



Westchester Institute
for Human Development

<https://www.wihd.org>

Welcome!

Community Support Network Transition Institute 2022



THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS A PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT TRANSITION

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WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF THIS SESSION?

- Introduction to transition
- Share strategies on how to successfully navigate the transition process

The background is a dark teal gradient. In the corners, there are decorative white line-art patterns resembling circuit boards or neural networks, with lines connecting to small circles.

WHO AM I?

What have I learned as a Transition Coordinator?

What have parents taught me?

WHAT HAVE PARENTS SAID ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN'S TRANSITION TO THE ADULT WORLD?

“ I wish I had known more about transition services when my child was in school. I didn't realize how difficult it would be. It's true when they say the Yellow School Bus doesn't come anymore.”

year-old

Mother of 25-

WHAT ELSE HAVE PARENTS SAID?

“ I wish I had talked to my son more about what he had wanted to do. It’s his life and not mine.

I wish I had stressed more about self-care and independent skills. He is really struggling now as an adult.”

Mother of 30-year-old.

WHAT DID THIS DAD WISH HE HAD DONE?

“I wish I had set goals early to teach the value of money and work and encouraged independent life skills (for example, laundry, food preparation, taking public transportation) by age 13 .”

Dad of 39-year-old

WHAT ELSE HAVE PARENTS SAID?

“ I wish she had had more opportunities to volunteer and be part of the community at an early age. I sheltered him too much – I guess I was afraid”

Mother of 25-year-old year old

“ I didn't realize that I went from a system of entitlement to a system of eligibility”

Mother of 22-year-old

WHICH QUOTE RESONATES WITH YOU?

In the chat room write down the quote that resonates with you and you want to remember as you begin the transition process.

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WHAT ARE THE FIVE MOST
IMPORTANT THINGS A PARENT
CAN DO?

1. WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH YOUR SCHOOL.

Being able to work **collaboratively** with the school in identifying

Your child's strengths and needs

Future goals for your child

Needed prevocational skills

Which adult service agencies would be appropriate

START EARLY

2. HELPING YOUR CHILD DEVELOP SELF-ADVOCACY SKILLS

Students need help in developing these skills as they mature:

- Self-Awareness – understanding their strengths/interests
- Making a plan and carrying it out
- Reflecting on Results and Adapting
- Understanding their own IEP goals
- Participating in CSE Meetings – Student Directed IEP Meetings

3. TAKING A PROACTIVE ROLE IN DRIVING THE TRANSITION PROCESS

Understanding school's responsibilities

Understanding your child's IEP and diploma options

Ensuring that transition is discussed at every annual review meeting

Having a "point person" to work with in the school



LET'S LOOK AT THE TIMELINE TOGETHER

Where is your child in this process?

Let's discuss the various important steps in the transition process.

Questions?



4. HOW CAN WE REALISTICALLY SET GOALS FOR OUR CHILD POST HIGH SCHOOL?

- Encourage volunteer activities in community
- Get input from all the adults your child interacts with
- Results from transition assessments

5. LEARNING ABOUT ADULT SERVICE SYSTEMS

- ACCES-VR = Adult Career and Continuing Education Services – Vocational Rehabilitation
- OPWDD- Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
- OMH – Office of Mental Health
- College Disability Services – Think College
- ILC – Independent Living Centers

LET'S LOOK AT THE HANDOUT- NAVIGATING ADULT SERVICES

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QUESTIONS?

Please write them in the chat room.

Transition Timelines

Who?	Age	Agency/Action	Description of Service
	12	School District	Level one Assessment to determine interests of student
H I G H E R N E E D S U P P O R T S	12 and up	Register with OPWDD/DCMH If appropriate	Requirements for OPWDD (Office for People With Developmental Disabilities) are that the student must have an Generally, IQ below 60 and/or a substantial limitation in functional skills (below 70 on Adaptive Scale).
	12 and up	Attend Front Door Orientation If appropriate	OPWDD has developed a training that provide an overview of accessing services through OPWDD as well as training on self-direction. Education sessions occur monthly. Registration to attend a front door session is required. Register: http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/welcome-front-door/information_sessions
	12 and up	Attend Front Door Needs Assessment If appropriate	An assessment is to take place with a front door facilitator from the local Westchester OPWDD office.
	At age 18 or older	Guardianship If appropriate	If a parent is concerned that their child will have difficulty making everyday decisions related to food, health, finances, etc., legal guardianship should be considered. Shared Decision Making should be considered
	Before 18	Supplemental Needs Trust If appropriate	If parents are choosing to apply for SSI, they should consider opening a Supplemental Needs Trust, so the student’s money is protected and not seen as “savings” in order to meet the \$2,000 minimum.
	18	SSI Application If appropriate	<i>If appropriate</i> , once the student turns 18 they are able to apply for Supplemental Security Income. SSI makes monthly payments to individuals with disabilities who have less than \$2,000 in savings. When a student receives SSI, he/she will also receive Medicaid which is needed for all adult services
	18 (or earlier)	Apply for Care Coordination Organizations	For those students who are OPWDD eligible, parents must select a Care Coordination Organizations. CCOs are provided by OPWDD to assist persons with developmental disabilities and intellectual disabilities in gaining access to necessary services and supports appropriate to the needs of the individual.
	20--21	Tour Adult Service Agencies If appropriate	If appropriate visit various agencies. Adult Service Agencies’ mission is to empower adults with developmental disabilities to achieve their potential based on personal choices, abilities and interests. There are a variety of programs throughout Westchester County.
	18 and up	ACCES-VR If appropriate	ACCES-VR (Adult Career and Continuing Education Services- Vocational Rehabilitation) offers financial assistance based on economic need for students attending college or a post-secondary training program. They also help with finding/maintaining employment.
18	Non-Drivers ID Card/ Para Transit Application If appropriate	Department of Motor Vehicle Westchester County Office for People With Disabilities	

NAVIGATING ADULT SERVICES

	ACCES - VR	OPWDD	OMH	College Disability Services	Other Services
Contact Information	<p>Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation http://www.acces.nyse.d.gov/vr/ includes vocational rehabilitation, transition services, independent living services (listed here under other services), and business services.</p>	<p>Office for People With Developmental Disabilities http://www.opwdd.ny.gov/</p>	<p>Office of Mental Health http://www.omh.ny.gov</p>	<p>Individual college websites</p> <p>For students with intellectual disabilities, specialized programming and access information: www.thinkcollege.net</p>	<p>Department of Labor www.labor.ny.gov http://www.careerzone.ny.gov Independent Living Centers http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/independent-living-centers Department of Health https://www.health.ny.gov/</p>
Target Population	<p>Adults (post-secondary) with a documented permanent disability that impacts their ability to seek, secure and maintain employment</p>	<p>Children and adults with a documented developmental disability</p>	<p>Children and adults with a documented mental health diagnosis</p>	<p>Adult college students who have a documented disability that requires they need accommodations in order to have equal access to education</p>	<p>DOL – Youth and adults looking for employment ILC – Individuals with disabilities and their family DOH – Anyone with a health-related concern</p>

NAVIGATING ADULT SERVICES

	ACCES - VR	OPWDD	OMH	College Disability Services	Other Services
Eligibility Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical or mental impairment • Impairment impedes employment • Ability to benefit from services • Services are necessary to overcome employment barriers • EXCEPTION: individuals who are legally blind are eligible for VR services through the Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH) http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/cbvh/ 	<p>Documented Developmental Disability (prior to age 22)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual Disability • Autism • Cerebral Palsy • Epilepsy • Neurological Impairment • Closely related conditions that limit intellectual functioning 	<p>Children (before 18):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Severity of Problem Presentation 2. Immediate need based on following dimensions: Psychosis, ADHD/Impulse Control, Depression/Anxiety, Oppositional Behavior, Anti-Social Behavior, Trauma 3. Persistent home and school problems (2 yrs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Behaviors • Caregiver strengths/needs <p>Adults (over 18):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosed SPMI (Severely and Persistently Mentally Ill) by a licensed mental health professional 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-Declare Disability 2. Documentation of Disability, that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a diagnosis of your current disability • the date of the diagnosis • how the diagnosis was reached • the credentials of the professional • how your disability affects a major life activity • and how the disability affects your academic performance 	<p style="color: green;">NYS Department of Labor Universal access</p> <p style="color: orange;">Independent Living Center All disabilities – check with local provider regarding documentation requirements</p> <p style="color: blue;">NYS Department of Health Services are available based on an individual's disability or medical concern</p>

NAVIGATING ADULT SERVICES

	ACCES - VR	OPWDD	OMH	College Disability Services	Other Services
Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational counseling • Assessment • Vocational education (e.g., college or technical/ business school) • Job placement services • Job skills training • Driver evaluation training • Supported employment • Work related books, tools, licenses, and rehab technology • Referral to outside agencies for additional supports • Benefits advisement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent advocacy training • Service coordination • Family supports services and financial counseling • Residential Support • Supported Employment • Community support services (in-home support, respite) • Self-determination • Environmental Modifications (adaptive equipment) • Healthcare (Medicaid) • Benefits advisement 	<p>Children and Adult Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinic Treatment • Day Treatment • Family Support Services • Functional Family Therapy • Home and Community-Based Services Waiver • Intensive Case Management (Medicaid) • School-Based Mental Health Services • Single Point of Access • Supportive Case Management • Benefits advisement 	<p>Accommodations Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note taker • Enlarged print material • Extra time/tests • Tape record classes • Textbooks on tape • Computer voice input/output • Alternate test locations • Test/ assignments in electronic format • Interpreter 	<p><u>NYS Department of Labor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment Benefits • Career Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finding a job ○ Planning your career ○ One Stop services • Worker Protection <p><u>Independent Living Centers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Assistant Program • Peer counseling • Housing assistance • Advocacy • Information and referral • Living skills training • Benefits advisement <p><u>NYS Department of Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STD Clinic • Obesity prevention • Eating disorders • Substance abuse prevention • Pregnancy planning • Traumatic Brain Injury

NAVIGATING ADULT SERVICES

	ACCES - VR	OPWDD	OMH	College Disability Services	Other Services
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete signed application • Documentation of disability • Availability to participate in assessment and training process • Comply with requests of VR counselor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone call to intake office of an agency provider • Documentation of a developmental disability (medical record, psychological assessment, adaptive behavior scale) • Intake office prepares a Admission Packet and submits to local DDSO for eligibility determination 	Application to County Department of Mental Health	Self declare disability at the Office of Disabilities Services at the college	<p><u>NYS Department of Labor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services available online • Register at local Career Center <p><u>Independent Living Centers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact your local ILC • For a center near you: http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr/lcn/ilc/locations.htm <p><u>NYS Department of Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.health.ny.gov
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost to determine eligibility • Sponsorship in some services may be based on income and/or family resources 	Services available through Medicaid	Services available through Medicaid	No cost (although College Tuition and Admission Fees still apply)	<p><u>NYS Department of Labor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost <p><u>Independent Living Centers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost <p><u>NYS Department of Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost