



Foundations in Transition

Person-Centered Strategies for Students with Disabilities Making the Transition to Adult Life

Dates: December 13, 2011
January 31, 2012
February 16, 2012
March 29, 2012
May 3, 2012

Times: 8am – 2:30pm, *registration begins at 7:30*

Registration Fee: \$99 each

Location: Holiday Inn
172 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

Available in alternative formats upon request



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Person-Centered Strategies for Students with Disabilities

Making the Transition to Adult Life



Series Description

Since the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was amended to include secondary transition services, youth with disabilities continue to have higher dropout rates and lower high school graduation rates, employment rates, and post-secondary education rates than youth without disabilities. Secondary transition policies and indicators have been in place for 20 years that are designed to eliminate those gaps and to improve the preparation of youth with disabilities for adult life. This five-part workshop series, presented by practitioners who work every day with youth with disabilities, includes training in practices that have been shown to improve the self-determination skills of youth and will provide educators, community providers, and family members with tools to help youth develop transition plans that are relevant to their areas of interest, and to use resources effectively to ensure success.

It is highly recommended that participants attend all five sessions in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the transition process and to have the opportunity to use the tools and strategies for effective secondary transition practice.

Who Should Attend

High school general and special education teachers, school counselors, vocational rehabilitation counselors, transition specialists, special education case managers who work with high school students, mental health and area agency staff, community providers, and family members are encouraged to attend.

Series Sponsors

This series is co-sponsored in part by **Achievement in Dropout Prevention and Excellence (APEX) III** and **NH RESPONDS**, projects of the NH Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education and the UNH Institute on Disability. APEX III is working with six high schools to develop secondary and tertiary level positive behavior supports. NH RESPONDS is a Response to Intervention project working with five school districts and 17 demonstration sites to develop a three-tiered blended model of supports for literacy and behavior. For more information on these initiatives, visit www.iod.unh.edu.

Registration Information

Dates and Topics:

December 13, 2011 – The Basics of Secondary Transition
January 31, 2012 (*rescheduled from January 12 due to weather*)
– The Foundation for a Student-Driven Process: Personal Futures Planning
February 16, 2012 – Assistive Technology and Transition
March 29, 2012 – Think Outside the Box: Student-Centered Educational and Employment Options
May 3, 2012 – Resource Development for Transition: Who Should We Ask to Come to the Table and What Do We Do Once They Are There?

Time: 8am – 2:30pm, *registration begins at 7:30am*

Location: Holiday Inn
172 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603.224.9534

Registration Fee: \$99 each*

**Includes continental breakfast, lunch, and workshop materials*

Event Policies

Advance registration is required and accepted in the order received. Registration is not complete until full payment or purchase order is received. Payment or purchase order must be provided at least seven (7) days prior to the event. Registrations received within six (6) days of the event may be accepted (depending upon availability) if accompanied by full payment or purchase order.

If an event is cancelled or postponed, registrants will be given the option of canceling their registration, receiving a full refund, applying their registration payment to another event, or attending the event if the event is rescheduled.

To receive a full refund, cancellations must be made in writing seven (7) days prior to the event. Cancellations received within six (6) days of the event are not eligible for a refund.

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Sessions

The Basics of Secondary Transition

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Heidi Wyman, Dawn Breault, JoAnne Malloy, Jen Cunha, Amy Jenks, and McKenzie Harrington

The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA, amended 2004) requires that young people who have Individual Education Plans (IEPs) be engaged in planning for their education supports and related services, and that the plan relate directly to their post-high school goals for continued education, employment, and independent living, beginning at age 16. New Hampshire Rules for the Education of Children with Disabilities adds an additional requirement that IEPs include a statement of students' course-of-study by age 14. This session will help participants understand these requirements and how to meet them, including an overview of Indicator 13, and how to engage and support students and family members. This session will also help participants incorporate the requirements into the development and implementation of each student's special education plan.

The Foundation for a Student-Driven Process: Personal Futures Planning

January 31, 2012 (*rescheduled from Jan. 12 due to weather*)

Jonathon Drake, Heidi Wyman, and Heidi Cloutier

This session will focus on the person-centered, student-directed futures planning process using graphic facilitation, and how to conduct it with youth with disabilities. In this skill-building session, participants will learn to conduct futures planning meetings, use graphic facilitation, manage the action planning process, and identify key resources and people who can help. Participants will also learn how to engage students and help them to self-advocate. Finally, participants will learn how to translate the information from the futures plan into the youth's transition IEP goals.

Assistive Technology and Transition

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Therese Willkomm

This hands-on, interactive workshop will provide examples of how assistive technology (AT) can be used to assist students transitioning from school to work, to post-secondary education, or to community living. Examples will include devices to increase independence and productivity, and effective use of electronic memory and prompting devices. AT transition planning tools will also be shared.

Think Outside the Box: Student-Centered Educational and Employment Options

Thursday, March 29, 2012

David Hagner, Heidi Wyman, Dawn Breault, and Kim Carter

Many youth, including youth with disabilities, learn better in environments and contexts that relate to their interests, goals, and capabilities. Real world learning opportunities provided in the context of New Hampshire's High School Reform and Redesign initiative allow schools the flexibility to think outside the box to motivate students who are having little success in the traditional system. Participants will learn how to create a full range of alternative educational and employment options for students with disabilities based on students' goals and objectives. This session will focus on the contexts for and development of Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) and how ELOs align with students' Individualized Education Plans.

Resource Development for Transition: Who Should We Ask to Come to the Table and What Do We Do Once They Are There?

Thursday, May 3, 2012

Heidi Cloutier and Michelle Lewis

During this session, participants will learn how to support students to ask for help within the context of their goals, and how to establish effective individualized teams to facilitate a seamless transition from high school to adulthood. Transition may take any of a number of different forms, including alternative education, employment and work-based learning, community involvement, and post-secondary education options. This requires transition providers to engage a variety of people and systems. This session will outline the most effective and efficient techniques for pulling together resources on behalf of each student, including how to create and manage teams, and the advantages of finding resources within the school, family, personal network, the special education process, and in the community. This session will also include information about resources for transition to post-secondary education.

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Presenters

Dawn Breault, CAGS, C.R.C. is a transition counselor for Alvirne High School in Hudson, NH. Her 15 years' experience in transition has included work as a certified vocational rehabilitation counselor, consultant for Rivier College's transition certification program, adjunct faculty for several colleges, job placement specialist, and job coach.

Kim Carter is Executive Director of the QED Foundation, an organization of adults and youth working to create and sustain student-centered learning communities. Her 35 years of education experience includes teaching Pre-K through graduate school, and providing training, coaching, and facilitation for schools and learning organizations in the U.S. and the U.K. Her expertise includes designing effective learning and assessment methods, democratic schooling, educational equity, learning theory, and high school redesign.

Heidi Cloutier, MSW joined the Institute on Disability in 1998 after working in Community Mental Health as a vocational counselor and case manager for individuals with chronic and severe mental health issues and drug and alcohol addiction. She presents nationally on transition planning, creating individualized budgets, and person-centered planning. She currently facilitates planning for youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders, trains new facilitators, and provides mentoring and technical assistance for mental health counselors and other transition planners.

Donna Couture, M.Ed. is an educational consultant on the IOD's Achievement in Dropout Prevention & Excellence (APEX III) project. She has worked in various counseling roles, including several NH high schools, mental health outreach, youth counseling, program coordination through the Tri-County Community Action Program, and educational counseling and school-to-career coordination in the Berlin school district.

Jennifer Cunha has been with the Parent Information Center (PIC) for the past nine years. Jennifer currently assists youth with disabilities and their families in navigating the special education and transition planning process. A former special education teacher, she is the author of PIC's award-winning Life after High School Transition Tool Kit. She presents statewide on transition planning and involving youth and families in the transition planning process.

Jonathon Drake, MSW began his relationship with the IOD as a NH Leadership in Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) intern, later joining the APEX project, providing training and technical assistance to high schools on the Rehabilitation for Empowerment, Natural Supports, Education, and Work (RENEW) intervention model. He is the master trainer for the RENEW Capacity Building project, training mental health clinicians to provide RENEW services to youth with emotional and behavioral challenges.

David Hagner, Ph.D., research professor with the IOD, is a certified rehabilitation counselor with over 25 years' experience in teaching, research, evaluation, and direct service. Dr. Hagner is the author of five books and over 45 chapters, monographs, and journal articles related to employment and rehabilitation. He presents nationally and serves as reviewer for several academic journals.

McKenzie Harrington, M.Ed. is an education consultant at the NH Dept. of Education (NHDOE), Bureau of Special Education, serving as the program coordinator for the Educational Surrogate Parent Program and as the NHDOE liaison for NH county jails and school districts supporting students with disabilities who become incarcerated.

Amy Jenks has worked at the NH Dept. of Education, Bureau of Special Education for 22 years and is currently the NH RESPONDS grant coordinator. Amy oversees the Post-School Outcomes survey as part of the Special Education State Performance Plan, and she is an active member of the NH Transition Community of Practice.

Michelle Lewis, M.Ed., Project Director for the Parent Information Center on Special Education and Project Director of Supporting Successful Early Childhood Transition, presents statewide and nationally on involving families in education, and has over 15 years' experience working with children, youth, and families, including with youth on establishing courses of study, exploring career interests, and setting goals for life after high school.

JoAnne Malloy, Ph.D. joined the IOD in 1991 where she has directed several federally-funded employment and dropout prevention projects. She currently directs the APEX III project using a school-to-career and PBIS model to reduce dropout rates in NH high schools, and a project training community mental health clinicians to provide RENEW services to youth with emotional and behavioral challenges.

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Presenters (continued)

Therese Willkomm, Ph.D. directs the NH Statewide Assistive Technology (AT) Program (ATinNH) with the IOD, is a clinical assistant professor in the UNH Dept. of Occupational Therapy, and coordinates the graduate certificate in AT and the disability studies minor. Known internationally as “The MacGyver of Assistive Technology,” Dr. Willkomm has provided AT services for over 28 years and authored 22 publications.

Heidi Wyman, MSW directs Strafford Learning Center’s Transition Resource Network (TRN), a regional “hub” for people and programs around youth transition. She provides technical assistance to individuals, families, schools, and organizations that are developing personalized goals and plans for learning and living, and facilitates networking and collaboration on projects which increase job training, employment, and independent living opportunities for youth, particularly youth with disabilities.

Registration Form

Time: 8am – 2:30pm, registration begins at 7:30

Location: Holiday Inn
172 North Main Street, Concord, NH

Registration Fee: \$99 each



Register Online at
www.iod.unh.edu

fax: 603.228.3270

mail: 56 Old Suncook Road, Suite 2
Concord, NH 03301

Please select date(s):

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Thursday, May 3, 2012

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Name: _____

Title: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

This address is my: Home Work

Daytime Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

**An e-mail confirmation will be sent prior to the event.*

Please Select Method of Payment:

Check #: _____ Purchase Order #: _____

Checks can be made payable to the **University of NH*

Visa/MC #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

I understand and agree to the event policies outlined in this brochure (Signature Required)

Signature: _____

Please note any dietary/accessibility accommodations here: _____

**Payment must be received prior to participation.*

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56 Old Suncook Road, Suite 2
Concord, NH 03301

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