Support Service Provider Training
Providing Access for Individuals who are Deaf-Blind
Facilitated by Maricar Marquez, M.S.

A Two-Part Hybrid Course

Part 1: (online) March 9th - 20th

Part 2: (onsite) March 24, 2020

Lunch will be provided at the on-site training

Cost: $200.00. This cost will be REDUCED TO $25.00 for participants who are ready to commit to providing at least 25 hours of paid SSP service for HKNC staff and/or students within the next six months.

Seminar Overview:

Support Service Providers (SSPs) are specially trained individuals who enable people who are deaf-blind to access their environment and make informed decisions by providing them with visual and environmental information, human guide services, and communication facilitation. HKNC is creating a core group of SSP's to support the needs of deaf-blind students and HKNC staff. This deaf-blind led training prepares participants to become HKNC SSPs. The hybrid course includes a pre-seminar, which consists of a series of video presentations and demonstrations followed by an on-site portion where participants will have the opportunity to learn directly from deaf-blind professionals and students while engaging in hands-on activities and group discussions.

Earn Extra Money While Gaining Hands-On Experience!

HKNC hires SSPs on a fee-for-service basis ($20.00/hr.). All HKNC SSPs must complete our training and will receive ongoing supervision, support, and training.

Who can apply:

We are looking for people who are interested in learning skills and strategies that will enable them to empower individuals who are deaf-blind by providing them with access to their environment. ASL skills are recommended but not required. While many deaf-blind people use sign language, there are many others who rely on speech or text as their primary modes of communication.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the SSP training participants will demonstrate the ability to:

- Describe the role and responsibilities of a Support Service Provider (SSP) when working with a deaf-blind individual.

- Describe at least four common etiologies associated with deaf-blindness and list possible functional implications for each.

- Describe at least three types of vision loss and how access to information about an individual's visual condition can better prepare the SSP to meet their needs.

- Describe the three main communication modes used by individuals who are deaf-blind and the various accommodations that may be needed to access their preferred mode/s of communication.

- Describe at least three alternative methods of communication that are used by deaf-blind individuals.

- Describe appropriate and respectful techniques for approaching and interacting with deaf-blind people.

- Provide human guide for an individual who is deaf-blind in various settings.

- Describe the differences and similarities between deaf-blind culture and other cultures

- Describe and demonstrate how to use at least three methods for providing visual and environmental information to a deaf-blind.

- Explain the policies and procedures an SSP working for HKNC would need to follow.

Applications and payment must be received by March 6th, 2020

Send payment to: **Professional Learning Department**
Helen Keller National Center
141 Middle Neck Road
Sands Point, NY 11050

Information: PLD@hknc.org
Phone: 516-944-8900 ext. 233
www.helenkeller.org/hknc

Registration: https://www.helenkeller.org/sites/default/files/docs/application_0.pdf

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