Inspiring Possibilities: Living Learning and Working After High School--WELCOME!

- 9:30 am: What Happens at age 18?
- 10:45 am: Off to College
- 12:15 pm: Rethinking Guardianship
- 1:30 pm: Career Counseling and Supports
- 2:20 pm: Conference Wrap-up – Your Next Step

This workshop made possible with support from the Richard M. Schulze Foundation
Effective parent involvement supports self-determination and successful outcomes

+ Family involvement is a greater predictor of successful outcomes for youth than income or social status. Transitiona.org
+ “Youth with disabilities in postsecondary settings have better outcomes when they and their family members are engaged in ongoing planning, communication, and collaboration to meet their needs...” NWCD-youth.info

Positive Parent Involvement Can Support Self-Determination

- Effective parent involvement supports the ongoing development of the young adult’s self-determination, autonomy and interdependence.

“The self-determination and self-advocacy skills need to be built, not assumed.”

The parent’s role changes

- Decision-maker ➔ advisor
- Driver’s seat ➔ passenger’s seat
- Boss ➔ consultant
- Head coach ➔ sideline coach
- Planning, communicating and advocating for planning, communicating and advocating with
Next Step Action Plan
“Action is the antidote to fear.”

Prepare Your Child for Age of Majority and the Transfer of Rights in MN
• Increase self-determination skills.
• Learn about and consider the options
  – “Less restrictive legal options” including Supported Decision-Making
  – Guardianship—Recent changes to MN law

All males must register with selective service
• Register for the selective service within 30 days of turning 18, regardless of disability. Late registrations accepted up to age 26.
• Register online with Social Security number (SS#) at www.sss.gov/register/ OR
• Mail in the form from post office (no SS# required)

More information at Selective Service System: www.sss.gov
No Driver’s License?  
Apply for a MN State ID
• Apply at the DMV
• Reduced cost (.50) State ID can be requested through social worker
• Documentation options:
  – Copy of birth certificate
  – Copy of Social Security card
  – Copy of immigration card

High school graduation date and plan may change
• Consider need to continue Special Education and Transition Services after senior year of high school
• Eligible students may remain in school up until July 1 after they reach age 21 by IEP team decision
• Discuss “anticipated date of graduation” annually

Graduation with a diploma in MN
• Students have not have graduated until they receive their official, signed diploma
• Students are no longer eligible for school district transition programs or services once they accept diploma
• IEP and 504 Plans don’t continue at college or on the job
Disability Laws Change

Focus of IDEA in High School

Focus of the ADA & Section 504 after High School

PROGRESS  based on teamwork

ACCESS  based on self-advocacy

Consider the need for publicly-funded adult disability services, supports and benefits

• Will have eligibility criteria; assets and income limits based on individual with disability
• May have waiting lists, funding or provider gaps
• Complicated application and assessment process
• Use IEP team and school resources to find out about options and “create linkages” before graduation
• Tap into information and navigation resources

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability (SSDI) Benefits

• Applications before age 18 consider parent’s income and may be denied
• Child under 18 who has been receiving SSI will be re-evaluated for adult eligibility within a year of their 18th birthday
• $2000.00 asset limit and income limits for initial eligibility
• Ways to apply:
  – Complete your application online.
  – Call the toll-free telephone number 1-800-772-1213
  – Call or schedule a visit to your local Social Security office.

  PACER’s Benefits and Supports Learning Center
“County Services,” “Human Services,” “Social Services,” “Disability Services”

- Dept. of Human Services (DHS) for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and other qualifying disabilities. County case management and services are based on eligibility requirements (example, https://www.hennepin.us/residents/human-services/services-disabilities)

- Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS) and other services for adults with MH needs. Based on eligibility. Contact your county.

Medical Assistance (MA)
MN’s Medicaid public health insurance program

- Parental fee requirement ends at 18
- SSA disability determination or State Medical Review Team (SMRT) process required
- Individual cannot have assets over $3000.00
  - Some exclusions apply *
  - Note: Process and timeline varies by county
- More information at DB101.org and PACER.org/health

Examples of services MA may fund based on eligibility and need

- Medical services and transportation
- Home Health Aide Services
- Therapies (OT, PT, Speech)
- Nursing Facilities, hospitals and ICF-MR (group home)
- Private duty nurse / Skilled nurse visits
- Personal Care Attendant (PCA)
- Waivered services
  - Now includes “employment services”
MnCHOICES Assessment

- Anyone who needs long-term care can call their local county human services agency and request a MnCHOICES assessment.
- The MnCHOICES assessment can help you figure out what services and programs might help you live in the community, including MA-Waiver programs, Medical Assistance (MA), personal care assistance (PCA) services, or other benefits.
- Even if you are not eligible for public benefits, the assessment can help you understand what services, accommodations, and resources exist.

DB101.org

Warning: Ongoing paperwork and “case management” ahead

- Continued eligibility is dependent on continuing to meet all disability criteria, income and asset limits, and completing mandatory reviews (paperwork)
- Reviews may be required monthly, semi-annually, or annually
  - MA form to submit every 6 months
  - SSI Rep Payee report to submit annually
  - Annual Guardianship reporting
  - MNChoices Assessment annually
- All forms must be completed and returned with verifications by the deadline

MA and “County Services”: Learn More

- Learn more at PACER’s Health Information Center: https://www.pacer.org/health/ Call Linda or Pat for assistance: 953-838-9000.
- Disability Hub Minnesota: https://disabilityhubmn.org/ Chat or talk with “options navigators” or search by topic on https://mn.db101.org/
- County Information Sessions
Housing Benefits and Independent Living Supports and Resources

- HB101 (Housing Benefits): [https://mn.hb101.org/](https://mn.hb101.org/)
  - Housing Choice Voucher Program (section 8): [https://mn.hb101.org/a/12/](https://mn.hb101.org/a/12/)
- PACER’s Housing Project: [www.pacer.org/housing](http://www.pacer.org/housing)
- Metro Mobility: ADA transportation for those who qualify [https://metrocouncil.org/Transportation/Services/Metro-Mobility-Home/Eligibility-Certifications.aspx](https://metrocouncil.org/Transportation/Services/Metro-Mobility-Home/Eligibility-Certifications.aspx)
- Centers for Independent Living: locate at macil.org

MN Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) and State Services for the Blind (SSB)

VRS Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) can provide counseling on jobs and training, work-based learning experiences, workplace readiness training, instruction in self-advocacy skills and more. Connect with the VR Counselor assigned your high school: [https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/youth/](https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/youth/)

VRS “Intensive services” for eligible youth and adults: Employment counseling, training, job skills and job placement services. Eligibility requirements; must complete an application. [https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/counseling/](https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/disabilities/counseling/)

Community-based organizations without eligibility requirements

- Centers for Independent Living (CIL) [http://www.mcil-mn.org/](http://www.mcil-mn.org/)
- MnHelp.Info
- Dakota County Recreational Directory 2019
- [https://ausm.org/resources/directory/](https://ausm.org/resources/directory/)
Tips for youth who do not meet eligibility for adult disability services

• Focus on more than academics in school
• Maximize Personal Learning Plan resources
  “Create a “Transition Plan”
• Connect IEP Transition Services to post-graduation goals for the future
• Request Pre-Employment Transition Services
• Visit a college disability services office by grade 11

More tips for youth who do not qualify for adult disability services

• Tap into technology: The Path to Independence: Mobile Apps to Support Transition-Age Youth
• Simon Technology Center
  • Free AT Consultations
  • Lending library
• Use Minn State Careerwise.org online resources: http://careerwise.minnstate.edu/
• Explore job-seeker supports at a CareerForce Center: https://www.careerforcemn.com/locations

Visit www.pacer.org/transition and www.pacer.org/students/