

Mark Olson
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Professional Experience

- 2007-Present Institute on Community Integration
Project Coordinator
- Provide training and technical assistance in Active Support to two State consortia.
 - Provide training and technical assistance to agency staff in Active Support.
 - Organize and translate research for use on Self Advocacy Online web page.
 - Supervise three employees.
 - Assist in administration of College of Direct Support Minnesota site.
 - Maintain social media presence for products.
 - Provide technical assistance to special education departments in a nine state region on meeting Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.
- 2000-2007 Arc Greater Twin Cities
Advocate, Adult and Self-Advocacy Services
- Provide advocacy for persons with disabilities and their families related to service issues they may experience with service providers, government entities or the greater community.
 - Promote Opportunities that empower people with disabilities to speak for themselves.
 - Guide the development and implementation of self-advocacy groups in provider organizations and communities.
 - Educate the community on disability related issues and promote inclusion of people with developmental in all aspects of community life.
 - Lead the movement to professionalize the direct support workforce using the Arc advisory committee and by co-chairing the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals and the Minnesota Direct Support Initiative.
 - Coordinate voter education and outreach to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- 1998-2000 Owobopte Inc.
Rehabilitation Case Manager
- Provide direct support to 30 persons with disabilities in meeting their vocational goals.
 - Insure that individual programs and files meet governing regulations.
 - Provide education and support to employers of people with disabilities.
- 1985-1998 Opportunity Partners, Inc.
Team Leader
- Supervise team of 8 direct support professionals providing daily living and employment skills to persons with developmental disabilities.
 - Insure programming provided meets governing regulations.
 - Hire, train, and appraise staff to ensure that quality services are provided.
 - Coordinate scheduling of individuals twice yearly to meet individual program choices and goals.
 - Manage and oversee \$40,000 budget.
 - Serve as liaison with contracted service providers in occupational therapy and speech language pathology to ensure all are actively involved as members of the company team.
 - Provide direct support to persons with developmental disabilities.

Education

Bachelor of Arts, 1984
University of Minnesota, Morris
Major: Elementary Education Minor: Music

Community Leadership and Distinctions

- Chair State Advocacy Committee, American Heart Association Minnesota Chapter current.
- Vice President, Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis 2008-2009.
- Board President, National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals 2001-2009.
- Chair, Richfield Human Rights Commission 2004-2008.
- Chair, Direct Support Professional Association of Minnesota 1997-2004.
- 2002 Adaptive Recreation Learning Exchange Outstanding Service Award.
- 1997 Point of Contact Award American Association on Mental Retardation, Minnesota Chapter.