

Practicum for Module 70 – Aging and DD (4/21)

Name (please print): _____

Date: _____

This practicum measures how you apply the knowledge and skills you learned from module 70: Aging and Developmental Disabilities to the supports you provide.

Instructions:

- Complete Work Samples A, B, and C.
- **Use as much room as you need to explain each answer fully. You may attach or use additional pages if needed.** The amount of space in this document is not an indication of the length of your answer. However, the quality of the content is more important than the length. **Please type your answers if possible.**

Your work sample should demonstrate your knowledge and skills in this competency area. Try to convey how your communication support makes a positive difference in the person's life. Explain how the strategies you use help the person solve problems or meet a goal/outcome important to him/her.

There should be enough detail in your description to allow the person who reviews your work to evaluate whether or not your support demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and values of the skill standard. The support you describe in your explanation must be best practice approaches based on what you learned in the *Aging and Developmental Disabilities* training module and other training related to this topic and consistent with the NADSP code of ethics.

Your work will be evaluated on the following scale:

1. Practice-BASIC mastery of knowledge and skills
2. Proficient-INTERMEDIATE mastery
3. Advanced-FULL mastery

For North Dakota DD certification, this practicum must be evaluated at "Practice" level or better. If the evaluation of your work sample indicates that more information is needed, the practicum will be returned to you with comments on how you can improve your work sample before you resubmit it. *Note: If you plan to submit this practicum for NADSP credentialing, a "Proficient" level of mastery is required on at least three of four work samples. You will also be required to complete a Reflective Statement for NADSP submissions. NADSP credentialing is optional.*

Work Sample A: Recognizing Changes

1. Describe a person you support. Include their gender, age, communication method, mobility, level of support, types of support provided by the agency and others in their life, and other important information about the person.
2. Have you or others recognized any recent changes in the person that could be related to aging? If so, describe.
3. Based on their particular communication style, level of support, mobility, etc. how might this person exhibit or express that they are experiencing changes in the following:

Vision changes-

Hearing difficulty-

Gastrointestinal/swallowing discomfort-

Muscle changes/joint discomfort-

Memory or mental health-

Work Sample B: Adjusting Supports and the Environment

Think about the people you support and consider how you might adapt to accommodate the following:

1. How would you change your supports if someone is...?

- a. Not responding to you when you greet them-
- b. Repeating the same questions over and over-
- c. No longer able to button the buttons on their shirt-
- d. Becoming angry when prompted to get dressed-
- e. No longer wanting to participate in their usual activities-

2. How would you adjust the person's home environment if they...?

- a. Can no longer open their bedroom door-
- b. Become angry or confused when seeing their reflection-
- c. Experienced redness on hands due to hot water from faucet-
- d. Recently tripped on their bathroom rug-
- e. Get easily agitated when around others or in shared spaces-

Work Sample C: Transitions

Think about a person you support that has a job. This could be a job in the community for which the person is paid, a volunteer activity, or day programming activities.

1. What is the person's age?
2. What type of job, volunteer, or day program is the person involved in?
3. Is/should retirement be considered?
4. For what reason is retirement being considered? Age? Health reasons? Personal choice?
5. Based on your knowledge of the person, how might the following areas of the person's life be impacted by retirement?
 - Social supports
 - Recreation
 - Daily Routine
 - Financial
 - Home environment
 - Family