



TRAINING FOR SUCCESS

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Programme Manager**



Rationale

- Children with epilepsy have lower levels of academic achievement than children with other chronic conditions (Austin et al 1998).
- Long term study of children with epilepsy in Finland found this group had fewer years in formal education and higher unemployment rates than average (Sillanpaa et al, 1998)
- Unemployment and underemployment are more common for people with epilepsy.(Chaplin and Fraser, 2001)



Background of the development of the course

- Brainwave involved in pre employment training since 1993.
- Planning My Future Dublin.
- 1996-1998 Transnational Project Training for Success. Horizon.
- 1998 Training for Success established in Sligo.



Location

- Institute of Technology Sligo.
- Modern Third Level College with 5,000 students
- Mainstream focus is beneficial
- Opportunity to mix and socialise with other students doing different courses.
- Informal as well as formal learning.
- Positive attitude towards epilepsy.



Participant Profile

- People with epilepsy
- Typically in the 18 to 30 age group though no upper age bracket exists.
- Are recruited nationally, students come from a wide geographic spread representing all counties in the republic.
- Occasionally from abroad.
- Are fully registered students of the Institute.
- Are registered with FAS (Funding agency).



Demographics

- 154 people have participated in the course
 - 65% Male
 - 35% Female
 - Youngest 17
 - Oldest 45
 - Mean = 26



Aims and Objectives (contd.)

- To support students to identify their own personal goals and plan to achieve them.
- To improve self confidence and self esteem.
- To develop independence, personal responsibility and self directed learning.
- To ameliorate the negative impact epilepsy may have on education and employment opportunities
- To develop a realist attainable career focus.



Aims and Objectives

- To impart the necessary skills and attitudes in order that people with epilepsy may make a successful transition from dependency to adult independence and full integration into; full or part time employment, sheltered/supported employment, further vocational training, return to education, community/voluntary work.
- To educate participants about epilepsy and develop good self management skills thereby ensuring restrictions imposed by the condition are limited.
- To support students to identify their own personal goals and plan to achieve them.



Modules

- Induction
- Creative writing
- Epilepsy awareness
- Career planning
- Computer Skills
- Communications.
- Spanish
- Mathematics
- Health and fitness
- Work experience
- First Aid
- Drama
- Art
- Humanities

Motivation



Puss in Bootcamp.

Keep down stress levels



Stress levels

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CAVARY PETE

" Sheep gave me stress "



PERSON CENTERED PLANNING

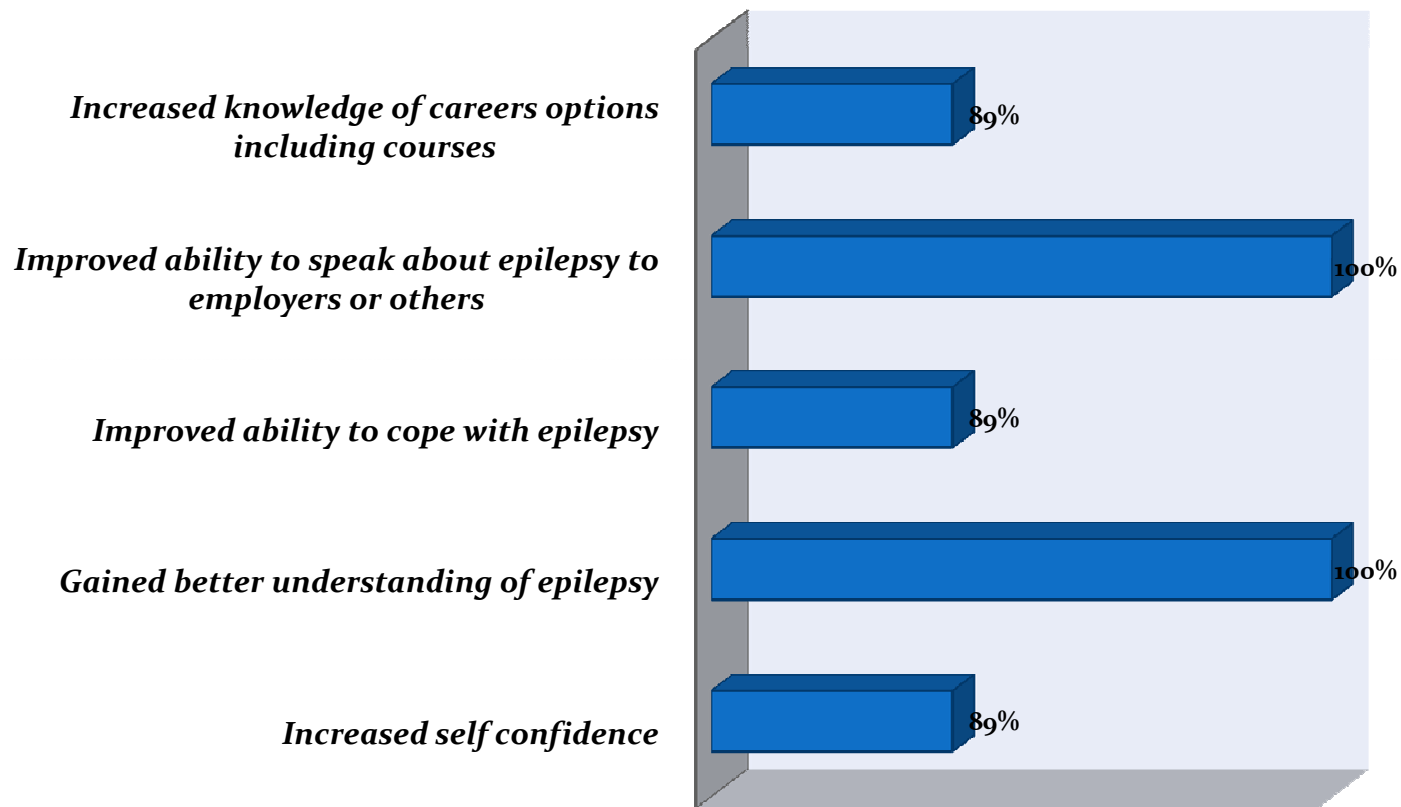
- An Individual fitness plan is worked out for each student at the beginning of the year.
- Individual Education/Training plans are developed and modified throughout the year.



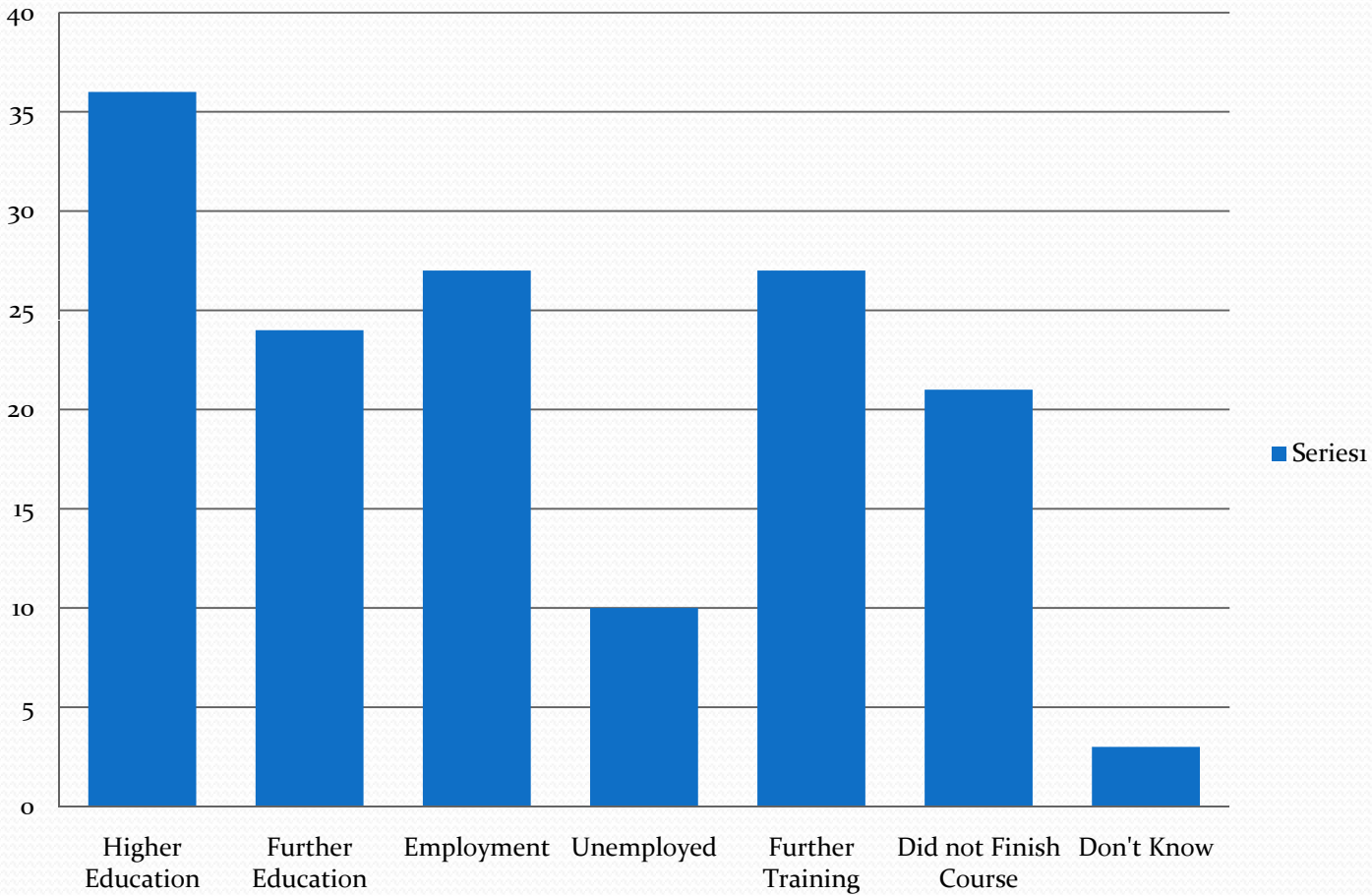
Training for Success Duration

- 12 months
- Five days per week
- Full timetable for 30 hours per week
- Eight weeks work placement

Outcomes after year on Programme



Training for Success student progression 1998 to 2010





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Discussion Topics

- Are courses like Training for Success necessary?
- What are the advantages of participating in a course like Training for Success



Discussion Topic 2

- Should similar courses be developed in other countries for people with epilepsy?
- How might they be funded?