

Free & Low Cost Training Opportunities for Teacher Assistants in RI – April 2010

The following are organizations that provide free or low cost professional development on topics of interest to teacher assistants. These organizations self-identified through a statewide survey. Although the training offered is typically not geared specifically for teacher assistants only (that is, a variety of types of people attend), training content is considered to be appropriate for them. If you would like more information on these training opportunities such as training dates & locations or training costs, if any, please contact the individual organizations listed below. If you operate a program that is currently listed and you want to edit information OR if you represent a program that would like to be listed, send pertinent information to TAComments@RITAP.org.

Organization: Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center; Stanley Brown, Jr., Director; 435 Broadway, Newport, R.I. 02840; Ph: 847-7171; Fax: 847-0646; Rid04940@ride.ri.net.

Typical Topics (with Audiences & Comments): (1) **Computer Training - Internet, Windows, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint** (Adults); (2) **Educational technology**. Information presented in this handout is current as of February 2009.

Organization: Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Center; Sue Constable, Director; RITAP; RIDE; 255 Westminster Avenue; Providence, RI 02903; Ph: 222-8984; Fax: 222-6030; sue.constable@ride.ri.gov, visit the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) website at <http://www.ritap.org/asd>

Training Information: Look for statewide training in **Autism Spectrum Disorders (1 in 150)** offered on an ongoing basis. This professional development covers topics on structure and predictability, teaching social and communication skills, helping students access the general curriculum and dealing with students who present with challenging behaviors. Information presented in this handout is current as of February 2009.

Organization: CHILDSPAN, Lucia Ramos, Manager. 500 Prospect Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860. Phone: (401) 721-6400 (Jessica Baez, Administrative Assistant, 721-6419) FAX: (401) 727-2810, jbaez@childspan.net.

Typical Topics: Child Development, Ages and Stages, Conflict Resolution, Professional Development Planning, Working with Children and Youth with Challenging Behaviors, Engaging Families, Working with Children with Social and Emotional Difficulties, Child and Youth Development, Addressing Bias and Celebrating Diversity, Stress Management and Burn-out Prevention, Health, Nutrition, Safety, Playground Safety, Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention and Intervention, Ensuring Successful Transitions, Effective Bilingual Services, Teambuilding and Effective Communication. Information presented in this handout is current as of February 2009.

Organization: **American Sign Language Academy** - Manny Martin, program director at 222-7433, mannyteach2005@yahoo.com - is pleased to offer low-cost classes on Thursdays evenings. We have three semesters during the school year - fall, winter and spring - and summer sessions. See their website www.aslacademy.org. Summer Institutes, held during the day, are 2 1/2 days in length (16.5 hours of training). Students registering for 2 Institutes (one week) can apply for college credits. Institutes for credit involve additional time, study, testing and fees. Information presented in this handout is current as of February 2009.

Organization: Rhode Island Parent Information Network (RIPIN); Suzanne Tobin, Workshop Coordinator; 1201 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920; Ph: 270-0101 or 1/800/464-3399 x23; Fax: 727-4040; tobin@ripin.org or www.ripin.org.

Typical Topics (with Audiences & Comments): (1) **Basic Rights in Special Education** (Parents & Professionals); (2) **The Individualized Education Program with a focus on students 3 – 13 or Transition** (Parents & Professionals); (3) **Building Partnerships with Professionals** (Parents & Professionals); (4) **Understanding ADHD** (Parents & Professionals) (5) **Packing for the Future: Preparing for Life after High School** (Parents & Professionals); (6) **Basic Rights in General Education** (Parents & Professionals). See our website at www.ripin.org to view our Workshop and Technical Assistance Catalog and for our current workshop offerings. Information presented in this handout is current as of April 2010.

Organization: Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities; Mary Anne Pallack; 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908-1991; Ph: 456-8072 (voice), 456-8773 (TT); Fax: 456-8150; mpallack@ric.edu or www.sherlockcenter.org.

Typical Topics (with Audiences & Comments): (1) **Self-Directed Community Supports:** Managing Self-Directed Supports for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities - A Five Session. This is the first in a series of trainings the Sherlock Center will offer to family members and others interested in guiding individuals and families in using Self-Directed Supports through RI's Division of Developmental Disabilities. This training will address skills and tools needed to choose and manage the self-directed option. (2) **Supporting Meaningful Employment and Developing Work Based Learning** (Employment staff & School to Career Job Coaches, Job Developers, Etc. - offered in course format each fall. (3) The Sherlock Center **periodically sponsors state-wide conferences and workshops on disability related topics**. Visit the website to see current listings. (4) The Sherlock Center also sponsors **summer courses at RI College**. Information is typically posted on the Sherlock Center's website in April of each year...Information presented in this handout is current as of February 2009.