

Human Rights and Advocacy: Abuse Prevention Workshop

This workshop was originally developed by a group under the leadership of Nancy Fitzsimons-Cova, Assistant Professor, Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, in the United States

Protection & Advocacy Japan (PAJ) introduced this program to Japan and the Human Rights Committee of the Japan Council on Independent Living Centers modified it for persons with disabilities under the supervision of PAJ that was supported by a grant from The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership.

Independent living movement in Japan have included service programs offering assistance in developing independent living skills, for example, peer counseling and an independent living program; however, we did not have training programs emphasizing our rights.

In 2001, the first year of the 21st century, designated the century of human rights, we established a training program for abuse prevention designed for persons with disabilities and their families.

We provide information not only on abuse but also about the rights of persons with disabilities for use in JICA training, and have added some universal cases so that the program can be applied to the participants' countries. We hope that more and more individuals with disabilities will become aware of their human rights and be empowered to stand up against abuse and neglect.