

2ND ANNUAL NJ YOUTH TRANSITION CONFERENCE OCTOBER 3RD-7TH, 2022

Keynote Address

9.00am - 10.00am

Speaker: Paul Aronsohn

New Jersey's statewide
Ombudsman for Individuals
with Intellectual or
Developmental Disabilities
and Their Families and
President Biden's Committee
for People with Intellectual
Disabilities

What is the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services?

11.00am - 12.00pm

Speaker: Toni Scott, MSW LSW- Program Planning &
Development Specialist- Youth Services; Division
of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Services (DVRS) helps people with disabilities get
and keep a job. The goal of vocational
rehabilitation is to help people return to the
workforce or otherwise become more independent.
Presentation will review our services, referral
process, and more for youth, young adults, and
adults.



Day One: October 3rd

One Zoom Room for FIVE workshops!

Room opens at 8:55 AM for Keynote

Speaker and closes with last

workshop ending at 7:00 PM.

DATE: October 3rd, 2022

TIME: 9.00 am to 7:00 pm

LOCATION: ZOOM ROOM ONE

Transition Alert! Self-Direction is an Option You Should Consider

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Speakers: Marian Frattarola-Saulino, CEO and
Christina Rappisi, Director of Support
Coordination Services; Values Into Action NJ

Nervous about next steps? Wondering what
will happen after high school? Take control,
with the support you need to design the life
you want for yourself or your family member
with the support of your Support Coordinator.
This session will outline the steps you'll
take to use self directed services. We look
forward to having a robust and interactive
discussion with you so please join our
session!

Values
into action

Notes: If the Zoom room is full, join us LIVE on our Facebook page!

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Group Person-Centered Planning in the Classroom

3.00pm - 4.00pm

Speakers: Michael Steinbruck, Senior Training & Consultation Specialist, Rutgers/Boggs Center PCAST Project - Moderator and Panel of Special Education Teachers from NJ Public Schools

In this moderated panel presentation you will hear directly from Special Education teachers about their experiences developing and implementing person-centered plans with groups of students in their classroom-wide. The session will share strategies for implementation along with successes and challenges using a community of practice model. Video examples will be shared and attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions of the panel.

THE BOGGS CENTER
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
*New Jersey's University Center for Excellence
in Developmental Disabilities
Education, Research, and Service*

Navigating the Division of Developmental Disabilities Service System

6.00pm - 7.00pm

Speaker: Theresa Santana, MA - Quality Assurance Specialist with the Employment & Transition to 21 Unit; Division of Developmental Disabilities

This presentation or webinar will provide an overview of entering the DDD service system and explain eligibility requirements, the intake process, what services are available, and information related to DDD's care management system (Support Coordination).



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Special Education Transition Services

11.00am - 12.00pm

Speakers: Sean M. Benoit, Esq. - Managing Attorney and
John Rioux, Staff Attorney; Community Health Law
Project

This presentation will discuss transition services available to special education students from ages 16 through to 21. There will be a discussion of IEP planning and how the services work in actual practice. It will also include new changes to transition services due to the Covid-19 pandemic and new laws increasing access to services past the age of 21.



When the Bus Stops

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Speaker: Melody Bundy, Project Manager; NJTIP
@Rutgers

Transportation provides us with access to the wider opportunities of society employment, postsecondary education, job training programs, recreation. Yet, many individuals with disabilities have traditionally been isolated from these societal opportunities, because they lacked a means of transportation. Participants will learn about various transportation options; Trip Planning; NJ TRANSIT Accessible Services including the reduced fare program, Access Link, and NJTIP @ Rutgers travel training.

NJTIP @
RUTGERS

Day 2: October 4th

One Zoom Room for FOUR workshops!

Room opens at 10:55 AM for first workshop and closes with last workshop ending at 8:15 PM.

DATE: October 4th, 2022

TIME: 11.00 am to 8.15 pm

LOCATION: ZOOM ROOM TWO

NJ ABLE - Save While You Preserve SSI and Medicaid

3.00pm - 4.00pm

Speaker: Ursula Baker, Information & Referral
(I & R) Unit Supervisor; Department of Human
Services- Division of Disability Services

The NJ Achieving a Better Life Experience (NJ ABLE) allows qualified individuals with disabilities to save for disability-related expenses in tax advantaged savings accounts without losing eligibility for certain assistance programs. Informational seminar on ABLE accounts and the valuable benefits it has for those eligible.



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Understanding the Importance of Self-Advocacy

7.15 pm - 8.15pm

Speakers: Johan Mora-Valverde, Youth Coordinator and
Dylan Campbell, Maine Parent Federation Youth
Coordinator; SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

This presentation will discuss transition services available
to special education students from ages 16 through to 21. There
will be a discussion of IEP planning and how the services work
in actual practice. It will also include new changes to
transition services due to the Covid-19 pandemic and new laws
increasing access to services past the age of 21.



2022 NJ YTC Planning Committee



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Values
into action



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Overview of Social Security Programs

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Speaker: Marcial Hernandez Jr., Public Affairs
Specialist; Social Security Administration

The presentation will cover Social Security Disability Insurance, Supplemental Security Income, Medicare, Medicaid, Auxiliary and Survivors benefits for the family. There will be an overview of the programs, along with their differences and how each program correlates to one another.



Supporting Youth Voice in the IEP Process

11.00am - 12.00pm

Speakers: Dawn Monaco, Project Director and REAL
Transition Partners; SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

This workshop will discuss the students and parents role in building self advocacy skills. It will review the importance of including youth voice in the IEP process and assisting youth to make decisions for their future. It will briefly discuss supported-decision making as an alternative to guardianship.



Day 3: October 5th

One Zoom Room for FIVE workshops!

Room opens at 8:55 AM for first
workshop and closes with last
workshop ending at 7:00 PM.

DATE: October 5th, 2022

TIME: 9.00 am to 7.00 pm

LOCATION: ZOOM ROOM THREE

RECIPES for a Meaningful Life

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Speaker: Nkechi Okoli, MSW, LSW - Senior
Coordinator of Transition to 21 Education;
Division of Developmental Disabilities

This presentation or webinar will guide participants in identifying steps that will assist students with I/DD to address the seven (7) main areas that need to be accounted for in everyone's life (Responsibilities, Education, Community Life, Individual Health & Wellbeing, Place to Live, Employment, and Social Life) in order to obtain success, maintain a level of satisfaction, feel a sense of purpose, and experience a meaningful life.



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Overview of Self-Directed Services in NJ

3.00pm - 4.00pm

Speakers: Patricia Brennan, MSW and Jessica Licon, MSW - Office of Education on Self-Directed Services; Division of Developmental Disabilities

The Session will provide an overview of Self Directed Services. It will answer some of the questions of how Self Directed Services are implemented in NJ so that people and their families can make informed choices regarding the services and supports they receive through the Community Care Program and the Supports Program through the Division of Developmental Disabilities. It will also provide resources available to people to outreach to through the Office of Education on Self Directed Services.

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DATE: October 5th, 2022

TIME: 9.00 am to 7.00 pm

LOCATION: ZOOM ROOM THREE

The Future is Bright! Self-Direction as the Option for Freedom to Make Choices!

6.00pm - 7.00pm

Speaker: Kimberly Smith, Director of Client Services, Public Partnerships Group, LLC

Public Partnerships (PPL), a financial management services (FMS) provider, serving over 30,000 people in New Jersey, will offer an overview of the self-direction model and the benefits that allow participants to select, direct and manage their services. Learn how parents and caregivers can earn income as a paid support person for their child!

public partnerships 



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Transition from School to Adult Life: Regulations and Best Practices

9.00am - 11.00am

Speaker: Bill Freeman- State Coordinator of
Secondary Transition, Office of Special Education; NJ
Department of Education

This training provides attendees with a detailed description of Federal and State requirements and best practices related to transition from school to adult life for students with disabilities. Emphasis is placed on how to prepare for the inclusion of appropriate transition planning in IEPs, and how to implement appropriate transition services including linkages and other interactions with other agencies. This session includes opportunities for questions and comments.



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

How to Open the Door to Employment

11.15am - 12.15pm

Speakers: Stefanie Rinaldi, State Director of
Employment Services, Pennsylvania at Community
Options Inc. and Brooks Sanders, Manager of
Employment Services at Eden Autism on behalf of
NJAPSE.

This presentation will review the steps to obtain competitive employment along with the funding sources. It will walk families through a person-centered approach on employment for an individual.



Day 4 : October 6th

One Zoom Room for SIX workshops!
Room opens at 8:55 AM for first
workshop and closes with last
workshop ending at 8:15 PM.

DATE: October 6th, 2022

TIME: 9.00 am to 8.15 pm

LOCATION: ZOOM ROOM FOUR

Preparing for Work After High School

1.00pm - 2.00pm

Speaker: Dawn Monaco, Project Director and REAL
Transition Partner; SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

This workshop will discuss the importance of work after high school. The audience will learn strategies to prepare youth to be employed as well as discuss IEP goals, transition services, and activities that lead to a successful transition to postsecondary employment.



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Preparing for Education after High school

3.00pm - 4.00pm

Speaker: Jeannine H. Brinkley, Director of Family and Professional Development; SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

This workshop will define postsecondary education. It will list the strategies to prepare youth to participate in postsecondary education as well as discuss IEP goals, transition services, and activities that lead to a successful transition to postsecondary education.



Children's System of Care (CSOC) Basics

6.00pm - 7.00pm

Speaker: April DiPietro, LSW- Community Resource Director; Camden County CMO

Top 5 things you should know to help navigate New Jersey services for youth up to 21 years of age.

NJ Children's System of Care
Administered by PerformCare®

Day 4: October 6th

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DATE: October 6th, 2022

TIME: 9.00 am to 8.15 pm

LOCATION: ZOOM ROOM FOUR

Success After Transition: Building a Life Worth Celebrating

7.15pm - 8.15pm

Speakers: Alicia Pravata, BCBA & Self-Directed Employee, Pat Miller, Mother and John Miller, Son

Come learn and be inspired by the life of John Miller who has successfully transitioned to services with DDD. John, a 21 year old non-vocal adult who has a diagnosis of Autism, is joined by Alicia Pravata, BCBA (and John's Self-Directed Employee) & Pat Miller, John's Mother. See how John has created a meaningful life through employment, friendships and natural supports. Pat and Alicia share how they helped John successfully navigate starting a business and designing a life worth celebrating.

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Accessing Services and Natural Supports

10.00am - 11.00am

Speaker: Jerisa Chiumbu-Maseko, Director, Planning
For Adult Life

Everyone has a right to be involved in their community. There are many supports for people with disabilities to help them do just that. This workshop will discuss support for accessing the community and will provide hands-on tools for helping students to obtain natural support in the community. It will also include a discussion on how to navigate some of the challenges associated with accessing services.



Day 5: October 7th

One Zoom Room for TWO workshops
and an open Q&A session!

Room opens at 9:55 AM for first
workshop and closes with Q&A
session ending at 2:00 PM.

DATE: October 6th, 2022

TIME: 10.00 am to 2.00 pm

LOCATION: [ZOOM ROOM FIVE](#)

Self-Advocacy and How to be Your Own Advocate

11.00am - 12.00pm

Speaker: Frank Latham, NJ Council on
Developmental Disabilities

We will discuss the importance of advocacy for transitioning youth and how advocacy can be one of the most important things you can have in your tool kit moving into the adult world toward gaining more independence. We will also cover how the New Jersey on Developmental Disabilities can help and support youth as they transition to adulthood.



OPEN Q&A

12.00pm - 2.00pm

Speakers: NJ Youth Transition Committee Members

Join the 2nd Annual NJ Youth Transition Conference
Planning Committee Members to receive personal
guidance on transition services and supports.



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