

# Providing Education to Enhance Carryover for Parents and Caregivers of Clients at



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## Beeline Wheelchairs, Guatemala

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### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

#### Target population

- Individuals with disabilities who receive services from Beeline Wheelchairs

#### Community Context

- Guatemala faces healthcare challenges, especially in rural and indigenous communities where access is limited due to financial, geographic, cultural beliefs, and literacy barriers

#### Purpose

- To improve caregiver education for wheelchair positioning, care, and maintenance
- Promote safety, comfort, and long-term occupational engagement

#### Needs Assessment

- Five qualitative, semi-structured interviews were conducted with stakeholders, staff and volunteers from Beeline Wheelchairs, Guatemala

#### Themes

- Logistical challenges and limited resources
- Faith and hope
- Difficulty with caregiver carryover

#### Interventions

- HP Sprocket™ training and development of caregiver education manuals



### RATIONALE

#### Data from stakeholder interviews revealed:

- Little to no follow-up with caregivers after wheelchair fittings due to limited resources, distance from the clinic, and unreliable contact information

#### Barriers to caregiver follow-up:

- Language, low literacy, stigma around disability, and limited resources make it difficult for caregivers to understand how to use wheelchairs correctly at home

#### Educational materials:

- HP Sprocket™ printers and home programs
- Caregiver educational manuals with information about wheelchair specifics, adjustments, positioning, and exercises for range of motion and stretches added to individual manuals as appropriate



### PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

#### Session One

- HP Sprocket™ device training with Beeline staff
- Utilized teach-back method to ensure skill competency

#### Session Two

- HP Sprocket™ printers were used to develop individualized home programs and reviewed with clients
- Provided educational manuals to clients and caregivers

#### Materials

- HP Sprocket™ printers
- Sprocket printer paper
- Colored cardstock
- Plastic sheet protectors
- Report cover with removable binding bars

### PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Observable improvement in caregiver knowledge, skills, and confidence
- Demonstrated proper positioning and wheelchair operations
- The teach-back method was used with Beeline PT/OT staff
- Showed competence in using HP Sprocket™ and making of educational manuals
- **Support of the overall goal:** Improved consistency and quality of caregiver education for Beeline staff, clients, and family



### FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Future occupational therapy students should prioritize creating clear, image-based resources to help caregivers clearly understand key concepts
- Minimize use of HP Sprocket™ printers in the clinic, due to expense of paper, to support sustainability efforts
  - Reserve HP Sprocket™ use for mobile clinics

#### REFERENCES & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

