


ACTIVE SUPPORT

Active Support Services are met when:

- ? Individuals have increased skills and independence in functional life areas (communication, community etc...)  bathing, tasks, socialization, use of
- ? In the presence of degenerative or other limiting conditions, individual's functioning is maintained to the maximum extent possible.
- ? Individuals receive continuous, competent training, supervision and support which promotes skills and independence.

******* Remember individuals who are able to function independently without continuous training do not require active support interventions *******

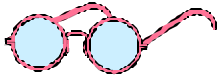
A key Element in Active Support is the Individual Support Plan (ISP). (Information is gathered to include an assessment of health & safety issues, individuals preferences, priorities, and needs that promotes a person centered planning process in developing outcomes and positive approaches in supporting the individual).

To receive Active Support:

1. The program will be aggressive and consistent.
2. The program will contain generic (from ISP) and specialized (from professionals) training and treatment.
3. The program will work toward the acquisition of behaviors necessary for the individual to function with as much independence and self-determination as possible.
4. The program will assure the prevention or deceleration of regression or loss of current optimal function due to a diagnosed chronic illness such as Parkinson, Dementia, cancer or Alzheimer Disease.

Major elements of Active Support are:

1. Each individual's needs and strengths have been accurately assessed and relevant input has been obtained by the team members.
2. Each ISP is based on needs and strengths and addresses areas essential to increasing independence and ensuring rights.
3. Priority needs are addressed both formally (through ISP recommendations) and informally (through daily activities of life).
4. Implementation across all environments, (Day Program, Residential, Family, etc.)
5. Received services from trained staff (Staff must feel confident in all areas of ISP).
6. New skills and appropriate behaviors are encouraged and reinforced (do not forget to reinforce positive and productive activities). Self Determination!
7. Adaptive equipment and assistive technology is available (wheelchairs, eyeglasses, hearing aids, adaptive spoons, bowls, communication devices, etc.).
8. Routines and environments are organized to facilitate acquisition of skills (examine the routines and environment of the house, day program, etc.)
9. Performance is accurately measured and programs are modified based on data and major life changes.
10. Individuals with degenerative conditions receive training, etc...to prevent further regression.
11. Inclusion of opportunities for client choice and self-management is an essential element.



To implement Active Support:

1. Know your individuals.
2. Know their formal plans (short and long-term goals).
3. Remember all the Informal Active Support you could be doing.
4. Remember choice, options, environment and routines.
5. To assure good documentation ... document immediately after plan completion.

6. If at first you don't succeed...