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**An Approach to Family Centered Service Delivery for Early Intervention of Children with Disabilities in the Framework of Inclusive Development**

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**Introduction:**CARENIDHI's community initiative for early childcare and development of children with special needs seeks to address the double whammy of disability and poverty through a multi-pronged approach that is context-specific and culture-sensitive. The child centered services to overcome the lag from multiple vulnerabilities lay the foundational competencies. When parents in poor resource settings are enabled to support the overall development of their children through capacity building for nurturing care and meeting the specific needs with community support, it is possible to maximize the potential of children with specific needs.

**Objective:**To develop a sustainable model of early intervention in the peri-urban community settings wherein the family centered services in health, habilitation/rehabilitation, early learning and other areas crucial to early child development if children with multiple special needs can get linked to capacity building of key care providers for nurturing care and preschool education.

**Design & Methodology:**Empowering community-based caregivers with parents as partners in a process of gaining vision, knowledge, skills and confidence to take care of the children with disabilities in resource-poor settings of North-East Delhi through a program designed to improve care-provision prioritizes the disability-related interventions and issues in the context of the families and the community.

The presentation discusses the formative work for helping parents participate in the process of improving the lives of their children with long-term development goals. Observations from workshops and training activities, talks and study circles with resource professionals and technology support for care provision, will be shared. The framework for delivery of multisectoral interventions with an inclusive approach that promotes positive formative experiences and early learning opportunities will be explained. The cascade model of training for skill transfer and task sharing as a methodology for capacity building for maximizing child development is an important feature.

**Conclusion:**Child with a disability is a child first; disability is an attribute that adds on. Therefore, an emphasis on Early Childcare and Development can help lay the foundations for overall development and inclusion of these children. CARENIDHI's community initiative seeks to empower caregivers with knowledge, skills and confidence to strengthen the competencies of the children and maximize their potential for inclusion. Our initial experience and formative

research suggest that supplementing on-site training with technology facilitates learning in a community-based inclusive development model for early intervention.