

## **Biographical Sketch THOMAS E. POMERANZ**

Dr. Tom Pomeranz is a nationally recognized authority, trainer, clinician and consultant in the field of services for people with disabilities. Over the last 50 years, Tom has conducted thousands of seminars and programs throughout the United States and Canada. His audiences praise his ability to combine information, humor, passion and storytelling into an informative whole that does not just present the information, but really communicates it in a memorable fashion. Tom was the keynote speaker at the Fifth International Conference on Developmental Disabilities and Aging in Cyprus.

He is the highly acclaimed creator of Universal Enhancement, which teaches strategies promoting community participation and supporting people to have a quality life. Additionally, he is noted for his innovative approach to leadership and management training.

Tom has authored numerous articles in various professional publications and *The Principles and Practices of Universal Enhancement*. Published by High Tide Press, this book details with humor and compassion the autocratic and clinical restraints of supporting people with developmental disabilities and the alternative “Universal Enhancement” way. Tom has also created a seven part staff training DVD series *The Principles and Practices of Building Community*. Co-produced with Tierra Del Sol it covers seven critical topics that provide staff with best practice tools to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Tom received his Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in Special Education and a Doctorate in Mental Health Administration from Indiana University, Bloomington IN, followed by post-graduate work from the University of Notre Dame in the area of experimental psychology. He has held a variety of top level administrative posts in community-based service organizations and three large state-operated facilities. Tom is a Policy Fellow and Visiting Lecturer for Minot State University – North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, a University Center of Excellence. Tom is a member of the Advisory Board for Medisked, a human services software company, dedicated to improve quality of life, reduce costs, increase capacity in Human Service and Home Health Care agencies.

Tom is the President and CEO of Universal LifeStiles with offices located in Indianapolis, IN.



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