



## **West Virginia Developmental Disabilities Council**

in conjunction with the Social Role Valorization Implementation Project

Presents

### **Medical Safeguarding Every Day, and In Time of Pandemic: a three-part series using video conferencing technology**

November 30, December 2, and December 4, 2020  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM each day

This workshop will be particularly helpful for **family members** and **human service professionals who accompany people with intellectual disabilities and/or other impairments** in obtaining medical care.

The workshop is inspired by the work of the late Dr. W. Wolfensberger of the Syracuse Training Institute, as well as on the practical experiences of clinicians, family members, and advocates. It explores the unpleasant and paradoxical reality that anyone who is hospitalized is exposed to grave dangers which jeopardize that person's health and safety. This is a reality for all ill people in the hospital, including valued citizens, but is especially ominous for people who are members of a socially disadvantaged class, including those who are elderly and/or impaired.

We offer guidance, from the perspective of an advocate, a nurse, and a person with a disability who manages her own practical care, for what is to be done to help ensure good outcomes. The workshop will offer some practical information and several examples of necessary guidelines and measures for protecting people in the hospital. It will also explore the practical challenges of supporting people during a pandemic, especially in light of the restrictive policies limiting patient accompaniment.

#### **Session 1: General Perils in Modern Hospitals**

Monday, November 30, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

#### **Session 2: Specific Perils Faced by People with Impairments in Hospitals, and What Can Be Done About It**

Wednesday, December 2, 2020, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

#### **Session 3: Protective Measures During Pandemic**

Friday, December 4, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

The workshop will take place using Zoom video conferencing technology. It will be presented in lecture format and will include opportunities for some discussion with the presenters.

Workshop fee: FREE

**CEUs:** Social work CEUs (8.5) have been requested. **Please do not plan to request CEUs for this workshop if you are unable/unwilling to participate using video with camera on.**

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

You should only register for this workshop if you can commit to attending all three sessions.

To register, send an email to [Linda.S.Higgs@wv.gov](mailto:Linda.S.Higgs@wv.gov) and include the following information:

**Name, Address, Phone Number, Email address, Organization (if applicable), or Family Member, and if CEUs are being requested.**

Once your registration information is received, you will receive an email confirming your registration in this workshop. One workday prior to each session you will receive the Zoom link and some information, including copies of some of the handouts for that session.

## PRESENTERS

**Jo Massarelli** is the Director of the SRV Implementation Project, a human service training and consultation concern based in Worcester, Massachusetts, where she teaches Social Role Valorization-based workshops and works with families, human service staff, and people with impairments to bring about positive change in people's lives. Jo has presented workshops and lectures across the United States, Canada, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Japan, to a variety of human service workers serving a wide range of people devalued due to mental impairment, mental disorder, physical impairment, age (elders) and poverty. Jo has a particular interest in advocacy in medical settings. She teaches a variety of workshops on protecting vulnerable people in the hospital, and on medical decision-making, and has co-written a manual based on these workshops. She is a member of the Medical Safeguards Project, which is a group of nurses and doctors in Massachusetts who are committed to safeguarding the health and lives of impaired people with significant medical needs. Jo is a longstanding member of the North American SRV Training, Development and Safeguarding Council.

**Cathy Ludlum** is an associate of the SRV Implementation Project working on the issue of the vulnerability of people with impairments in medical settings. She teaches workshops with Jo Massarelli on medical safeguarding and on demystifying assisted hydration and nutrition and what it is like to have a g-tube. Cathy's personal and professional activities focus on the inclusion of people with disabilities in all areas of community life. She has a lifetime of personal experience with disability issues and over 30 years of professional experience with person-centered planning, circles of support, development of individualized support systems, medical safeguarding, employment, and various forms of home ownership. She has spent her career writing, speaking, and facilitating meetings focused these areas and has published a number of articles and books including, most recently, *ONE Candle Power: Seven Principles That Enhance the Lives of People with Disabilities and Their Communities*. Cathy has been hiring personal assistants since 1988 and has lived independently (with support) in a housing cooperative in Manchester, Connecticut since 1992.

**Siobhan McKay, RN** is an associate of the SRV Implementation Project and has been involved in the Medical Safeguarding Program of Shriver Clinical Services Corporation since 2009. She is a strong advocate to ensure proper medical treatment and respectful care for people with disabilities. Siobhan is an educator for direct care staff, service coordinators, and nurses and often acts as a liaison between community medical providers for individuals with complex medical issues. Siobhan is passionate in her work and is most interested in ensuring dignified and equitable health care is provided to all in the community.