



## TORSH Helps the Communication and Early Childhood Research and Practice (CEC-RAP) Center Conduct Professional Development and Coaching for Early Intervention Providers at a Distance

An expanding body of research supports the importance of early intervention/education for young children with special needs and their families. The Communication and Early Childhood Research and Practice (CEC-RAP) Center promotes interdisciplinary contributions to the field of early intervention/education for young children with disabilities, communication disorders, and other developmental risks. The CEC-RAP Center focuses on the continued expansion of research, personnel preparation, and service delivery through collaboration with interrelated projects.

### Problem

The Communication and Early Childhood Research and Practice (CEC-RAP) Center needed a tool that would enable them to efficiently conduct professional development and coaching for early providers at a distance.

### Solution

TORSH Talent supports the CEC-RAP Center’s ability to provide distance mentoring to collaborating state agencies through the use of virtual coaching feedback sessions. In the past, the CEC-RAP Center used multiple programs and platforms to conduct coaching sessions. With TORSH Talent, they can have their early intervention providers in other states upload, watch, comment, and conduct self-assessments on their videos all in one place. Providers are also able to share their videos with agency team members and their Florida State University external coach, which allows for easier collaboration across distances.

TORSH Talent’s Exemplar Library enables coaches to show recommended practices videos with everyone on their TORSH Talent system so that they can use these example videos in their own agency’s professional development training. Video exemplars are especially powerful when they include familiar faces from their teams who are doing excellent work with children and families. The CEC-RAP Center redesigned the Distance Mentoring Model project to support Early Intervention providers to be internal coaches, enabling them to build sustainability within their state. Staff members previously used an external coding system to analyze data. TORSH Talent’s Insights module allows internal coaches to pull their data without purchasing or learning another software program.

### Great Teachers Matter

We are an online PD platform that helps school leaders support educators through the entire growth cycle of assessment, observation, feedback, goal-setting, and coaching.

## Results

1

“Technology has forever been a concern with our participants, and with TORSH Talent being a “one-stop-shop” for collaboration, providers can confidently participate in the coaching process with less stress.”

2

“Coaches and early intervention providers can use the video for assessment and measuring fidelity.”

3

“Seeing the same video examples encourage common understanding and explicit teaching.”

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