What Doesn’t Stay in Vegas
Distance Parent Education

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John Tracy Clinic

• Serves children 0-5 with HL and their families
• Provides education distance & onsite programs
  – ONSITE audiology, counseling, masters program
• Piloted training for professional mentoring
• Trying parent ed/support videoconferencing
Research Based

- Language growth of young children with HL is attained when
  - early identification is paired w EI that actively involves families
    (Mary Pat Moeller, 2000; Yoshinaga-Itano, 1999)

- Effective parent education/support should
  - focus on critical periods
  - build on parent strengths
  - be based on the relationship between parent behaviors and age appropriate child outcomes
    (Riley, 1994)
Videoconference Views
How it Looks
Check it out!

Pre:
• Visit once off site to meet families
• Pre/post calls between tech experts
• Pre/post calls between facilitators
• Handouts in multiple languages
• Designated room w equipment (2 sites)

Live:
• Sign in required for interaction
• Alert site they must answer
• Ask participants to come to mic
• Evaluations for parent input
Mentoring Support Leaders

- Observe at JTC
- Meet with mentor
- Participate in formal training
- Discuss parent centered approach
- Outline topics for parent ed
- Review adult education strategies
Teaching Methods

• Start with what they know
• Provide goal for session
• Offer specific information
• Facilitate workshop activity
• Apply strategies to their experiences
• Ask parents to practice at home
• Encourage sharing and questions
Parent Education
Comprehensive, Long Term Focus

• Topics in First Three of Six Modules
  – Language Development
  – How We Hear
  – HAs and CIs
  – Partnering with Audiologist
  – Communication Approaches
  – Building Blocks of Speech
  – Educational Planning
  – Informal Assessment
  – Books and Literacy
Equipment and Experts

- Web Ex
- Computers
- Mounted Cameras
- Webcam
- Microphones
- Texting phones
- FM systems
- Smart Boards
- Skype
- Media Savvy Troubleshooters*****
Using Interpreters

• Provide outline ahead of time
• Ask parents preferred view of ASL on camera
• Use FM onsite for spoken language
• Build in pauses for directions and responses
Results

• Coming to class and being able to ask questions has been nothing short of a miracle... I consider this group my family because they have me and my daughter hope and courage.   AD

• We got the support and education needed to help our children’s development... We are privileged this started in LV and hope in can happen throughout the US or the world!   NM
In the Families’ Words

• The benefits I have received through this are going to stay with me through the journey I am taking with my son and have helped me get a head start on what to expect. SA

• To sum it up, it is comfort, confidence, peace, and upliftment. I get the education I need as a parent to give my child what she needs to truly succeed. TM
Barriers

People

- Limited tech support
- Participants arriving late
- Meeting varied needs
- Time frames for two groups

Process

- Losing sound
- Pixilated picture
- Disconnect w/ offsite
- Videos not playing
- Incompatible systems
Date/topic/instructor_____________________________

1. Level of Interaction
   ____poor    ____okay    ____good    ____very good

2. Visual Effectiveness
   a. Solutions Tried
      ____poor    ____okay    ____good    ____very good
   b. Alt ideas

3. Audio Effectiveness
   a. Solutions Tried
      ____poor    ____okay    ____good    ____very good
   b. Alt ideas

4. Workshop Activity Effectiveness
   a. Alt ideas
      ____poor    ____okay    ____good    ____very good

5. Other Concerns

6. Follow-up Needed
Personalizing Learning

• Following a sequence
• Knowing your audience
• Narrowing the topic
• Providing guidance
• Refraining from comparing
• Assigning homework
• Having families share
• Following w support
• Maintaining same presenter/facilitators
Meet Our Families

Video: Enlisting Support

- Recognize their emotions
- Identify their values
- Describe their expectations
Future Collaboration

- Parents w/out services
- Families far from onsite
- Groups already meeting
- Grad student follow-up
- Cross agency initiatives

- Start small
- Find media people
- Experiment w tech
- Practice a day ahead
- Follow curriculum
- Provide strong support
What Has Worked For You?
EHDI Applications

- Distance ed is collaborative and cost effective
- Language learning is promoted early
- Path from identification to EI is parent-centered
- Parent education becomes pre, part and post EI
- A parent’s empowerment outlasts services
- Parent networking can strengthen EHDI system