Visions Training Series State of Hawai'i Developmental Disabilities Division

# Overview of Disability Supports COURSE WORKBOOK





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#### **Course Overview**

People with disabilities are the nation's largest minority group. This minority group (often called people with disabilities) is the only one ANY person can join at any time. A disability can be present from birth or can occur at some point later in life. Disabilities can impact physical, mental, sensory (sight, hearing), and intellectual abilities. Chronic diseases such as diabetes and cancer can also be considered a disability.

Disability may be defined in a number of ways. It is important to understand that definitions of disability, especially when defined in state or federal laws, are used to determine who may be eligible to receive government funded services. Definitions of disability often do not reflect the culture and values of people with disabilities.

Over time, society has had different views about disability. Similar to other social issues addressing equality, ideas about what it means to have a disability have evolved. Disability can be used by people to describe a culture or identity. Understanding how perspectives have shifted around what it means to have a disability improves our ability to provide effective support.

We will use this course to understand shifting views of supports for persons with disabilities and how this impacts the supports for persons with developmental disabilities today and in the future.

#### **Course Objectives:**

At the end of the course, you will:

☐ Distinguish between the medical and social models of disability.
☐ Describe the progress from institutions to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS).
☐ Identify relevant laws, rules, and acts for persons with developmental disabilities and the people who support them.
☐ Identify the rights of persons with developmental disabilities.

## Lesson 1: Introduction to Disability

## **Traditional View of Disability**

Traditional definitions of disability focus on conditions that impair, interfere with, or
limit a person's abilities. Historically, the word "disability" was considered the same
as "inability" or it was used to limit a person's and powers.
Medical Model
The medical model views disability as a lack of ability and emphasizes what a person do. The medical model is based on the idea that disabilities are and the person needs to be cured. This model views medical professionals as the experts who can " " the individual with the disability.
The medical model iscentered.
Social Model
The social model sees disability as a part of life. The social model says that society (the barriers in the,, and organizations) creates the experience of disability as a problem.
The social model emphasizes instead of inability and focuses on what people do. It views the person with a disability as a person who might need an or instead of a person with a condition, impairment, or "problem." This model also considers the individual with the disability as the in how they want to be supported and shifts expertise away from medical professionals. The focus is then about how to support the individual as opposed to trying to fix them.
The social model iscentered.

## Lesson 2: Shifting Views on Disability Supports

The shift from the medical model (centered) to the social m	odel
(centered) did not happen overnight. It was a gradual proce	ss and
involved many people advocating for better treatment. The evolution of the	ne civil
rights of people with disabilities includes an overview of how services and	supports
for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) has e	volved in
the State of Hawaii Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD). It shows the	progress
from institutions to and Based Services (HCE	SS) in the
shift from a model to the model.	
Home and Community Based Services:	

#### **Timeline**

Date	Event	Description
1800s	Cure the Sick	
1921	Waimano Home for the Feeble Minded Opened	
1965	Medicaid Program	

1965	Voting Rights Act	
1973	Rehabilitation Act	
1975	IDEA	
1981	1915(c) Waiver	
1984	DD Act	
1987	Act 341	

1990	ADA	
1995	Act 133	
1999	Act 189	
1999	Olmstead Act	
2010	Rosa's Law	
2014	CMS Final Rule	

#### Lesson 3: Supporting the Rights of People with DD

Peop	with disabilities were not always treated with and
	. People with disabilities were because society
view	disability as unnatural and believed they needed to be locked up in a
hosp	l so they could be fixed. As societal views shifted, people began to recognize
that	ability is a part of the human experience that does not
dimi	h the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to enjoy the
oppo	unity to live and
	over their own lives, and to fully participate in and contribute to their nities.
	to effectively support an individual with intellectual and/or developmental
disak	ies, it is critical that you honor and respect their rights.
	People with Developmental Disabilities have a right to:
1.	
2.	
3.	
	a.
	<b></b>
	b
	b.
	C.

4.	
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6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	

As an AFH caregiver for someone with a developmental disability, it is essential that you respect the rights of the people you support.

#### **Lesson 6: Summary**

The purpose of this course is to give you a foundational introduction to disability. You learned about the shift from the medical model to the social model, and you learned about relevant events for persons with disabilities. Most notably, you were introduced to the rights of persons with developmental disabilities.



Main Takeaway: The social model emphasizes different abilities instead of inability and focuses on what people can do. The focus is on how to support the individual as opposed to trying to fix them.