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ADVOCACY AMONG ADULTS: CHILD CARE'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Issue: This workshop will address the topic of the 1992 FICE-conference by deliberating on how to empower workers and staff members so that they may speak out on behalf of children and families whom they serve and on behalf of themselves as well.

Background: Advocacy is generic to any field of endeavour, but is particularly important to the role development of the line staff members of a residential care agency. This presentation will assist participants to assess the present status of public policies, to define the appropriate actions, and to identify the priorities to set in order to have successful advocacy experiences.

Barriers: The presentation will identify the critical barriers that can interfere with effective advocacy, and provide strategies to overcome ongoing difficulties. Participants will learn more about the nature of change process, the length of time it takes to make a change in policy, and the incrementalism of political action.

Stepping stones to success: The participants will become or continue to be advocates by building onto what they already know about their agency, about how to be part of a network, and by learning new strategies through which governments can be approached and engaged realistically.

Materials: A detailed outline of advocacy activities and a bibliography will be distributed during the presentation.

In dieser Konferenz geht es um die Öffentlichkeitsarbeit in der Heimerziehung. Wie können Mitarbeiter einer Einrichtung in die Lage versetzt werden, wirksam für die Interessen ihrer Institution und der Kinder und Familien, die sie betreuen, einzutreten? In dieser Veranstaltung sollen sie lernen, die politische Situation richtig einzuschätzen, Prioritäten zu definieren und entsprechende Aktionen zu planen. Anhand von Beispielen werden Strategien vermittelt, die realistisches und erfolgsorientiertes politisches Handeln ermöglichen.

Comment donner aux membres du personnel les moyens de sensibiliser l'opinion publique pour la cause du travail socio-éducatif, pour les problèmes des enfants et des familles pris en charge par nos institutions? Lors de cette conférence, les participants apprendront à mieux analyser la situation politique, à définir les priorités et à réaliser des projets d'actions adaptés. En partant d'exemples concrets, la conférencière présentera des stratégies réalistes qui promettent des résultats positifs dans l'action politique en faveur des enfants et adolescents défavorisés.