Parents’ coaching: an innovative tool in the reeducation of children with motor disorder

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PARENTS’ COACHING IN CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION

In many therapies and services for children with motor disorder, parents usually do not take part in the reeducation process. However, a lot of families face difficulties in the everyday care, and seek for support. Current recommendations advise inclusion of families in the reeducation process as well as their training and support. Furthermore, families are more and more in demand. At our center, CEC du Gard, we propose a center based holistic program for children with motor disorder, with the aim of guiding them to find active solutions for their everyday problems and to lead them towards the higher level of independence. The parents are actively involved in this teaching-learning process in the frame of a complete work of guidance, training and parental support to care to all issues related to their everyday life.

INNOVATION:
Parents’ coaching is innovative in France in the health and educational support around children with motor disorder. Parents’ coaching is a powerful tool to support parents and to give them the opportunity to assist their child in a more active and adequate way. Parents seek for this kind of support, as parents’ coaching assists them to find answers to everyday problems and solutions for everyday tasks.

INNOVATION IN THE WORLD OF CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION:
Parents were always involved in the teaching process in Conductive Education early intervention with young children in the beginners groupe, but around the age of kindergarten, children started their participation in the program without parents. However, often it’s after that age that children arrive to the reeducation center for an initial assessment, and so their parents have exactly the same everyday situations and problems as parents of much younger children. Today, in the international Petö Institut in Hungary, and in many other countries, (USA, NZ, Norway, and since 2009 in France), parents’ coaching is available for all families starting a conductive program.

AREAS OF FAMILY SUPPORT AT THE CEC DU GARD

CONDUCTIVE CENTER

- Center based conductive program with parents’ involvement
- Parents’ coaching
- Innovation: shared schooling system with national mainstream education (training of teacher aids, visits in class)
- Parents’ support group
- Advice and guidance for social reintegration (family and child)
- Regular meetings with family members for re-assessments, and for individual aims and tasks
- Contact with other professionals working around the child
- Orthopedic aids, shoes and boots with corrections at the centre
- Positive parenting and assistance methods for improving the quality of the everyday life in family

ENVIRONMENT

- Find support from other parents
- Find support from the team
- Have individual aims and tasks that they can apply at home
- To have constructive and realistic expectations
- Assist their children in a more adequate way
- Be more confident in their own ability to support their children in everyday life and in the learning process
- Discover and understand the potential of their children
- Find their role as a parent
- Discover and understand the potential of their children
- Have individual aims and tasks that they can apply at home
- Find support from the team
- Find support from other parents

IN WHICH DOMAINE HAVE THE SESSIONS AT CEC DU GARD HELPED YOU AS PARENTS?

In our sessions at CEC du Gard, we have gained trust in our child, and in his abilities to, but also in ourselves, in our abilities to give him a greater autonomy. We now have a different view of disability and our parent-child relationship has grown stronger.

INTEGRATION WITH SHARED SCHOOLING & CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Integration in mainstream or special education with Conductive Education follow-up

ОР PERMANENT

Conductive Kindergarten program (ADVANCED GROUP WITH INTERVAL OR PERMANENT PARTICIPATION)

Early Conductive Education (BEGINNERS’ GROUP)

ADVICE FOR ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

RESULTS

According to the results of our questionnaire, parents’ coaching in the Conductive Education program helps the families to:

- Find their role as a parent
- Discover and understand the potential of their children
- Be more confident in their own ability to support their children in everyday life and in the learning process
- Assist their children in a more adequate way
- To have constructive and realistic expectations
- Have individual aims and tasks that they can apply at home
- Find support from the team
- Find support from other parents