

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Communication Camps: Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning



Dr Judi Moyle
Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
Monash University Melbourne

In partnership with **Dr Carl Parsons**, Director, Integrated Services at Port Phillip Specialist School, Melbourne, and:

Ms Yasmin Rusli, University Kebangsaan Malaysia; Dr Uma Palanisamy, Monash University, Sunway, Malaysia; Associate Professors Robert Davis & Paul Fullerton, Monash University, Australia & Johor Bahru & Dr Lim Boon Hock, Wings Centre for Developmental Disabilities, Melaka

Sponsored by Rotary Clubs of Nunawading, Australia & Kuala Lumpur, Ditiaga

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Communication Camps: Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning

Background



Without communication, children miss out on essential foundations for early relationship and learning. Access to Speech Pathology for children with disabilities in Malaysia is limited by shortages of specialist disability - trained speech and language therapists. Although many Early Intervention programs in Malaysia provide access to Speech Pathologists, limited spaces mean that many families wait long periods to access a program.

Valuable early-learning opportunities lost because parents lack skills

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Communication Camps: Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Introduction of Dr Carl Parson's Camps Model to Malaysia

Dr Carl Parsons is a prominent Speech-Language Pathologist, psychologist, educator and world leader in the field of developmental disability education.

Dr Parsons initiated the concept of Communication Camps for children with Down Syndrome and their families in Australia. He later expanded to include other conditions


Over the past 28 years, he has worked with over 4000 children with disabilities, their families and schools in every state and territory in Australia.




Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -




Introduction of Dr Carl Parson's Camps Model to Malaysia



After a number of years working closely with Early Intervention Programs in Malaysia, the shortage of disability - trained Speech Therapists in this country was evident. Many who were available had no experience or exposure with children with disability through their training.

In 2009 I proposed a trial of Dr Parson's Weekend Camps Model in partnership with UKM Speech Pathology School.

A committee of interested partners was formed and Dr Parsons agreed to participate. Sunway Monash University offered the use of their Campus for the first Pilot Down Syndrome Camp to be held in Kuala Lumpur in 2010.



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Introduction of Dr Carl Parson's Camps Model to Malaysia



Important to the successful planning of the Communication Camps in Kuala Lumpur and Melaka have been the relationships with Early Intervention Services.

Without their support, and the access they have to families these projects could not have been possible.

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian Care and Kiwanis staff were deeply involved in planning the Camps.



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Theory

A unique feature of Dr Parson's Camps Model has been to include a multidisciplinary team made up of Speech Pathology, Medical and other Allied Health students and professionals in his Camps programs.

This presents opportunities for partnerships between health training institutions, families and their support people that benefits all participants equally.



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Theory

The Camps Model of intensive intervention and learning reflects well recognised recommendations made from research indicating that *attitudes and understanding of health professionals about disabilities are improved when they have face-to-face exposure and experience as an addition to the information they receive on disability during training* (Anthony, 1972; Donaldson, 1980; Huddle, 1974; Yaker, Block & Young, 1966; Yaker & Hurley, 1987).


A similar Model has been used by CDDHV to expose Medical Students to adults with Intellectual Disabilities and provide them with opportunity to learn how to relate to and communicate with people with Intellectual Disabilities in an informal, non-clinical environment (Tracy & Graves, 1996).

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -





Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Theory

Dr Parson's Communication Camps Model provides health-professional students the combination of intensive teaching about the impact of disability and communication impairment on the child and family and how to engage children through gesture, sign, augmented communication aids, music and play.

It then provides immediate hands-on opportunities to practice what they have learned.

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Theory



Parents also gain important information about the learning priorities for their child and gain confidence in their ability to communicate with their child.

They too are provided intensive learning opportunities while their children are in Activities with the students.

Carl also provides opportunities to discuss both popular and controversial treatments commonly offered in the community.

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Design: First Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2010


- Hosted by Monash University & Sunway University College Residence
- Held during University Term Break
- Team Facilitator: Dr Judi Moyle CDDHV
- Guest Teacher/Presenter: Dr Carl Parsons
- Partnering with UKM Speech Pathology School Lecturers: Dr Kartini Ahmad, Dr Hashima & Ms Yasmin Rusli
- 22 UKM Speech Pathology Students
- Support people: Assoc Prof Robert Davis CDDHV (also representing sponsors Rotary Nunawading & KL DiRaja); Dr Amar Singh & other Monash Sunway staff; Mr Francis Ng, Sunway University College Residences
- 10 Children with Down Syndrome and their Families
- Teachers from Malaysian Care Early Intervention Programs

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Design: Pilot Program of Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2010

- Weekend Camp - from Friday evening through to Sunday afternoon
- Families comprised child with Down syndrome, parents and up to 2 siblings
- Each child matched with 2 students, who shared day-time responsibilities and alternated in staying close to family overnight
- Full day of Pre-Camp Lectures provided by Dr Parsons to students
- Students to act as hosts to families and support in care of children
- Students to provide activities for children with Down syndrome while parents attend teaching from Dr Parsons
- A shared informal recreational outing
- Evening shared pre-bedtime fun activities
- Evening Lectures for students and one or other of parents

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Delivery: Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011





Students used music, song, gesture and signs

Program provided opportunities for students to learn the unique profiles of each child

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Outcomes: Pilot Model found to have been adaptable to Malaysia
Families reported greater understanding of their child's need to communicate, increased confidence in how to support their child and pleasure in the opportunity to participate personally in training students about disability



Students indicated new appreciation for the challenges faced by children & families and a desire to explore the model further.

Second & third Pilots planned for 2011

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning. Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

2011 Second Pilot Down Syndrome Communication Camp



Dr Carl L Parsons and Dr Judi Moyle provided an expanded **Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Program** in the form of a weekend Camp at Monash University Sunway Campus in Kuala Lumpur from Friday 30th September to Sunday 2nd October 2011.

Partners in the Pilot were: Dr Uma Palanisamy & Associate Professor Paul Fullerton and staff, Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia; Ms Yasmin Rusli and staff, School of Audiology and Speech Sciences, University Kebangsaan Malaysia; staff from Malaysian Care and Kewas Early Intervention Programs; 12 children with Down Syndrome and their families; and Speech, Audiology, Medicine and Psychology students from University Kebangsaan Malaysia and Monash University Malaysia

Hosts: Monash Sunway
Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning. Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

2011 Lead-in Teaching: Full Day Disability Symposium 250 students

In order to prepare the large number of students and other support staff for the expanded Camp Model, teaching and other presentations from child and family perspectives were provided in a Full-Day Disability Symposium prior to the Camp



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning. Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Design: Second Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011

Expanded Design:

- 12 Families, 48 medical, psychology & audiology students
- Disability Symposium (250 students, plus faculty staff and service providers)
- Greater involvement of Monash Medical Faculty
- Clinical Sessions & Briefing Meetings
- 4 students per child; 2 each night
- More comfortable residence
- Larger assembly rooms
- Created new links between disciplines



Pre-Camp Student Briefings

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning. Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Delivery: Second Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011



Students meet children & families, learning about disability, communication and relationship

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning. Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Delivery: Second Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011



Close shared living experiences allow personal interactions



Reciprocal learning where all learn something new



Reciprocal modelling - teachers; students; parents

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning. Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
Delivery: Second Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011




Outdoor & Indoor Activities and Play

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
Delivery: Second Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011





Children were teachers as well

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
Conclusions: Second Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011

Negatives:

- Logistically more difficult
- Less opportunity for developing closer relationship
- More difficult to oversee individual needs of children and families
- More overwhelming for children
- Venue challenged movement of large groups quickly so many delays experienced



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
Conclusions: Second Pilot Kuala Lumpur Down Syndrome Camp 2011

Positives:

- Strong links built between Service Providers
- Knowledge, understanding and experience of communication and support issues for children with disabilities and their families greatly enhanced
- Model confirmed as an effective means of providing multidisciplinary intervention and learning in Malaysia



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011





Monday 3rd October to Thursday 6th October

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Theory: Autism: Modified Model
Because children with Autism have difficulties with change, Dr Parson's has modified his Camps Model to accommodate these differences. In the Autism Camps Model, Speech Pathology students stay in a Camp setting with their teachers, but children stay at home with their families. Students visit children in their regular settings during the day.

Design: Program


- 1st Night- Student Briefings
- Day 1: AM & PM Observe children in EIP's
- Ngt: Meet & Greet Families
- Teaching/ Briefing Session for Parents
- Day 2: AM Students to Homes
- PM Students de-briefing & teaching
- Ngt: Teaching/Briefing for Parents
- Day 3: AM as per day 2; PM- Outing
- Ngt: Final Teaching/Briefing for Students
- Day 4: Report Writing & Presentations

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu




MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Theory: Autism: Modified Model
WINGS Melaka is uniquely suited to this model. WINGS Melaka is accommodated in Shellabear Hall, a previous boarding school building. Downstairs houses the classrooms and meeting rooms of the EIP, School-Aged and Young Adult Programs. Upstairs are offices, sleeping accommodation and sitting room/meeting areas. Outside are extensive play and recreation areas.

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery




First night- briefings and teaching

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery





Day 1&2. Morning: Observing children and teachers in EIP. Teachers modelling communication interactions- then introductions

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery






Evening 1. Students meeting parents and children

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences



Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery

Night-time parents, teachers and students shared sessions about Autism and Communication

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery

Day 2 & 3 Students start to work with the children




Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the Importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery

A relaxing meals break




And then more intensive teaching



Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery

Students, families and children become comfortable enough to communicate and interact








Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery

Time is found for group and individual Parent Consultations




Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Delivery

Feedback, sharing and question times at night



Students are taught Report Writing







Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Outcomes

Reciprocal exchange of skills and information between visiting teachers, EIP teachers and students, as well as between parents, children and students.




EIPs are ideal teaching/learning forums for student-placements.




Better prepared for practice in the future with children with disabilities and their families

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -



Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs
First Pilot WINGS Melaka Autism Communication Camp 2011

Outcomes

Presentations acknowledging contributions and achievements








Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu



MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -

Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Conclusions:

This Model has been welcomed by Medical and Allied Health schools in Malaysia as a very useful time - resourceful way of providing students with close and personal interactions with children and their families, enabling them to learn about the effects of disability first-hand. Families report a much greater understanding of their child's need to communicate and increased confidence in how to support their child to do so. They also enjoyed having the opportunity to participate personally in training health professional students about disability.

Importantly, The Communication Camps Model has demonstrated that the comprehensive broad-based skills that teachers in Early Intervention Programs in Malaysia have developed, represent a valuable pool of knowledge that can assist medical and allied health students in their training when shared in this Model

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -

Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Conclusions:

The Camps Model's usefulness in Malaysia and other developing countries need not be confined to this particular focus (*i.e. Communication*), but could readily be used to inform large numbers of families, teachers and health professionals in almost any important early learning field. A key factor, however, for running a successful Camp is in careful planning and organisation of the functional processes needed for smooth and comfortable delivery, and in having clear goals that are able to be met in a short and intense learning environment.

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria
- Better Health, Better Lives -

Camps Model: Intensive Multidisciplinary Intervention and Learning Programs

Thank You for Your Interest

Communication Camps:
Teaching Families the importance of Communication as the Foundation for all Early Learning.

Judith.Moyle@monash.edu