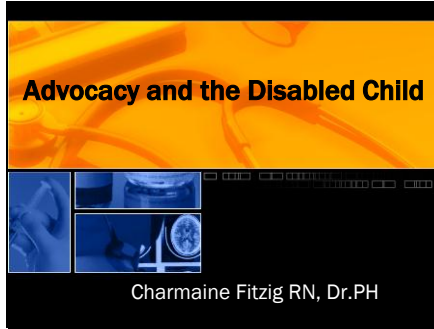
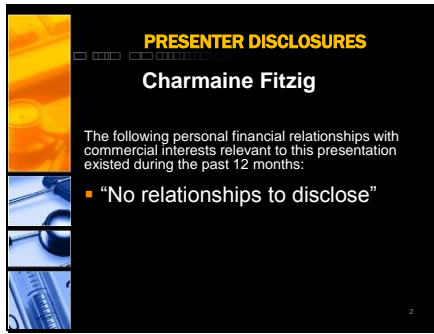


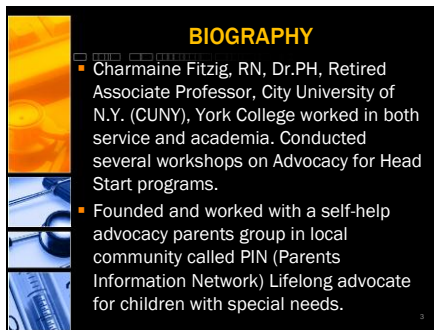
Slide 1



Slide 2



Slide 3



Slide 4

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the presentation the participants will be able to:

- Understand the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA 1990).
- Define the role of advocacy.
- List at least two (2) specific activities parents, nurses and teachers can implement to be effective advocates for children who are physically disabled.

Slide 5

THE SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD

- The birth of any child is challenging
- ...but for the birth of a special needs child, the challenge is greater.

Slide 6


THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

- About 52.1 million or 18% of the American Population are disabled,
- ...and within that population it is estimated that 17% of U.S children are born with disabilities that result in development delays.

Slide 7

DIAGNOSIS


- When the diagnosis of a special needs child is made, the health care team immediately has three clients or patients to consider...
- the birth parents,
- the adoptive parents,
- the special needs child.



Slide 8

THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM


- Whether the diagnosis of a disability is made at birth or later, the process and actions needed to respond to the crisis is the same. Before I continue, I need to share some definitions with you:



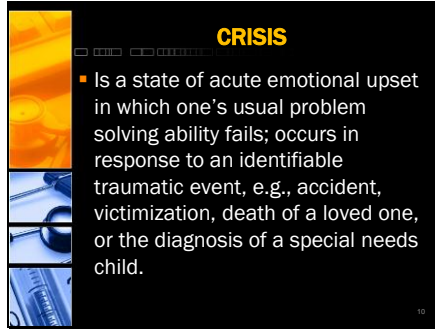
Slide 9

ADVOCACY

- Is the action of speaking or writing on behalf of someone else and using persuasion in support of another.



Slide 10

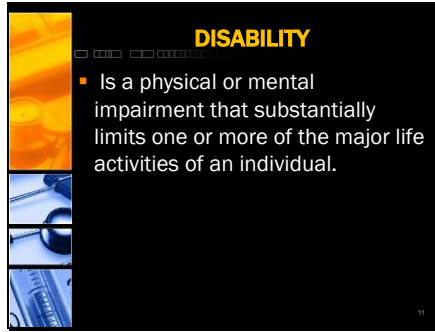


CRISIS

- Is a state of acute emotional upset in which one's usual problem solving ability fails; occurs in response to an identifiable traumatic event, e.g., accident, victimization, death of a loved one, or the diagnosis of a special needs child.

10

Slide 11

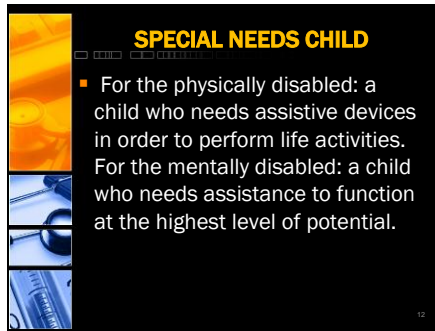


DISABILITY

- Is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual.

11

Slide 12



SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD

- For the physically disabled: a child who needs assistive devices in order to perform life activities.
For the mentally disabled: a child who needs assistance to function at the highest level of potential.

12

Slide 13

ASSESSMENT OF STRENGTHS

- One of the first activities the health care team completes is an assessment of the family members. This includes the strengths and needs of each family member.
- The strengths of the bonds between the parents and the identification of the specific needs of the child involved.

Slide 14

ASSESSMENT OF STRENGTHS
(continued)

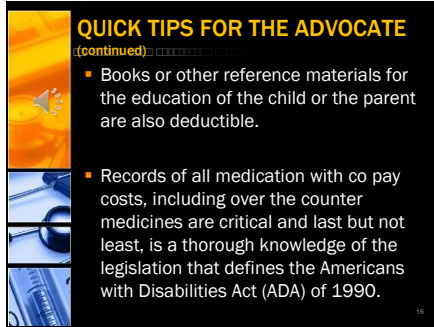
- Although each special needs child is unique in terms of services needed, there are a number of actions that are common to all.
- The health care team assists the family in assigning specific activities to each family member and one member is designated as the coordinator. [Give examples]

Slide 15

QUICK TIPS FOR THE ADVOCATE

- Keeping records is important. A large calendar with space for noting medical and other appointments by date is an absolute must.
- If private transportation is used for travel to appointments the mileage is necessary. If public transportation is used, keep a record of carfares. Lunch or supper costs, companion or parent accompanying disabled child is deductible on income tax.

Slide 16



QUICK TIPS FOR THE ADVOCATE
(continued)

- Books or other reference materials for the education of the child or the parent are also deductible.
- Records of all medication with co pay costs, including over the counter medicines are critical and last but not least, is a thorough knowledge of the legislation that defines the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

16

Slide 17



REFERENCES

- Day, L. (2006) Welcome to your crisis. New York, Little Brown and Co.
- Hoff, L.A., Bonnie J. Hallisey and Miracle Hoff (2009), People in crisis. (6th ed.), New York, Rutledge

17
