



Developmental Disability Supportive Services Program

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



Introduction to Dementia in People with DD

People with DD are living longer than ever, and with longer life comes an increased risk of dementia. Join us to learn dementia risks for those with DD, the unique signs and symptoms of dementia in this population, and how to best respond to changes in behavior, personality, communication, and self-care abilities.

1.5- and 2-hour versions available

Brief Introduction to Dementia in People with DD

(For Dementia Professionals)

An abridged version of our Introduction to Dementia in People with DD program that will also cover the significantly higher risk for individuals with Down syndrome. Other topics include the unique signs and symptoms of dementia in this population by stage and best practices for detecting and diagnosing dementia in those with DD.

Approximately 1 hour

Healthy Living for the Brain and Body While Living with a Developmental Disability

People with developmental disabilities are living longer than ever. As a result, it's important for clinicians to have the knowledge base to help them take care of their brains for a long, healthy life while aging. In this training, attendees will learn the factors that may increase a person living with a developmental disability's risk of dementia and the ways that their brain health can be supported through healthy habits.

Approximately 2 hours

Preventing and Responding to Behaviors in People with DD & Dementia

Behavior change is a common symptom of dementia and may require different interventions than responding to behaviors caused by DD. This program is designed to help attendees learn more about common behavior changes in those with DD and dementia, including training to help decipher the root cause of the behavior and how to prevent and respond to common behavior changes.

1.5- and 2-hour versions available

Activity Planning for People with DD & Dementia

Engaging people with DD and dementia in activities is important. Involvement in structured and spontaneous activities can decrease agitation, increase mood and provide meaningful opportunities for engagement. This session will teach participants how to design and implement activities for people with DD during each stage of dementia.

1.5- and 2-hour versions available

Communication Changes in DD & Dementia

The desire to communicate and connect with other people is a basic human need. In this training, we will discuss how communication abilities may change as people with a developmental disability progress through the stages of dementia. Attendees will also learn how to modify their own communication and listening strategies to maximize understanding.

Approximately 1.5 hours

Home Safety & Environmental Modification

Working with people who have a developmental disability and dementia can pose unique safety challenges. However, there are modifications that can be made to the home environment to help maximize safety and independence. In this training, attendees will learn how to assess the person and environment for common safety concerns and learn about dementia-friendly environmental modifications.

Approximately 1.5 hours

End of Life Issues for People with DD and Dementia

Dementia is a progressive disorder, and Alzheimer's disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in America. In this training, attendees will learn what dementia looks like in the late stages, strategies and resources to maximize quality of life, and why commonly used medical interventions for those with DD may not be useful for those with late-stage dementia.

Approximately 1.5 hours

Dementia Screening and Diagnosis

Dementia in those with DD may not look how you would expect. Join us to learn the common changes that may indicate dementia in those with DD, when and how to assess for possible dementia, and what to advocate for during the diagnostic process.

1.5- and 2-hour versions available

DDSSP Education Programs available via webinar throughout Michigan and may be scheduled in person in the orange counties on the prior page

Free Nursing and Social Work CEs available for most presentations

Looking for further customization? Contact us at 800.272.3900 about creating a presentation that meets your needs!

alzheimer's  association®

Michigan Chapter