The sponsors of the conference are the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education and the PA Training and Technical Assistance Network, in collaboration with members of the PA Community on Transition including: The Pennsylvania State University; The University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, The George Washington University, Special Education and Disability Studies; PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; PA Youth Leadership Network, PA Coalition for Youth Leadership; Pennsylvania’s Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT); Transition State Leadership Team including members from: Advocacy, Systems Change and Capacity Building Organizations (Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, The Leigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Higher Education (The George Washington University, Pennsylvania State University, and Temple University); PA Department of Education (Bureau of Career and Technical Education); PA Department of Health (Bureau of Family Health and Bureau of Community Health Systems); PA Department of Human Services (Office of Developmental Programs, Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, and Office of Children, Youth & Families); PA Department of Labor & Industry (Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Bureau of Workforce Development Partnership, and Pennsylvania State Workforce Investment Board); Parent/Advocacy Organizations (PA Education & Advocacy Leadership Center, Hispanos Unidos para Ninos Excepcionales (HUNE), and The ARC of Pennsylvania).
2015 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference
Navigating the Road to Success: Expect, Educate, Empower, Employ

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, agencies 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 explore possibilities, take advantage of their opportunities, and actively advocate for their future.

Focus of 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
- Supporting successful outcomes for youth and young adults with behavioral health needs
- Engaging youth and young adults in social interactions and in understanding their potential for post school success
- 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 and local transition coordinating councils

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. These codes are located under each session title.

The major topics of the conference include:
- Accommodations & Assistive Technology
- Collaborative Partnerships
- Effective Educational Practices
- Employment
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Independent Living & Community Participation
- Knowledge Building: Agency Information
- Knowledge Building: Disability Specific Information
- Models of Success
- Post-Secondary Education & Training
- Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
- Transition & Career Assessment

Credits Offered
Act 48, CRCC and Social Worker continuing education credits are offered for all keynote, feature, and breakout sessions. **Act 48 will be offered per day.** CRCC and Social Worker credits are offered by the session. To receive Act 48 individuals attending this conference must arrive on time and stay the duration of the day(s) for which they are requesting credit(s). Individuals interested in obtaining Social Worker credits will be required to pay a $30.00 fee onsite at the conclusion of the conference.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Act 48</th>
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The conference will feature:
- Keynote and feature presentations
- Over 100 breakout sessions
- Sessions and activities designed for youth and young adults
- Family engaging sessions and networking opportunities
- Accommodations and Supports Expo, featuring hands-on assistive technology exhibits, vendor displays, and resource tables
Conference Features

Keynote and Feature Presentations
This year’s keynote presentations will address issues related to understanding one’s disability, advocacy, strategies for employment success, and utilizing the concepts of social capital and civic engagement to promote successful transition outcomes for all individuals. The three feature presentations will focus on: an overview of the new federal law Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and its impact on transition age youth and young adults, a panel of young adults and family/support members will provide a discussion led by facilitators on the young people’s journey through the transition years, and a discussion regarding the strengths and barriers to secondary transition from the family and young adult perspective.

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. As part of the Expo, on Thursday afternoon, items representative of our Keystone state will be raffled. You must be present at the reception to win!

NEW CONFERENCE FEATURE!
Youth & Family Team Sessions
Throughout the years, youth/young adults and families have benefitted from the sessions held at the transition conference. Based upon feedback, the planning team has developed a new team approach where youth and family members (or a supporting adult) attend sessions together. These sessions will include youth development activities, to help youth grow and plan for adult life, with the support of their family (or supporting adult). These sessions will be led by the PA Youth Leadership Network, including young adults with and without disabilities as well as other transition stakeholders. Youth and young adults attending the sessions, with their family’s support, will have the opportunity to develop a portfolio of resources to help them as they continue transition planning activities after the conference. For specific Youth and Family Team Sessions refer to page # 5 in the conference brochure. PYLN specific sessions include: Session # 112, 212, 312, 412, 510, 612, 712, 811, and 911.

Audience
Stakeholders supporting post-school outcomes for youth and 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 and 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
Keynote Presenters

Michael Murray
Principal Advisor to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management’s (OPM) Government-Wide Disability Policies and Programs

In this role, Michael works closely with senior level officials throughout the Federal Government to implement Executive Order 13548, Increasing Federal Employment of Individuals with Disabilities. Michael, who has had a disability since childhood, has a proven track record of increasing the inclusion of people with disabilities at the federal, state, and local levels. Before joining OPM, Michael led efforts at the American Association of People with Disabilities, the North Carolina Disability Action Network, NC’s State Protection and Advocacy and a Center for Independent Living.

Opening Keynote Presentation – “Living the Dream: Disability, Transition & Employment”

Wednesday, July 22, 2015 (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)

Erik Carter
Professor in the Department of Special Education at Vanderbilt University and a member of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center

Erik’s research and teaching focuses on evidence-based strategies for supporting access to the general curriculum and promoting valued roles in school, work, and community settings for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Prior to receiving his doctorate, Erik worked as a high school teacher and transition specialist with youth with significant disabilities. He has published widely in the areas of educational and transition services for children and youth with significant disabilities. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Early Career Research Award from the Council for Exceptional Children and the Early Career Award from the American Association for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Erik’s research interests include adolescent transitions from school to adult life; peer relationships and peer support interventions; students with severe disabilities; access to the general curriculum; and religion, congregational supports, and disabilities.

Closing Keynote Presentation – “Promoting Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships: Setting Youth with Disabilities on a Strong Pathway Toward Adulthood”

Friday, July 24, 2015 (12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.)

For questions about registration, contact:

Patty Panuccio
PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Phone: 800-446-5607, ext. 6841
ppanuccio@pattan.net

For questions about this conference, contact:

Michael Stoehr
PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Phone: 800-446-5607, ext. 6864
mstoehr@pattan.net

Patty Vasco
PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Phone: 717-346-3202
pvasco@pa.gov
Youth & Family Team Sessions

These sessions will be led by the PA Youth Leadership Network, including young adults with and without disabilities as well as other transition stakeholders. Youth and young adults attending the sessions, with their family’s support, will have the opportunity to develop a portfolio of resources to help them as they continue transition planning activities after the conference!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakout</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10:15 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td>110 Wow the Interviewer: Landing Your First Job</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10:15 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td>112 Person Centered Planning: Developing a One Pager</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12:45 pm – 2:15 pm</td>
<td>211 Self Advocacy Skills: A Workshop for Family &amp; Youth</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12:45 pm – 2:15 pm</td>
<td>212 Keys to Success: Disability Understanding and Using Accommodations and Supports</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>303 Resources to Empower Youth Transitioning into Postsecondary Education</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>312 Building Healthy Relationships &amp; Getting the Supports You Need</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>409 All Access PASS - to the Classroom, Curriculum &amp; Work Environment</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>411 Promoting Person Centered Practices in Transition</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4:15 pm – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>412 Youth Taking Action: Advocating for Success</td>
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<td>503 #IWantToWork—Working and Leading IS the Message</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10:15 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td>510 ‘Tech Smackdown’: Share, Discover, and Add to Your Tech Toolbelt</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>603 My Story: Survival Guide for College-Bound LD Students</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12:45 pm – 2:15 pm</td>
<td>608 What Happens When the School Bus Stops Coming?</td>
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<td>12:45 pm – 2:15 pm</td>
<td>610 Assistive Technology and College/Career Readiness: What Needs to Happen in High School</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>612 Scoring Successful Outcomes Through Goal Setting</td>
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<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>702 Increased Need for Self-Advocacy for College Students</td>
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<td>710 Assistive Technology in the Secondary IEP: A Toolbelt for Life</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>711 My Health, My Independence, and My Transition</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2:30 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>712 Financial Education: Pathway to Independence</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:30 am – 10:00 am</td>
<td>801 Mastering Your First Year in College</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:30 am – 10:00 am</td>
<td>811 Developing Wellness - Living a Balanced Life</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:15 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td>903 Did I Mention I Walk With a Stick?</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:14 am – 11:45 am</td>
<td>911 Youth and Family Secondary Transition Share Fair</td>
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# 2015 PA Community on Transition Conference
## Navigating the Road to Success: Expect, Educate, Empower, Employ

### Wednesday, July 22, 2015

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. –</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Networking Breakfast (Continental)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. –</td>
<td>Opening Keynote Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m. –</td>
<td>Breakout Session 1</td>
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<td>12:45 p.m. –</td>
<td>Breakout Session 2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>Breakout Session 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner on Your Own</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15 p.m. –</td>
<td>Social Event for all Youth &amp; Young Adult Participants (PYLN Sponsored)</td>
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### Thursday, July 23, 2015

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<td>8:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Networking Breakfast (Continental)</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m. –</td>
<td>Feature Presentations</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Accommodations, Supports &amp; Resources Expo</td>
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<td>10:15 a.m. –</td>
<td>Breakout Session 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m. –</td>
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<td>Breakout Session 7</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m. –</td>
<td>Accommodations, Supports &amp; Resources Expo Reception &amp; Raffle (4:45 p.m. Raffle)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner on Your Own</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m. –</td>
<td>Social Event for Youth &amp; Young Adult Participants (PYLN Sponsored)</td>
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### Friday, July 24, 2015

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<td>Networking Breakfast (Continental)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. –</td>
<td>Breakout Session 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. –</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m. –</td>
<td>Breakout Session 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. –</td>
<td>Closing Keynote Presentation</td>
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### Opening Keynote Presentation

#### Wednesday, July 22, 2015 - (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)

**100. Living the Dream: Disability, Transition & Employment**

In this engaging keynote presentation, Michael Murray, principal advisor to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management’s (OPM) Government-Wide Disability Policies and Programs, will provide a personal reflection of disability, self-advocacy, and the keys to successful employment and community engagement.

_Michael Murray, U.S. Office of Personnel Management_

#### Break (10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.)

**101. Graduation vs Retirement from High School: Ensuring Successful Adult Transitions**

**Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership**

Annually thousands of youth with disabilities transition into adulthood with an undetermined future. Without the right supports, skills, and opportunities these youth “graduate to the couch.” Effective youth leaders will discuss what supported their successful transition into adulthood and how to support others to be successful.

_Josie Badger, PEAL_

#### Breakout Session 1 - (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)

**102. Empower Me to Expect More: RENEW in Pennsylvania**

**Effective Educational Practices**

This session will include an overview of RENEW (Rehabilitation for Empowerment, Natural Supports, Education & Work) by a statewide trainer and explain its direct relationship to secondary transition. RENEW is a structured school-to-career transition planning and individualized wraparound process for youth with emotional and behavioral challenges. High schools will share their stories and experiences with the implementation of RENEW and how it has empowered youth at home, at school, and in the community as the youth work on goals specific for today and action plan for their future. The impact on families and school staff will also be shared.

_Michael Minor, PaTTAN Pittsburgh_

_Wendy Smith, Carbon-Lehigh IU 21_
103. Like Everyone Else: Agents of Change & University Admission

Post-Secondary Education & Training
During this highly participatory café environment, facilitators will engage professionals, families, and students with disabilities to discover their own understanding of an effective higher education experience. The result will be a practical set of answers, which empower each participant to evaluate, design, or choose a truly inclusive and life defining higher education experience.

Daniel Castellanos, Millersville University
Thomas Neuville, Millersville University

104. Transition Assistance with the PA Medicaid HealthChoices Program

Knowledge Building: Agency Information
An overview of the PA Medicaid HealthChoices program and the role the Special Needs Units will be provided. The staff and the services provided in the transition of healthcare into adult services and state programs will also be discussed.

Eric Ulsh, Bureau of Managed Care Operations

105. Penn-Trafford School District’s Transition Showcase

Models of Success
Information will be shared about innovative and successful transition programs developed by the Penn-Trafford School District along with ways the programs can be replicated in various settings.

Dawn Blank, Penn Trafford School District
Tera Enick, Penn Trafford School District

106. Learning for Life: Transitioning into the Workforce

Employment
The Arc of Dauphin County's Learning for Life program, provides pre-vocational experiences, career development, job training, and skills for living and wellness to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Attendees will learn about The Arc's successful partnership with Susquehanna Township School District to deliver the program, as well as best practices and outcomes.

Barbara Fruhwirth, The Arc of Dauphin County
Robin Kazakavish, Susquehanna Township School District
Barbara Sperber, The Arc of Dauphin County

107. 21 and Able 2015: Mapping A Better Future

Collaborative Partnerships
Community organizations can be the catalysts to move transition in your region. Learn how United Way of Allegheny County’s 21 and Able initiative and our 50 partner agencies have been working for the last two years to change systems and create opportunities locally and throughout Pennsylvania. New ways will be shared to engage businesses to employ transition age youth; ensure that young adults and families have the right resources and information so they are empowered to make good future decisions; work locally to develop a plan for housing so that young adults can expect to grow up and move out of their family’s home when they are ready; and create real and lasting change through community engagement and policy/advocacy efforts.

Megan Grabski, United Way of Allegheny County & 21 and Able
Mary Hartley, United Way of Allegheny County & 21 and Able
Heather Sedlacko, United Way of Allegheny County & 21 and Able

108. SmartHome Technology: Promoting Consumer Independence, Safety and Dignity

Accommodations & Assistive Technology
An introduction and live demonstration of SmartHome Technology devices will be shared. This technology provides a custom solution for individuals who live with a disability to allow people to increase their independence and remain safe in their homes. The technology can also allow caregivers to address teachable moments to help support a person’s individual needs.

Lisa Butler, United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA
Jamar Tyler, United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA

109. Futures and Chichester Eagle Transition Program (CETP): On the Road to MY Future

Effective Educational Practices
Learn about Futures, a successful neighborhood-based program for graduating seniors at the Davidson School, which is being replicated at Chichester High School, a public school in Delaware County, PA. Authentic apartment settings, as well as each graduate’s home neighborhood, serve as the student’s classroom. Academics, social skills, and transition work skills are all taught in community settings.

Rosemary Barbella, Elwyn-Davidson School
Marian Green, Elwyn-Davidson School
Carol Lauser, Elwyn-Davidson School
Grace McAndrews, Elwyn-Davidson School

110. Wow the Interviewer: Landing Your First Job

Employment
Now that you’re in high school and will be graduating soon, have you thought about what you want to do with your life? A great way to learn about the world of work and make a little extra cash is to get a part-time job. This workshop will help you build confidence and give you the tools to find, obtain, and maintain successful employment.

Jodie Hnatkovich, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Kim Robinson, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
111. Transition and Leadership Development for Youth with Epilepsy

**Knowledge Building - Disability Specific: Epilepsy**
This session will provide a youth/family perspective of transition issues for youth with epilepsy/seizure disorders. A focus will be on the need for self-advocacy and leadership skill development and addressing medical/community support needs after high school. The session will also provide information on epilepsy/seizure recognition and first aid, statewide support services, and experiences from a teen leadership retreat.

**Jordan Hinds**, Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central PA
**Phillip Kerber**, Parent
**Gretchen Knaub**, Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central PA

112. Person Centered Planning: Developing a One Pager

**Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership**
This session provides the foundation for the youth-family partnership series. A one-page profile is a short introduction to a person, which captures key information on a single page which provides a good understanding of the person and how best to support him or her. Using a person-centered planning approach, youth and families will each develop their own one-page profile highlighting their dreams, goals, strengths, and needs.

**PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives**
**PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives**
**Adult Allies**

**Lunch (11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.)**

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

201. Healthy Transitions: From Pediatric to Adult Centered Care

**Healthy Lifestyles**
Healthy Transitions, a program designed to assist adolescents and families through the process of medical transition will be described. The goal of the program is to help educate adolescents and families on the core principles of medical transitions from pediatric to adult care, equip them with the tools necessary to transition well, and assess their progress towards achieving successful transition. The model of a transitional care program and how to apply the principles to empower families to improve their own transition experience will be discussed.

**Andrew McCormick, MD**, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

202. PA’s Systemic Improvement Plan to Increase School Completion Rates for Students with Disabilities

**Effective Educational Practices**
Participants of this session will learn about Pennsylvania’s work to improve school completion rates for students with disabilities. The State Systemic Improvement Plan incorporates research-based strategies to help students with disabilities stay in school and graduate with a high school diploma. Seven strategies and focus areas will be discussed.

**Michael Minor**, PaTTAN Pittsburgh

203. The Skills Students Need to be Successful in College and the Workforce

**Post-Secondary Education & Training**
Three areas of functioning (social cognition, age-expected independence, and executive functioning) essential for success in college/post-high school training as well as in the work force will be discussed. Targeted audience includes: educators, agency staff, and families of youth with disabilities who are college or trade school/post-high school training capable and are diagnosed with ADHD, Asperger’s Syndrome, Autism, or Learning Disabilities.

**Ryan Wexelblatt**, Skills for College

204. Community-Based Employment for Students with Emotional & Behavioral Challenges

**Employment**
The Start On Success (SOS) program, a nationally recognized transition program within the Pittsburgh Public Schools, in addition to a PDE grant-funded initiative that expands the evidence-based practices of SOS to provide community-based transition services for students with emotional and behavioral challenges will be highlighted. Transition services will include transition assessment and curriculum, career portfolio development, person-centered planning, parent engagement, agency linkages, and community-based work experiences. The potential for program replication will be discussed and attendees will receive resources for which to build capacity within their own transition programs.

**Crystal Evans**, Pittsburgh Public Schools
**Ashley McFall**, Pittsburgh Public Schools

205. The PEAL Center: Supporting Parents in Successful Transitions

**Knowledge Building: Agency Information**
Resources available to families as they navigate the transition process will be shared. Specific attention will be given to independent living, employment, and post-secondary IEP transition goals. Parents will share stories about the struggles and the successes associated with the transition process.

**Kelly King**, The PEAL Center
**Diane Perry**, The PEAL Center
206. VAST LIFE - Holistic Transition for Adolescents & Families

*Models of Success*

An overview of The VAST LIFE program at the University of Pennsylvania will be provided of this hands-on fieldwork experience for pre-service special education teachers in the Commonwealth, adolescents with low incidence disabilities and their families. Information will be shared as to how school districts can begin to evolve their current use of assessment data in the transition plan in an effort to create a more social approach for all stakeholders and provide ideas for parents as they enter the planning years for transition.

*Heather Hopkins, University of Pennsylvania*

207. Wawa’s KEYS Supporting Successful Transition

*Employment*

Wawa’s supportive employment program, which is designed to support the diversified landscape of skills, needs, training, and lifestyle necessary for a participants’ success will be showcased. Partnering with the community, education system, job coaching organizations, and internal management is key to our approach while providing opportunities to higher education students along with those in a post learning environment.

*Gwendelyn Ruff, Wawa, Inc.*

208. OVR’s Early Reach Initiative – The Future is Now

*Knowledge Building: Agency Information*

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” This is a question many of us were asked as we were growing up. For youth with disabilities, this is often a daunting question that is filled with uncertainty and lack of information. In order to assist youth with disabilities better prepare for their transition into the world of work and independence, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) has started a new initiative called “Early Reach”. During this session, learn about outreach to connect with youth with disabilities early, beginning at age 14, so that they know more about OVR services and can better prepare for vocational choices and living independently.

*Michele Bornman, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*

209. Post-Secondary Transition of Youth with Visual Impairments

*Knowledge Building: Disability Specific Information - Blind/Visual Impairment*

A study will be presented in this session on the perceived barriers and strengths of youth with visual impairments in post-secondary transition and will be explored via a qualitative research method. Results of the study will be discussed in light of the current literature.

*James Herbert, University of Pennsylvania*

210. Pieces of the Employment Puzzle: Transition & Youth with ASD

*Employment*

During this interactive session, learn about emerging research and promising practices to support youth and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) as they transition from school to adult life. This session will provide essential information about development, assessment, and planning that lead to placement in competitive employment for youth and young adults with autism. Interesting dialogue about emerging employment models, as well as exciting self-determination efforts will be discussed.

*Joan Kester, The George Washington University, Department of Special Education & Disability Studies*

211. Self-Advocacy Skills: A Workshop for Family & Youth

*Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership*

In this session, youth will learn how to speak up for themselves, ask questions, and get the information they need from medical professionals, professors, and employers. Parents will learn how to help support their youth to become strong and effective self-advocates. This interactive session will provide practical strategies that parents and youth can begin to use immediately.

*Jamie Dianni, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia*

*Natalie Stollen, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia*

*Symme Trachtenberg, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia*

212. Keys to Success: Disability Understanding and Using Accommodations and Supports

*Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership*

This session will provide youth and family conference participants with the opportunity to explore the importance of understanding one’s disability and appropriate strategies for disability disclosure. Accommodations and supports will also be discussed as effective strategies for transition success.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

*PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives*

*Adult Allies*

**Break (2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.)**

**Breakout Session 3 - (2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)**

213. Maximizing Community Resources - A Model for True Integration

*Independent Living & Community Participation*

We are all familiar with the proverb “it takes a village to raise a child”. Connecting with community resources is essential to everyone’s path to independence and leading an everyday life. In this session, a model for transition planning that addresses activities of daily living, post-secondary education, and employment through utilizing resources readily available in the local community will be presented. Students who have become employed, pursued higher education, and became active members of their
302. **Lowe’s Outreach Program: Get Students Working Employment**  
The partnership between Schuylkill County and Lowe’s Distribution Center to assist students in getting paid work experience will be described. Following successful completion of the program, students are then offered part-time or full-time employment at the Lowe’s Distribution Center.

*Kathy Crouch, AHEDD*  
Ashley Felker, Schuylkill IU 29

303. **Resources to Empower Youth Transitioning into Postsecondary Education**  
**Post-Secondary Education & Training**  
The HEATH Resource Center at the National Youth Transitions Center will provide information on the new partnership, new resources on postsecondary education for individuals with disabilities, and present recent consumer feedback and qualitative data on the resources available through the website.

*Reina Guartico, HEATH Center*  
Jessica Queener, HEATH Resource Center at the National Youth Transitions Center

304. **Taking Control: Person Driven Services (PDS) in Pennsylvania**  
**Models of Success**  
Join us to learn about the person driven services in Pennsylvania and about the role of the Supports Broker in assisting with people’s roles as employers of their support staff, personal futures planning, and building more natural supports. Most of the home and community-based waivers in Pennsylvania offer some option for self-direction of services and supports. These person driven options allow for greater choice and control which are critical for high school transition.

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

305. **How to Build Your Village Employment**  
Studies show that knowing the right person is the best way to get hired in a job. This session will explore the ways in which youth and families can maximize their social networks towards post-graduation employment. You never know who you know, or who they know until you start connecting.

*Julia Barol, Transition Consults, LLC*  
*Tracy Katz, Transition Consults, LLC*

306. **Get Hooked-Healthy Living: A Recipe for Transition Effective Educational Practices**  
Learn about the Davidson school’s youth and young adult cross-curriculum, which provides reinforcement in learning to live a healthy lifestyle at home and in the workplace with encouragement and motivation, and promotes self-determination. Using transition experiences of producing, harvesting and consuming healthy foods, students acquire valuable job skills to apply in the community workplace and in volunteer settings, as well as the skills to make healthy choices in everyday life.

*Ethan Brazell, Elwyn-Davidson School*  
*Gerald Creedon, Elwyn-Davidson School*  
*Philip Freed, Elwyn-Davidson School*  
*Carol Lauser, Elwyn-Davidson School*  
*Richard Tinley, Elwyn-Davidson School*

307. **Youth Chartering Their Own Course Through Healthcare Transition**  
**Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership**  
Children’s Hospital Advisory Network for Guidance and Empowerment (CHANGE) is a youth-led, youth-driven group of young adults with disabilities who work with numerous stakeholders to improve transition experiences for other young adults with complex health care needs. Through peer-to-peer educational events, collaborating with professional health care providers, and engaging family members, CHANGE promotes youth empowerment and inclusion in Pittsburgh.

*Jonathan Pletcher, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh*  
*Rachel Kallem Whitman, Children’s Hospital Pittsburgh*

308. **From Dreams to Employment Realities: An Overview of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)**  
**Knowledge Building: Agency Information**  
This session will provide basic information on the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and its mission. Competitive employment is the dream of many youth and young adults with disabilities in Pennsylvania. Information regarding the services and supports offered through OVR and the steps to receiving OVR services from applying for services through case closure will be provided.

*Lynn Heitz, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*  
*Gail Steck, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*

309. **Partners-At-Work Effective Educational Practices**  
The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) through the Reading BVRS District Office and the Berks Career and Technology Center (BCTC) collaborative work partnership will be presented. The project combines and shares staff and other resources to provide work-based educational experiences, on-the-job support, independent living skills, and community involvement to
OVR-eligible youth with disabilities in completing their transition from school to work.

**Kimberly Basket,** Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
**Kyle Follwellier,** Berks CTC  
**James Kraft,** Berks CTC  
**Lynn Zale,** Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

### 310. Building Your Road On-line: Students with Hearing Loss

**Knowledge Building: Disability Specific Information - Deaf/Hard of Hearing**

This will be a BYOD (bring your own device) session focusing on resources that are specific to students who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families and professionals who work with them. Many resources shared will focus on self-determination and self-advocacy. Other areas of interest to transition-aged youth will be presented as well.

**Jane Freeman,** PaTTAN Harrisburg

### 311. Ensuring Successful Outcomes for Transition-Aged Youth in Pennsylvania

**Effective Educational Practices**

During this session, learn about the Pennsylvania Bureau of Special Education's secondary transition projects, programs, and activities designed to ensure the success of middle and high school students receiving special education services and supports throughout Pennsylvania.

**Michael Stoehr,** PaTTAN Pittsburgh

### 312. Building Healthy Relationships & Getting the Supports You Need

**Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership**

During this youth-family partnership session, both youth and families will talk about how to build healthy relationships and acquire an authentic social network. Topics addressed during this session include: understanding the dignity of risk, supports mapping, and the realities of adult agencies and community engagement.

**PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives**  
**PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives**  
**Adult Allies**

### Break (4:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.)

### Breakout Session 4 - (4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

#### 401. A Health Promotion Model for Community Transition: District, Agency, and University Partners

**Post-Secondary Education & Training**

A comprehensive community-based transition program with a focus on a health promotion model and community partnerships within school districts, agencies, and university personnel will be described.

Panel members include university, district, agency, and family members who will discuss their role in the Slippery Rock University Transition Program.

**Robert Arnhold,** Slippery Rock University

#### 402. Interaction Between Individuals with Autism and the Justice System

**Independent Living & Community Participation**

The ASERT collaborative staff will engage the audience in data driven discussions about what the diagnosis of autism means for the individual, the family, and the community and how individuals with autism interact with the justice system. The ASERT collaborative will present current projects to aid in facilitating understanding the justice system for individuals on the autism spectrum, their families, caregivers, and professionals.

**Kate Hooven,** ASERT  
**Kaitlin Koffer Miller,** ASERT  
**Paul Turcotte,** ASERT

#### 403. Creative Job Development and Supports in Career Planning

**Employment**

Penn-Mar Human Services will share their approach to customized community employment, which has been shown to provide great supports to individuals with disabilities as they venture into community integrated employment. A brief overview will be shared about the Exploration & Discovery process. The remainder of the presentation will focus on creative job development, customization, effective job coaching, adaptations/creative work tools, job follow-up and networking.

**Emily Malone,** Penn-Mar Human Services  
**Jackie Stevens,** Penn-Mar Human Services  
**Trish Zeltwanger,** Penn-Mar Human Services

#### 404. Preparing for Adulthood: Experiences from Pennsylvania’s Adult Autism Programs

**Knowledge Building: Agency Information**

Through implementation of the Adult Autism Waiver and the Adult Community Autism Program, The Bureau of Autism Services, Department of Human Services has learned a great deal about the needs of adults with autism and the system that supports them. These lessons learned will be shared and could be very impactful and informative for individuals, families, and service providers in providing the most appropriate community supports to adults with autism.

**Amy Alford,** Bureau of Autism Services  
**Stacy Nonnemacher,** Bureau of Autism Services
405. **Transition Planning: One District’s Approach to Program Implementation**  
*Effective Educational Practices*
Information regarding one district’s approach to implementing a transition program for students aged 14-21 comprised of activities for students and their families to explore post-secondary options will be presented. The process of creating and implementing an in-house program, including a summary of the laws governing transition planning, sample activities, the methods used to create an apartment living and job coaching program, and ideas for involving the community in the program will be discussed.

*Tiffany Bendistis, Rose Tree Media School District*

406. **Job Gateway: Guide for Employment**  
*Employment*
Learn about Pennsylvania’s Job Gateway system during this interactive session. A description and demonstration on the basics of Job Gateway including: how to set up a profile in Job Gateway, how to create or upload a resume, how to search for and apply for jobs, and how to use the system to locate employers for employment, or suitable internship or apprenticeship opportunities will be featured.

*Brandy Burnham, Bureau of Workforce Development*  
*James Martini, Workforce Information and Analysis*

407. **Talk TRANSITION with OVR’s Executive Team**  
*Knowledge Building: Agency Information*
An overview of changes related to transition practice and a panel discussion with OVR’s executive team will be presented in this interactive session.

*David DeNotaris, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*  
*Denise Verchimak, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*

408. **Working and SSA Benefits...Understanding How it Works!**  
*Knowledge Building: Agency Information*
Understanding Social Security Work Incentives can be confusing for beneficiaries and families. Learn about the role of Community Work Incentive Coordinators in helping students and families understand these work incentives. This can be a valuable tool when a student is thinking about working or has begun to work.

*Kris McNutt, AHEDD*  
*Joy Smith, AHEDD*

409. **All Access PASS - to the Classroom, Curriculum & Work Environment**  
*Accommodations & Assistive Technology*
Learn about the All Access PASS, a protocol developed by Geri Boyer, Educational Consultant in Assistive Technology for the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, which encourages educational teams, parents and students to identify and clearly define four important components of learning & employment: participation, accessibility, social integration, and self-reliance/advocacy.

*Geri Boyer, Capital Area IU 15*  
*Deb Evans, Capital Area IU 15*

410. **Youth Transition Conference: Empowering Youth with their Own Conference!**  
*Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership*
How do you motivate those students who may seem unmotivated, disinterested, or apathetic? For schools in the Union and Snyder Counties, holding a youth conference offers motivation. Attended by about 250 students and held at a college campus, students attend breakout sessions about topics like budgeting, applying for college, what employers expect, building communication skills, family planning, and making good decisions. Learn about the benefits of this event and how to create your own.

*Wendy Chalmers, SUN Area Technical Institute*

411. **Promoting Person Centered Practices in Transition**  
*Collaborative Partnerships*
Person Centered Planning is an ongoing assessment process used to help individuals plan for their future. In person centered planning, groups of people focus on an individual and that person’s vision of what he/she would like to do in the future. This "person-centered" team meets to identify opportunities for the focus person to develop personal relationships, participate in community, increase control over his/her own life, and develop the skills and abilities needed to achieve these goals. In this interactive session, the presenter will present information regarding person centered planning tools that are useful to youth, families, educators and agency staff as they gather information and plan for life after high school.

*Melissa Mecke, Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11*

412. **Youth Taking Action: Advocating for Success**  
*Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership*
Too often transitioning youth have things done to and for them with little engagement on their part. This session 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.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*  
*PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives*  
*Adult Allies*
413. Transition Dialogue for Educators
This facilitated session is designed for teachers, transition coordinators, counselors, intermediate unit and PaTTAN staff, and other related educational personnel to discuss effective practices and strategies that are occurring in their school and community. This is a closed session designed specifically for education related staff.

Paula Schmitt, PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Michael Stoehr, PaTTAN Pittsburgh

Navigating the Road to Success through Education and Advocacy
Thursday, July 23, 2015 – (8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Feature Presentations - (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)

F1. Been There Done That
Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
A panel of young adults and family/support members will join in a discussion, led by facilitators, on the young peoples’ journey through the transition years, where the students are now, and their future plans. Audience participation will be encouraged to gain knowledge, information, and understanding of real life transition experiences.

Paula Schmitt, PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Lynn Zale, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

F2. WIOA and the Reauthorization of the Rehab Act-Its Impact and Changes
Knowledge Building: Legislation
The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was signed into law in July of 2014. There are significant changes as a result of WIOA that will be discussed. Specific emphasis will focus on Title IV of WIOA that re-authorized the Rehabilitation Act, the governing legislation for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR).

Denise Verchimak, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

F3. Transition Discoveries
Collaborative Partnerships
As part of the PA Developmental Disabilities Planning Council project, dreams and goals of youth and families were captured into themes. These themes included relationships, person/family directed planning, post-secondary education/training, employment, community engagement, cross-agency collaboration, youth development, and family education. Join this highly interactive session to share what is working in transition and effective practices from a broader community perspective. There will be time to discuss how we capture and measure effective practices. The data will be used to design a survey to inform systems change in the future.

Celia Feinstein, Temple University, Institute on Disabilities
Ali Hrasok, PA Youth Leadership Network
Joan Kester, The George Washington University, Department of Special Education & Disability Studies

Break (10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.)
Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo (10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
Breakout Session 5 - (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)

501. Healthcare Transition, Tools to Build a Path
Healthy Lifestyles
Healthcare transition from pediatric to adult care needs to be part of the transition planning process. This session will review available tools to help families and youth outline this process and plan for a healthy future. Emphasis will be on building a partnership with your medical team and planning through an Individual Health Plan as part of a transition roadmap.

Melissa Allen, ACHIEVA/The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh

502. Pathways: Completing the Journey to Employment and Independence
Employment
Information on United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Central PA Pathways and Pathways Academy programs will be shared, which help people achieve their dreams of employment and independence via curriculum based, time limited programs that teach people the skills needed to work and live with minimal support. The development of these new and innovative programs, how they work, and how UCP effectively helps people achieve their goals of employment and independence will be discussed.

Barry Claypool, United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA
Diana Steel, United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA

503. #IWantToWork--Working and Leading IS the Message
Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
Learn about how young Pennsylvanians with disabilities are leading the statewide #IWantToWork Campaign. Working as paid campaign leaders with long time professionals in social media, earned media, organizational strategy, and legislative advocacy, these young adults are working to change minds, as well as systems. In 2014, young adults across the Commonwealth began working with the Campaign for What Works (C4WW) on policy solutions designed by United Way of Allegheny County’s 21 and Able Initiative, to give more opportunities to high school students so they can find and get support for employment and work experience, just like any high school student.

Josie Badger, The PEAL Center
504. **Timelines and Transitions**

*Independent Living & Community Participation*

Attendees will receive important information regarding the timelines and transitions that will affect individuals living with disabilities throughout their entire lives. The goal of this presentation is not to make attendees experts on these important matters and milestones, but to inform, empower, and prepare them to make necessary, future decisions regarding these important matters and milestones.

Eric O’Connor, Life Enrichment Trust
Timothy Pawol, Life Enrichment Trust

505. **Single Point of Contact Collaboration: Employers Love It!**

*Employment*

The How-To-Guide is a model directed to employers on keeping the hiring process simple for employers who desire to offer students with disabilities summer, time limited or career pathway jobs through use of a business friendly single point of contact model. The Single Point of Contact (SPOC) of the PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) will be showcased, which is committed to long-term success of employers with recruiting and hiring decisions of students with disabilities that can add value to a business or organization.

Stacy Kyle, PA Business Leadership Network
Maria Mardula, Pennsylvania Department of Education
Ralph Roach, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

506. **Navigating the Spectrum: It’s a Two-Way Street**

*Knowledge Building: Agency Information*

Psychological Services Associates from the Hiram G. Andrews Center will present a variety of strategies related to the Autism Spectrum Disorder. These strategies were compiled through work with young adults attending the Commonwealth Technical Institute who participate in a weekly Autism Support Group. The presentation will emphasize approaches found most beneficial in educating and empowering young adults and those individuals in supporting roles.

Kelly Dumm, Hiram G. Andrews
Cherylann Falsone, Hiram G. Andrews
Kimberly Seigh, Hiram G. Andrews

507. **Promoting Academic Success- New Curriculum for a New Time**

*Post-Secondary Education & Training*

Promoting Academic Success or (PAS) is a program for high school students contemplating college. This 10 week course provides a sample of what skills are needed and discusses the difference between high school and college, which is proven to be a valuable experience for our youth with disabilities as it enables them to make a better decision about their post high school education and career choices.

Everett Deibler, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
Patricia Vasco, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

508. **IEP Team Considerations That Impact Graduation and Secondary Transition Success**

*Effective Educational Practices*

Often times, decisions are made at elementary IEP meetings based on the success of the student for the duration of the IEP and that year alone. When this occurs, these decisions can often impact the long-term transition needs of the student, the Keystone exams and even graduation requirements. The purpose of this presentation is to present information regarding transition, Keystone exams and graduation requirements and discuss how utilization of this information is crucial and should be utilized when making IEP decisions for students of ALL ages.

Paula Schmitt, PaTTAN Pittsburgh

509. **Paving the Way, One Transition at a Time**

*Models of Success*

The Autism Life Care Model (ALCM), a program aimed at improving transition planning and outcomes for adolescents with ASD, will be presented. Assessments across six functional domains, ongoing measurement of progress and continual updating of self-determined treatment priorities are key components of this person-centered, family-centric program developed by the Bureau of Autism’s ASERT collaborative. Challenges and opportunities will be discussed to promote generalization to additional transition-aged youth populations.

Andrea Layton, Penn State Hershey Medical Center
Michael Murray, Penn State Hershey Medical Center

510. ‘Tech Smackdown’: Share, Discover, and Add to Your Tech Toolbelt

*Accommodations & Assistive Technology*  
*Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership*

What apps do you use that you just can’t do without? What technology- whether a web tool, a software trick, a device makes your life better or easier? A ‘tech smackdown’ is a structured sharing where any participant can talk briefly about or show a favorite tool and why you love it. In this session for youth and families, you can also ask questions that might help you find just what you are looking for. Whether you come to share, or just to lurk and learn, we promise you will leave this fun session with something useful you didn’t know when you came in, and a compiled list of everything that was shared, in case you need it later.

Paul Fogle, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
Jane Freeman, PaTTAN Harrisburg
Susan Gill, PaTTAN King of Prussia
Bill Ziegler, Bucks County IU 22
PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives
PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives
511.  Transition & Career Assessment

Transition & Career Assessment
Transition and career assessment drive the transition planning process, but are often misunderstood. This interactive session focuses on participants' building core knowledge of assessment practices to promote a holistic approach in transition planning. Be prepared to learn about and share various assessment tools and strategies, as well as how to interpret data. Most importantly, participants will discuss synthesizing assessment data so youth can be empowered through the assessment process to achieve their post-secondary goals.

Joan Kester, The George Washington University
Department of Special Education & Disability Studies
Michael Stoehr, PaTTAN Pittsburgh

Lunch (11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)

Breakout Session 6 - (12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.)

601.  Academic Coaching for College Students with Learning Disabilities

Post-Secondary Education & Training
This session will focus on the use of a structured academic coaching procedure for students with learning disabilities to enhance their self-efficacy, engagement, and academic skills at the post-secondary level.

Elena Brobyn-Navarro, Cedar Crest College
Dolly Singley, Cedar Crest College
Calley Taylor, Cedar Crest College

602.  Partnering Up- Breaking Barriers & Building Bridges

Healthy Lifestyles
An opportunity to discuss how to create a high school environment that fosters inclusion, acceptance, and respect through the implementation of the Partners in Physical Education Class & Special Olympics Club. Information will also be provided on the very successful model that is currently in operation in the greater Pittsburgh Area and how you too could start a similar program at your school district.

Eric Jankoski, Baldwin-Whitehall School District
Timothy Laughlin, Baldwin-Whitehall School District


Post-Secondary Education & Training
David Carson will discuss his personal journey in completing college. Using his real life experiences and information from his book, Survival Guide for College-Bound LD Students, David will review the skills and coping strategies it takes for youth/young adults to succeed in college.

David Carson, Survival Guide for College-Bound LD Students

604.  Enhancing Transition Outcomes with Life Centered Education

Effective Educational Practices
Learn how to increase the capacity of schools to establish a robust transition planning framework using data from Life Centered Education (LCE), an evidence-based, digital transition curriculum developed by the Council for Exceptional Children. How to implement the various assessment and instructional components of LCE and real-life examples of students that have directly benefited from the use of LCE will also be presented.

Jill Kulwicki, Flagler County Schools, Florida
Anu Prabhala, Council for Exceptional Children

605.  "Help Me Do It Myself"

Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
This presentation will help parents of blind and visually impaired students find the right balance between helping too much and not enough. Transitioning students will learn what level of independence they will need to develop in order to be successful in college, work, and adult life.

Catherine Getchell, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Patti McGowan, Parent
Lawrence Shock, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

606.  Cognitive Skills Enhancement Program: Journey to Awareness

Knowledge Building: Agency Information
An overview of the Cognitive Skills Enhancement Program (CSEP) and the benefit to transitioning individuals will be provided. Persons with cognitive impairments who have difficulty understanding the impact of their disability are most likely to benefit from CSEP. This programming has historically been beneficial to individuals diagnosed with learning disabilities, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, Autism spectrum disorders, and/or cognitive disorders (e.g., traumatic brain injury).

Deborah Endres, Hiram G. Andrews
Thomas Johns, Hiram G. Andrews
Jamie Schutte, Hiram G. Andrews

607.  Using Technology in Job Training and Placement

Employment
Integrating video for the use of interviewing, resume development, and job placement is a cutting edge tool to demonstrate a student's skill to his/her parents, transition team and most important, hiring businesses. Using video to help youth gain and maintain community employment and self-esteem will be demonstrated.

Holly Opatick, Goodwill of Southwestern PA
608. What Happens When the School Bus Stops Coming?
Independent Living & Community Participation
The goal of this session is to provide families with tools on how to access services beyond high school. Learn how to develop a holistic lifelong planned approach of blending and braiding community and financial supports.

Michele Leahy, M. Leahy & Associates

609. Supported/Customized Employment: Employment Success in a Rural Area
Employment
Employment First establishes the expectation that employment in the general workforce should be the primary post-secondary outcome and the preferred option for young adults with disabilities after high school – but how does this happen? Participants will learn how they can help identify individual preferences, negotiate and educate the business community, and develop raised expectations for the independence and community integration of students and young adults with significant disabilities.

Rhonda Long, KBE Services
Lorie Silvestre, KBE Services
Heather Strait, Central Fulton School District

Most of us use technology every day, yet college-bound students with disabilities are likely to graduate without skills and experience in using assistive technology or accommodations that would help them succeed in college and careers. If you are you teacher, administrator, technology coordinator, or parent of a student with college as a goal, this session is for you. We will discuss the technology tools that students with disabilities may use in college for reading, writing, studying, and organizing, as well as the skills that students need to build in high school so that they transition with what they need- the knowledge of what works for them and the ability to describe it to make it happen.

Susan Gill, PaTTAN King of Prussia
Amy Goldman, Institute on Disabilities at Temple University

611. CILS: Secondary Transition & LVCIL's Holistic Transition Programming Models of Success
This presentation will describe how a Center for Independent Living can be an incredible resource for young adults who are transitioning to adulthood. It can also be a great support for parents, schools, and other community agencies. Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living (LVCIL) will be showcased in this session. LVCIL has unique and holistic programming that is considered a model for transition and employment services for people with disabilities in the state of Pennsylvania.

Seth Hoderewski, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

612. Scoring Successful Outcomes through Goal Setting
Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
In order to attain a specific post-secondary goal, a plan using specific skills, abilities and resources needs to be applied. When there is no plan, or if the plan is too general, it is very difficult to get concrete results. This session will focus on how youth and the adults that support them, can develop strategies for developing goals that will lead to successful post-secondary outcomes.

PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives
PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives
Adult Allies

Break (2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

Breakout Session 7 - (2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

701. Transition Assessments at your Fingertips!
Transition & Career Assessment
There is more to transition assessment than interest inventories and surveys. This session will highlight resources developed to ease the search and access for such assessments.

Mindy McMahen, Westmoreland IU 7

702. Increased Need for Self-Advocacy for College Students
Post-Secondary Education & Training
This session will focus on the importance of self-advocacy skills at the post-secondary level. Key changes from the transition from high school to college in terms of parent and student roles will be discussed.

Elena Brobyn-Navarro, Cedar Crest College
Dolly Singley, Cedar Crest College
Calley Taylor, Cedar Crest College

703. BCTCC - Working Together, Empowering Youth for Their Future!
Collaborative Partnerships
Local Transition Coordinating Councils can create empowering opportunities for youth by sharing expertise and resources across systems. The Berks County Transition Coordinating Council (BCTCC) brings together local schools, agencies, postsecondary institutions, families, youth, and businesses to collaboratively plan and implement transition opportunities and resources for
students. During this session, learn practical strategies you can replicate in your own community.

Sheila Bressler, CASSP
Kathy Buschan, Kutztown University
Michael Butterworth, Butterworth & Associates
Nicolynn Habecker, Parent
Scardy Maceus, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Mary Mazzoni, Berks IU 14
Jackie Nagle, Abilities in Motion

704. Thinking Outside Your Silo: Widening the View of Transition
Collaborative Partnerships
What is a silo? How can the disability community think past silos? Can a cross-disability movement ever successfully represent all people with all types of disabilities? How does perspectives on disability affect the education and transition of students with disabilities? Come join us for this interactive dialogue as we examine these current issues.

Paul Fogle, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

705. Empowering via Assistive Technology: Focus on Cognitive Evaluation
Accommodations & Assistive Technology
This session will provide an overview of the Center for Assistive and Rehabilitative Technology (CART) at Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC) and how utilization of various types of technology can empower individuals with disabilities. The presentation will focus on cognitive evaluation and how HGAC’s Disability Supports Coordinator assists in assuring that recommended technologies are best utilized by individuals with cognitive and other disabilities.

Melinda Couslin, Hiram G. Andrews
Anna Moore, Hiram G. Andrews
Tamra Pelleschi, Hiram G. Andrews

706. Gaining Independence Through Assistive Technology: Focus on Youth who have a Visual Disability or are Blind
Accommodations & Assistive Technology
Assistive Technology (AT) is an essential component of success in transition-age students who are visually impaired or blind. AT that was learned and utilized by transition-age students during the Summer Academy hosted by the Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services (BBVS) at Penn State University will be showcased. Students will demonstrate ways they have learned to use AT to gain independence in a higher education setting.

Justin Laffey, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

707. Civil Service Employment Simplified: Basics for Job Seekers
Employment
Attendees at this session will learn the basics of the Civil Service employment process. Emphasis will be placed on the application, testing, and hiring processes for state and local government positions, as well as services and accommodations available to job seekers with disabilities. The presentation will also provide information about services available from the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), as well as the ways in which the Pennsylvania State Civil Service Commission and OVR work together.

Vondol Hammond, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Paula Marinak, PA State Civil Service Commission

708. Disability Mentoring Day- Across the State with OVR
Employment
Staff from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) will describe the activities of Disability Mentoring Day held in three district offices across the Commonwealth. It is officially held on the third Tuesday of October in conjunction with National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Brenda Bowersox, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Kathleen Fogel, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Pancho Timmons, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Patricia Vasco, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

709. Employment Grant Sessions
Effective Educational Practices
During the 2014-15 school year, six competitive employment grants were awarded from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education to educational entities across the Commonwealth. The purpose of these grants was to plan, develop, and implement transition goals that would assist at-risk students in completing school and community based assessment(s) and instruction leading to Community Based Employment. This presentation will showcase the grantees’ projects by providing an overview of program goals and student data related to assessment(s), instructional techniques and strategies, resources, and professional development that were proven effective.

Michael Stoehr, PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Grant Representatives from: IU # 19, Community Integrated Services, Keystone Central SD, Warrior Run SD, Pittsburgh Public SD, Ellwood City SD, and Laurel SD.
710. **Assistive Technology in the Secondary IEP: A Toolbelt for Life**

*Accommodations & Assistive Technology*

For students with disabilities, assistive technology (AT) can be a key to college/career readiness and independent living. Students who have the opportunity to try and use a variety of tools in school – for writing, reading, speaking, organizing, remembering - are more likely to graduate with a ‘Toolbelt for Life’. This toolbelt theory challenges all of us to consider a variety of everyday technology tools for a variety of purposes, and to provide students with not just the tools, but knowledge of what works for them, and why. This session will provide teachers, administrators, and other professionals with a ‘toolbelt’ of guiding questions and good ideas for addressing AT at multiple points in IEP development, and with a fresh perspective on the role of AT in transition.

**Jane Freeman**, PaTTAN Harrisburg  
**Susan Gill**, PaTTAN King of Prussia

711. **My Health, My Independence, and My Transition**

*Healthy Lifestyles*

Parents and youth can learn about the impact the medical transition process has on post-secondary outcomes and how the skills learned early on can contribute to successful post-secondary transition planning. The skills and strategies presented here can assist with strategic planning and preparation for transition to college or work. Detailing step by step developmental skill strategies, ages 14 through 21, can foster a sense of self, independence, and advocacy skills needed for both the parent and transition-aged youth as they navigate the many paths in the transition process. The goal of the session is to build skills while developing a strategic plan and comprehensive list of needs for the transition process.

**Jamie Dianni**, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia  
**Allison Simms**, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia  
**Natalie Stollen**, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

712. **Financial Education: Pathway to Independence**

*Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership*

Financial education is a family affair. Everyone – parents, youth, educators, transition coordinators, supports coordinators and advocates – should collaborate so that youth with disabilities have the tools they need to be active participants in their own financial future. Knowledge of financial terms, understanding how to build good credit, protection against identity theft, introduction of new financial products, and utilization of smart technology are all parts of financial freedom. This session will include a general overview, followed by breakout sessions for youth with disabilities, parents and professionals. The youth session will focus on financial education topics, empowerment, and planning for the future. The parent & professional session will focus on expectations for our youth, tips for how to infuse financial education and activities that reinforce concepts, and new ways to save responsibly for future needs, such as the new ABLE accounts.

**Susan Tachau**, Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation  
**Nancy Murray**, ACHIEVA  
**PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives**  
**PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives**

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

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

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. Opportunities will be provided throughout the conference to earn raffle tickets. Items representative of the Keystone state will be raffled off at 4:45 pm. **You must be present at the reception to win!**

**Navigating the Road to Success through Community and Civic Engagement**  
**Friday, July 24, 2015 – (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 am)**

**Breakout Session 8 - (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)**

801. **Mastering Your First Year in College**

*Post-Secondary Education & Training*

Tips and resources to avoid common difficulties experienced by freshman during their first year of college will be shared. Topics will be discussed such as communicating with professors, overcoming test anxiety, test taking tips, succeeding in a large lecture class, time management, getting involved in groups, and what to practice before arriving at college.

**Kathy Buschan**, Kutztown University

802. **The Fair Housing Act - Rights and Remedies**

*Independent Living & Community Participation*

A comprehensive overview of the Fair Housing Act will be presented. Particular attention will be paid to the rights of and discrimination particular to persons with disabilities.

**Jaime Milligan**, Southwestern PA Legal Services
803. Disablist Bullying: Awareness and Prevention

Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership

Learn about "The Bullying Circle," in this interactive presentation and engage in a bullying vignette to demonstrate the many roles that are involved in such a situation. Slides and videos clips will be used to share information. The session begins with a video, and moves onto a quiz that evaluates the audience’s knowledge about bullying. Current statistics and the long term effects of bullying will be reviewed as well as how to consistently respond to bullying situations.

Sharon Greene, ACHIEVA
Catherine Hughes, Autism Speaks

804. Accessing SSI Benefits During the Transition to Adulthood

Knowledge Building: Agency Information

This educational session will focus on Social Security benefits. An explanation will be provided about how SSI eligibility changes when an individual turns 18, the mandatory review of SSI recipients turning 18, and the Social Security Administration's rules for adults. This session will also explain some of the Social Security Administration's policies that can benefit transition-age youth, including work incentives and Section 301, which allows teenagers to continue receiving SSI benefits after they turn 18 if they are involved in a vocational rehabilitation or similar program even if they do not meet the adult disability standard.

Claire Grandison, Community Legal Services of Philadelphia

805. High-Impact Employment Strategies: Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program

Employment

Learn about the Federal Office of Disability Employment Policy, which recognizes that many states desire to align their policy and funding in support of an Employment First approach but may not yet possess the knowledge, skills, abilities, resources and/or stakeholder “buy-in” necessary to lead and facilitate such change. The Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program will be discussed, which is a cross-systems and cross-disability systems change initiative. A representative from the Federal Office of Disability Employment Policy and the Pennsylvania team will share their experiences, progress, and challenges as they attempt to create real systems change.

Diane Cashman, Office of Developmental Programs
Devon Grant, Governor’s Cabinet for People with Disabilities
Seren Lowe, Governor’s Cabinet for People with Disabilities

806. Access Options and Issues in the Classroom for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Effective Educational Practices

Helpful tips and tricks on promoting communication access in school and work settings will be shared. Discussion will include the various technological aids available for students, how to obtain such technology through the IEP process, resources to use for communication access, and how to advocate for communication access.

Jane Freeman, PaTTAN Harrisburg
Russ Goddard, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

807. Project SEARCH: An Innovative Model to Increase Employment

Models of Success

Employment

Learn about the Project SEARCH model, which uses person-centered planning and assessments. Internship rotations are designed through a variety of methods to compile a vocational assessment. Through a combination of classroom and hands-on experience, the interns learn the soft skills needed to be successful in the workplace as well as real job skills that they can use to obtain integrated, competitive employment.

Amy Engbarth, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Holly Opatick, Goodwill of Southwestern PA
Patricia Vasco, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Lynn Zale, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

808. Transitional Day Program: A Model for Success

Effective Educational Practices

The Transitional Day Program is a behavior analytic approach to transition services. The session will cover an overview of the program and how it can be implemented in a variety of settings.

Arianna Esposito, Kinney Center for Autism Education & Support

809. BSE Updates on the PA Alternate Assessment

Effective Educational Practices

With the adoption of the PA Core Standards in March 2014, Pennsylvania has begun the process of aligning the Alternate Assessment to the new standards. This session will provide participants updates from the Bureau of Special Education on the Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment (PASA). The PASA updates will include information on the content and process of the revised assessment as well as resources and tools to support learning for students who participate in the Alternate Assessment.

Audrey Kappel, PaTTAN Pittsburgh
Sharon Leonard, PaTTAN Harrisburg
John Machella, Bureau of Special Education
905. Powerful Partnerships Promoting Work!

Collaborative Partnerships
A panel presentation will address how innovative transition and supported employment practices, creative funding, and effective partnerships can lead to meaningful employment outcomes for young people. This presentation will begin with an overview of the Initiative Employment 1st Philadelphia! An initiative that is a multi-faceted and collaborative approach to promoting employment for all. A diverse panel will offer a candid look at the accomplishments and struggles of three unique and creative projects aimed at securing employment for a group of students within one year of graduation.

Andrea Consigny, SPIN
Jill Gromen, Networks for Training & Development
Joe Murphy, Networks for Training & Development
Tanya Regli, The Arc of Philadelphia
Susan Schonfeld, CIS
906. Waivers, Waivers, and More Waivers... Some Helpful Information

Knowledge Building: Agency Information
Attendees will receive helpful information for qualifying and applying for services provided under the various waiver programs available to Pennsylvania residents to inform, empower, and prepare them to make necessary, future decisions.

Ashley Lovell, Passavant Memorial Homes
Colleen Perry, Passavant Memorial Homes

907. Transition Tools and Resources at Your Fingertips

Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
This panel presentation will showcase online tools and resources developed in Pennsylvania to assist youth & young adults with disabilities and their families make a successful transition from school to work and independence. Materials such as the Healthcare Transition Toolkit, the PYLN Secondary Transition Toolkit for Youth, and Choosing A Job will be reviewed as well as other materials to engage youth and their families in self-directed Transition activities.

Dana Baccanti, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Everett Deibler, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
Ana Milicevic, PA Department of Health

908. Hiram G. Andrews Center: One-Stop Shop for Employment Preparation

Post-Secondary Education & Training
Employment, empowerment, and education services available to individuals with disabilities at the Commonwealth Technical Institute and Hiram G. Andrews Center will be presented. The unique, customized support services will be showcased and practical knowledge regarding strategies that could be replicated in transition programming will be provided.

Stacie Andrews, Hiram G. Andrews Center

909. The Expanding Role of the Client Assistance Program in the Transition of Youth to Meaningful Careers

Knowledge Building: Agency Information
The expanded role of OVR, Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services (BBVS), and the Client Assistance Program (CAP) in the area of transitioning youth will be addressed with emphasis placed on CAP advocacy.

Stephen Pennington, Pennsylvania Client Assistance Program

910. Passing the Torch - Transferring the Advocacy Role

Post-Secondary Education & Training
This interactive session will demonstrate how adults, especially families and caregivers, can support a loved one with disabilities as they move from high school to a post-secondary education and training. Teaching skills and providing support will be highlight to encourage self-advocacy to promote students’ successful transitions.

Sharon Greene, ACHIEVA
Catherine Hughes, Autism Speaks

911. Youth and Family Secondary Transition Share Fair

Promoting Youth Development & Youth Leadership
This final session in the youth and family partnership strand provides youth and family participants with the opportunity to meet with representatives from the PA Youth Leadership Network, PA Coalition for Youth Leadership and Adult Allies to discuss issues related to post-secondary education or training, employment, community engagement, independent living, recreation/leisure, self-advocacy, financial planning and agency engagement. This session will be provided in round table discussion format.

PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives
PA Coalition for Youth Leadership Representatives
Adult Allies

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

1000. Promoting Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships: Setting Youth with Disabilities on a Strong Pathway Toward Adulthood

In this engaging closing keynote presentation, Dr. Erik Carter will focus on what we know works best for equipping students with the skills, supports, opportunities, and relationships that set them on a course for living a "good life" after high school. Dr. Carter will highlight current research addressing effective approaches for supporting students with disabilities to access rigorous learning opportunities in their school, connect to relevant school and community experiences that prepare them for adulthood, and develop supportive relationships with peers and caring adults.

Erik Carter, Vanderbilt University
General Information

**Registration Fee:** The registration fee is $150.00. Payment may be made with check, cash, or purchase order. No credit cards will be accepted. Please note that if your registration fee is not received by July 7, 2015 you will be required to submit payment at the registration desk prior to registering and receiving your conference materials. (Parents of children with disabilities and youth/young adults are exempt from this charge.)

Make checks payable to INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1 and send them to the attention of Patty Panuccio, PaTTAN Pittsburgh, 3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Checks must be submitted via US mail on or before July 7, 2015.

Make purchase orders payable to INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1 and include registrant name(s) on the purchase order. Send purchase orders to the attention of Donna Schnepp via fax 412.826.6856 or email billing@pattanpgh.net. Purchase orders must be submitted via fax or email on or before July 7, 2015.

**Cancellations:** If you are unable to attend the conference you must cancel your registration by July 7, 2015, by contacting Patty Panuccio at 800-446-5607 ext. 6841 or ppanuccio@pattan.net, or your registration fee will not be refunded.

**On-line Registration:** All participants should register for this PaTTAN-sponsored event by visiting our website at: www.pattan.net. Click on the training calendar, find the date of the conference and click on the conference’s hyperlink. If you prefer, you may fax the registration form to Patty Panuccio at 412-826-1964 or email ppanuccio@pattan.net.

**For more information:**

**Registration:** Patty Panuccio, 800-446-5607 ext. 6841 or ppanuccio@pattan.net

**Program Content:** Michael Stoehr, 800-446-5607 ext. 6864 or mstoehr@pattan.net

**Youth and Family Scholarships:** A limited number of youth and family partnership scholarships will be available for family members or caregivers of a transition-aged youth with disabilities between the ages of 14 – 21 and youth ages 16 – 21. Families are encouraged to apply by completing the scholarship form and returning it to Patty Panuccio at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh, 3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 on or before June 15, 2015. The scholarship will cover the cost of a double occupancy hotel room 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 by June 30, 2015. For additional information about youth/young adult family scholarships, please contact Patty Panuccio, 800-446-5607 ext. 6841 or ppanuccio@pattan.net. The scholarship form can be found at www.pattan.net or www.secondarytransition.org.

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**Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations**

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is committed to equal opportunity in all programs, events, and services. PDE provides reasonable accommodations with adequate notice. Please detail your request for ADA reasonable accommodations when you register.
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 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.

The Atherton Hotel
125 South Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-231-2100 or 800-832-0132
Conference Rate: $95.00

Best Western Plus
115 Premiere Drive
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-234-8393
Conference Rate: $82.00
Reference/Group Code: PA Community on Transition Conference

Comfort Suites
132 Village Drive
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-235-1900
Conference Rate: $87.00
Reference/Group Code: PaTTAN

Country Inn & Suites
1357 East College Avenue
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-234-6000
Conference Rate: $87.00
Reference/Group Code: PaTTAN

Courtyard by Marriott
1730 University Drive
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-238-1881
Conference Rate: $119.00
Reference/Group Code: PA Community on Transition Conference

Days Inn Penn State
240 S. Pugh Street
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 800-258-3297
Conference Rate: $84.00
Reference/Group Code: CGMMUN

Fairfield Inn & Suites
2215 North Atherton Street
State College, PA 16803
Phone: 814-238-3871
Conference Rate: $127.00
Reference/Group Code: PPPP

Hampton Inn & Suites
1955 Waddle Road
State College, PA 16803
Phone: 814-231-1899
Conference Rate: $129.00
Reference/Group Code: PTT

Holiday Inn Express
1925 Waddle Road
State College, PA 16803
Phone: 814-867-1800
Conference Rate: $115.00
Reference/Group Code: PAT

Ramada Conference Hotel
1450 S. Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-238-3001
Conference Rate: $81.00
Reference/Group Code: Transition Conference - PaTTAN

Residence Inn Marriott
1555 University Drive
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 1-800-Marriott
Conference Rate: $129.00
Reference/Group Code: PA Community on Transition Conference (PaTTAN)

Sleep Inn State College
111 Village Drive
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814-235-1020
Conference Rate: $77.00
Reference/Group Code: PaTTAN

Toftrees Golf Resort & Conference Center
1 Country Club Lane
State College, PA 16803
Phone: 814-234-8000
Conference Rate: $109.00
Reference/Group Code: PA Community on Transition Conference
ADA Accommodations

If you require accommodations as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact: Patty Panuccio, PaTTAN Pittsburgh, Phone: 800-446-5607 or ppanucio@pattan.net. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate you if your request is received prior to the registration deadline (June 30, 2015).

[ ] American Sign Language Interpreter [ ] Large Print Agenda
[ ] Tactile Interpreter [ ] Braille Agenda
[ ] Real Time Captioning [ ] Other

ACT 48 Information

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

Professional Personnel ID Number

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.

2015 PA Community on Transition Conference
Navigating the Road to Success: Expect, Educate, Empower, Employ
July 22, 23, and 24, 2015
Registration Form

We encourage all participants to register online for this PaTTAN-sponsored event by visiting our homepage at www.pattan.net

Name: __________________________________________
Home Address: __________________________________________
City/State/Zip: __________________________________________
Home Phone: _______________________ *E-mail (*necessary for confirmation): ______________________
Name of Employer: __________________________________________

Indicate your primary role:

[ ] Education Administrator [ ] Speech Therapist [ ] Agency Direct Service Staff [ ] Parent
[ ] Regular Educator [ ] Physical Therapist [ ] Agency Administrator [ ] Student
[ ] Special Educator [ ] Occupational Therapist [ ] Service Coordinator [ ] Other
[ ] Guidance Counselor [ ] Paraeducator [ ] Advocate
[ ] Psychologist [ ] Higher Education [ ] Career & Technical Education

Please check to apply for the following

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

☐ 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 seventeen (17) Act 48 hours will be offered for the conference.

☐ Social Work
This program is offered for (17) hours of social work continuing education through co-sponsorship of the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Social Work, a Council on Social Work Education-accredited school and, therefore, a PA pre-approved provider of social continuing education. These credit hours satisfy requirements for LSW/LCSW, LPC and LMFT biennial license renewal. Individuals interested in obtaining Social Worker credits will be required to pay a $30.00 fee onsite at the conclusion of the conference via a check made payable to INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1. For information on social work continuing education call 412-624-3711.

☐ Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC)
Continuing Education credits up to (16.25) for professionals with CRCC credentials will be offered for attendance at this conference.
# 2015 PA Community on Transition Conference

**Navigating the Road to Success: Expect, Educate, Empower, Employ**

**July 22, 23, and 24, 2015**

## 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(s) they are requesting credit(s).

### Wednesday, July 22, 2015 - 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**Opening Keynote Presentation** *(8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)*
- 100. Living the Dream: Disability, Transition & Employment

**Breakout Session 1 - (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)*
- 101. Graduation vs Retirement from High School: Ensuring Successful Adult Transitions
- 102. Empower Me to Expect More: RENEW in Pennsylvania
- 103. Like Everyone Else: Agents of Change & University Admission
- 104. Transition Assistance with the PA Medicaid HealthChoices Program
- 105. Penn-Trafford School District's Transition Showcase
- 106. Learning for Life: Transitioning into the Workforce
- 107. 21 and Able 2015: Mapping A Better Future
- 108. SmartHome Technology: Promoting Consumer Independence, Safety and Dignity
- 109. Futures and Chichester Eagle Transition Program (CETP): On the Road to MY Future
- 110. Wow the Interviewer: Landing Your First Job
- 111. Transition and Leadership Development for Youth with Epilepsy
- 112. Person Centered Planning: Developing a One Pager

**Breakout Session 2 - (12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.)*
- 201. Healthy Transitions: From Pediatric to Adult Centered Care
- 202. PA's Systemic Improvement Plan to Increase School Completion Rates for Students with Disabilities
- 203. The Skills Students Need to be Successful in College and the Workforce
- 204. Community-Based Employment for Students with Emotional & Behavioral Challenges.
- 205. The PEAL Center: Supporting Parents in Successful Transitions
- 206. VAST LIFE - Holistic Transition for Adolescents & Families
- 207. Wawa's KEYS Supporting Successful Transition
- 208. OVR’s Early Reach Initiative – The Future is Now
- 209. Post-Secondary Transition of Youth with Visual Impairments
- 210. Pieces of the Employment Puzzle: Transition & Youth with ASD
- 211. Self-Advocacy Skills: A Workshop for Family & Youth
- 212. Keys to Success: Disability Understanding and Using Accommodations and Supports

**Breakout Session 3 - (2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)*
- 301. Maximizing Community Resources - A Model for True Integration
- 302. Lowe's Outreach Program: Get Students Working
- 303. Resources to Empower Youth Transitioning into Postsecondary Education
- 304. Taking Control: Person Driven Services (PDS) in Pennsylvania
- 305. How to Build your Village
- 306. Get Hooked-Healthy Living: A Recipe for Transition
- 307. Youth Chartering Their Own Course Through Healthcare Transition
- 308. From Dreams to Employment Realities: An Overview of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- 309. Partners-At-Work
- 310. Building Your Road On-line: Students with Hearing Loss
- 311. Ensuring Successful Outcomes for Transition-Aged Youth in Pennsylvania
- 312. Building Healthy Relationships & Getting the Supports You Need
Breakout Session 4 - (4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)
☐ 401. A Health Promotion Model for Community Transition: District, Agency, and University Partners
☐ 402. Interaction Between Individuals with Autism and the Justice System
☐ 403. Creative Job Development and Support in Career Planning
☐ 404. Preparing for Adulthood: Experiences from Pennsylvania’s Adult Autism Programs
☐ 405. Transition Planning: One District’s Approach to Program Implementation
☐ 407. Talk TRANSITION with OVR’s Executive Team
☐ 408. Working and SSA Benefits...Understanding How it Works!
☐ 409. All Access PASS - to the Classroom, Curriculum & Work Environment
☐ 410. Youth Transition Conference: Empowering Youth with their Own Conference!
☐ 411. Promoting Person Centered Practices in Transition
☐ 412. Youth Taking Action: Advocating for Success
☐ 413. Transition Dialogue for Educators

Thursday, July 23, 2015 - 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Feature Presentations - (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)
☐ F1. Been There Done That
☐ F2. WIOA and the Reauthorization of the Rehab Act- Its Impact and Changes
☐ F3. Transition Discoveries

Breakout Session 5 - (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)
☐ 501. Healthcare Transition, Tools to Build a Path
☐ 502. Pathways: Completing the Journey to Employment and Independence
☐ 503. #IWantToWork--Working and Leading IS the Message
☐ 504. Timelines and Transitions
☐ 505. Single Point of Contact Collaboration: Employers Love It!
☐ 506. Navigating the Spectrum: It’s a Two-Way Street
☐ 507. Promoting Academic Success- New Curriculum for a New time
☐ 508. IEP Team Considerations That Impact Graduation and Secondary Transition Success
☐ 509. Paving the Way, One Transition at a Time
☐ 510. 'Tech Smackdown': Share, Discover, and Add to Your Tech Toolbelt
☐ 511. Transition & Career Assessment

Breakout Session 6 - (12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.)
☐ 601. Academic Coaching for College Students with Learning Disabilities
☐ 602. Partnering Up- Breaking Barriers & Building Bridges
☐ 604. Enhancing Transition Outcomes with Life Centered Education
☐ 605. "Help Me Do It Myself"
☐ 606. Cognitive Skills Enhancement Program: Journey to Awareness
☐ 607. Using Technology in Job Training and Placement
☐ 608. What Happens When the School Bus Stops Coming?
☐ 609. Supported/Customized Employment: Employment Success in a Rural Area
☐ 611. CILS: Secondary Transition & LVCIL’s Holistic Transition Programming
☐ 612. Scoring Successful Outcomes Through Goal Setting

Breakout Session 7 - (2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
☐ 701. Transition Assessments at your Fingertips!
☐ 702. Increased Need for Self-Advocacy for College Students
☐ 703. BCTCC - Working Together, Empowering Youth for Their Future!
☐ 704. Thinking Outside Your Silo: Widening the View of Transition
☐ 705. Empowering via Assistive Technology: Focus on Cognitive Evaluation
☐ 706. Gaining Independence Through Assistive Technology: Focus on Youth who have a Visual Disability or are Blind
☐ 707. Civil Service Employment Simplified: Basics for Job Seekers
☐ 708. Disability Mentoring Day- Across the State with OVR
☐ 709. Employment Grant Sessions
☐ 710. Assistive Technology in the Secondary IEP: A Toolbelt for Life
☐ 711. My Health, My Independence, and My Transition
☐ 712. Financial Education: Pathway to Independence
Friday, July 24, 2015 - 8:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Breakout Session 8 - (8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)
- 801. Mastering Your First Year in College
- 802. The Fair Housing Act - Rights and Remedies
- 803. Disablist Bullying: Awareness and Prevention
- 804. Accessing SSI Benefits During the Transition to Adulthood
- 805. High-Impact Employment Strategies: Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program
- 806. Access Options and Issues in the Classroom for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- 807. Project SEARCH: An Innovative Model to Increase Employment
- 808. Transitional Day Program: A Model for Success
- 809. BSE Updates on the PA Alternate Assessment
- 810. Transition Clinics: Student-led Brainstorming and Linking to Services
- 811. Developing Wellness - Living a Balanced Life

Breakout Session 9 - (10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)
- 901. Chaos Need Not Apply: Creating the Affirming Workplace
- 902. Healthy Relationships for Young Adults with ASD
- 903. Did I Mention I Walk With a Stick?
- 904. The Other Option: COLLEGE
- 905. Powerful Partnerships Promoting Work!
- 906. Waivers, Waivers, and More Waivers… Some Helpful Information
- 907. Transition Tools and Resources at Your Fingertips
- 908. Hiram G. Andrews Center: One-Stop Shop for Employment Preparation
- 909. The Expanding Role of the Client Assistance Program in the Transition of Youth to Meaningful Careers
- 910. Passing the Torch - Transferring the Advocacy Role
- 911. Youth and Family Secondary Transition Share Fair

Closing Keynote Presentation - 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
- 1000. Promoting Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships: Setting Youth with Disabilities on a Strong Pathway Toward Adulthood

Registration Deadline: July 7, 2015

Registration Fee:
$150 - Checks, Cash and Purchase Orders Only – No credit cards

Checks and purchase orders should be made payable to:
Intermediate Unit I

Mail registration form and fee to:
Patty Panuccio at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh
3190 William Pitt Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15238