

SUPPORTING STRONG TRANSITIONS

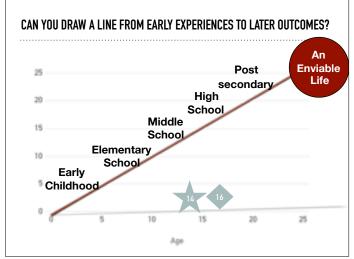
The Postures, Practices, and Partnerships that Change Trajectories

Erik Carter | Vanderbilt University www.erikwcarter.com

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

- 1. When in doubt, reverse the question
- 2. Disability is not a reliable predictor of student's aspirations
- 3. Youth with disabilities don't have "special needs"
- 4. Compliance is our floor, not our ceiling
- 5. We should pursue much more than mere inclusion
- 6. Our postures are experienced by students and families
- 7. Youth with disabilities deserve the best of what we know works
- 8. It is not good to be alone
- 9. Schools must not go-it alone
- 10. We must think beyond the system
- 11. Data isn't a "four-letter word"
- 12. Reflect regularly on your practices
- 13. We are someone's barbarous ancestors (be humble)
- 14. Press on

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What might flourishing look like for the students whom you support?

WHEN IN DOUBT, **REVERSE THE QUESTION**



OUTCOMES WE MEASURE

- ➤ Employment
- ➤ Community Living
- ➤ Educational Opportunities
- ➤ Community Involvement





INDICATORS OF FLOURISHING

- ➤ Friendships
- ➤ Intimacy/being loved
- ➤ Sense of purpose
- ➤ Being valued and needed
- ➤ Self-direction
- ➤ Belonging
- ➤ Good health
- ➤ Sense of security
- ➤ Spirituality and faith

GOOD OUTCOMES	AN ENVIABLE LIFE
➤ Employment	
➤ Community Living	
➤ Educational Opportunities	► Friendships
➤ Community Involvement	➤ Intimacy/being loved
	➤ Sense of purpose
	➤ Being valued/needed
	➤ Self-direction
	➤ Belonging
	➤ Good health
	➤ Sense of security
	➤ Spirituality and faith

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DISABILITY IS
NOT A RELIABLE
PREDICTOR OF
STUDENT'S
ASPIRATIONS





95% OF YOUTH WITH AUTISM EXPECT TO HAVE A JOB

94%
OF YOUTH WITH
INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITY EXPECT TO
HAVE A JOB

EMPLOYMENT ASPIRATIONS

Source: https://www.mathematica-mpr.com/our-publications-and-findings/projec national-longitudinal-transition-study

80%
OF YOUTH WITH AUTISM EXPECT TO BE LIVING ON THEIR OWN

72%

OF YOUTH WITH

INTELLECTUAL

DISABILITY EXPECT TO

BE LIVING ON THEIR

OWN

RESIDENTIAL ASPIRATIONS

Source: https://www.mathematica-mpr.com/our-publications-and-findings/projectnational-longitudinal-transition-study





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNMJaXuFuWQ

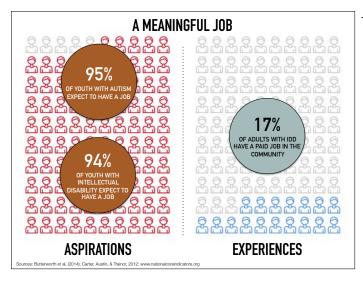


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COMPLIANCE IS OUR FLOOR, NOT OUR CEILING

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STATE-BY-STATE VARIATIONS: INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT 100% Percent of Adults with IDD Working for Pay in Their Community 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% Source: KI Netional Survey of State IDD Agencies: www.statecida.arch

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GREAT EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES...





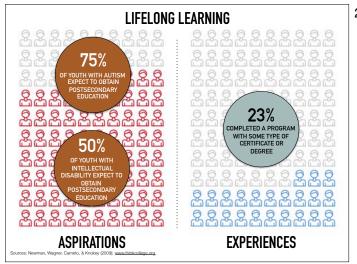
WWW.TENNESSEEWORKS.ORG

WWW.THINKWORK.ORG

WWW.IDD.VCURRTC.ORG

WWW.TRANSITION.VCURRTC.ORG





PROGRAMS IN NORTH CAROLINA

- ➤ Alamance Community College
- ➤ Cape Fear Community College
- Central Carolina Community College
- ➤ Cleveland Community College
- ➤ Haywood Community College
- ➤ Mayland Community College
- ➤ Pitt Community College
- ➤ Randolph Community College
- ➤ South Piedmont Community College
- ➤ Wake Technical Community College

WWW.THINKCOLLEGE.NET

- ➤ Appalachian State University
- ➤ University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- ➤ University of North Carolina Greensboro
- ➤ Western Carolina University



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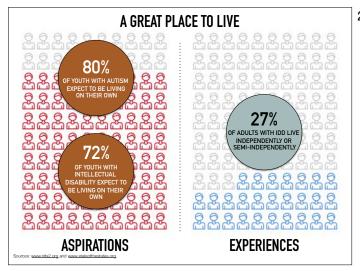
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WWW.THINKCOLLEGE.NET

WWW.AHEAD.ORG



STATE-BY-STATE VARIATIONS: INTEGRATED RESIDENTIAL Percent of People with IDD Living in Non-Family Settings Who Live with Three or Fewer People With IDD by State Who Live with Three or Fewer People With IDD by State 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% Source: Residential Information Systems Project (PRSP): https://rep.um.es.bu/

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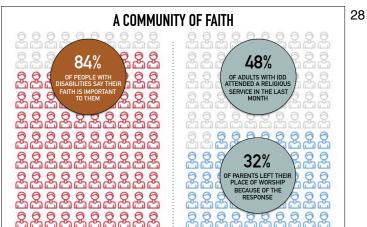
GREAT COMMUNITY INCLUSION RESOURCES...





WWW.ICI.UMN.EDU

WWW.COMMUNITYINCLUSION.ORG



GREAT COMMUNITY INCLUSION RESOURCES...



ASPIRATIONS



EXPERIENCES

WWW.FAITHANDDISABILITY.ORG

HTTPS://VKC.VUMC.ORG/VKC/ RESOURCES/RELIGIONSPIRITUALITY/

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ELEVATING OUTCOMES



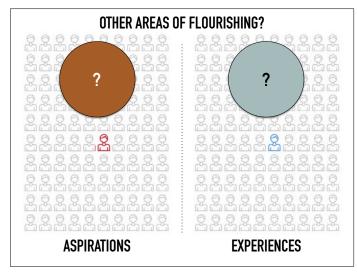
...to ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living..."

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT (2004)

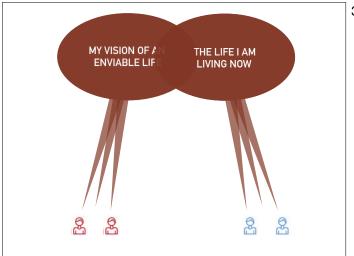
...equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities."

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT; AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT; DD ACT

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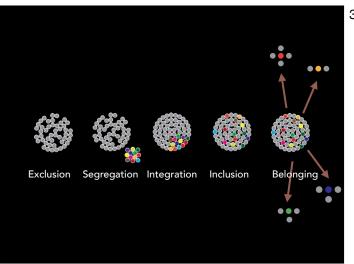


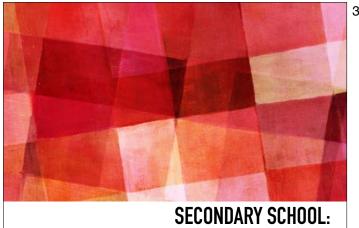


WE SHOULD PURSUE MUCH MORE THAN MERE INCLUSION









A CRITICAL JUNCTURE

IDEA (2004) AND THE TRANSITION MANDATES

- > ...coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that is designed to be within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities...
- ➤ The coordinated set of [transition] activities must:
- ➤ (a) be based on the individual child's **needs**;
- ➤ (b) take into account the child's strengths, preferences, and
- ➤ (c) includes instruction, related services, community experiences,

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the development of employment and other post-school adult living
objectives, and when appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills
and functional vocational evaluation.

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THE PEOPLE WE ENGAGE THE PRACTICES WE PURSUE THE POSTURES WE ADOPT



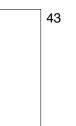
POWERFUL POSTURES

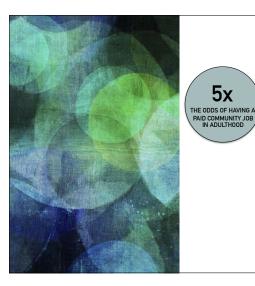
- ➤ Communicating high expectations
- ➤ Recognizing individuality
- ➤ Prioritizing strengths
- ➤ Presuming competence
- ➤ Forging connections
- ➤ Affirming intrinsic worth and dignity

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15x

THE **EXPECTATIONS WE HAVE**

5x

 $Download\ it\ here:\ \underline{https://www.thinkwork.org/what-matters-most-}$ research-elevating-parent-expectations

THE VALUES WE HOLD



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THE VIEWS WE EMBRACE



THE GIFTS WE SEE



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Watch this video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-TyPfYMDK8

Intellectual disability is "a disability characterized by

SIGNIFICANT LIMITATIONS

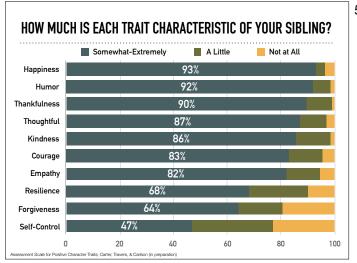
both in intellectual functioning and in adaptive behavior, which covers many everyday social and practical skills."

AAIDD definition (2010)

Autism spectrum disorder is characterized by...

- DEFICITS in social-emotional reciprocity, ranging, for example, from abnormal social approach and failure of normal back-and-forth conversation; or reduced sharing of interests, emotions, or affect; to failure to initiate or respond to social interactions.
- DEFICITS in nonverbal communicative behaviors used for social interaction, ranging, for example, from poorly integrated verbal and nonverbal communication; to abnormalities in eye contact and body language or deficits in understanding and use of gestures; to a total lack of facial expressions and nonverbal communication.
- DEFICITS in developing, maintaining, and understanding relationships, ranging, for example, from difficulties adjusting behavior to suit various social contexts; to difficulties in sharing imaginative play or in making friends; to absence of interest in peers.

DSM-V Definition



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...based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests"







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THE WAY WE **SERVE**



OUR **POSTURES ARE EXPERIENCED BY OTHERS**



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THE PRACTICES WE PURSUE	

YOUTH DESERVE THE BEST OF WHAT WE KNOW **WORKS**



NTACT THE OLLABORATIVE Improving Opportunities & Outcomes
CSESA
YES Youth Employment Solutions Center
The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder
VCU-RRTC-Transition VCU-RRTC on Employment of Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities
Transition Transition
transition innovations



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SOURCES FOR RESEARCH-BASED PRACTICES IN TRANSITION

- ➤ National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (https:// $\underline{transitionta.org})$
- ➤ Transition Tennessee (<u>https://transitiontn.org</u>)
- ➤ Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Employment of Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities (https:// transition.vcurrtc.org)
- ➤ Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism $Spectrum\ Disorders\ (\underline{https://csesa.fpg.unc.edu})$
- ➤ Youth Employment Solutions Center (https:// yestoemployment.org)
- $\blacktriangleright \ \ \text{Center on Transition Innovations ($\underline{\text{https://centerontransition.org}}$)}$
- ➤ Iris Center (https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu)

SOME EXCELLENT (FREE) EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDES

➤ Evidence-Based Practices and **Predictors in Transition**

National Technical Assistance Center on Transition

www.transitionta.org

➤ Guideposts for Success

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability/Youth

www.ncwd-youth.info

➤ National Standards & Quality Indicators

National Alliance for Secondary Education and Transition

www.naset.org



HIGH-QUALITY **TRANSITION ASSESSMENT & PLANNING**



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TRANSITION ASSESSMENT

The first IEP to be in effect when a child with a disability turns 16 (or 14 in some states) must include:

- · Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon ageappropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills; and
- •The transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the child in reaching those goals. (§300.320(b))

Transition activities must be:

• "based on the individual child's **needs**, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests"

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"An ongoing process of collecting information on the student's **strengths**, **needs**, **preferences**, and **interests** as they related to the demands of **current** and **future living**, **learning**, and **working** environments."

SITLINGTON, NEUBERT, BEGUN, LOMBARD, & LECONTE (2007)

			Transition Domains	
		Living	Learning	Working
	Interests	?	?	?
int Areas	Preferences	?	?	?
Assessment Areas	Strengths	?	?	?
	Needs	?	?	?
		Revi	isited over time	

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h	-

INDICATOR 13 CHECKLIST

- 1. Are there appropriate measurable postsecondary goals in the areas of training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills?
- 2. Are the postsecondary goals updated annually?
- 3. Is there evidence the measurable postsecondary goals were based on age-appropriate transition assessment(s)?
- 4. Are there transition services in the IEP that will reasonably enable the student to meet her or his postsecondary goals?
- 5. Do the transition services include courses of study that will reasonably enable the student to meet her or his postsecondary goals?
- 6. Is (are) there annual IEP goal(s) related to the student's transition services needs?
- 7. Is there evidence the student was invited to the IEP team meeting where transition services were discussed?
- 8. If appropriate, is there evidence a representative of any participating agency was invited to the IEP team meeting with the prior consent of the parent or student who has reached the age of majority?

Source: https://transitionta.org/transitionplanning



To what extent will the written plans you see **reasonably enable** young people with disabilities to attain their post-school goals?

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DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCES

- ➤ Example Postsecondary Goals
- ➤ Postsecondary Goals Checklist
- ➤ Transition Services Checklist
- ➤ Transition Services Examples
- ➤ Course of Study Checklist
- ➤ Course of Study Examples & Non-Examples
- ➤ Annual Goals Checklist
- ➤ Summary of Performance Checklist
- ➤ Summary of Performance Template
- ➤ FAQs
- ➤ Resources

**Non-Examples

**Non-Examples

**Non-Examples

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Source: www.transitiontn.org/developing-a-high-quality-transition-plan/

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ENHANCING SELF-DETERMINATION

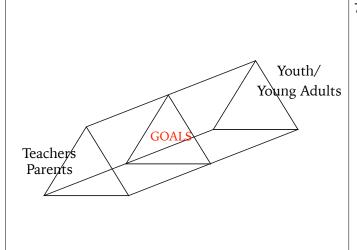


SELF-DETERMINATION SKILLS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- ➤ Choice-making
- ➤ Decision-making
- ➤ Problem-solving
- ➤ Goal-setting
- ➤ Self-management strategies
- ➤ Self-advocacy and leadership
- ➤ Self-awareness & self-knowledge



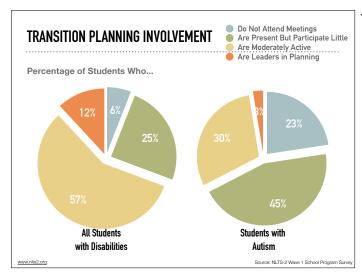
Download this guide: http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/naturalsupports/pdfs/ FosteringSelfDetermination.pdf



71







9%

9%

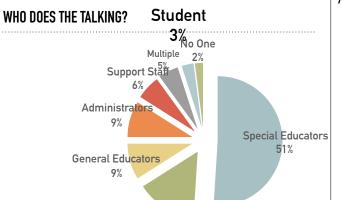
Family

15%

Percentage of 10-second intervals that

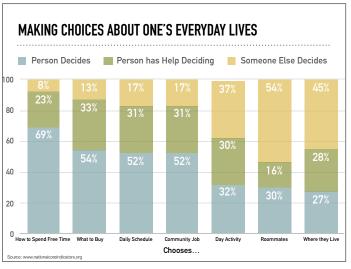
IEP team members talked during traditional educator-directed IEP

meetings at the secondary level



Source: Martin, Van Dycke, Greene, et al. (2006

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CONNECTING TO INCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES



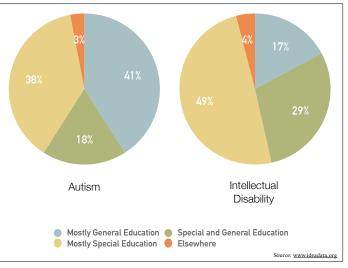
Cafeterias

Service-Learning
Projects

Extracurriculars

Field Trips

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What makes you a good student?

See this video and others at: www.transitiontn.org

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CAREER DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES



CAREER-RELATED EXPERIENCES

Activities	Schools Offering (%)
Career interest	91.2
assessments	
Tours of colleges or	85.3
technical schools	
Job-shadowing programs	82.4
Interviewing or	76.5
resume-writing practice	
Speakers brought in from	76.5
local businesses	
Career exploration courses	73.5
College fairs or college days	73.5
Tours of local businesses or industries	73.5
Career or job counseling	70.6
Career aptitude assessments	70.6
Apprenticeship programs	70.6
Paid or unpaid internships	67.6
lob fairs or career days	64.7
Tech-prep programs	64.7
Career or job resource center	61.8
Written career plans	58.8
for students	
Cooperative education programs	52.9
School-based enterprises	52.9
or businesses	
lob placement services	44.1
for students	2350
Mentorship programs with employers	34.4

Activities	Offering (%)
Career interest	91.2
assessments	
Tours of colleges or	85.3
technical schools	
Job-shadowing programs	82.4
Interviewing or	76.5
resume-writing practice	
Speakers brought in from	76.5
local businesses	
Career exploration courses	73.5
College fairs or college days	73.5
Tours of local businesses or industries	73.5
Career or job counseling	70.6
Career aptitude assessments	70.6
Apprenticeship programs	70.6
Paid or unpaid internships	67.6
Job fairs or career days	64.7
Tech-prep programs	64.7
Career or job resource center	61.8
Written career plans	58.8
for students	
Cooperative education	52.9
programs	
School-based enterprises or businesses	52.9
Job placement services	44.1
for students	13335

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HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES

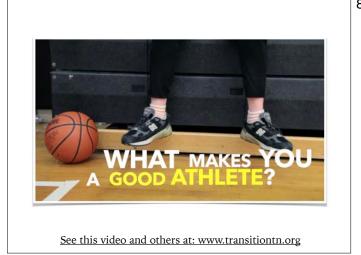
- ➤ School-based enterprises
- ➤ On-campus jobs
- ➤ School-supported jobs
- ➤ After-school jobs
- ➤ Summer employment

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SUPPORTING CONTRIBUTIONS







CONTRIBUTING IN ONE'S COMMUNITY Yes No 100 60 40 20 Does Volunteer Work Has a Paid Job Serves in Their Faith Community



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POINT #8



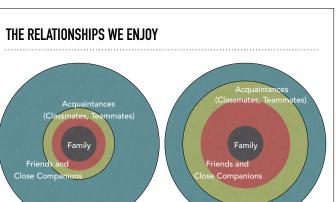
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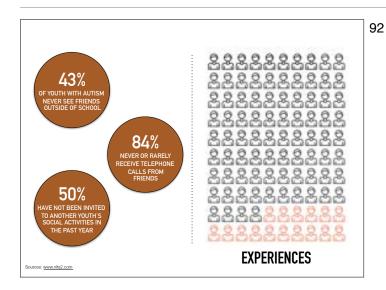
"... alone we are poor, together we are rich."

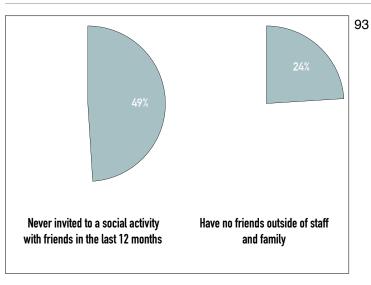
-Sue Mosteller



Professionals and Paid Supports

Professionals and Paid Supports





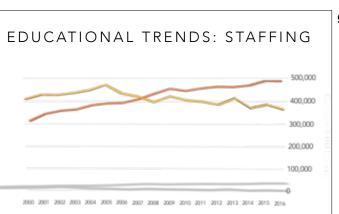
Young Adults With	Who Saw Friends Outside Of Work At Least Weekly
Intellectual Disability	58%
Autism	48%
Multiple Disabilities	53%
Deaf-Blindness	63%
Orthopedic Impairment	66%
Emotional Disturbance	75%
Hearing Impairment	75%
Traumatic Brain Injury	77%
Visual Impairment	77%
Other Health Impairment	80%
Learning Disabilities	83%
Speech/Language	84%
	Source: Newman, Wagner, Knokey, Marder, et al. ((2011)

Whatever it is that rights and choice can do—and we do not have to prove that they can do a lot of very important things—but whatever rights and choice can do, they are not going to make me your friend.

–Hans Reinders

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	CAN WE NAME PEOPLE SHE CAN
WHO IS <u>NOT</u> PAID TO DO THESE THINGS WITH HER?	➤ Eat with?
	➤ Walk with?
	➤ Celebrate with?
	➤ Cry with?
HAVE WE LIMITED WHO GETS THESE	➤ Play with?
OPPORTUNITIES?	➤ Pray with?
	➤ Shop with?
	➤ Watch the big game with?
HOW MUCH DO WE PRIORITIZE THESE RELATIONSHIPS?	➤ Do absolutely nothing with?



Paraprofessionals

Special Educators

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SOME PROMISING ALTERNATIVES



Peer Support Arrangements



Peer Networks



Peer Partner Programs

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE FOR FREE?

➤ Peer Mentoring to Students with Disabilities

http://www.engagingalllearners.ca/sal/peermentoring/

- ➤ Starting Points and Possibilities for Promoting Relationships and Learning https://www.pattan.net/supports/inclusivepractices/other-projects-and-trainings/
- ➤ Kentucky Peer Support Project http://www.kypeersupport.org/how-to-modules/



FORGING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- ➤ Strategy 1: Identify who the person already knows and where the relationship can be strengthened and deepened
- ➤ Strategy 2: Identify who would appreciate this person's gifts
- ➤ Strategy 3: Identify where you can find an interested person
- ightharpoonup Strategy 4: Identify associations and clubs
- ➤ Strategy 5: Identify community places where people engage in one of this person's interests
- ➤ Strategy 6: Identify community p are hospitable and welcoming
- ➤ Strategy 7: Identify places where person can fit in just they way the



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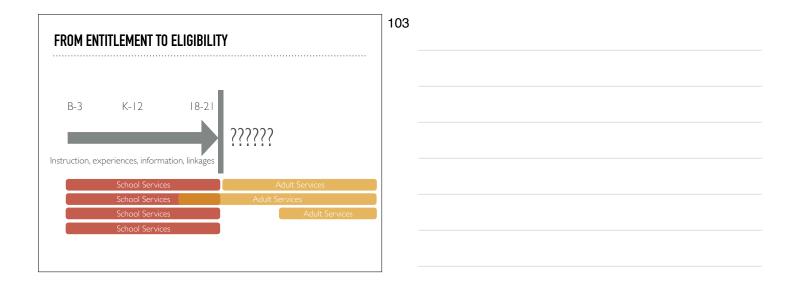
	Angela Novok Amado, Ph.D.
aces that	rtc on community living
	University of Minnesota Driven to Discover
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SCHOOLS MUST NOT GO IT ALONE

POINT #9



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PTRADUIS	AND PARTN	1EBCHIDG

Disability Services

- Vocational Rehabilitation (traditional and Pre-ETS)
 Tennessee Rehabilitation Center (TRC)
- Employment providers
- Higher education programs (e.g., Next Steps, IDEAL, etc.)
 Centers for Independent Living
 Group homes or supported living providers
 Social Security/SSI

- Carcup homes or supported living providers
 Social Security/SSI
 Recreational services and supports for youth with disabilities (e.g., Best Buddies, Special Olympics)
 Disability advocacy groups or legal services (e.g., The Arc, Family Voices, Disability Advocacy Center)
 Support groups/training centers for parents or family members
 Mental health services and supports Adult day programs
 Specific disability agencies (e.g., AutsmTN, United Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome Society)

 Local transportation providers

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Generic Services

- U.S. Armed Forces
 Job Corps
- I ob Corps
 American Job Centers (One Stop Career Center)
 Local employers
 Craft apprenticeship programs (e.g., electrical plumbing,

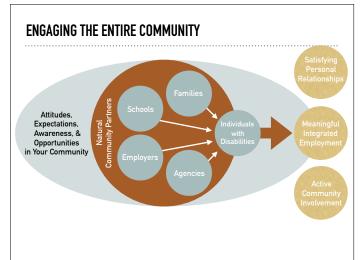
- Recreational or social organizations (e.g., YMCA, dance studios,
- summer camp)

 Service organizations (e.g., Kiwanis, Rotary Club, Knights of

WE MUST THINK BEYOND THE SYSTEM

POINT #10







TRANSITION COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



EMPLOYMENT & DISABILITY COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS









See this video at https://vimeo.com/128290120





THE POSTURES WE ADOPT

THE PRACTICES WE PURSUE

THE PEOPLE WE ENGAGE

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DATA ISN'T A "FOUR LETTER" WORD*

*TECHNICALLY IT IS.

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If you don't know where you're going, you might not get there.

-Yogi Berra

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If we have data, let's look at data. If all we have are opinions, let's go with mine.

-Jim Barksdale



What gets measured, gets managed.

-Peter Drucker

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In God we trust. All others must bring data.

-W. Edwards Deming

REFLECT ON YOUR **PRACTICES**



3		

WHEN IT COMES TO POSTURES, PRACTICES, AND PEOPLE?

- ➤ What are we doing well right now?
- ➤ What could we be doing better or more of?
- ➤ What could we be doing differently?
- ➤ What can we begin doing **next** in each of these areas?

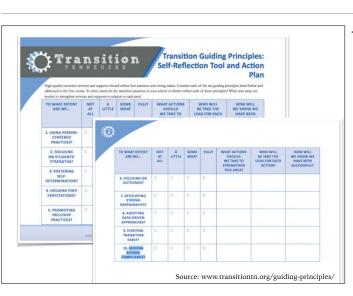


TO WHAT EXTENT ARE WE...

- 1. Using person-centered practices?
- 2. Focusing on students' strengths?
- 3. Fostering self-determination?
- 4. Holding high expectations?
- 5. Promoting inclusive practices?
- 6. Focusing on outcomes?
- 7. Developing strong partnerships?
- 8. Adopting data-driven approaches?
- 9. Starting transition early?
- 10. Moving beyond compliance?







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WE ARE SOMEONE'S BARBAROUS ANCESTORS

POINT #13



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PRESS ON



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SUPPORTING STRONG TRANSITIONS

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