



Empower and inspire your members by involving them in the creation and facilitation of aphasia community groups
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Take 5 minutes to answer the questions below. We will share as a group.

Discussion and Sharing:

<p>What groups do you think are (or could be) the most successful in your program?</p>
<p>Why are these groups successful or how do you measure that success?</p>
<p>Do your members participate in choosing or creating new groups? How do they participate? (Aphasia friendly surveys, votes, gestures etc.) ?</p>
<p>Do you have any members that have expressed interest in facilitating a group?</p>
<p>Share one group that was created, facilitated or completely supported by a pwa? What are your thoughts, ideas and "Ah-Ha!" moments from this group?</p>

Plant the seed, empower and grow the group:

Steps:	Tools/ideas/resources:	Timeline :	Results:
<p>1. Identify at least two PWA who may be interested in leading a group or who have expressed interest in sharing a hobby, skill or interest with others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation with pwa • Add info to Intake form (hobby, interest:_____) • Use existing material such as : All about me/Narrative Story Group or discussion • ALA (assessment with living with aphasia) • Talk with team/family for ideas • Support Group discussion • Utilize students/volunteers and SCA techniques • Survey members 	<p>Who do you have in mind:</p> <p>Timeline:</p> <p>Staff/volunteer responsible:</p>	
<p>2. Invite this person to sit and talk with you or about their hobby, interests or idea for a group.</p> <p>3. Goal: Leave with at least one special interest, hobby, idea from the meeting and if PWA would like to share this interest/activity in group. Examples: comic book, bible study, knitting group, genealogy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize LIV cards • Scrapbooks or personal devices • oxford picture dictionary • ALA (assessment of living with aphasia) • Discussion with SCA techniques • Personal device: ex. app inkflow, photos, maps, pinterest • Trained volunteers and students • Utilize- Interest sheet provided 	<p>Meeting scheduled for:</p> <p>Person(s) responsible:</p>	

Steps:	Tools/ideas/resources:	Timeline :	Results:
<p>4. If yes, invite the PWA to start or facilitate in a group about: _____.</p> <p>5. Set up initial meeting to discuss.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask member to bring in any photos, objects, books, equipment to teach you about_____. • Discuss topic, ideas for group and role of pwa • Discuss any material they may need for group • Ask “How can I support or help? Or “You are the expert on____. I am here to help. What can I do?” use aphasia friendly strategies and supports. 	<p>Meeting scheduled for:</p> <p>Person(s) responsible:</p>	
<p>6. Set bi-weekly or weekly meetings with the PWA. This can be in person, skype or phone depending on PWA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the group and goals • Discuss and assign roles • Help organize timeline/agenda for group (When will be start, how long should group last) • Discuss methods/modalities they want to use to teach to their friends with aphasia (creating handout, showing objects, pictures from phone/scrapbook, PowerPoint, and drawing). • Share stories, ideas, handouts other members have done 	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Person(s) responsible:</p>	
<p>7. Decide the goal or purpose of group</p> <p>8. Collaborate, brainstorm and prepare/organize materials together!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This can vary significantly from NO materials, one item, or multiple items required. It can be minimal planning to weekly meetings. • Our members often use their phones with apple TVs, make handouts, presentation or just bring in physical items to promote conversation. Example: scrapbooks, ticket stubs, photos. • Example: Bible study group: All we needed was a bible and Apple TV or word document to show verses. In travel some members showed pictures, scrapbooks, mementos, aphasia friendly handouts and some had videos and PowerPoints. This will vary among groups/pwa. • Labor intensive: BRAC news required video cameras, role assigned, scripts, research, editing, time and retakes, etc. • All materials/communication aphasia friendly 	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Person(s) responsible:</p>	

Steps:	Tools/ideas/resources:	Timeline :	Results:
<p>9. Finalize start date and let the group blossom.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate roles in groups prior to beginning group. Agree on roles, responsibilities and encourage passions/talents. • Establish a start date utilizing calendar. • Introduce, provide support and start the group! • Note: We have had some successful groups start with one meeting and NO prep and others that required three to five months of weekly meetings and tons of planning/support. <div data-bbox="753 529 1010 699" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Plant the seed.... the results are empowering.</p>	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Person(s) responsible:</p>	

Resources:

LIV cards (Life Interest Values): www.med.unc.edu Information: Podcast #25 Aphasia Access, Dr. Katarina Haley

Oxford Picture Dictionary: www.amazon.com \$28.00

ALA (Assessment for Living with Aphasia): www.aphasia.ca

Inkflow or Pinterest: apple or android Free

Aphasiaaccess.org

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