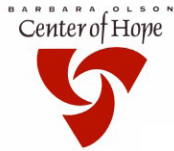


Member Agencies



For more information on Intersect for Ability or its affiliated partners, please contact Mark Schmidt.



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INTERSECT FOR ABILITY

Working in partnership to develop, fund, implement, and evaluate collaborative programs and community initiatives with emphasis on: Meaningful Employment and Purposeful Activity, Staff Training and Retention, Transitions, Clinical Services, and Advocacy.

www.intersectforability.net

Intersect for Ability is a network of northern Illinois developmental disabilities agencies; convened to advance effective and results based services through collaboration and resource sharing across several local and national agencies serving people with developmental disabilities.

Intersect for Ability member agencies are made up of pioneers and leaders within the developmental disability community and include:

Barbara Olson Center of Hope
Clearbrook
Countryside Association
Easter Seals Metro Chicago
Elim Christian Services
Helping Hand Center
Little Friends, Inc.
Misericordia Heart of Mercy
PACTT Learning Center
Park Lawn Association
Seguin Services

The Coleman Foundation initiated this network through a Managing Partner Grant to The Hope Institute for Children and Families, located in Springfield, Illinois. The Hope Institute facilitates, evaluates, and supports Intersect for Ability.

Through the convention of the Intersect for Ability Network, a variety of projects have been developed to support the areas of Meaningful Employment and Purposeful Activity, Staff Training and Retention, Life-Stage Transitions, Clinical Services, and Advocacy.



ABA Practicum Program: This program will provide hands-on experience for student ABA interns, and will assist agencies in better meeting the behavioral needs of those they serve. This program allows agencies to pro-actively address behaviors and prevent crises.

Agencies Involved: *Barbara Olson Center of Hope, Clearbrook, Elim Christian Services, Easter Seals of Metro Chicago, Little Friends, Inc., Misericordia Heart of Mercy, PACTT Learning Center, and Seguin Services.*

Adult Core Training Program: Little Friends Center for Autism (LFCA) provides a core training program on autism and other developmental disabilities for adult services providers. The trainings include training videos for adults, examples of adult issues, terminology adjustments, and new sections on behavior, sensory issues, and using a tool kit of visual aids.

Agencies Involved: *Barbara Olson Center of Hope, Clearbrook, Elim Christian Services, Helping Hand Center, Little Friends, Inc., Misericordia Heart of Mercy, PACTT Learning Center, and Seguin Services*

Advancing the Direct Support Professional (DSP): This training program includes a career path with specific goals and milestones. Completing the advanced training, direct support professionals (DSPs) possess a new standard of knowledge and skills, critical in serving individuals with developmental disabilities — with the ultimate outcome of improving retention and quality of care.

Agencies Involved: *Barbara Olson Center of Hope, Clearbrook, Elim Christian Services, Easter Seals of Metro Chicago, Helping Hand Center, Little Friends, Inc., Misericordia Heart of Mercy, PACTT Learning Center, Park Lawn Association, and Seguin Services.*

Building Bridges to the Future: Six nonprofit agencies are working to create transition services to serve the needs of special education students and their families; as they face the challenges of transitioning successfully from high school to adult services. Students with developmental disabilities and their families will learn what services are available for them as they try to navigate this difficult period in their lives.

Agencies Involved: *Barbara Olson Center of Hope, Clearbrook, Elim Christian Services, Helping Hand Center, Little Friends, Inc. PACTT Learning Center, Park Lawn Association, and Seguin Services.*

GRACE Project: Implementation Within and Beyond the Intersect for Ability Network: The Manual for Aging Adults with Developmental Disabilities documents the work of the GRACE (Generating Resources for Aging Through Collaborative Energies) Program. The Manual includes: Training Curriculum, Day Services, Residential Services, and a Resource Guide. The Curriculum will train newly hired staff specifically how to work with aging adults with developmental disabilities, an option not currently available. The GRACE training curriculum is the only agency based content specific direct support training for aging in the state of Illinois.

Agencies Involved: *Barbara Olson Center of Hope, Clearbrook, Elim Christian Services, Easter Seals of Metro Chicago, Helping Hand Center, Little Friends, Inc., Misericordia Heart of Mercy, PACTT Learning Center, Park Lawn Association, and Seguin Services.*