

## Shore Educational Collaborative Learning Series

### Para-Professional Training

The goal of these sessions is to provide professional development for Para-professionals to increase knowledge of their role in the classroom, learn to modify the student's curriculum, and to recognize and respond to specific behavior strategies. Topic areas can be expanded or revised based on identified needs. *Note: PDPs will be awarded upon completion of the series.*

#### **Session 1 – What's your Role?**

There are many roles and responsibilities to the Para-professional job. This workshop will review those roles; define confidentiality and collaboration between the teacher / school and staff, and cover similarities and differences between the special education and general education Para-professional in the classroom through various scenarios, activities and worksheets.

#### **Session 2 – Johnny has What?**

The goal of this workshop is to identify and understand the various disabilities that are in our classrooms today. We will also teach about inclusion and your role in the classroom. Some, but not all of the topics that will be discussed are the autistic/pdd student, the gifted student, the unmotivated or angry student and strategies that you can use to recognize and assist such a student.

#### **Session 3 –Modifying Curriculum and your Role**

In this session, participants will draw upon the first two workshops, be given a specific diagnosis and subject and use their current knowledge for modifying lessons. The participants will also be given specific strategies to use and create their own worksheets to bring back and use in their classroom. This is a hands- on workshop that will allow participants to work with each other and draw upon the successful strategies to bring back to their classrooms.

#### **Session 4 – Why won't they listen to what I say?**

Using the knowledge from the past three workshops, the participants will now identify the variables to a student who is acting out and learn ways to respond. In this workshop we will introduce Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and how to recognize and utilize new strategies in behavior modification. We will review escalating signs, general interaction "do's and don'ts," ways to respond and de-escalate specific situations to use as resources to support your classroom and students.

#### **Session 5 – So What?**

This workshop will be a discussion of how each of the strategies learned in the past four sessions were applied in the classroom. How did students respond? What was the experience in the classroom? Did you feel more comfortable with the strategies learned? Sharing ideas and lessons learned from trying something new is essential to the learning process for all learners. The goal of this session is to continue the learning for Para-professionals and provide a forum to discuss how they will continue to incorporate multiple resources to support learning in the classrooms. The workshop will culminate with a group activity and participants will be given a resource guide to assist them in their current assignments.

