

Unconferencing Topics – NTW 2010

Professional liability: facts and fears

AgrAbility professionals sometimes make recommendations that have potential risks to their customers. It is important to reflect on our obligation to provide responsible advice and on how to limit liability risks for ourselves. Come and discuss such issues as:

- When should you refer customers to someone who has more expertise?
- Are AgrAbility professionals covered by liability insurance, and should you purchase your own?
- What if you are called to be an expert witness?
- What are some real-life situations in which you've been concerned about your professional liability?

Tips and tricks for public awareness

Getting the word out about AgrAbility can be challenging but also rewarding and potentially enjoyable. There are multitudes of ways to reach the public. Share your experiences on topics like:

- How do you decide what types of public awareness activities to engage in?
- What are some strategies for "working the crowd" at a farm shows and similar venues?
- What are some avenues for free publicity?

Peer support: myth or reality?

Most people agree that peer support has great potential for serving AgrAbility customers, but sustaining a successful peer support program can be challenging and costly. The ad hoc Peer Support Community of Interest will lead a discussion that includes:

- How do you recruit peer supporters?
- What is the proper amount of training for peer supporters, and how do you accomplish it?
- Can you justify the time it takes to effectively organize and support peer support activities?

My experience with VR is...

State vocational rehabilitation programs provide essential funding to many AgrAbility customers. However, experiences with VR vary widely between SRAPs. Share your thoughts concerning:

- What are some of the positive and negative experiences you typically have with VR staff members?
- How do you improve positive outcomes for your customers?
- How do you form better relationships with VR counselors?

AgrAbility in cyberspace: the final frontier

The Internet has revolutionized communication and has the potential to make much greater contributions to AgrAbility. With so many options (websites, Facebook, Twitter) and so little time (you're an AgrAbility staff member, right?), how do we address such issues as:

- How can you maximize your project's web presence, and through what methods?
- If you build it, will they really come? How can you tell if they came? Did it matter that they came?
- What are some of the pros and cons of specific websites, such as the NAP site or your SRAP's? (The group can view sites during the session and provide constructive feedback.)