

Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) Programs



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for Disabilities



Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND)

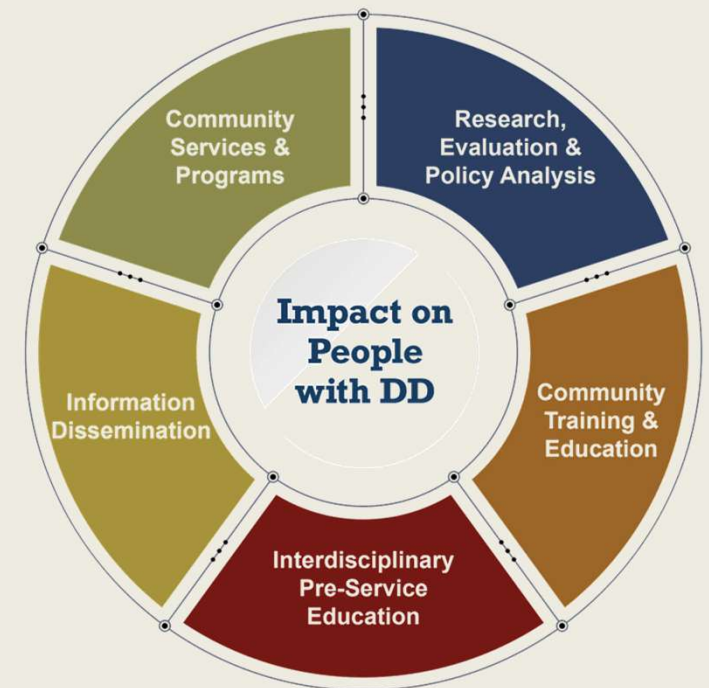
- Established in 1994
- Academic Unit, College of Health Sciences
- University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)



University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)

- WIND is one of 67 UCEDDs; at least one in each state and territory
- UCEDDs function as a bridge between the University and the community
- All UCEDDs focus on teaching, research, and service, specifically in terms of serving people with developmental disabilities
- Grantwriting to obtain funding for new projects to meet state needs is a priority for all UCEDDs

UCEDD Core Functions



WIND Mission

- The mission of the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) is to assist individuals with developmental and other disabilities and their families by promoting and supporting full community inclusion, community membership, independence, productivity and social participation.
- WIND strives to improve outcomes for individuals in the areas of health and wellness, education, early intervention, employment, community living, and assistive technology.
- Our work is guided by values of service, dignity, collaboration, and innovation.



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Consumer Advisory Council (CAC)

- Made up of people with developmental disabilities and their families (at least 50%)
- Also includes policy makers, service providers, and educators
- Leadership opportunity
- Responsibilities include:
 - Attending meetings and WIND events
 - Advise WIND on ways to build capacity of self-advocates and support networks
 - Share resources and ideas



Health Programs:

Wyoming Telehealth Network (WyTN)

Equality State Research Network (ESRN)

UW ECHO in Health

Inclusive Health & Disability



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Meet the Health Team



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Canyon Hardesty, MS

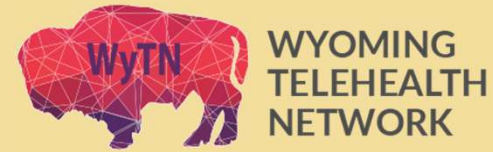
- Associate Director and Director of Community Education & Training
- canyon@uwyo.edu



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Telehealth



- The Wyoming Telehealth Network (WyTN) supports healthcare entities, providers, and specialists increase access to care and improve health outcomes for Wyoming residents, through:
 - Professional Development: education and training, technical assistance, resource sharing.
 - Collaboration: Facilitation of special interest groups & the Wyoming Telehealth Consortium
 - Leveraging Of Telecommunications Technology: access to free HIPAA-secured Zoom licenses

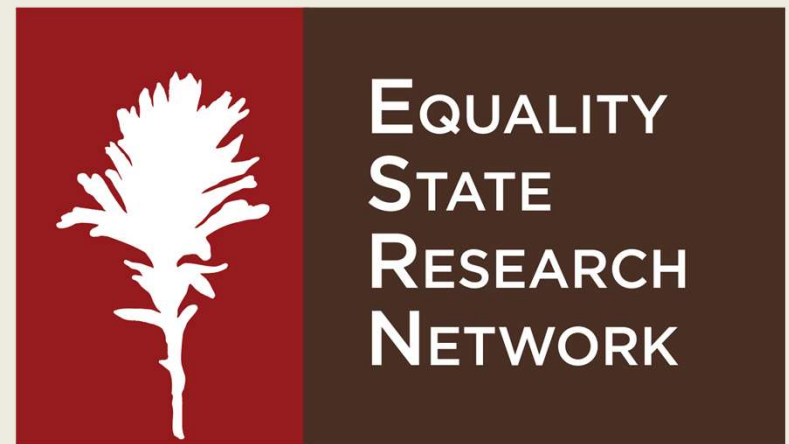


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Community Engaged Research

- A Community and Practice Based Research Network
 - works closely with partners across Wyoming to develop and answer research questions that are relevant to patient-centered outcomes.
- To identify actionable community health and education challenges.
- To develop and conduct innovative research that address those challenges.
- Improve community outcomes.



Inclusive Health & Disability

- Health and Disability is centered around understanding the separate and conjoined roles of disability and health helps to foster an inclusive community by promoting diverse abilities and optimal health for all.
- Healthcare Professional Trainings
 - Virtual Symposium
- Health Promotion Programs
 - Living Well in the Community
 - Friendship and Dating



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Education and Families Team



Cari Glantz

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Stephanie Wodahl

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Canyon Hardesty

- Associate Director and Director of Community Education & Training
- canyon@uwyo.edu



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Wyoming Family to Family Health Information Center

- Provides families of children and youth with special health care needs greater access to evidence-based and cost-effective health information, family supports, and training in order to promote optimal health and patient engagement in health care decision making.
- <https://www.uwyo.edu/wind/f2f/index.html>



Technology for Telehealth Devices

- Technology available for Wyoming families to offset the costs of technology and data for their children's (0-26) telehealth medical appointments.
- Telehealth is the use of technology to provide healthcare at a distance. This usually takes the form of video visits, but it can also include remote patient monitoring or phone calls.
- Qualifying families will be provided with a Samsung tablet and 60 days of service.



The ECHO Model



Amplification: Use technology to leverage scarce resources



Best Practices: Share best practices to reduce disparities



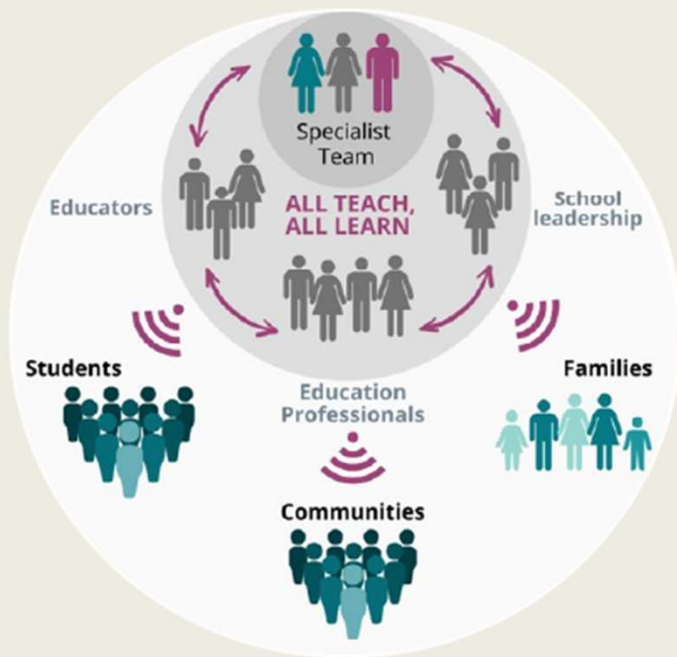
Case-Based Learning: Apply case-based learning to master complexity



Data: Evaluate and monitor outcomes



Project ECHO



- UW ECHO Networks provide ongoing support for educators, healthcare providers, and families in a rural state where specialized knowledge is not always locally available.
- Virtual communities provide opportunities for learning, advocacy, and mentorship through professional development presentations and case-based learning.
- Hub and spoke networks create knowledge learning loops where each participant is involved in the “all teach, all learn” approach.



Project ECHO Programs for Professionals

- Act Early
- Assistive Technology
- Autism and Positive Behavior Supports
- Autism for Rural Providers
- Early Childhood
- Families
- Integrative Care
- Student Health
- Project SCOPE (Supporting Children of the Opioid Epidemic)



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Case Presentations

- The case presentation is based on a real-life scenario and is an opportunity for a participant to request advice and recommendations from session participants.
- Opportunity to develop skills and best practices to improve access, quality and efficiency.
- Allows participants to learn through engagement and interaction with their peers and subject matter experts. Session participants can ask clarifying questions and provide feedback to the presenter to foster the “all teach, all learn” approach.
- Focus on a current issue or problem of practice
 - Agency, district, school, classroom, student, individual, stories of success



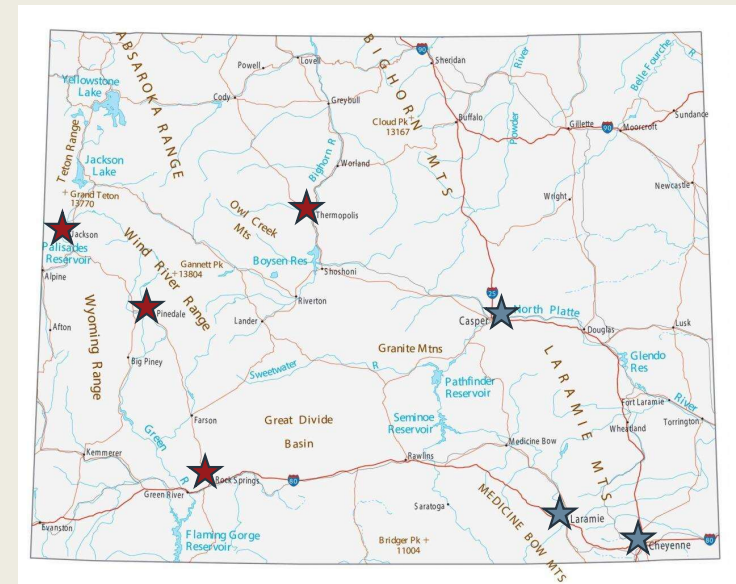
ECHO for Families

- ECHO for Families is a community that provides opportunities for **learning, advocacy, and mentorship** with families that have a child with developmental disabilities, autism, or other special healthcare needs. This network allows families to receive professional support and brainstorm evidence-based solutions or share successes with other families around the state and nation.
- Started in 2017 for supports for children with Autism
- Expanded to included children with special healthcare needs and developmental disabilities



ECHO for Families

- Wednesdays (bi-weekly), 12:00pm-1:00pm
- Host sites in Laramie, Cheyenne, Pinedale, Rock Springs, Thermopolis, Rawlins, Casper (Spanish), Jackson (English and Spanish)
- Live captioning
- Live Spanish interpretation
- Live ASL interpretation (as needed)
- www.uwyo.edu/wind/echo/families-autism/



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Community of Practice

- A group of people who “share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly. (Lave & Wenger, 1991)
- Webinar vs. ECHO
- Family-led
- Develop relationships
- Form coalitions
- Important in rural/frontier state



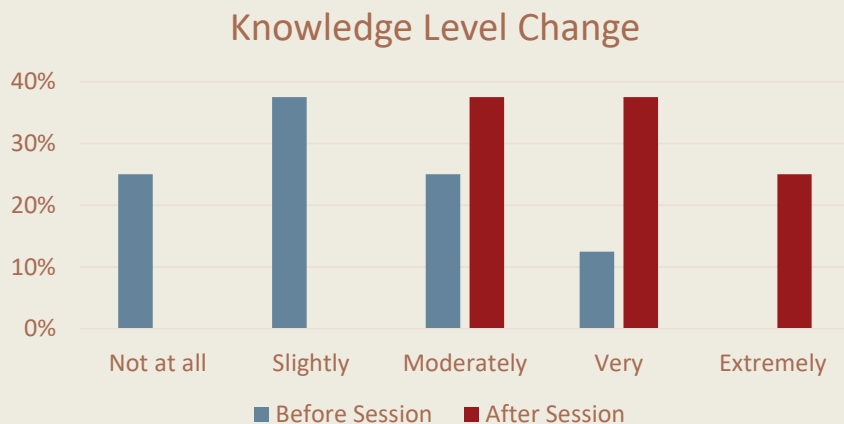
ECHO for Families Sessions

- Strengthening Families Protective Factors
- Parenting with Resilience
- Transition Planning and Workplace Readiness
- Behavior Supports
- Mental Health Supports
- Special Education Services (504s and IEPs)
- Healthcare Services
- Past sessions: <https://projectecho-wind.com/>



ECHO for Families Outcomes

- High satisfaction levels
- Knowledge level increases
- Likely to utilize knowledge and skills
- Confident in implementing knowledge and skills
- Positive impact on home/family life
- Increase family resiliency
- Sense of community
- Feeling of connection
- Likely to share information



ECHO for Families Impact

- “The ECHO sessions have been a great opportunity for families to connect, learn, and share.”
- “The information that was shared has provided me with new insights into ways of working with my boys.”
- “Thank you for everything. ECHO saved my family. Looking forward to another great semester of presentations. Spreading the word every chance I get.”
- “There is an opportunity to have a voice, to raise questions, and meet and work with other parents, family members and experts on topics that matter to me and my family – this is not a feature of most expert-led seminars or support groups.”



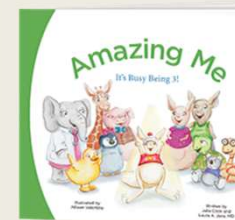
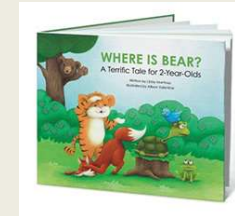
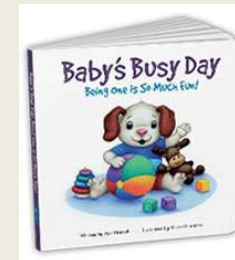
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Act Early

- Developmental Monitoring
- Developmental Screening



www.uwyo.edu/wind/wyactearly



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Why Monitor Development?

- Developmental disabilities are common and often not identified before school age¹
- 1 in 6 (3-17 years of age) has a developmental disability²
- 1 in 36 (8-year-olds) is estimated to have autism spectrum disorder¹
- Developmental disabilities are even more common among children from low-income households, with **1 in 5** children experiencing a developmental disability²



1. Maenner, MJ, et al. CDC, MMWR Surveillance Summary 03/2023
2. Zablotsky, B, et al, Pediatrics 2019



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Monitoring vs. Screening

Developmental Monitoring

- Who: Parents, Grandparents, Other Caregivers
- What: Look for developmental milestones
- When: From birth to 5 years
- Why: To help you:
 - Celebrate your child's development
 - Talk about your child's progress with doctors and child care providers
 - Learn what to expect next
 - Identify any concerns early



Developmental Screening

- Who: Healthcare provider, early childhood teacher, or other trained provider
- What: Look for developmental milestones
- When: Developmental - 9, 18, and 30 months
Autism - 18 and 24 months
- Why: To find out:
 - If your child needs more help with development, because it is not always obvious to doctors, child care providers, or parents
 - If more developmental evaluations are recommended

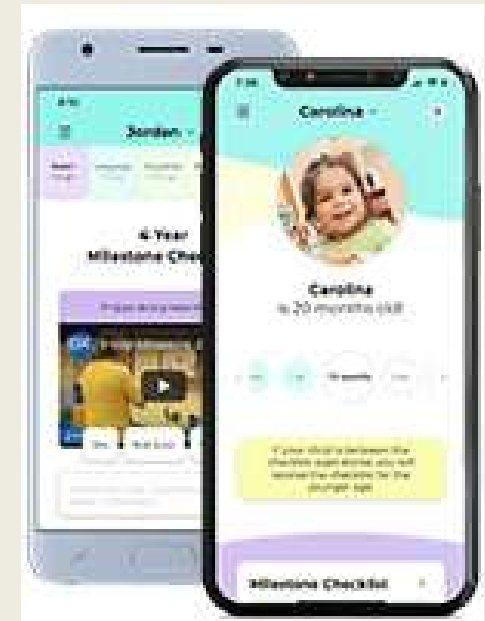


Act Early Milestone Tracker App

- A fun and easy way for caregivers and service providers to track a child's early developmental milestones. The app features interactive milestone checklists for ages 2 months through 5 years, with photos and videos to help recognize milestones, tips and activities for supporting early development, and it is an easy way to share developmental progress.



Download from the
App Store or Google Play



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Act Early Developmental Screenings

- It's essential for every child ages 0-5 to receive a developmental screening. Screenings enhance children's learning and development and are **free** across Wyoming.
- Find the child development service center nearest you and make sure your kids are on track for preschool, kindergarten, and to take on the world!



www.uwyo.edu/wind/wyactearly/screenings.html



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Watch Me! Training: Celebrating Milestones and Sharing Concerns

- Free, online training
- 1-hour, 4-module course focuses on:
 - Why monitoring children's development is important
 - Why you have a unique and important role in developmental monitoring
 - How to easily monitor each child's developmental milestones
 - How to talk with parents about their child's development
- Earn 1 hour STARS Credit or 0.1 CEU's
- www.uwyo.edu/wind/wyactearly/watchme.html



ECHO and Education Team Contact Information

- <http://www.uwyo.edu/wind/>
- Cari Glantz, cglantz@uwyo.edu



Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR)



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Wyoming Assistive Technology Resources (WATR)

- WATR promotes public awareness of and access to assistive technology (AT) in Wyoming.
- WATR is Wyoming's AT Act Program and serves Wyoming residents.
- Implemented by the Assistive Technology (AT) Act of 1998, as amended in 2004.



What is assistive technology (AT)?

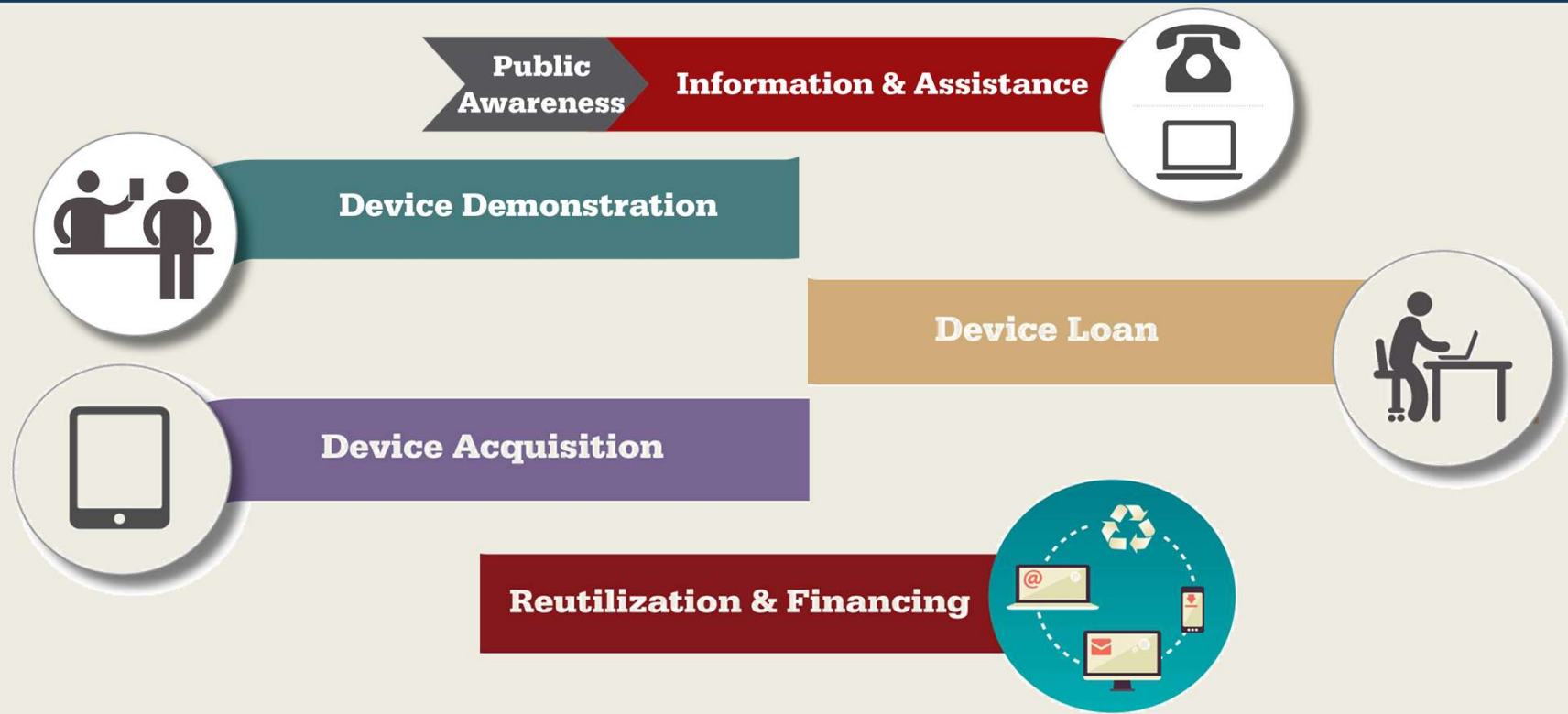
- AT is any device, tool, or solution that helps a person participate in life activities.

Examples include:

- Hearing aids
- Magnifiers
- Communication devices (AAC)
- Voice recognition (Siri, Alexa, OK Google)

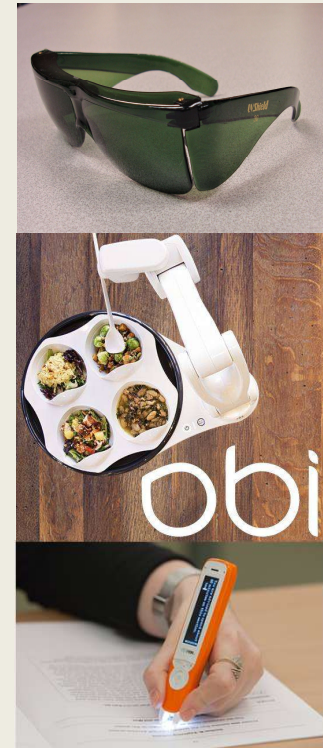


WATR Activities Promote...



Wyoming AT4All

- Search for:
 - Technology for short-term loans
 - Technology for sale from reuse
 - Durable medical equipment from the Anna Maria Weston Therapeutic Equipment Lending Library for long-term loans
- Make direct requests for technology
- List your own items for sale
- <https://wy.at4all.com/>



WATR Contact Information

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Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) information desk (307) 766-2761



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ECHO Outcomes and Impact

- “ECHO has been vital in sharing evidence-based information in regards to the School Nursing practice. I have had the opportunity to increase my knowledge and ask questions of speakers to help me grow professionally. The ECHO series is essential for rural continuation of learning. It is also very convenient that the delivery occurs during working hours so that my work and life are balanced. I have utilized the ECHO recordings when appropriate to send to my entire staff, who have appreciated the continued learning as well. I appreciate the efforts to bring information, case studies and experts to the Zoom platform. Thank you.”
- "I will be moving to a new position next year in which I will serve a large population of autism kiddos. I am very nervous, but now that I know about ECHO and the amazing network of resources it provides I am very excited!"



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ECHO Outcomes and Impact

- “We have a student who is needing outpatient treatment for addiction and we were not finding any place that could offer the services needed. After the ECHO, we contacted the organization sharing about their sources and services and were able to get the student services right away!”
- “I have appreciated the ease of access, the ability to network and interact with others about key early intervention issues. Topics that were most appreciated include: prenatal substance exposure, the Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) series training, parent coaching, AAC, etc. Keep it up, UW Project ECHO. Your impact is priceless.”



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Community Education and Training



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WIND Community Education & Training at wind-cet@uwyo.edu.



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Training for Waiver Professionals

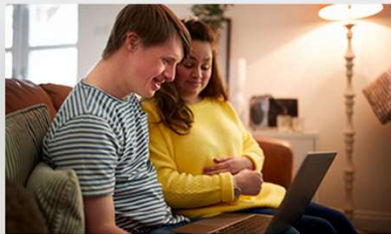
WAIVER SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS



CASE MANAGER TRAINING

The Wyoming Department of Health - Home and Community Based Services Unit and Wyoming Institute for Disabilities at the University of Wyoming are working with a team of case managers to develop a Wyoming case manager training launching in Spring of 2023.

Learn more about the timeline and ways to become involved



FRIENDSHIPS & DATING DSP TRAINING

The free online training is for members of an individual's support network interested in learning how to support the sexual health, safety, self-determination, expression, and rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Learn more about the web course



DIRECT SUPPORT SUPERVISOR LEADERSHIP COURSE

The Direct Support Supervisor Leadership Course is a 6-week, hybrid course designed to develop supervisor soft skills, strengths, knowledge and competencies around supervising direct support professionals.

If you are interested in having your employees take this course, please contact Canyon Hardesty at canyon@uwyo.edu.



<https://www.uwyo.edu/wind/waiver-support-professional/>



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Person-Centered Plans of Care – Case Manager Training

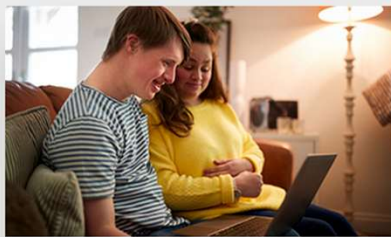
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Person-Centered Plans of Care Training

- The purpose of this training is to build case manager capacity and increase their knowledge and skills, supporting the Wyoming Department of Health commitment to quality services to Wyoming families.
- Course is Free and open to anyone including Family members, Support Providers, & Case Managers
- Co-developed with Wyoming Case Managers and WY HCBS
- Course is asynchronous and self-paced



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Course Topics

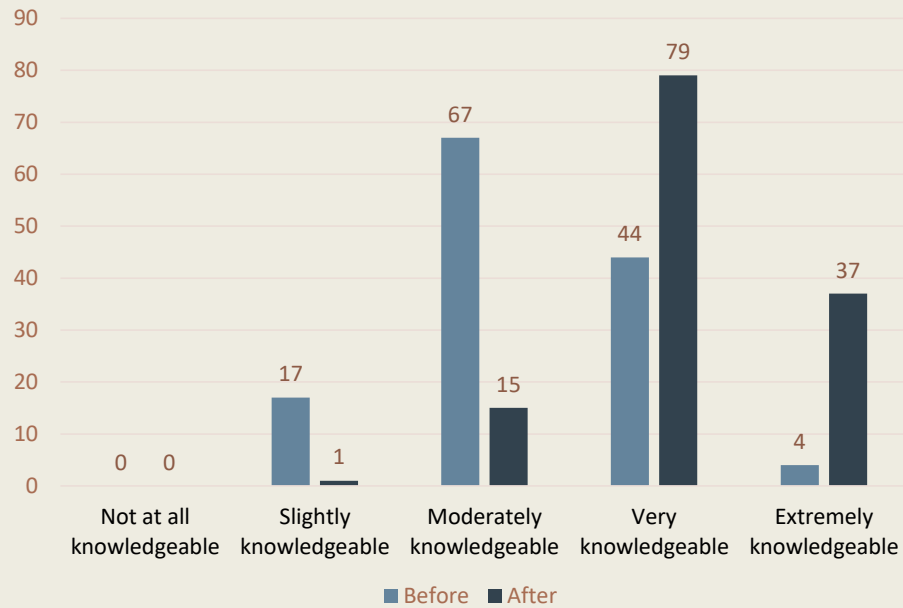
Build on the 5 Core Competencies identified by the National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems (NCAPPS).

- Strengths Based, Culturally Informed, Person-Centered Planning
- Rights, Choices, and Control
- Dignity of Risk and Right to Fail
- Cultivating Connections Inside and Outside the System
- Partnership, Teamwork, Facilitation, and Cooperation
- Assistive Technology & Remote Monitoring
- Person-Centered Plan Documentation, Implementation and Monitoring

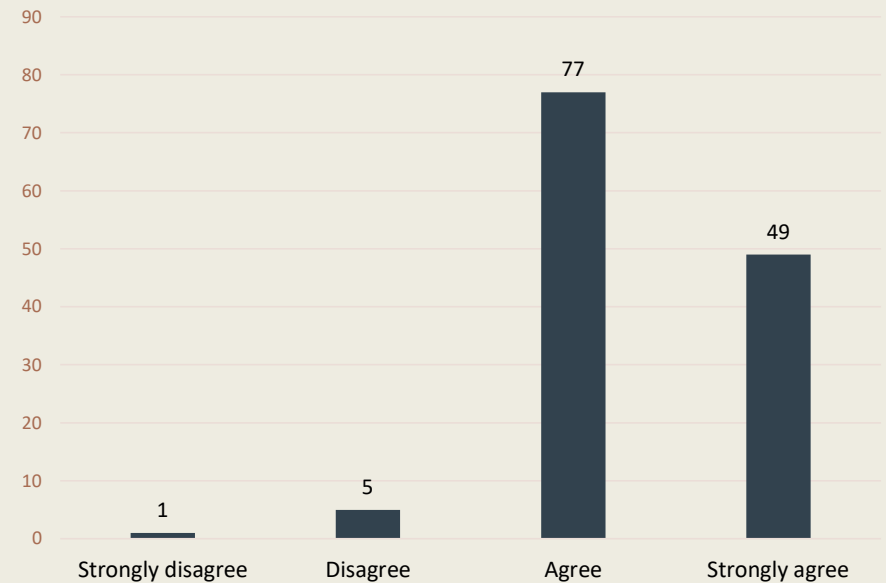


Impact of Training

How would you rate your overall knowledge of person-centered thinking and developing a person-centered plan BEFORE and AFTER this training?



My knowledge in person-centered planning and thinking has increased by completing this training



Change in Knowledge: Pre/Post Test

Pre vs Post Course Knowledge Test Mean Scores
July 2023-March 2024



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Sexual & Reproductive Health Support Training

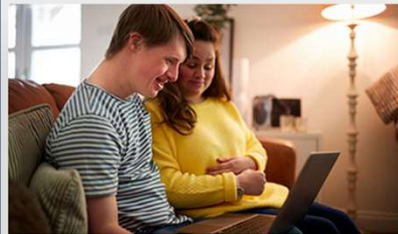
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Healthy Relationships - Training for Direct Service Providers

- Training for members of individuals' support networks (e.g. guardians, case managers, disability service providers, parents, family) to learn how to support the sexual health, safety, self-determination, expression, and rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is now available.
- Free and self-paced

Topics:

- Your role as a DSP: The NADSP Code of Ethics
- Introduction to Supporting Healthy Relationships
- Types of Relationships
- Communication
- Human Development
- Sexual Safety
- Abuse Prevention



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DSP Leadership Course

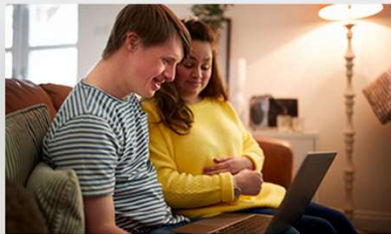
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Direct Support Supervisor Leadership Course

- The Direct Support Supervisor Leadership Course is a 6-week, hybrid course designed to develop supervisor soft skills, strengths, knowledge and competencies around supervising direct support professionals.
- Course is hybrid and requires staff to meet with WIND facilitator.
- There is a fee for this group training
- If you are interested in having your employees take this course, please contact WIND Community Education & Training at wind-cet@uwyo.edu.



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Community Living Team

Inclusion means that people with disabilities should be able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in their communities.



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Community Living Team



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Current Project : ICAP



- An adaptive skills assessment for people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and acquired brain injury
- Supports the Department of Health in determining the services and supports needed for community-based DD waiver services
- Provides us with (1) opportunities to build relationships across state, and (2) insights into the strengths and needs of the community service system for this population, so we can help address needs



Current Project: FASI



- An adaptive skills assessment being tested for its accuracy in identifying the “level of care” needed by people accessing services in community and institutional settings through Medicaid funding
- Assessments completed with 3 populations: three adults, children, and people living in nursing homes
- Study ending March 2025

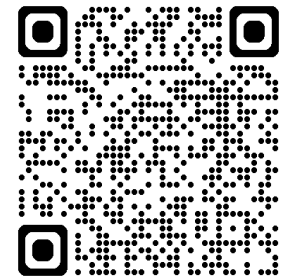


Community Living For All Newsletter

- Content:

- Self-Advocacy
- Provider and Family training or resources
- Community Engagement
- Statewide Resources
- Disability in Pop Culture

- Subscribe Now: <https://www.uwyo.edu/wind/community-living/signup-form.html>



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Questions?



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