



CADER

**Center for Aging & Disability
Education & Research**

**Georgia DAS ADRC Training Program
CADER Evaluation Report
March 2026**



School of Social Work:
Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research

Program Overview

The Georgia Division of Aging Services (DAS) partnered with CADER to train their staff who are working towards becoming certified options counselors. Learners completed CADER's ***ADRC / No Wrong Door Key Principles Certificate***, which has five courses. This report presents training outcomes for 50 learners who completed the program between 2023 to 2025.

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Core Issues in Aging and Disability

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A Guide to the Aging and Disability Networks

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Assessment of Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities

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Mental Health Training in Options Counseling

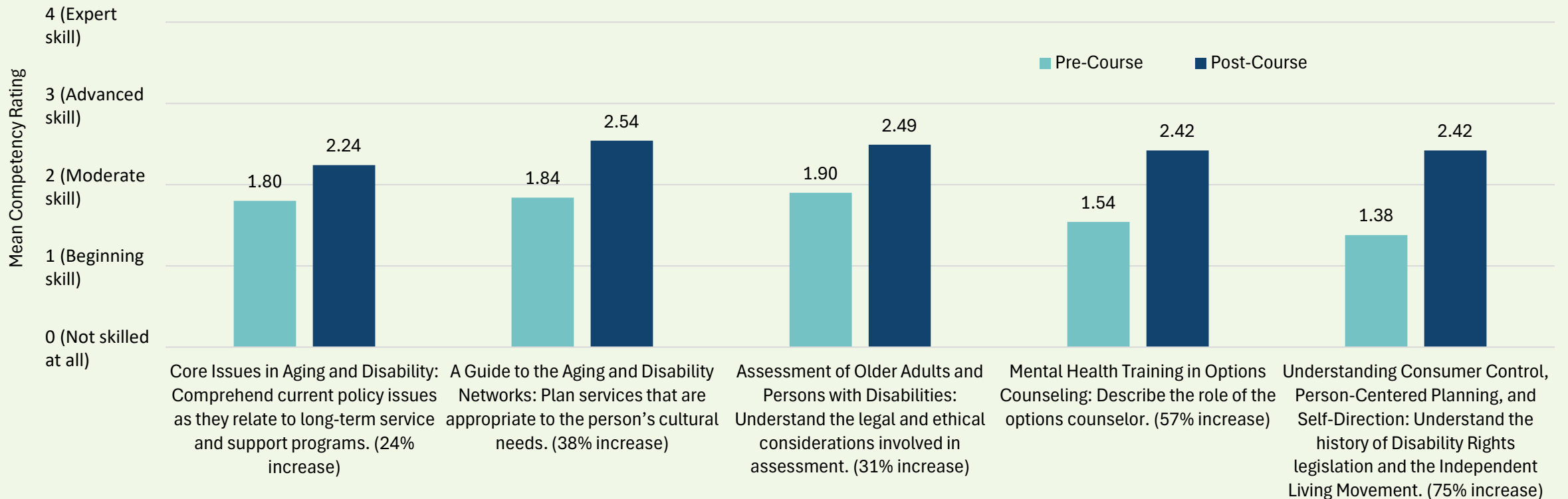
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Understanding Consumer Control, Person-Centered Planning, and Self-Direction

Competency Results

At the beginning and end of each course, learners were asked to rate their skill level on various competencies. Below is a sample competency from each course, along with the percent increase in skill level. All increases in skill level were statistically significant ($p < .001$).

Mean Competency Ratings



Core Issues in Aging and Disability

Learner Feedback

94%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course expanded their knowledge and understanding of the topic area.

94%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course will enhance their practice skills in the topic area.

“The knowledge I gained relative to disease and substance use in aging I feel will be very useful, as well as mental health issues affecting the aging population.”

“I believe that this is a great online course. My knowledge has increased and the awareness of how to better serve individuals in issues faced in aging.”

“I will be taking a closer look at person-centered processes with a better understanding of all things involved in empowering the client to make informed decisions.”



A Guide to the Aging and Disability Networks

Learner Feedback

94%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course expanded their knowledge and understanding of the topic area.

96%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course was relevant to their profession.

"I anticipate being able to offer more resources and explanation of benefits and programs, as well as person centered options to my clients."

"The course was very informative and I really learned a lot about resources and programs to serve the aging population."

"I'll have a better understanding when explaining Medicaid and Medicare to someone."



Assessment of Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities

Learner Feedback

92%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course will enable them to provide high quality care and services to older adults.

96%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course will enhance their practice skills in the topic area.

"More active listening in my assessments."

"I enjoyed learning about legal/ethical areas because this is the area I feel I could improve most."

"I will pay more attention to cultural differences and how it affects the assessment process."

"Taking more time to sit and listen more to hear more of what the client needs."



Mental Health Training in Options Counseling

Learner Feedback

92%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course expanded their knowledge and understanding of the topic area.

88%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course will enhance their practice skills in the topic area.

“Mental health education is always helpful, learning how to be a partner in cases involving mental health in order to be a good options counselor was informative.”

“To approach my work with those dealing with mental health issues with more knowledge and understanding.”

“I will now have the tools and knowledge to work better with those in the community who have mental health disorders.”



Understanding Consumer Control, Person-Centered Planning, and Self-Direction

Learner Feedback

92%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course will enable them to provide high quality care and services to older adults.

94%

of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the course will enhance their practice skills in the topic area.

“The content is very informative and relevant, the case studies and testimonies gives a personal perspective to how these issues affect real individuals in their daily lives.”

“This course has opened my eyes in how to better approach clients and their families.”

“To be more mindful of person-centered assessment and planning and to support the decisions consumers make for themselves.”



Conclusion

- For all five courses, learners gained skills in key competency areas
- Learners indicated that the training will improve their practice skills
- Upon completing the training, learners said that they:
 - Are aware of a wider range of resources available to older adults and people with disabilities
 - Will use person-centered care
 - Will be better listeners and more patient when providing services
 - Have a better understanding of culturally informed practice
- CADER looks forward to a continued partnership with Georgia DAS





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