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Parents Helping Parents

Graceful Speech

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# Special Needs Populations

Adults & Assessment Issues

# Introduction

- Worked with all ages and types of development
  - **YMCA camp counselor**
  - **DSP tutor at Evergreen Valley College**
  - **Internships**
    - Agnews Developmental Center
    - Los Gatos Community Hospital
  - **Eiken Academy English Conversation School**
  - **La Mariposa Rehabilitation Center & SNF**
  - **Kaiser Permanente Vallejo (Home Health)**
  - **Via Rehabilitation Center**
  - **Graceful Speech**
- Supervise at San Jose State University



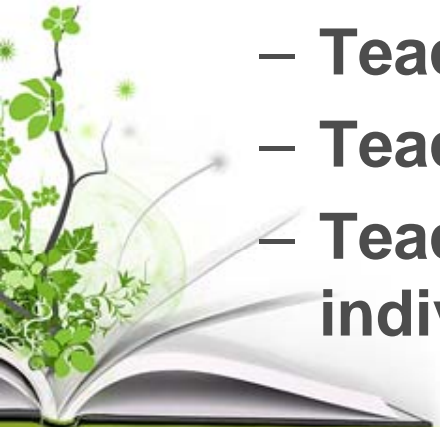
# Needs of Adults

- Adults with special needs are like other adults
- Are individuals with their own unique dreams and goals
- Must be treated with respect and dignity
- Should have a choice
- Have their own life experience
- Need to know their rights



# Early Needs (5 to 12 years old)

- Early needs depend on the age of the individual
- Learn and advocate for your child's rights
- Keep good written records
- In general:
  - **Set 1 year and 5 year goals for your family**
    - Set two or three 1 year goals
    - Set nine or ten 5 year goals
  - **Teach tasks that can become hobbies or job skills**
  - **Teach reading and communication skills**
  - **Teach independence so that the family and individual can take breaks from each other**



# Now (if child is already 12 or older)

- Set immediate goals, 1 year goals, and 3 year goals
- Make an inventory of all self help and academic skills
- Start mentoring for a hobby
- Practice separation for short periods
- Seek information about job, housing, and program matches
- Plan to keep your child in an educational setting as long as possible (up to 22, then a community college)



# Short and Long Term Future

- Short term
  - **Assess family resources/needs**
  - **List individual desires**
- Long Term
  - **Job plan**
  - **Housing plan**
  - **Trust and estate plan**



# Local Programs

- San Andreas Regional Center
- PACE (Pacific Autism Center for Education)
  - **Group homes**
  - **Education**
- Morgan Autism Center (PreK to 22 years)
- Camp Costanoan (ages 5 to 30)
- California Department of Rehabilitation (<http://www.dor.ca.gov/>)





# Thank You!

[www.gracefulspeech.com](http://www.gracefulspeech.com)