



# Pennsylvania Community on **TRANSITION** Conference

**Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals**  
**July 20, 21 & 22, 2011**

**Penn Stater Conference Center & Hotel**  
**State College, PA**



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Bureau of Special Education*  
*Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*

In collaboration with other members of the Pennsylvania Community on Transition: Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network; Transition State Leadership Team: Pennsylvania Department of Education: Bureau of Special Education, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Bureau of Career and Technical Education; Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare: Office of Developmental Programs, Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, Office of Children, Youth & Families; Pennsylvania Department of Health: Bureau of Family Health, and Bureau of Community Health; Higher Education: Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research & Education at the George Washington University; Pennsylvania State University and Temple University; Parent/Advocacy Organization: Parent Education Network (PEN), PA Education & Advocacy Leadership Center (PEAL), PA Families Inc., Abilities in Motion; Hispanos Unidos para Ninos Excepcionales (HUNE); and The Mentor Parent Project, Inc.

# 2011 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference

## Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals

### Description

The vision of the PA Community on Transition is that all Pennsylvania youth and young adults with disabilities will successfully transition to the role of productive, participating, adult citizens. Youth will be empowered to recognize their talents, strengths and voice and have equal access to resources that promote full participation in the communities of their choice.

The primary purpose of this conference is to expand the capacity of schools and communities, in partnership with youth, young adults and families, in promoting the successful transition of youth/young adults with disabilities to post-school outcomes of employment, post-secondary education and training, community participation and healthy lifestyles. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about effective practices to assist youth/young adults with disabilities to break through boundaries and achieve their goals.

### Audience

Stakeholders supporting post-school outcomes for youth/young adults with disabilities, including:

- Advocates
- Agency Administrators
- Assistive Technology Professionals
- Business/Employers
- Career & Technology Educators
- CareerLink Staff
- Direct Support Providers
- Drug & Alcohol Program Workers
- Education Administrators
- Family & Caregivers
- Family Health Representatives
- Foster and Adoptive Parents
- Guidance Counselors
- Health Professionals
- Higher Education Professionals
- Independent Living Staff
- Juvenile Justice Affiliates
- Job Coaches
- Local Government Officials
- Local Service Providers
- Local Youth Councils
- Medical Assistance Program Staff
- Mental Health Services Workers
- Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists and Speech/Language Therapists
- Office of Developmental Programs Staff
- Paraprofessionals

- Partnerships for Youth Affiliates & Staff
- Psychologists
- Public & Private Child Welfare Workers
- School Nurses
- Secondary Educators
- Social Security Benefits Counselors
- Social Security Staff
- Social Workers
- Special Educators
- Transition Coordinators
- Transportation Affiliates
- Vocational Evaluators
- Vocational Rehabilitation Staff
- Workforce Investment Board Members
- Youth & Young Adults
- Youth served in Foster Care

### Focus on Conference

**The primary focal points of this year's conference are:**

- *Promoting success of all youth and young adults by addressing the transition needs of those who are at-risk and struggling*
- *Empowering families and caregivers with transition knowledge and resources*
- *Engaging youth and young adults in social interactions, understanding their potential, and building leadership skills*
- *Building leadership skills of all transition stakeholders to promote successful outcomes of youth and young adults*
- *Using transition and career assessment, universal design, accommodations and supports to build the foundation for self-determination and self-advocacy*
- *Linking transition, health and healthy lifestyles to promote success in adult life by empowerment through self-determination and self-advocacy*
- *Showcasing evidence-based and effective practices with youth outcome data*
- *Building and supporting community partnerships*

**The conference will feature:**

- *Keynote and feature presentations*
- *Approximately 80 breakout sessions*
- *Sessions and activities designed for youth and young adults by the PA Youth Leadership Network*
- *Family engaging sessions and networking opportunities*
- *Accommodations and Supports Expo, featuring a hands-on assistive technology exhibits, vendor displays and resource tables*

## Learner Outcomes

As a result of the conference, participants will be able to:

- Identify and apply the essential elements of effective transition practices, projects, and activities within the following post school outcome areas:
  - ❖ *Employment*
  - ❖ *Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation, and Independent Living*
  - ❖ *Postsecondary Education and Training*
- Foster and strengthen interagency, family/caregiver, and youth/young adult partnerships
- Identify and apply practices that best prepare youth for careers and further education by improving access to the general education curriculum through improved instruction

## Session Topic Descriptors

To assist participants in selecting sessions, topic areas have been identified for each session. As many sessions address multiple topics, the first topic listed best represents the content of the session. Sessions that are considered “Youth Engaging” and/or “Family Engaging” are listed accordingly. These codes are located under each session title.

The major topics of the conference include:

- A Focus on Youth Development & Youth Leadership
- Aligning Accommodations & Supports
- Building Knowledge, Engagement, and Empowerment of Families/Caregivers
- Employment
- Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation
- Models of Success
- Partnerships
- Post-Secondary Education & Training
- Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs
- Transition & Career Assessment
- Unified, Holistic Planning

## Credits Offered

Act 48 hours and CRCC credits are offered for all keynote, feature, and breakout sessions. Credits will be offered per day. To receive Act 48 credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the day they are requesting credits.

Act 48 – up to 15 hours; CRCC – up to 15.75 credits

**July 20, 2011:** Act 48 – 5 hours; CRC – 5.5 hours

**July 21, 2011:** Act 48 – 6 hours; CRC – 6 hours

**July 22, 2011:** Act 48 – 4 hours; CRC – 4.25 hours

## Conference Features

### Keynote and Feature Presentations

Two keynote presentations will address the important topics of youth development and youth leadership and the utilization of a collaborative and integrated approach to successful transition planning. Three feature presentations will focus on the important role health care plays in transition planning, universal design for learning, and the strengths and barriers to secondary transition from the family and young adult perspective.

### Sessions Designed by the PA Youth Leadership Network (PYLN)

The PYLN Governing Board is comprised of youth and young adults with disabilities. PYLN members have designed and will lead a number of sessions throughout the conference. These sessions are designed specifically for youth and young adults ages 16-21 who received a scholarship to attend the conference. During the sessions, PYLN members will foster an open dialogue with youth and young adults to assist them in creating, enhancing, or changing important issues that affect their everyday lives including: transition from high school to adult life; policies and practices that affect individuals with disabilities; and inclusion of youth and young adults with disabilities into all aspects of society at the national, state, and local level. The purpose of the PYLN is to develop the self-determination, empowerment, and leadership skills of youth that promotes successful post school outcomes in the areas of education, employment, independent living, and health and wellness among youth and young adults throughout Pennsylvania.

### Youth Engaging Sessions

Based upon criteria established by the PYLN, sessions have been designed as “youth engaging” and would be of special interest to youth and young adults. Sessions that are considered “Youth Engaging” are identified under the session title in this brochure.

### Family Engaging Sessions

Based upon criteria established by family organizations, sessions have been designed as “family engaging” and would be of special interest to families. Sessions that are considered “Family Engaging” are identified under the session title in this brochure.

### Accommodations, Supports and Resources Expo, Reception & Raffle

This interactive, hands-on Expo is designed for participants to learn about specific assistive technology, resources, supports, and services available to youth. Participants can gather valuable information from transition partners, conference presenters, and community resources. Participants can visit

the poster sessions presented by the recipients of the Bureau of Special Education Performance Grants – Transition from School to Community-Based Employment for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Opportunities will be provided throughout the conference to earn raffle tickets. On Thursday afternoon, items representative of the Keystone state will be raffled off. **You must be present to win at the reception!**

## Recreation, Leisure, and Activity Fair

Join us Friday morning, July 22<sup>nd</sup> for an active and engaging recreation, leisure, and activity fair. This event is designed for participants to learn about specific assistive technology, resources, supports, and services available throughout Pennsylvania to assist youth and young adults in maintaining a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle. Attendees can participate in hands-on activities and gather valuable information from transition partners, conference presenters, and community resources.

## Feature Presenters

**Jonathan R. Pletcher, MD**, *Assistant Professor, The Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC*

Dr. Pletcher is a Pediatrician and Adolescent Medicine Specialist who has worked extensively throughout Pennsylvania on issues related to Adolescent and Transitional Health Care. For over a decade, he has been involved with research, advocacy, program development, and direct care for youth with special needs as they transition to adult roles and responsibilities. His experience spans the state, having trained and begun his career at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He worked for nearly two years in Allentown with the Lehigh Valley Hospital Network designing and implementing an adolescent health center with a focus on preparing for transition. A native of Pittsburgh, he has been with Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC for over a year, continuing to work on ways to prepare and support young adults and families before, during, and after the transfer to adult-oriented health care systems.

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**Thursday, July 21, 2011** - Feature Presentation – Session 502 (8:30 am–10:00 am) - *Navigating the Maze: Transition from Pediatric to Adult Health Care*

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**Lynnae Ruttledge**, *Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services Administration of the United States*

Lynnae M. Ruttledge was appointed to her present position by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in December of 2009. Ms. Ruttledge began her public service career in Michigan as a classroom teacher in the public school system. Before her appointment as

Commissioner, Ms. Ruttledge served as the Director of the Washington Department of Social and Health Service, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, where she was responsible for leading a program that worked annually with more than 23,000 individuals with significant disabilities to achieve their vocational goals. She has also served in leadership positions at the Oregon Department of Human Services, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Lynnae has received numerous recognitions and awards, including serving as a Mary E. Switzer Scholar on Emerging Workforce Issues with the National Rehabilitation Association in 2000. She was honored with the Oregon Governor's Award as Disabled Oregonian of the Year in 2000 and with the Washington Governor's Award for Leadership in Management in 2007. From 1988-2009 she served in the Mobility International USA disability rights international exchange programs in China, Russia, New Zealand/Australia, Germany, Zimbabwe, Uzbekistan, Peru, Qatar, Mali, and Canada. As Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Ms. Ruttledge provides national level leadership and serves as a catalyst for change to increase the employment of people with disabilities through more effective partnerships at the federal level.

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**Wednesday, July 20, 2011** – Opening Keynote Presentation – Session 101 (10:00 am-11:00 am) - *Breaking Boundaries-Achieving Goals: An Integrated Approach to Successful Transition*

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**Dr. Frances G. Smith**, *CVE Coordinator of Technology and Distance Learning with the Virginia Department of Education's Training and Technical Assistance Center/ Affiliate Faculty Member in the School of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA*

*Dr. Frances (Fran) G. Smith, Certified Vocational Evaluator (CVE)* has followed the fields of instructional and assistive technology for the past 20+ years and integrated these approaches in her work as a vocational evaluation practitioner in rehabilitations and secondary public schools, assistive technology provider and trainer, staff development trainer, and college instructor. She earned her Ed.D. from the George Washington University in 2008 for her study "Perceptions of Universal Design for Learning in College Classrooms". She is the co-author of a national position paper, *Universal design for learning in vocational evaluation and assessment* for the Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment Professionals Association (VECAP). During the summer of 2001, she attended the Institute on Universal Design for Learning at the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST). In 2006, she was an invited keynote speaker at the international symposium on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) at UNIFE University, Lima, Peru. In

2007, she was a participant at the first national summit on UDL in Washington, DC and, currently represents (VECAP) on the National Taskforce on UDL and participates on a UDL workgroup for the IDEA Partnership. Fran serves as the Technology Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Education's Training and Technical Assistance Center and an affiliate faculty in the School of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University. She is also a visiting adjunct professor at the George Washington University where she has taught a graduate course in UDL for the Department of Teacher Preparation and Special Education since 2003 and received a grant towards development of this course from the national Faculty Administrative Modules in Education (FAME) project.

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**Thursday, July 21, 2011** - Feature Presentation – Session 501  
(8:30 am–10:00 am) – *Expanding Career Options through Universal Design for Learning*

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## Contact Information

For questions about registration, contact:

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# 2011 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference

## Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals

### Agenda

#### Wednesday, July 20, 2011

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.   | Registration  |
| 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  | Networking Breakfast (Continental)  |
| 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Opening Keynote Presentations   |
| 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. | Break   |
| 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. | Breakout Session 1  |
| 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.  | Lunch will be provided  |
| 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.   | Breakout Session 2  |
| 3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.   | Break   |
| 3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.   | Breakout Session 3  |
| 5:15 p.m.               | Dinner on Your Own  |
| 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.   | Social Event for Youth and Young Adults {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} |

#### Thursday, July 21, 2011

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.   | Registration  |
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.   | Continental Breakfast   |
| 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  | Feature Presentation  |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Break   |
| 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  | Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo                                       |
| 10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Breakout Session 4  |
| 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. | Lunch will be provided  |
| 12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.  | Breakout Session 5  |
| 2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.   | Break   |
| 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.   | Breakout Session 6  |
| 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.   | Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo Reception & Raffle (4:45 p.m. Raffle) |
| 5:00 p.m.               | Dinner on Your Own  |
| 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.   | Social Event for Youth and Young Adults {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} |

#### Friday, July 22, 2011

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.   | Registration                           |
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.   | Full Breakfast                         |
| 8:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  | Recreation, Leisure, and Activity Fair |
| 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  | Breakout Session 7                     |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Break                                  |
| 10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Breakout Session 8                     |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  | Closing Keynote Presentation           |

# Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals: An Integrated Approach to Successful Transition

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

## 101. Opening Keynote Presentation (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

### Breaking Boundaries-Achieving Goals: An Integrated Approach to Successful Transition

During this opening keynote session Commissioner Ruttledge and members of the Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network will discuss the goals and priorities of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services and how those goals connect to the current effective practices occurring throughout the United States that enable youth and young adults to achieve their post-secondary goals.

*Lynnae Ruttledge, Commissioner Rehabilitation Services Administration*

*Pennsylvania Transition State Leadership Team Members  
PA Youth Leadership Network Governing Board Members*

## Breakout Session 1 (11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)

### 201. Dare to be Self-Aware

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

Learn the steps and benefits to becoming self-aware by looking at yourself. Barriers turn to opportunities and difficulties turn to assets while avoiding pitfalls. This session will be interactive. Videos and stories of personal experiences will be shared with participants.

*Joe Snyder, Life and Independence for Today*

*Hope Weichman, Life and Independence for Today*

*Charlie Williamson, Life and Independence for Today*

### 202. What are Evidence-Based Practices for Transition?

*Promoting Success for All Youth [Family Engaging]*

The purpose of this session is to enhance the understanding of families and professionals working with transition-age youth regarding the state of the research on best practices in transition and the extent to which practices are evidence-based. Participants will learn about the distinction between evidence-based practices (EBPs)

and predictors of post school outcomes. Resources for identifying and implementing EBPs for improving transition-related skills will be provided. Useful resources to assist in identifying and implementing EBPs will be shared.

*Audrey Bartholomew, National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center*

*Clare Papay, Arcadia University*

### 203. Aligning Student Outcomes with Assessment Data Transition & Career Assessment [Family Engaging]

In order to better conduct the transition process for students, the presenters will discuss the importance of utilizing student assessment and achievement data to guide the discussion at IEP team meetings when working through "unrealistic" goals for students. Keys to writing summaries that are meaningful and working through the problems that arise when the results of assessments conflict with the goals of the student and family will also be discussed. We will include several theoretical scenarios that will require group participation as well as a participant-driven Q&A.

*Susan Grant, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*

*Lisa Kellick, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*

### 204. Utilizing Mentorships, Internships, and Portfolios for Transition Activities Models of Success [Family Engaging]

In this session, learn how mentoring, internship experiences and portfolio development are used by the Start on Success program currently in place in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. Participants will have the opportunity to practice applying techniques during this interactive work session.

*Crystal Evans, Pittsburgh Public Schools*

*Ashley McFall, Pittsburgh Public Schools*

**205. Partnering with Employers: Work - Based Learning  
Employment; Partnerships [Family Engaging]**

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This multimedia presentation will address a non-traditional approach for transition planning. Utilizing a person-centered approach, the presenters will demonstrate how the use of personal artifacts, assessment tools, along with youth and family engagement can lead to successful outcomes for all students.

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**Sandy Merritt**, Astra Zeneca  
**Bill Silva**, Embassy Suites, Newark  
**Cindy Sterling**, Opportunity Center Inc.  
**Deborah Talley**, Opportunity Center Inc.

**206. Transition from High School to College  
Post-Secondary Education & Training [Family Engaging]  
[Youth Engaging]**

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Topics such as explaining one's disability in laymen terms and the differences between the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) will be explored in this interactive presentation. Furthermore, accommodation requests in postsecondary education, Social Security benefits, the possibility of procuring vocational rehabilitation funding for tuition and assistive technology, as well as time management and study skills will be addressed.

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**Christie Gilson**, Moravian College  
**Seth Hoderewski**, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

**207. PA Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services'  
(BBVS) Summer Academy  
Models of Success; Unified, Holistic Planning  
[Youth Engaging] [Family Engaging]**

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This session will provide an overview of the Summer Academy for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired, a program presented by PA BBVS in partnership with PaTTAN. Results of surveys conducted with students who attended the Summer Academy in 2009 and 2010 will be presented. A discussion on student reports and how the information and recommendations can be a part of the students IEP and transition process will also take place during the session.

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**Debby Holzapfel**, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh  
**Anne Strollo**, Blindness & Visual Services  
**Stan Swaintek**, Blindness & Visual Services  
**Karen Walsh-Emma**, Blindness & Visual Services

**208. Toolkit to Build and Sustain Local Collaboratives  
Partnerships [Family Engaging]**

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The transition of youth with disabilities is a complex maze, requiring coordination of multiple partners and service delivery systems. To develop a unified approach, communities of practice (CoPs) provide a framework to pave the road to employment for individuals. During this session, participants will be introduced to this learning and change strategy, and examples will be provided. Step-by-step instructions and a toolkit will be provided to help participants form and cultivate local and regional collaboratives.

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**Joan Kester**, The George Washington University, Mid-Atlantic Technical Assistance & Continuing Education Center

**209. Overview of the Secondary Transition Process  
A Unified Process Series (Transition 101) [Family Engaging]**

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This informational session is designed for families, caregivers and other "new" conference attendees. The session will provide an introduction to the secondary transition process and related transition services. Participants will receive an outline of the other relevant Transition 101 sessions at this year's conference and will be provided with a guide to resources in Pennsylvania.

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**Linda Loar**, Educational Consultant

**210. Students Planning for Their Own Future  
Building Knowledge, Engagement, and Empowerment of  
Families/Caregivers; Models of Success; Post-Secondary  
Education & Training [Youth Engaging] [Family Engaging]**

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Is transition a process that is being done to students? Are young people meaningfully engaged in planning for their future and working toward their own goals? ACT Now is a project of the Berks County Transition Coordinating Council that is funded by the PA Developmental Disabilities Council. The project prepares young people to make informed decisions about their own future, through collaboration with their families, schools and community. To make informed choices, students need to understand their interests, aptitudes and skills, as well as the resources available to them. Students also need explicit instruction and many opportunities to practice decision making, action planning and problem solving skills. In this session, materials and strategies that empower students to be actively engaged in planning for their own future will be shared.

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**Lavinia Garcia Ritter**, ACT Now Grant  
**Jaelyn Kratzer**, Abilities in Motion  
**Mary Mazzoni**, Berks County Intermediate Unit/ACT Now Grant  
**Erin Webb**, Kutztown Area School District

**211. Career Portfolios With “I” Statements:  
Personalizing Transition Planning**  
*Transition & Career Assessment [Family Engaging]*

The intent of this session is to present a useful portfolio tool with outcome statements that teachers and counselors may use with students at any grade level to enhance their career maturity and transition planning. An additional outcome of this session will be to demonstrate how the written “I” statements can be used to integrate the Career Education and Work Standards into the curriculum to enhance effective transition planning for students with disabilities.

*Michael Thompson, Central Penn College*

**212. Taking the First Step: Welcome to the  
Conference - Youth and Young Adult  
Orientation Session {PA Youth Leadership  
Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)**  
*Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

The PYLN will host this informational session to familiarize the youth and young adults with the conference. This session will include discussions about the youth engaging sessions and other activities planned throughout this year's conference. This session will also describe the PYLN, introduce the governing board members, and allow youth to check out what's new with the PYLN.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

**Lunch: (12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.)**

**Breakout Session 2**  
**(2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.)**

**301. PA Youth Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Transition  
Program – Youth, Ages 15-19**  
*A Focus on Youth Development & Youth Leadership; Healthy  
Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation;  
Transition & Career Assessment [Family Engaging] [Youth  
Engaging]*

Youth, ages 15 to 19, is one of the two age groups at the highest risk for TBI. There is increased risk for mild brain injury from recreational or sports injuries, which, if not properly diagnosed, can result in learning, emotional, or social impairments that may ultimately affect the youth's success in life. Appropriate identification and screening could result in more timely and appropriate interventions that can, in many cases, help the youth and his/her family get back on course, or be more informed about altering their direction in life, rather

than letting the child's life direction be determined by misunderstood failures and/or disappointments.

*Symme Trachtenberg, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

**302. Pennsylvania's Intellectual Disability/Mental  
Retardation System: An Overview**  
*Building Knowledge, Agency Information (Transition 101)  
[Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

This session offers family members a description of how the Pennsylvania Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation system works and the resources it offers. Presenters will give guidance on navigating the process.

*The PA Training Partnership for People with Disabilities  
and Families*

**303. Project Search + Team Meetings = SUCCESS**  
*Models of Success [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

Project Search is a one-year internship program for students with disabilities in their last year of high school. In Allegheny County, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), as employer, partners with participating school districts, Goodwill of Southwestern PA, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), and Allegheny County Department of Human Services, Office of Intellectual Disability. This session highlights the impact monthly team meetings between Project Search partners has had on the success of participating students from the Elizabeth Forward School District.

*Mike Huber, Elizabeth Forward School District  
Holly Opatick, Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania*

**304. I Led My Own Transition Team Meeting**  
*Youth Development & Youth Leadership [Family Engaging]*

Developing self-advocacy and self-determination skills are essential components of transition planning for young adults with intellectual disabilities. Join this panel of young adults, their support staff, and administrators as they discuss their successful experiences in leading their own team meetings.

*Kelvin Altemose, Lehigh University  
Julie Beaulieu, Young Adult  
Will Gomes, Young Adult  
Dolly Hoffman, Lehigh University  
Amanda Helman, Lehigh University  
Freya Koger, Lehigh University  
Melissa Lentz, Parent  
Noel Lentz, Young Adult*

### 305. Youth and Family Driven Community Supports and Services through High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) and the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP)

*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

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Collaboration and cooperation are two essential elements needed for successful support of youth and their families. HFW and CASSP are based on these elements. This session will describe HFW and CASSP and provide participants with suggestions on how to encourage collaboration and cooperation in your county, local community and schools. The session will also emphasize working closely with youth and families to identify and build on their strengths to meet the critical needs they have identified while building close working relationships with various system partners and natural support systems.

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*Sheila Bressler, Berks County MH/MR Program  
Shannon Fagan, Youth and Family Training Institute*

### 306. HGAC: Transitioning from the IEP to a Successful IPE

*Post-Secondary Education & Training; Agency Information (Transition 101) [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

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As part of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) referral, the customer's IEP (Individual Educational Plan) is used as part of the process to determine eligibility for service. After the customer meets OVR eligibility criteria and is accepted for services, an Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) is developed. Part of that plan may be a referral to the Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC) for educational, vocational and rehabilitative services that will help the customer in achieving his or her goals in the IPE. This presentation will be provided in panel form made up of HGAC staff, as well as a HGAC student/OVR customer.

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*Jill Moriconi, Hiram G. Andrews  
Karen Sunday, Hiram G. Andrews  
Darlene Seals, Hiram G. Andrews*

### 307. Reality Check: Navigating the Bumpy Road to Adulthood

*Employment [Family Engaging]*

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Elwyn Institute has developed a non-traditional Career Supports model program. It combines working with schools, parents, the Social Security Ticket to Work Program and an ongoing Career Curriculum Series once a student has graduated.

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*Ellen Thomas, Elwyn  
Joseph Gousie, Elwyn*

### 308. Show me the Evidence! Work Experience Programs Employment [Family Engaging]

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The most predictive factor regarding post-school employment of youth with disabilities is their participation in work experience programs during high school. While we have many work-based experience (paid and unpaid) programs, how do we know if the design is effective? This session will be a facilitated dialogue about best practices in designing programs to ensure we use data to drive the process.

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*Joan Kester, The George Washington University, Mid-Atlantic Technical Assistance & Continuing Education Center*

### 309. An Overview of PA's Indicator 13 and 14 Process A Unified Process Series (Transition 101) [Family Engaging]

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This session will provide an overview of the Indicator 13 and 14 processes in Pennsylvania. The Indicator 13 model in Pennsylvania includes the process of incorporating age-appropriate transition assessments with a focus on post-school goals in developing measurable annual IEP goals and transition services. Information regarding the outcome data from Pennsylvania's past cohort years as well as details regarding the training plan for Cohort year # 4 targeted local education agencies will be provided. This session will also offer interested stakeholders information regarding the focus on accountability for results that "ensure a bright and successful future for all youth with disabilities" and will ensure that Pennsylvania meets the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Indicator 14 reporting requirements.

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*John Cica, Educational Consultant  
Rosemary Nilles, Pennsylvania Training & Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh  
Michael Stoehr, Pennsylvania Training & Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

### 310. Engaging Parents in the Transition Journey Building Knowledge, Engagement, and Empowerment of Families/Caregivers; Models of Success [Family Engaging]

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The ACT Now Grant is a project of the Berks County Transition Coordinating Council that is funded by the PA Developmental Disabilities Council. The project prepares young people to make informed decisions about their future, through collaboration with their families, schools and community. A key component of this intensive project is to provide families with information on transition planning so that parents and caregivers can support their youth with disabilities as they transition to adult life. Presenters will describe how the project has collaborated with multiple community partners to address the needs of parents and caregivers. Participants will learn about a variety of innovative replicable strategies and event formats to engage and inform parents and youth in the transition

process. These strategies and event formats have been developed and adapted with the input of family members.

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*Lavinia Garcia Ritter, ACT Now Grant*  
*Jaclyn Kratzer, Abilities in Motion*  
*Mary Mazzoni, Berks County Intermediate Unit/ACT Now Grant*  
*Cissy McKeon, Act Now Grant*

**311. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)**  
*Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

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Youth and young adults attending this year's conference will have the opportunity to participate in one of three interactive presentations during breakout sessions two and three. Topics discussed during these afternoon sessions include self-determination, goal setting, and healthy relationships.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

**Breakout Session 3**  
**(3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.)**

**401. Transition Coordination: What Works!**  
*Models of Success [Family Engaging]*

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The purpose of this panel discussion is to provide participants with information on how Pittsburgh Public Schools uses innovative, creative, and individualized services to help promote successful transition of students with disabilities to adult life.

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*Crystal Evans, Pittsburgh Public Schools*  
*Rachel Whealdon, Pittsburgh Public Schools*

**402. Self-Advocacy**  
*Youth Development & Youth Leadership [Youth Engaging]*

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This interactive session for people with disabilities defines self-advocacy and explains an individual's rights, when and how to speak up so one will be listened to, and the importance of self-advocacy.

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*The PA Training Partnership for People with Disabilities and Families*

**403. Building Bridges to Employment through Effective Agency Collaboration**  
*Employment; Partnerships [Family Engaging]*

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The Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation – Pittsburgh District Office (OVR) and Allegheny County's Office of Intellectual Disability (OID) are committed stakeholders in the successful post-secondary employment

outcomes of many shared individuals, transition-age and beyond. This session will provide information about the background, benefits, and processes of interagency collaboration between OVR and OID. Attendees will be able to apply the information presented to replicate similar collaboration models, with an ultimate goal of achieving seamless transition for consumers utilizing employment services.

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*Stacey Matthias, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*  
*Chris Rodocker, Allegheny County Office of Intellectual Disabilities*

**404. From Dreams to Employment Realities: An Overview of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)**  
*Employment [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

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Competitive employment is the dream of many youth and young adults with disabilities in Pennsylvania. This session will provide participants with information regarding the services and supports offered through OVR and will familiarize participants with each step to receiving OVR services from applying for services thru case closure.

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*Rich Fischer, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*  
*Stan Swaintek, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*  
*Lynn Zale, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*

**405. Electronic Healthcare Notebook**  
*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging]*

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Learn how to create a portable customized medical summary of your young adult's healthcare. Participants will receive a flash drive with forms already loaded and will learn how to maintain an ongoing record.

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*Joan Badger, PEAL Center*

**406. Cyber Wisdom: Do You Have Internet Good Sense?**  
*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging]*

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Learn about the potential long-term implications of one's use of social networks, blogs, and the Internet in general as well as the potential danger of malware, worms, and hackers to one's personal identity. Participants will acquire "cyber wisdom" as a result of this session.

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*Nancy Evans, Indiana University of Pennsylvania*  
*Barbara Telthorster, The Arc of Indiana County*

#### 407. HGAC's Assistive Technology Center: Breaking Technology Barriers

*Aligning Accommodations & Supports; Agency Information [Family Engaging]*

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At this session, learn about the newly developed, innovative Assistive Technology Center at Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC). At the Assistive Technology Center, an individual with a disability can be evaluated and trained on the effective use of their assistive technology equipment to increase skill, productivity, and usability of equipment. Enhanced employability is the ultimate focus of this program.

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*Roger Little, University of Pittsburgh  
Anne Yurcisin, Hiram G. Andrews Center*

#### 408. Writing Standards-Aligned Measurable Annual Goals for the IEP

*Promoting Success for All Youth [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

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Federal requirements for IEPs for students ages 14 and older include “coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals, and transition services that will lead to post-secondary goals.” Measurable annual goals aligned to Pennsylvania Academic Standards for reading and/or math are required for students who will take the PSSA-M, and are recommended as effective practice for all students. This session will review, in detail, the process for developing standards-aligned measurable annual academic goals that contain the four required components: condition, student name, clearly defined behavior, and performance criteria. Participants will practice writing one or more standards-aligned measurable annual goals based on clearly identified present levels of academic performance.

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*Rosemary Nilles, Pennsylvania Training & Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

#### 409. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

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Youth and young adults attending this year's conference will have the opportunity to participate in one of three interactive presentations during breakout sessions two and three. Topics discussed during these afternoon sessions include self-determination, goal setting, and healthy relationships.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

# Breaking Boundaries-Achieving Goals: Ensuring Healthy Transitions for All Youth and Young Adults

Thursday, July 21, 2011  
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## Feature Presentation (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)

### 501. Expanding Career Options through Universal Design for Learning *Transition & Career Assessment [Family Engaging]*

Using the framework of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), this presentation will demonstrate how the melding of the process of career assessment and effective UDL instructional strategies, coupled with portable, digital, and social media technologies can be used to reduce barriers to employment opportunities. The presenters will share the innovative practices, technology tools developed, and targeted UDL approaches that enabled youth to become more independent at their community work sites. Hear from students, families, and volunteers on how virtual Career Coach mentoring impacts student's career opportunities.

*Lynn Dowd, CareerWorks, Inc.*  
*Lindsay Harris, PHILLIPs Programs, Annandale School*  
*Dr. Fran G. Smith, Virginia Commonwealth University*

### 502. Navigating the Maze: Transition from Pediatric to Adult Health Care *Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging]*

As youth transition into adulthood, the primary goal from a health care perspective is for the young person and his/her family to learn to manage his/her health condition, access needed services and resources, and to live in the community as independently as possible with skill and self-confidence. In this feature presentation, Dr. Pletcher will present ideas and practices developed through his clinical experiences. Issues such as planning for transition, coping with changing health care providers, identifying the 'right' adult-oriented provider, and navigating the myriad changes to health care and insurance systems will be highlighted.

*Jonathan Pletcher, MD, The Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC*

### 503. Been There, Done That: A Transition Discussion from Young Adults and Family Members Who Have Navigated Through the Process

This facilitated discussion will feature insights regarding the secondary transition process and the realities of life after high school. Presenting on this session's panel will be three young adults with varying disabilities and their family members. Information will be provided regarding the strengths and limitations of services and supports provided during the various stages of transition, along with suggestions for tools and strategies that lead to success in adulthood.

*Joan Davin, Family Member*  
*Peter Davin, Young Adult*  
*Andrew Gaertner, Young Adult*  
*Dr. Andrew Gaertner, Family Member*  
*Ana Pacheco, Family Member*  
*Joel Pacheco, Young Adult*

### 504. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only) *Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

This feature session for youth and young adults attending this year's conference will focus on strategies to build confidence, self esteem, and empowerment.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

## Breakout Session 4 (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)

### 601. School to Work: Building Successful Life Transitions for Young People Living with Epilepsy *Employment; Models of Success [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

Individuals with epilepsy face unique challenges as they prepare for adulthood. The Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central Pennsylvania (EFWCP) offers a successful model that addresses the need for self-advocacy along with increased knowledge and

understanding of epilepsy among employers. The model includes the pairing of youth with epilepsy with a mentor in his/her career field of interest as well as an outreach program targeting major employers in Western Pennsylvania.

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*Hanna Bartell, Young Adult*  
*Francine Reyher, Epilepsy Foundation Western/Central PA*  
*Katie Sprague, Young Adult*

### **602. Being TransitionABLE: Allentown Building Life Experience**

*Models of Success [Family Engaging]*

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During this session, a team of presenters will share transition programs and give tips to those interested in expanding and replicating practices. Areas of focus include Student Transition Portfolios, creating work experiences in the community, starting your own business, and planning a Transition Expo.

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*Matthew Bronson, Allentown School District*  
*Elizabeth Morales, Allentown School District*

### **603. Making Your Community-Based Vocational Instruction (CBVI) Program a Success**

*Employment [Family Engaging]*

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There are certain critical elements that should be included in all CBVI programs. Participants will learn about the specific elements required for a successful CBVI program in practical terms. The presenters will review recommended documentation and will provide samples that participants can adapt to fit their schools' needs.

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*Karen Pepkin, Region 4 Education Service Center*

### **604. Connecting the Dots: Housing/ Services for Independent Living**

*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging]*

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This session will describe various provisions in PA's Home & Community Based Service Waivers that need to be considered in developing independent living models such as the "30 hour rule" under the Consolidated waiver, the "50 hour rule" under the Autism waiver and "community integration" under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) waiver. The presenters will also describe creative approaches to coordinating home management and supportive services including micro-boards, mini-boards, and co-ops and provide information on actual examples of these models.

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*Michael Anderson, HomeWorks Project*  
*David Gates, PA Health Law Project*  
*Susan Tachau, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation*

### **605. It Takes a Team: Active Participation in College**

*Post- Secondary Education & Training; Partnerships [Family Engaging] [Young Engaging]*

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Learn how supports and modifications can be provided in college to promote a successful inclusion for young adults with disabilities. Participants will learn from the experiences and perspectives as well as the collaborative and strategic approach from an innovative team.

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*Julie Beaulieu, Young Adult*  
*Amanda Helman, Lehigh University*  
*Dolly Hoffman, Lehigh University*  
*Freya Koger, Lehigh University*  
*Colleen Tomko, Parent*  
*Shaun Tomko, Young Adult*

### **606. A Defined and Successful Transition Program**

*Models of Success [Family Engaging]*

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This session will cover a result oriented, supportive, student-centered, and comprehensive program that is planned to facilitate a student's movement from school to employment, living and community participation.

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*Jacque Murray, Vanguard Transition Center*

### **607. Pathways and Partnerships for Successful Transition Models: Part I**

*Employment [Youth Engaging]*

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This two part session will consist of representatives from four unique practices from across the Commonwealth. Included on this panel will be members of the primary care practice team, community partners, youth and family representatives. Part 1 of this presentation will highlight primary care practice models throughout Pennsylvania with a focus on efforts to ensure successful transitions for individuals with disabilities.

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*Kristine Hannibal, MD Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh*  
*Raymond Hubbard, MD Reading Pediatrics*  
*Sarah McDonald, MD Kid's First High Point*  
*Jarret Patton, MD Lehigh Valley Hospital*  
*Gail Wagner, RN Kid's First High Point*

### **608. Promoting Employment through Social Security Work Incentive Counseling**

*Employment; Agency Information (Transition 101) [Family Engaging]*

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Social Security Administration benefits are difficult to understand. This presentation clearly describes Work Incentives Planning Assistance which can begin at age 14. Participants will learn about Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability Insurance, Ticket to Work, and Medicaid Buy In and specific work incentives.

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*Michelle Heath, AHEDD*  
*Joy Smith, AHEDD*

## 609. The Value of Remote Training for Transitioning Youth

*Aligning Accommodations & Supports; Post- Secondary Education & Training; [Family Engaging]*

This session will present information on the significance of remote assistive technology training for individuals participating in post-secondary education programs. The presenters will review and analyze various technologies that allow for remote training to occur. Included in this presentation will be the analysis of technologies as simple as an iGoogle account, to tools as sophisticated as webinar meetings. The presenters will also review practical applications for the use of Skype (Video Calling) and offer realistic suggestions as to how all of these tools can be linked to mobile devices such as cellular phones, iPods, and iPads. Pragmatic examples of the most beneficial ways to include the appropriate technology into transition students' evaluations, to achieve the optimal academic experience for each individual will be explored.

*Seth Acosta, The Sierra Group, Inc.  
Michael Fiore, The Sierra Group, Inc.*

## 610. Meeting the Needs of Pennsylvania's Adult Autism Community

*Knowledge Building; Agency Information (Transition 101) [Family Engaging]*

Learn about the Bureau of Autism Services including PA autism census data, the Adult Autism Waiver, the Adult Community Autism Program and findings from the Regional Autism Service, Education, Research, and Training (ASERT) Needs Assessment. Resources to support transitioning students with autism and their families through the Bureau of Autism Services will be shared.

*Erica Wexler, Bureau of Autism Services, Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)*

## 611. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only) Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]

Youth and young adults attending this year's conference will have the opportunity to participate in one of three interactive presentations during breakout sessions four, five, and six. Topics discussed during today's sessions include advocacy strategies in high school, planning for post secondary education and employment, and understanding and using accommodations.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

**Lunch (11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)**

**Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo  
(10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)**

**Breakout Session 5  
(12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.)**

## 701. Employment Coalition and Funding Options: Working toward SUCCESS

*Employment [Family Engaging]*

This presentation is an informative panel discussion providing an overview of the who, what, when, where and how of the Employment Coalition. Participants will gain knowledge and understanding of how to access funding to support youth and young adults ages 16 through 26 with their employment goals.

*Jennifer Baur, Colonial Intermediate Unit 20  
Jeneanne Gombert, Lehigh County MH/MR  
Lucille Piggott-Prawl, The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties*

## 702. Youth with Mental Health Disabilities: Building Skills for Success - Part I

*Aligning Accommodations & Supports [Family Engaging]*

In this two part session, the presenter will provide a guided tour of the Smart Futures' programs to assist youth with mental health disabilities in achieving post-school success. Included in this presentation will be skill-building strategies that family members, school personnel, and agency personnel can use to support youth and young adults diagnosed with mental health disabilities.

*Elizabeth Coyle, Professional Development Services*

## 703. Ask the Experts: Civil Service Employment and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)

*Employment [Family Engaging]*

Come ask your questions about Civil Service employment and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) during this roundtable presentation. Information will be shared about the Civil Service employment process and the role of OVR in helping individuals with disabilities find employment.

*Rob Hodapp, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Paula Marinak, Pennsylvania State Civil Service Commission*

## 704. Navigating Health Insurance into Adulthood in 2011

*Knowledge Building; Agency Information (Transition 101)  
[Family Engaging]*

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A comprehensive overview of eligibility for Medical Assistance (MA) and Social Security Income (SSI) including how coverage of services changes when a youth is no longer a public school student. This presentation will also include changes mandated to MA by the federal health care reform law (the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)).

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*David Gates, PA Health Law Project  
Liz Healey, PEAL Center*

## 705. Pathways and Partnerships for Successful Transition Models: Part II

*Models of Success [Family Engaging]*

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This follow up to session #607 will continue the discussion regarding primary care practice models throughout Pennsylvania. Representatives from each model program will discuss an overview of their primary care model and a parent and youth from each practice will relate how the preparation was beneficial, discuss any challenges, and make recommendations for the future.

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*Kristine Hannibal, MD Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Raymond Hubbard, MD Reading Pediatrics  
Sarah McDonald, MD Kid's First High Point  
Jarret Patton, MD Lehigh Valley Hospital  
Gail Wagner, RN Kid's First High Point*

## 706. Cognitive Skills Enhancement Program for Transition - Age Youth

*Models of Success (Family Engaging)*

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Learn about the Cognitive Skills Enhancement Program (CSEP), a collaboration between the Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC) and the University of Pittsburgh Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology. CSEP is based on the literature and models of cognitive rehabilitation, including Prigatano and Ben-Yishay. The individual program components are evidence-based or promising practices. Through a model that includes an evidence matrix, clinicians are able to organize and critically evaluate disability and rehabilitation evidence. Various aspects of CSEP have potential to be replicated in a variety of community-based rehabilitation settings.

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*Jessica Bottorff, Hiram G. Andrews Center  
Sara Gales, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Jamie Schutte, University of Pittsburgh*

## 707. BrainSTEPS: Transitioning Youth with Brain Injuries

*Promoting Success for All Youth [Family Engaging]*

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The PA BrainSTEPS Brain Injury School Program has been working with school districts to actively and accurately identify and classify students with brain injuries so that students receive the correct cognitive supports and compensatory strategies. The goal of this statewide program is to ensure that all children with acquired brain injuries receive optimal best practices in educational programming, strategies, and transition services for positive outcomes. Objectives focus on connecting educational, medical, and rehab facilities, community and government agencies, and families, by having them serve together on regional Intermediate Unit brain injury consulting teams.

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*Brenda Eagan Brown, BrainSTEPS Program  
Sarah Krusen, Bucks County Intermediate Unit 22*

## 708. Solving Ethical Dilemmas in Transition Partnerships [Family Engaging]

This session will provide an overview of ethical situations faced by transition stakeholders when serving youth and young adults with disabilities. Important topics such as confidentiality, disability disclosure, and youth empowerment will be discussed. Be prepared to discuss ethical dilemmas you face in your everyday work.

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*Joan Kester, The George Washington University, Mid-Atlantic Technical Assistance & Continuing Education Center*

## 709. Centers for Independent Living: What's Happening with Youth

*Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101)  
[Family Engaging]*

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Centers for Independent Livings (CILs) are a key agency for which transitioning students should be connected with as they plan for their future. Come hear a panel discussion of how a CIL can help you and your family.

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*Jackie Kratzer, Abilities in Motion*

## 710. Step by Step Guide to Vocational Rehabilitation Services

*Knowledge Building; Agency Information (Transition 101)  
[Family Engaging]*

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The PA Client Assistance Program (CAP) statewide advocates for applicants/clients of the OVR system, will detail, discuss, and discard any myths regarding vocational rehabilitation services. The session will provide participants with the knowledge of how the VR process works and familiarize you with each step to receiving OVR

services from applying for services thru closure and, if necessary, appeals. The focus on Self-Advocacy skills, will not only help with the VR experiences but with navigating school, getting employment, and even buying a car or home.

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*Lee Lippi, PA Client Assistance Program*  
*Margaret McKenna, PA Client Assistance Program*

## Breakout Session 6 (2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

### 711. Incorporating Health Information Into Transition Planning: A Catalyst For Success *Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging]*

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This session will focus on ensuring that an individual's medical needs are considered and incorporated in transition planning. Issues to be addressed include: the use of self-advocacy strategies in assisting the young adult in understanding his/her medical diagnosis and functional daily living needs; the impact health-related issues have on post-secondary goals; and how to ensure these topics are incorporated into the transition plan. This session will also address The Pennsylvania Department of Health's (PA DOH) Special Kid's Network System of Care Statewide Transportation Initiative. The purpose of this PA DOH initiative is to assist school districts in identifying gaps that exist within their transportation infrastructure.

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*Joan Badger, Parent Education & Advocacy Leadership (PEAL)*  
*Carol Gettemy, PA Department of Health, Southwest District*  
*Michael Stoehr, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

### 712. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only) *Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

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Youth and young adults attending this year's conference will have the opportunity to participate in one of three interactive presentations during breakout sessions four, five, and six. Topics discussed during today's sessions include advocacy strategies in high school, planning for post secondary education and employment, and understanding and using accommodations.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

### 801. Youth with Mental Health Disabilities: Building Skills for Success - Part II *Aligning Accommodations & Supports [Family Engaging]*

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This follow up to session #702 will continue the discussion regarding skill-building strategies that family members, school personnel, and agency personnel can use to support youth and young adults diagnosed with mental health disabilities. As a result of attending this session, participants will be able to identify and implement responses to behaviors and emotions that will impact a youths transition to adult life.

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*Elizabeth Coyle, Professional Development Services*

### 802. Conquering Barriers: Finding Opportunities to Flourish *Partnerships [Family Engaging]*

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This interactive presentation will provide the audience with two community-based partnership models which can be replicated. The models can assist in building the capacity of local communities to offer individuals with disabilities opportunities to experience work, recreation and leisure in authentic settings.

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*Rosemary Barbella, Elwyn Education Division*  
*Donna Toll, Elwyn Education Division*

### 803. Developing Meaningful Transition Plans Based on Student Need: Ten Sigma *Transition & Career Assessment; Vendor [Family Engaging]*

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During this hands-on session, participants will learn what the research says are important transition skills, complete mock transition assessments, and develop transition plans based on assessments. For participants who are students or parents—begin developing personal plans for participant students or if participants are transition teachers/administrators: use components of plans to write transition parts of the IEP with materials that can be purchased through Ten Sigma.

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*John Wessels, Ten Sigma*

## 804. New Transition Coordinator Challenges, Follies & Victories

*Promoting Success for All Youth [Family Engaging]*

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This lighthearted presentation will highlight challenges, follies, and victories of new transition consultants. The presenters will discuss the similarities and differences between working in a center and school districts and discuss creative solutions. We will discuss the following topics: learning the language, organizational and communication skills, networking, learning about providers, supervisor/school expectations and time management.

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*Susan Graham, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*  
*Elizabeth Habbyshaw, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*

## 805. Understanding Credit and Other Financial Literacy Terms

*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

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This presentation will provide information about the basic terminology of financial literacy, how spending affects your ability to borrow in the future, how to budget, and how to avoid the common pitfalls that can lead to stifling debt.

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*Tracy Beck, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation*  
*Susan Tachau, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation*

## 806. The Highway to Success for Students with Disabilities!

*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs [Family Engaging]*

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This session will illustrate how work-based learning, when combined with community instruction creates a highway of success for all students with disabilities. Participants will learn how to create a successful community program that includes a curriculum that is directly connected to the PA State Standards. Participants will also learn how to develop successful partnerships in the community and will become familiar with the necessary paperwork to develop those partnerships. The presenters will share their successes to date, program samples, and ideas for the future.

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*Christina Keener, Riverview Intermediate Unit 6*  
*Sue Suplee, Riverview Intermediate Unit 6*  
*Cindy Swendsen, Riverview Intermediate Unit 6*

## 807. Young Adult Transition: A Model for Chronic Diseases

*Promoting Success for All Youth [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

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Traditionally, young adults with sickle cell disease transition from pediatric care to adult care between the ages of 18 and

21. While there are many attempts made to prepare young adults for this transition, they often arrive too late and lack a comprehensive overview of disease management in the context of the other life challenges that accompany transition into adulthood. This session will provide information on a model program developed by The Children's Sickle Cell Foundation, Inc. in collaboration with Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. This program, developed for transition age youth, provides information about this disease, its management, and resources for making informed decisions about life goals, for education, employment, community living, and finances.

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*Michael Matthews, The Children's Sickle Cell Foundation, Inc.*  
*Andrea Williams, The Children's Sickle Cell Foundation, Inc.*

## 808. Transition from School to Community-Based Employment for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

*Knowledge Building [Family Engaging]*

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During the 2010-11 school year, 6 Local Education Agencies were awarded performance grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education. The purpose of these grants was to plan, develop, and implement transition program goals that would assist students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in completing school and community-based assessment(s) and instruction leading to Community Based Employment. This presentation will describe the support needed for students with Autism in the workplace by providing an overview of the systematic career development process. Data from the grants will be shared. Following this session there will be poster sessions to showcase products and resources resulting from grant funding.

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*Suzanne Laird, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*  
*Kathryn Poggi, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

## 809. Successful College Writing: Assistive Technology and Adaptive Strategies Accommodations & Supports; Post-Secondary Education & Training

The skills needed to successfully outline, organize, and produce a well-written college paper can be accommodated through a variety of universally available tools supported by a little assistive strategy. As students in transition evolve into the next phase of their academic career, they are often overwhelmed by the stringent expectations that are placed upon them regarding their need to generate cohesive and relevant written content. Students find themselves in a place where research,

grammar, verb-agreement, structure, referencing methods, and time management all become an enhanced struggle. This interactive session will outline a few key areas in which assistive technology (and universal software) can combine with individualized adaptive strategies and training, to improve and expand on all aspects of academic writing.

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*Michael Fiore, The Sierra Group, Inc.*  
*Lynn Zale, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*

## Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo

(10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

**Reception & Raffle: (4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)**

### 810. Partnerships for Successful Transition – The Philadelphia Department of Health Experience *Models of Success [Family Engaging]*

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This presentation will highlight some of the milestones and projects from a collaboration between the Philadelphia Department of Health, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, and the PA American Academy of Pediatrics. Included in this session will be an overview of the development, dissemination, and findings from a survey given to adult primary care physicians regarding areas for growth around adult family medicine and internal medicine physicians in caring for youth/young adults with chronic illness. The utilization of the survey results to foster education, advocacy, and ultimately favorable impacting the transition experience for youth in Pennsylvania will also be addressed.

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*Nick Claxton, Philadelphia Department of Public Health*  
*Molly Gatto, PA American Academy of Pediatrics*  
*Symme Trachtenberg, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia*  
*Renee Turchi, MD, St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children*

### 811. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only) *Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

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Youth and young adults attending this year’s conference will have the opportunity to participate in one of three interactive presentations during breakout sessions four, five, and six. Topics discussed during today’s sessions include advocacy strategies in high school, planning for post secondary education and employment, and understanding and using accommodations.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

Throughout the day, attend this interactive, hands-on Expo designed for participants to learn about specific assistive technology, resources, supports and services available to youth. Participants can gather valuable information from transition partners, conference presenters, and community resources. Participants can visit the poster sessions presented by the recipients of the Bureau of Special Education Performance Grants – Transition from School to Community-Based Employment for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Opportunities will be provided throughout the conference to earn raffle tickets. On Thursday afternoon, items representative of the Keystone state will be raffled off. **You must be present at the reception to win!**

# Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals: Youth Taking Action

Friday, July 22, 2011

8:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

## Recreation, Leisure, and Activity Fair

(8:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)

Join us Friday morning for an active and engaging recreation, leisure, and activity fair. This event is designed for participants to learn about specific assistive technology, resources, supports, and services available throughout Pennsylvania to assist youth and young adults in maintaining a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle. Attendees can participate in hands-on activities and gather valuable information from transition partners, conference presenters, and community resources.

## Breakout Session 7

(8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)

### 901. Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation: There's a "Map" for That!

*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

This interactive and experiential presentation will highlight the necessary ingredients for a quality, person-centered activity plan that promotes health, independence, and connections with the community. Learn what Recreation Therapy consists of and why it is so effective in developing skills in socialization, physical fitness, recreation, and life skills. Participants' awareness of community-based recreation resources will increase and potential funding sources will be identified.

*Diane Williams, RecCare, Inc.*

### 902. "I'm Going to College!" The Career Independent Living & Learning Studies (CILLS) Program

*Post-Secondary Education & Training [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]*

This session will present an overview of the Center for Independent Living & Learning Studies (CILLS), a post-secondary education transition program for individuals with intellectual disabilities. As part of this presentation, participants will learn about CILLS from its inception through program design and implementation. Information

about the curriculum utilized in this program as well as a detailed description of a typical day for a participating student will be provided.

*Domenico Cavaiuolo, East Stroudsburg University  
Jean Sandberg, East Stroudsburg University  
Daniel Steer, East Stroudsburg University*

### 903. Fostering Healthy Transitions into Adulthood for LGBTQI Youth

*Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging]*

Lesbian, gay, bi, transgender, questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) youth have distinctive challenges and risk factors as they transition into adulthood. This session addresses the unique emotional and sociopolitical challenges in making the successful transition to adult life.

*Jacob Bowling, Mental Health Association of Southeastern PA  
Alyssa Goodin, Mental Health Association of Southeastern PA*

### 904. Work-Based Learning and Labor Laws Employment [Family Engaging]

The session will focus on community-based vocational training and work experience for students with disabilities. Relevant State and Federal laws will be thoroughly discussed and resources will be provided to assist in developing and maintaining a work based learning program.

*Ken Deitmen, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Harrisburg*

### 905. The Legal Planning for Special Needs – Why, When & How Transition 101 [Family Engaging]

This presentation will provide participants with information regarding the importance of special needs planning for transitioning youth. Presenters in the area of special needs legal planning will provide a plan of approach to make sure that families understand how to: plan before crisis; establish a special needs trust if applicable; utilize powers of attorney (healthcare, financial and mental health); establish a will; use a will and beneficiary designations to fund a special needs trust; communicate

effectively with family members to achieve a smooth transition in the event of a change in caregiver; develop a comprehensive letter of intent that outlines important wishes, goals and expectations; participate in goal setting related to housing, post high school vocational planning, recreational and lifestyle decisions; utilize public benefits, government and community programs; and arrange for health insurance.

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*Laurie George, Steinbacher & Stahl*  
*Perry Landon, Steinbacher & Stahl*

**906. The Department of Public Welfare Office of Developmental Programs – Waiver 101**  
*Building Knowledge, Engagement, and Empowerment of Families/Caregivers [Family Engaging]*

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There are two Medicaid Waivers administered by the PA Office of Developmental Programs for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Representatives from the Office of Developmental Programs will provide an overview of both the Person/Family Directed Supports (P/FDS) and the Consolidated Waivers to assist an individual in achieving their post-secondary goals of further training, employment, and independent living.

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*Carmen Donegan, Office of Developmental Programs*  
*Jeanne Parisi, Office of Developmental Programs*

**907. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)**  
*Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]*

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During this morning's sessions youth and young adults will be participating in the Recreation, Leisure, and Activity Fair and will engage in a wrap-up session to discuss their plans for this coming school year and will make plans to stay in contact with youth they met at the conference. This session is designed for youth and young adults only.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

## **Breakout Session 8**

### **(10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)**

**1001. A Comprehensive Look at Successful Transitioning (Achieva)**  
*Models of Success [Family Engaging]*

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ACHIEVA is western Pennsylvania's largest provider of comprehensive services and supports for children and adults with disabilities and their families. ACHIEVA's transition programs are designed to expose and prepare students for the personal, vocational, social, and

recreational opportunities available to them following graduation from high school. This session will educate young people and families about a highly successful system of collaboration. Content will focus on best practices for creating a successful transition plan.

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*Shayne Roos, ACHIEVA*  
*Michelle Stockunas, ACHIEVA*  
*Reid Wolfe, ACHIEVA*

**1002. Life After High School: What's in your Plan?**  
*Partnerships [Youth Engaging]*

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This interactive session for young people with disabilities and family members starts them on the path of thinking about the significant transition from high school to life after high school.

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*The PA Training Partnership for People with Disabilities and Families*

**1003. Finding and Keeping the First Job**  
*Employment [Youth Engaging] [Family Engaging]*

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The movement from school to adulthood can be uncertain, unsettling, and just plain scary for youth with disabilities, their parents, and families. Having a plan and knowing the expectations of adult life can help youth build and practice skills ensuring greater likelihood for initial employment and sustained employment.

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*Jane Erdo, Parent Education Network*

**1004. Success in Transition Employment Partnership (STEP) Collaboration**  
*Partnerships; Mental Health [Family Engaging]*

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This session will provide information regarding the innovative collaboration between school, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), and human services agencies. The STEP program focuses on ensuring successful transitions for high school students with a diagnosis of behavioral or emotional issues.

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*Alexandra Krynski, Pittsburgh Public Schools*

**1005. Exploring Resources for Families: A Round Table Discussion of the Secondary Transition Folder**  
*Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101) [Family Engaging]*

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During this interactive session, families and caregivers will review and discuss the resource materials for students and families that are contained in the PA Department of Education Secondary Transition Folder. The comments and suggestions gathered during this session will be utilized to

further develop secondary transition resources for youth and families.

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**Judy Baker**, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh

**David Berquist**, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh

**James Palmiero**, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh

### 1006. Family Fun Feeling Fit

**Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]**

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Special Needs is a broad term encompassing a range of physical, physiological, behavioral, cognitive, and/or developmental conditions. Obesity is of special concern. For some, the added weight can make it more difficult to maintain or improve movement and overall physical function. Furthermore, a stigma remains attached to obesity, representing yet another “difference” from other youth, resulting in youth feeling further ostracized from their peer group. In the long run, secondary health conditions develop as a result of obesity or excessive weight, causing further complications to existing conditions.

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**Edeoma Ekeleme-Washington**, Baby Steps to Healthy Living  
**Zaire Whaley**, Baby Steps to Healthy Living

### 1007. Dating and Relationships

**Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation [Family Engaging] [Youth Engaging]**

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Learn about the ins and outs of dating and relationships. Participants will learn about ways to be safe while on the dating scene. Resources for teenagers on the topic of dating will also be provided.

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**Christie Gilson**, Moravian College  
**Robbie Graves**, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

### 1008. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only) **Youth Leadership & Youth Development [Youth Engaging]**

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During this morning’s sessions youth and young adults will be participating in the Recreation, Leisure, and Activity Fair and will engage in a wrap-up session to discuss their plans for this coming school year and will make plans to stay in contact with youth they met at the conference. This session is designed for youth and young adults only.

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**PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives**

## Closing Keynote Presentation 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

### 1101. Youth Taking Action: Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals

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Too often transitioning youth have things done to and for them with little engagement on their part. This closing keynote presentation will focus on how youth and the adults that support them, can further develop self determination and self advocacy strategies that will assist them in reaching their goals for full participation, economic self-sufficiency, equality of opportunity, and independent living. This session will highlight our youth and young adult participants from this year’s conference.

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**PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives**

## Registration Deadline:

**July 5, 2011**

### Registration Fee:

\$125 – Checks, Cash and Purchase Orders Only –  
No credit cards

### Checks should be made payable to:

Intermediate Unit I

### Mail registration form and fee to:

Mary Gordon at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh  
3190 William Pitt Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238



**Bureau of Special Education**  
Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network

## Hotel Information

A block of rooms in each of the following hotels has been held for individuals who will be attending the Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference.

**Conference participants are responsible for calling the hotel directly and making their own reservations and/or following their agency's guidelines. Participants will be responsible for the cost of their hotel rooms and must be billed directly.**

Please use the reference code listed for each hotel to receive the conference rate. Most hotels require reservations to be made **one month prior** to the start of the conference in order to receive the conference rate.

### **Courtyard by Marriott**

1730 University Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-238-1881  
Conference Rate: \$114.00  
Reference/Group Code: (PaTTAN)

### **Days Inn Penn State**

240 S. Pugh Street  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 800-258-3297  
Conference Rate: \$83.00  
Reference/Group Code: CGPATN

### **Hampton Inn**

1101 E. College Avenue  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-231-1590  
Conference Rate: \$92.00  
Reference/Group Code: PCT

### **Residence Inn Marriott**

1555 University Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-235-6960  
Conference Rate: \$124.00  
Reference/Group Code: (PaTTAN)

### **Rodeway Inn (by Choice Hotels)**

1040 North Atherton Street  
State College, PA 16803  
Phone: 814-238-6783  
Conference Rate: \$59.00

### **Toftrees Golf Resort & Conference Center**

1 Country Club Lane  
State College, PA 16803  
Phone: 814-234-8000  
Conference Rate: \$99.00

## General Information

### **Registration Fee:**

Please include a \$125.00 check made payable to Intermediate Unit 1 and send to Mary Gordon, PaTTAN-Pittsburgh, 3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

(Parents of children with disabilities and Youth/Young Adults are exempt from this charge.)

**If a check is being sent from a company, agency, or school district for registrant(s), please indicate on the check the name(s) of the individual(s) to mark registration as paid.**

Please note that if your registration fee is not received by July 5, 2011 you will be required to submit payment at the registration desk prior to registering and receiving your conference materials.

### **On-line Registration:**

We encourage all participants with Internet access to register for this PaTTAN-sponsored event by visiting our homepage at: [www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net)

### **For more information:**

**Program Content:** Michael Stoehr, 800-446-5607 ext. 6864 or [mstoehr@pattan.net](mailto:mstoehr@pattan.net)  
**Registration:** Mary Gordon, 800-446-5607 ext. 6871 or [mgordon@pattan.net](mailto:mgordon@pattan.net)

### **Youth/Young Adult/Family Scholarships**

A limited number of youth/young adult scholarships will be available for high school students with disabilities who are between the ages of 16 and 21. We will also be offering family/caregiver scholarships for family members or caregivers of a transition-aged youth or young adult with a disability between the ages of 12 and 24.

Youth and Families can apply for the scholarship by completing the scholarship form and returning it to Mary Gordon at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh, 3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 by June 15, 2011. The scholarship will include hotel and conference registration fee. Meals and mileage are on your own. Hotel reservations will be made for scholarship recipients. You will be informed of your acceptance the first week of July.

For additional information about youth/young adult family scholarships, please contact Mary Gordon at 800-446-5607 ext. 6871 or [mgordon@pattan.net](mailto:mgordon@pattan.net).

### **Human Service Professional Scholarships**

Scholarships are available for Pennsylvania human service professionals. Professionals who work in fields covered by the Department of Public Welfare (including intellectual/development disabilities, mental health, drug and alcohol and children and youth) can apply for these scholarships by completing the scholarship form and returning it to Audrey Shuey at the ODP Consulting System, 6340 Flank Drive, Suite 600, Harrisburg, PA 17112 by June 24, 2011.

The scholarship will include hotel and conference registration fees. Meals and mileage are on your own. Hotel reservations will be made for scholarship recipients. You will be informed of your acceptance during the first week of July.

For additional information about human service professional scholarships, please contact Audrey Shuey at 800-360-7282 ext. 3925 or [ashuey@pattan.net](mailto:ashuey@pattan.net). The scholarships are sponsored by The Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) and funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) through a grant to the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (CFDA # 93.768).

**2011 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference –  
Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals  
July 20, 21, and 22, 2011  
Registration Form**

We encourage all participants to register online for this PaTTAN-sponsored event by visiting our homepage at [www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \*E-mail (\*necessary for confirmation): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate your primary role:**

- |  |   |   |                                  |
|--|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech Therapist       | <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Direct Service Staff  | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Educator        | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapist     | <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Administrator         | <input type="checkbox"/> Student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Educator        | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapist | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Coordinator          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Counselor      | <input type="checkbox"/> Paraeducator           | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate                     |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psychologist            | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education       | <input type="checkbox"/> Career & Technical Education |                                  |

**Please check to apply for the following credits**

To receive Act 48 credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the day they are requesting credits.



**Act 48**

Individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of each day in order to receive Act 48 Professional Education hours. Requests for exceptions are to be brought to the attention of the individual's Superintendent or IU Director prior to the event. Up to fifteen (15) Act 48 hours will be offered for the conference.



**Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC)**

Continuing Education credits up to Up to (15.75) for professionals with CRCC credentials will be offered for attendance at this conference.

**ADA Accommodations**

If you require accommodations as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact: Mary Gordon, PaTTAN Pittsburgh, Phone: 800-446-5607 (Voice), or 412-826-2338 (TTY), [mgordon@pattan.net](mailto:mgordon@pattan.net). Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate you if your request is received prior to the registration deadline (July 5, 2010).

**Alternate Format Request**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Sign Language Interpreter | <input type="checkbox"/> Large Print Agenda |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tactile Interpreter                | <input type="checkbox"/> Braille Agenda     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real Time Captioning               | <input type="checkbox"/> Other              |

**ACT 48 Information**

*(Offered only to individuals who hold a valid Pennsylvania Professional Educator Certificate.)*

**Social Security Number/  
Professional Personnel ID Number**

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This information is being collected for Act 48 purposes only and must be provided if you are seeking graduate credit, continuing professional education program credit (formerly known as in-service credit), or PDE approved clock hours.

**2011 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference**  
**Breaking Boundaries: Achieving Goals**  
**July 20, 21, and 22, 2011**  
**Registration Form**

Please check the sessions you would like to attend. You can only choose one option per Breakout Session. To receive Act 48 credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the day they are requesting credit(s).

## Wednesday, July 20, 2011

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### Opening Keynote: (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 101. Opening Keynote Presentation: Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals: An Integrated Approach to Successful Transition

### Breakout Session 1: (11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- 201. Dare to be Self-Aware
- 202. What are Evidence-Based Practices for Transition?
- 203. Aligning Student Outcomes with Assessment Data
- 204. Utilizing Mentorships, Internships, and Portfolios for Transition Activities
- 205. Partnering with Employers: Work-Based Learning
- 206. Transition from High School to College
- 207. PA Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services' Summer Academy
- 208. Toolkit to Build and Sustain Local Collaboratives
- 209. Overview of the Secondary Transition Process
- 210. Students Planning for Their Own Future
- 211. Career Portfolios with "I" Statements: Personalizing Transition Planning
- 212. Taking the First Step: Welcome to the Conference - Youth and Young Adult Orientation Session (Designed for Youth Only)

### Breakout Session 2: (2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- 301. PA Youth Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Transition Program – Youth Ages 15-19
- 302. Pennsylvania's Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation System: An Overview
- 303. Project Search + Team Meetings = SUCCESS
- 304. I Led My Own Transition Team Meeting
- 305. Youth and Family Driven Community Supports and Services through High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) and the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP)
- 306. HGAC: Transitioning from the IEP to a Successful IPE
- 307. Reality Check: Navigating the Bumpy Road to Adulthood
- 308. Show me the Evidence! Work Experience Programs
- 309. An Overview of PA's Indicator 13 and 14 Process
- 310. Engaging Parents in the Transition Journey
- 311. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

### Breakout Session 3: (3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- 401. Transition Coordination: What Works!
- 402. Self-Advocacy
- 403. Building Bridges to Employment through Effective Agency Collaboration
- 404. From Dreams to Employment Realities: An Overview of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- 405. Electronic Healthcare Notebook
- 406. Cyber Wisdom: Do You Have Internet Good Sense?
- 407. HGAC's Assistive Technology Center: Breaking Technology Barriers
- 408. Writing Standards-Aligned Measurable Annual Goals for the IEP
- 409. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

## Thursday, July 21, 2011

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### Feature Presentation: (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.) Select One Session Only

- 501. Expanding Career Options through Universal Design for Learning
- 502. Navigating the Maze: Transition from Pediatric to Adult Health Care
- 503. Been There, Done That: A Transition Discussion from Young Adults and Family Members Who Have Navigated Through the Process
- 504. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

### Breakout Session 4: (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.) Select One Session Only

- 601. School to Work: Building Successful Life Transitions for Young People Living with Epilepsy
- 602. Being TransitionABLE: Allentown Building Life Experience
- 603. Making Your Community-Based Vocational Program a Success
- 604. Connecting the Dots: Housing/ Services for Independent Living
- 605. It Takes a Team: Active Participation in College
- 606. A Defined and Successful Transition Program
- 607. Pathways and Partnerships for Successful Transition Models: Part I
- 608. Promoting Employment through Social Security Work Incentive Counseling
- 609. The Value of Remote Training for Transitioning Youth
- 610. Meeting the Needs of Pennsylvania's Adult Autism Community
- 611. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

### Breakout Session 5: (12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- 701. Employment Coalition and Funding Options: Working toward SUCCESS
- 702. Youth with Mental Health Disabilities: Building Skills for Success - Part I
- 703. Ask the Experts: Civil Service Employment and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- 704. Navigating Health Insurance into Adulthood in 2011
- 705. Pathways and Partnerships for Successful Transition Models: Part II
- 706. Cognitive Skills Enhancement Program for Transition - Age Youth
- 707. BrainSTEPS: Transitioning Youth with Brain Injuries
- 708. Solving Ethical Dilemmas in Transition
- 709. Centers for Independent Living: What's Happening with Youth
- 710. Step by Step Guide to Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- 711. Incorporating Health Information into Transition Planning: A Catalyst for Success
- 712. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

### Breakout Session 6: (2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- 801. Youth with Mental Health Disabilities: Building Skills for Success - Part II
- 802. Conquering Barriers: Finding Opportunities to Flourish
- 803. Developing Meaningful Transition Plans Based on Student Need: Ten Sigma
- 804. New Transition Coordinator Challenges, Follies & Victories
- 805. Understanding Credit and Other Financial Literacy Term
- 806. The Highway to Success for Students with Disabilities!
- 807. Young Adult Transition: A Model for Chronic Diseases
- 808. Transition from School to Community-Based Employment for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- 809. Successful College Writing: Assistive Technology and Adaptive Strategies
- 810. Partnerships for Successful Transition – The Philadelphia Department of Health Experience
- 811. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

## Friday, July 22, 2011

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### Breakout Session 7: (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.) Select One Session Only

- 901. Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation: There's a "Map" for That!
- 902. "I'm Going to College!" The Career Independent Living & Learning Studies (CILLS) Program
- 903. Fostering Healthy Transitions into Adulthood for LGBTQI Youth
- 904. Work-Based Learning and Labor Laws
- 905. The Legal Planning for Special Needs – Why, When & How
- 906. The Department of Public Welfare Office of Developmental Programs – Waiver 101
- 907. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

**Breakout Session 8: (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.) Select One Session Only**

- 1001. A Comprehensive Look at Successful Transitioning (Achieva)
- 1002. Life After High School: What's in your Plan?
- 1003. Finding and Keeping the First Job
- 1004. Success in Transition Employment Partnership (STEP) Collaboration
- 1005. Exploring Resources for Families: A Round Table Discussion of the Secondary Transition Folder
- 1006. Family Fun Feeling Fit
- 1007. Dating and Relationships
- 1008. Youth Leadership {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

**Closing Keynote Presentation (12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.)**

- 1101. Youth Taking Action: Breaking Boundaries – Achieving Goals

**Registration Fee:**

\$125 – Checks, Cash and Purchase Orders Only –  
No credit cards

**Checks should be made payable to:**

Intermediate Unit I

**Mail registration form and fee to:**

Mary Gordon at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh  
3190 William Pitt Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

**Registration Deadline:**

**July 5, 2011**



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Bureau of Special Education  
Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*