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DESCRIPTION OF A TYPICAL INTRODUCTORY PASSING WORKSHOP

This narrative is intended to be complementary to another February 2007 flyer called "Overview of PASSING" that explains the PASSING tool itself, and Social Role Valorization (SRV) on which it is based.

There are different ways of teaching PASSING. This is a description of a typical 4½-5 day Introductory PASSING workshop that involves participants in field experiences with two practicum service sites, as explained below. For information on upcoming PASSING workshops (dates, places, etc.), contact the Training Coordinator at the address above.

This workshop introduces trainees to the third (2007) edition of PASSING, which is a method for quantitatively and objectively assessing the Social Role Valorization-based quality of a human service. PASSING is especially applicable to services to impaired and/or other societally devalued persons, e.g., community residences, nursing homes, institutions, child development centers, special education programs, work-study programs, workshops, on-the-job training, psychiatric clinics, rehabilitation settings, welfare programs, etc. Settings such as these--but of a relatively uncomplicated nature--are evaluated by participants as part of an Introductory PASSING workshop.

The usual primary goals of such a workshop are to: (a) train participants in the implications of SRV to all human services; (b) enable participants to begin to develop competency as evaluators of service quality; (c) learn how to evaluate services against SRV criteria; (d) begin to identify and train potential evaluators and leaders for later training and implementation of SRV and PASSING; and, in some cases, (e) provide a common orientation to service quality and evaluation to people from the same agency or locale.

All participants at PASSING **must** first have participated in introductory training in SRV that usually takes 3 days, because an Introductory PASSING workshop is really advanced SRV training, and familiarity with SRV is taken for granted. Participants without SRV training would not understand the rationales behind some of the PASSING ratings, and would not apply PASSING properly. All participants should also have read the 1998 monograph by Wolfensberger that explains SRV, A Brief Introduction to Social Role Valorization: A High-Order Concept for Addressing the Plight of Societally Devalued People, and for Structuring Human Services, available from the Training Institute.

A PASSING workshop is conducted under the direction of a person highly experienced in and with PASSING, usually assisted by at least one other person of the same, or nearly the same, skill. These people are also called floaters, because they will "float" over several teams as each team does its work. Either before the workshop begins, or soon thereafter, registrants are assigned to small teams in preparation for the visits to the services to be assessed, which are called "practicum sites." Each team is under the direction of a team leader, who is a qualified individual who has had previous training and experience in PASSING. The team leaders are responsible for their teams' arrangements during the PASSING workshop, including the practicum site visits and the conciliation sessions, explained below.

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