



New Community Opportunities Center at ILRU Presents...

Creating and Operating Services to Support Youth in Transitioning to a Post-Secondary Goal

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Presenter:

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Metropolitan Center for Independent Living

MCIL Youth Transition Staffing

- 2 Transition Staff Members
- 2 CIL Core Services Staff members

MCIL Youth Transition Funding

- Use of Core Services dollars
- Occasional contracts or grantsmanship

MCIL Team Approach

- All services are cross disciplinary
- Transition, IL and IL/VR Collaboration staff regularly conduct cross referrals to ensure that the student's needs/wants are being addressed appropriately
- Includes regular and consistent use of the Disability Linkage Line to ensure effective identification of available and appropriate resources

MCIL Transition to Post-Secondary Education Process



- Staff imbedded in specific school sites.
 - Allows consistent opportunities for contact with students for instruction and services.
- Group presentations as well as one-on-one connections to nurture students' awareness of IEP and post secondary options, and provide direct services.
- Classes are made available at MCIL for specific instructions as well.

MCIL Connection to Colleges and Universities

- Maintain connection to most of the colleges and universities in our area, and staff are very comfortable initiating new contacts as needed.
- Staff are well known to several of the disability student services personnel:
 - Membership on CTIC committees across the metro
 - Membership committees/commissions/advisory boards at local post secondary settings
 - Participate in annual statewide conferences to ensure awareness.

MCIL Assistance



- Assist students to conduct resource searches (i.e. loan and scholarship opportunities, identifying community based resources in the community where post secondary setting is located, etc.)
- Provide advocacy assistance in dispute situations (i.e. accessibility issues) with post secondary settings.
- Provide connections through direct contact with Disability Student Services at post secondary settings.

Use of “Living Well with a Disability” Curriculum

- Setting Goals
- Problem Solving
- Healthy Reactions
- Healthy Communications
- Beating the Blues
- Seeking Information



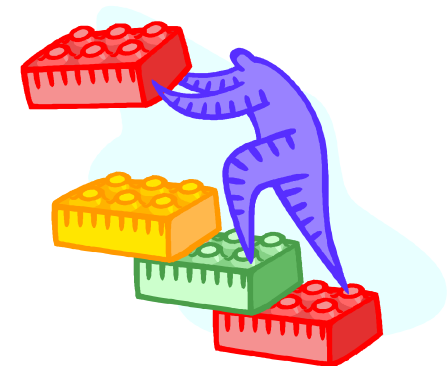
Use of “Living Well with a Disability” Curriculum, cont’d.

- Physical Activity
- Eating Well
- Advocacy



MCIL Encourages Students to:

- Start Early!
 - Age 14 or earlier
- Set some goals to achieve, no matter the size
- Find out who can help them:
 - VR supports
 - Disability Student Services
 - School based guidance counselors
 - Other community based supports



MCIL Provides Additional Instruction & Support on How to:

- Participate successfully in IEP meetings
- Develop a personal file.
- Explore the “Big Questions”
 - How do you want your life to look in a year, or five years?
 - What does that picture look like?
 - *What school do you want to go to or what job do you want to have?*
 - What do you want to do for fun & who do you want along with you?



Contact Information

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Purpose of the Project

This program is part of a series of trainings and other activities provided to the IL field by the New Community Opportunities Center at ILRU. The project's purpose is to assist CILs in developing self-sustaining programs that support community alternatives to institutionalization for individuals of any age, and youth transition from school to post-secondary education, employment, and community living.

New Community Opportunities Attribution

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