



CHL Professional Development & Technical Assistance

HIV Positive Speakers Program **Speaker Training Description**

The audience for this training consists of HIV infected individuals who are willing to participate as independent educators through CHL. Some have many years of experience with this type of work and others have no experience. The group is diverse by gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, education level, literacy and personal stories of risk. All participants are pre-screened before the training for their willingness to be coached and risk personal confidentiality, restrict their story to the aspects that reach educational goals and work within this system.

The training is designed to increase the participant's confidence, comfort and ability to provide this courageous and sometimes unnerving education. The training recognizes the impact this type of education can have on young people and provides support from other role models, and an opportunity to practice the speaker role. This training is also designed to increase professional speaker skills, including managing the expression of personal opinions, sharing the parts of their story that teach and omitting the parts that don't, respecting and holding professional boundaries and working effectively in the system created.

A seasoned facilitator addresses the training objectives through presentations, video, speakers telling their stories, questions and answers with more experienced speakers, individual and group exercises, storytelling activities, and a story draft that gets created, revised and honed during this time. This draft will eventually be the document that is kept on file for the coordinating agency to refer to if needed.

Training Objectives

After the two day training, the participant will be able to:

- Link the effects of their stories to the prevention research and the goals
- Seek answers to their questions from more experienced speakers
- Distinguish between the parts of their story that meet goals and those that don't
- Write a part of their story using techniques that capture audience imagination
- Organize the parts of their story that meet the goals into a cohesive unit
- Re-state opinionated, biased responses into ones that take people's diversity into account
- Distinguish their role as a visiting speaker from that of the teacher, referral sources and other supporters of the youth in the classroom
- Rehearse the steps in the system that they will be working in to secure a speaking engagement
- Provide needed information for CHL to coordinate the scheduling of engagements

For more information on the design of the training please contact: info@healthandlearning.org