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Title of Document: DDSN Approved Crisis Prevention Curricula List and Curriculum Approval Process

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Applicability: DDSN Regional Centers, DDSN Operated Community Settings, DSN Boards, Adult Companion Providers, Day Service Providers (Career Prep, Day Activity, Community Services, Support Center), Early Intervention Providers, Employment Service Providers, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICFs/IID), Residential Habilitation Providers and Respite Providers

PURPOSE

This document establishes the requirement for all South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) operated programs (DDSN Regional Centers and DDSN Operated Community Settings), 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 prohibits 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.

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 DDSN 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 systems/curricula listed below have been approved for use by DDSN:

1. The Mandt System®
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 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.



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