



Learning the Basics: Strength-Based Training on Developmental Disabilities *Abilities Network, Project ACT*

Location: Statewide

Funding: \$30,000 | \$22,600 Match

GOAL

Train and support child care professionals about how to support children with developmental disabilities.

SUMMARY

This project will develop, test, and put in place disability-specific trainings for child care professionals. The topics include:

- Down Syndrome
- Cerebral Palsy
- Seizure Disorders
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- Spina Bifida

Child care professionals want and need this information so they can better support children with disabilities to learn, play, and grow in child care settings with children without disabilities.

ACTIVITIES

- Develop 6 trainings about different developmental disabilities.
- Test the trainings with 20 to 40 professionals who will provide feedback about the information they learned.
- Revise the trainings, if needed.
- Work with the Office of Child Care at the Maryland State Department of Education to “license” the training. This will make sure professionals get credit for taking the trainings.
- Make the trainings available to child care providers statewide.

OUTCOMES

- Child care professionals have more knowledge and awareness about specific developmental disabilities.
- More children with developmental disabilities get the support they need to learn, play, and grow in child care programs with their peers.