TRIUMPH THROUGH THE CHALLENGES OF FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

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PLAY BALL!!!
DEFINITIONS

- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
- Partial Fetal Alcohol (PFA)
- Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder (ARND)
- Alcohol-Related Birth Defects (ARBD)
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)
FAS FACIAL FEATURES

- small head circumference
- simply formed, low set ears
- thin upper lip
- small chin
- smaller eye openings under eye folds
- flat mid-face
- short, upturned nose
- flat, elongated philtrum (grooves above lip)
ARND FACIAL FEATURES

Discriminating Features: None
ON ANY GIVEN DAY IN THE UNITED STATES, 11,012 BABIES ARE BORN

Of these, babies born with...

- Spina Bifida: 2
- Muscular Dystrophy: 3
- Down Syndrome: 13
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: 14
- Alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder: 42
There is no known safe amount of alcohol consumption at any time during pregnancy.
BRAIN DAMAGE IN FASD

- BRAIN DAMAGE IS PERMANENT
  = STATIC ENCEPHALOPATHY

This means that the damage to the brain is “static” or unchanging – it will get no better or no worse.
PRIMARY DISABILITIES

Central nervous system dysfunction; brain damage

Memory impairment

Impulsivity, distractibility, disorganization

Poor judgment

Fine motor problems

Developmental delays, e.g. speech and language

Learning disabilities

Impaired motor development (balance and coordination)
PRIMARY DISABILITIES

- Eye and ear defects
- Hutchinson’s teeth
- Heart murmur
- Limb reduction
- Respiratory problems

Physical anomalies
SECONDARY DISABILITIES

- Primary Disabilities – those a child is born with, e.g. poor judgment, impulsivity

- Secondary Disabilities – those that result from the primary disabilities, e.g. trouble with the law results from poor judgment and impulsivity.
SECONDARY DISABILITIES

- Mental health problems
- Inappropriate sexual behavior
- Alcohol and drug problems
- Dependent living
- Trouble with the law
- Disrupted school experience
- Confinement
- Problems with employment

Streissguth, AP, Barr, HM; Kogan, J, Bookstein, FL (1996)
8 MAGIC KEYS

- CONCRETE
- REPETITION
- SIMPLICITY
- STRUCTURE
- CONSISTENCY
- ROUTINE
- SPECIFIC
- SUPERVISION

DEFINITIONS

CHRONOLOGICAL AGE –

*CHRONOS (GREEK) = TIME*

CALENDAR TIME SINCE ONE WAS BORN

DEVELOPMENTAL AGE –

STAGE OF FUNCTIONAL GROWTH A PERSON HAS REACHED COMPARED TO WHEN MOST OTHER PEOPLE REACH THAT STAGE.
CHRONOLOGICAL AGE
VS.
DEVELOPMENTAL AGE

*Example:*
Sheila is five years old. She cannot print or count objects. She is just learning to make marks with a pencil, keep her balance when running, and climb.

Chronological age  =  5  
Developmental age  =  2
DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN WITH FAS/ARND

Jerome is 17 years old, however, on the Vineland he scored:

- Communication: 11 years 0 months
- Daily living skills: 12 years 9 months
- Socialization: 7 years 5 months
WORKING WITHIN A SCENARIO
HOW CAN A CASA/GAL HELP?
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