LifePath, Inc. Lehigh Valley Center Bethlehem, PA

Robert Madden: Occupation - Behavior and Training Specialist, LifePath, Inc.

Earned a B.S. Special Education/Elementary Education from Kutztown University, Kutztown PA 1983.

Currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Special Education at East Stroudsburg University, East Stroudsburg, PA.

Experience and Employment History:

Robert Madden has worked in programs serving people with mental retardation for almost 20 years. Robert obtained his first job working in a group home in 1978, while he was a seinor in high school. Upon Graduation from high school, he enrolled in the Special Education Department at Kutztown State College (now Kutztown University).

While in college, Robert continued to work in community group homes for people with mental retardation. Upon completion of his degree, Robert worked at a sheltered workshop for people with mental retardation. He then worked at the Woods School (an institutional setting for people with mental retardation) in Langhorne, PA.

After moving to the Lehigh Valley, Robert was employed as Behavior Technician by the Northampton County Behavior Shaping Core Team. He left the Core Team in 1989 to become a Behavior and Training Specialist for LifePath, Inc. (Formally Community Foundation for Human Development).

In his duties as behavior and training specialist, Robert provides training and technical assistance in working with challenging behaviors to LifePath staff as well as staff from other agencies providing services to people with mental retardation. Robert has given training to staff members in day program from the Lehigh County chapter of The ARC. He also participated in the orientation program for camp counselors at The ARC's Camp Friendship (serving children with mental retardation). Robert supplies ongoing training sessions to graduate students working in residential and vocational programs provided through Lehigh University. Robert has met with members of the Hellertown Police Department to imporve the officer's awareness in working with people with mental retardation living one of LifePath's local group homes. Robert also presented training to community members at the "I Belong Here" conference in Allentown, PA.