

Vita Community Living Services
Essential Aspects of Dual Diagnosis:
Supporting aging individuals with a developmental disability and mental health
issues in long term care

Agenda

By the end of the three modules, participants will be able to:

Module 1 - The Nature of Dual Diagnosis

- understanding “dual diagnosis” and the reasons for developing a mental illness
- recognize attitudinal biases
- identify circumstances that provide optimum well being and resilience

Module 2 - Syndromes & Diagnostic Features

- recognize the flags of an emerging mental illness
- be aware of genetic syndromes and know their relationship to psychiatric phenotypes
- understand how mental illness presents itself in this population
- be familiar with the most common mental health issues within this population

Module 3 - Assessment & Treatment

- know and access the appropriate resources
- develop a comprehensive assessment using the “Biopsychosocial Model”
- understand treatment options
- utilize concrete strategies for managing a crisis

This is an introductory course to dual diagnosis.

Upon completion of this course you will have a better understanding of:

- the most common mistakes when interpreting your clients’ behavior
- the role of the support staff in preserving mental health of developmentally delayed individuals
- the complexity of making accurate diagnosis
- your role as a primary support in assessing the diagnosis of your client
- the importance of early diagnosis
- steps that need to be taken in order to assist a psychiatrist in reaching accurate diagnosis

DUAL DIAGNOSIS WORKSHOP

NAME:

LEAD AGENCY:

DATE:

We appreciate your reply to this questionnaire to better support the needs of your agency and the individuals you support.

Do you presently support individuals with Dual Diagnosis?

List some of the diagnosis you support?

In what capacity are you supporting the individuals?

Has there been any internal or external courses offered to staff focusing on Dual Diagnosis?

If yes, please list the names of the courses that were offered?

What material would you find beneficial regarding Dual Diagnosis course?

Additional comments:

Thank you for your time

Dunja Monaghan and Emily Romita

