

BUILDING SCHOOLS CAPACITY IN THE COLLABORATIVE PROVISION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES

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ABSTRACT

The implementation of education for children with special needs can be inseparable from community participation, especially in the identification of children with special needs. This is essential because they require services based on their individual learning barriers and requirements. Schools have an important role to play in increasing community participation, and SLB IT Alam Asatama is a notable exception. As a school that has not been established for a long period of time, SLB IT Alam Asatama has a number of problems in terms of parents, the community and the teachers. The purpose of this community service activity is to increase the school's capacity to provide collaborative services for children with special needs at an early age. This activity was carried out in the form of a workshop with the following stages: orientation of joint activities between the service team and the school; presentation of materials by the service team; assistance in preparing identification and assessment instruments for students with special needs; implementation of identification and assessment instruments to assess students with special needs; assistance in analysing the results of the assessment and determining the needs of students with special needs; and assistance in preparing collaborative programmes based on the results of the assessment. This activity was attended by 62 participants from the community and 11 teachers. This activity showed a high level of success based on the evaluation of the achievement of the four indicators of success, namely 75% of participants attended and followed the activity until the end, participants asked questions and were actively involved in discussions and practices, participants filled in a feedback questionnaire on the activity and there was an increase in school capacity in collaborative services for children with special needs at an early age with an average increase of 40%.

Kata Kunci: *special schools, collaborative services, early years, children with special needs*