-8434
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

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