Adult Family Home Training Project

The Situation
The Idaho Department of Health & Welfare (H&W) requires adult family home providers meet certification requirements and receive eight hours of training annually. However, as a result of H&W department budget cuts, qualified trainers will not be hired.

Our Response
The University of Idaho Cooperative Extension System and the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare Adult Services met to discuss training content and needs of adult family home providers. As a result, Extension home economists provided direct input into training content and development of a training manual and a provider manual.

At the local level, training was planned in cooperation with North Central Idaho Health & Welfare personnel.

Achievements
Extension faculty taught and coordinated resource professionals for three 3-hour training sessions held in Lewiston. Training topics included: resident rights; the aging process; home, fire and medical emergency response; dealing with difficult behavior; understanding disabilities; managing stress; food-drug interaction; nutrition and food safety; and understanding the paperwork.

Twelve adult family home providers from throughout the north central Idaho area participated in the training sessions. Participants shared experiences and caregiving skills and reported a need for continued support from each other.

Cooperators and Co-Sponsors
Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, Bureau of Adult Services

The Future
The certification/training requirement for adult family home providers is being reviewed by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare. Area providers will be encouraged to participate in Extension classes.
For More Information
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