

NEW ADVOCACY INITIATIVE

COMMUNICATION REMEDIATION for COMMUNITY LIVING (CRCL)

You are invited to support CRCL, a new Ottawa-based parent-led advocacy initiative that aims to create in a new flexible communication remediation program for community living.

Vision Statement:

Verbal and non-verbal adults will maximize their communication skills to enhance their personal independence, choice and social inclusion.

Mission Statement:

To create an effective communication remediation program for verbal and non-verbal adults (18+ yrs) that have moderate to severe communication deficits (verbal & written).

Target Client Group:

Verbal or non-verbal adults diagnosed with (but not limited) to DD, ASD or FAS - who require communication remediation for everyday living, including language, early literacy and numeracy, or the use of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems.

Program Model:

- Designed to serve the practical communication remediation needs of a wide range of learners while balancing effectiveness, availability and affordability
- A largely person-centered approach modified to reduce costs
- Part-time, community-based, with flexible three hour sessions that complement the learner's personal schedule (e.g. work, school or day programs) providing a choice of morning or afternoon sessions and an optional number of weekly sessions (whether 2, 3, 4 or 5 sessions per week per learner) to suit different budgets and circumstances
- 1:3 staff to client ratio and 45 minutes per session of intensive 1-on-1 instruction
- Instructors trained in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) methods would use an effective combination of proven tools and techniques

The Program would:

- Address a major gap in service - there is no similar program in Ottawa
 - Allow participants to continue their regular activities (e.g. work, school, day programs)
 - Be of particular benefit to those transitioning from high school
 - Support the mandate of other service providers involved with a CRCL learner by helping him/her to improve his/her communication skills with service provider staff
 - Be a fee for service program
 - Be consistent, in whole or in part, with the supports funded by MCSS such that clients could tap into available self-directed funding - including Passport and SSAH
 - Aim to make the program as affordable as possible by seeking funding from the government (MTCU, MCSS, MOHLTC) or community foundations
 - Be delivered by or in partnership with an existing service provider (if possible)
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To express your interest or to obtain additional information, or if you wish to contribute in the development of this initiative, please contact us at icommunicate@rogers.com, giving your name, email address or phone number.