

Reference Number: 567-04-DD

Title of Document: ~~Preventing and Responding to Disruptive Behavior and Crisis Situations~~ DDSN Approved Crisis Prevention Curricula List and Curriculum Approval Process

Date of Issue: January 1, 2009  
Effective Date: January 1, 2009  
Last Review Date: ~~March 16, 2017~~ XXXX, 2020  
Date of Last Revision: ~~March 16, 2017~~ XXXX, 2020 (REVISED)

Applicability: DDSN Regional Centers, DDSN Autism Division, DSN Boards, ~~Contract Service Providers~~ Adult Companion Providers, Day Service Providers (Career Prep, Day Activity, Community Services, Support Center), Early Intervention Providers, Employment Service Providers, ICFs/IID, Residential Habilitation Providers and Respite Providers

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## **PURPOSE**

This document establishes the requirement for all South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) operated programs (DDSN Regional Centers and Autism Division), DSN Boards, and Contract Service Providers to choose and utilize a validated, competency-based curriculum or system for teaching and certifying staff to prevent and respond to disruptive behavior and crisis situations.

This document also establishes the requirement for the DDSN approval of curricula and includes procedures for submission of curricula to DDSN for review.

## POLICY

Any system utilized to prevent and respond to disruptive behavior and crisis situations must reflect the values and principles of DDSN. A Crisis Prevention Management Curriculum is only approved once it has been determined that it aligns with DDSN philosophies and it has a strong focus of training in the area of interpersonal skills (e.g., active listening, problem solving, negotiation, and conflict management). In addition, DDSN does not approve training curricula that include techniques involving the use of force (such as chokeholds that would cut off air in any form that would prevent breathing, prone restraints or other techniques that inhibit breathing etc.) for self-defense or control that entities such as law enforcement would utilize.

Only the techniques included in the approved system/curriculum shall be used. Techniques included in the chosen system/curriculum shall only be employed by staff members who have been fully trained and deemed competent in the application of the techniques. The use of techniques not included in the chosen system/curriculum including homemade techniques or placing hands on someone in anyway, and/or the application of techniques by untrained staff shall constitute abuse.

~~The most effective technique for avoiding disruptive behavior and crisis situations is to create, for those supported and for staff, environments that are safe, respectful, and meaningful. (Refer to Attachment A of DDSN Directive 600-05-DD: Behavior Support, Psychotropic Medications and Prohibited Practices). The routine use of positive behavior supports can also decrease the likelihood that disruptive behavior and crisis situations will occur. When disruptive behavior or crisis situations do occur, staff must have the skill and ability to manage those situations in a manner that will reduce the risk of harm to those involved.~~

Staff members (professional and paraprofessional) who provide direct support/services or supervise those who provide direct supports/services must be certified in the system chosen before performing the skill (refer to DDSN Directive 567-01-DD: Employee Orientation, Pre-service and Annual Training Requirements). When those supported are present and under the supervision of staff, at least one staff member who is certified in the chosen system must be present. By present, staff who are certified must, at a minimum, be within a five (5) minute response time of any who are not certified. Certified staff must be clearly identified and known to non-certified staff so, if needed, assistance can be obtained.

Neither this directive nor the content of the chosen curriculum in any way affects the requirements for individualized Behavior Support Plans (Refer to Department Directive 600-05-DD: Behavior Support, Psychotropic Medications and Prohibited Practices). The techniques employed by a chosen system are for use during emergency situations when no Behavior Support Plan has been designed (i.e., unpredictable occurrences) or when the current Behavior Support Plan fails to protect those involved from harm. In the event a person's Behavior Support Plan and the crisis response techniques within are unable to safely manage the situation, staff may call 911.

## APPROVED CURRICULA

~~Only the sSystems/cCurricula listed below that~~ have been approved for use by DDSN: ~~are found on Attachment 1 of this document.~~

1. MANDT
2. CPI – Crisis Prevention Institute
3. PCM – Professional Crisis Management
4. Therapeutic Options Training Curriculum
5. PCS Life Experience Model
6. TCI – Therapeutic Crisis Intervention System
7. Safety-Care
8. Ukeru Systems

This ~~directive list~~ will be updated when additional systems/curricula are approved. Any system on the list may be selected for use. Appropriate use of an approved system/curriculum includes competency-based assessment of employee skills and re-certification on the schedule required by the system/curriculum for trainers and staff.

When a system or curriculum that has not previously been approved is desired, the board/provider must submit to DDSN Central Office, Intellectual Disabilities/Related Disabilities Division a request that includes the name of the system for which approval is sought and either information about the system or a Web-address where system information can be located. Once information is reviewed, the board/provider will be notified of the decision in writing. ~~If approved, the system/curriculum will be added to the approved list.~~

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Barry D. Malphrus  
Vice-Chairman

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Gary C. Lemel  
Chairman

***To access the following attachments, please see the agency website page “Current Directives” at: <https://ddsn.sc.gov/providers/ddsn-directives-standards-and-manuals/current-directives>***

Attachment: ~~Approved Systems/Curricula~~