**IEP Facilitator Training**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content of the** **3-Day Certification Program:*** IDEA Critical Basics
* Facilitation versus Advocacy
* Group Dynamics
* Constructing Productive IEP Meetings
* Convening Productive IEP Meetings
* The Business of IEP Facilitation
* Facilitating Open Discussions
* Invaluable Tools of the Trade
* Matching Resources to Resistance
* Resolving Impasse
* Facilitator Challenges
* Ending a Facilitated IEP Meeting
* Closing Facilitation
* The Closure Letter
* Understanding Your Role
* Continuing Education
* Practice, Practice, Practice….
* Self-Assessment and Feedback
 | **Facilitated IEPs*** Keep the meeting focused on the needs of the student
* Ensure that everyone at the table has a voice
* Encourage active listening by all the participants
* Keep the group from getting stuck on just one part of the IEP
* Help team members stay on task and on time
* Help teams develop mutually acceptable IEPs
* May be used for any IEP team meeting including: initial, annual, re-evaluation, review, revision
* Use an impartial facilitator who doesn’t take sides, place blame or impose decisions on team
* Are a promising best practice used by other states for early dispute prevention
 |

**Benefits of Facilitated IEP Meetings**

* Build and improve relationships among IEP team members
* Model effective communication and listening
* Clarify points of agreement and disagreement
* Provide opportunities for team members to resolve conflicts if they arise
* Encourages teams to identify new options for unresolved problems
* Less stressful than formal proceedings
* Supports follow through and follow up by team
* Does not require a separate meeting to formalize agreements