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Independent Living Research Utilization

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IL-NET

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Supporting Youth in Transition: How CILs Can Contract for Youth Transition Services

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Presenters:

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IL-NET is a project of Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) in partnership with the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL), the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL), and Utah State University Center for Persons with Disabilities (USU-CPD)

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Directly following the webinar, you will see a short evaluation survey to complete on your screen. We appreciate your feedback!

What You Will Learn Today...

- Strategies for establishing relationships and collaborations with vocational rehabilitation, school districts, and other relevant organizations.
- Steps to set up and manage pre-employment transition services (Pre-ETS) for youth.
- Examples of funding opportunities, partnerships, and contracts to maintain programs and services for youth in transition.
- Examples of successful programs and services that demonstrate how the IL philosophy is integral to providing transition services for young adults.

Lehigh Valley CIL (LVCIL)

- Established – 1990
- Transition services established – 2008
- Lehigh Valley
- Current LVCIL Budget – \$3.7 million
- Current Transition and Employment (T&E) Budget – \$1.5 Million
- 2017-2018 LVCIL consumers – 1217
- 2017-2018 T&E consumers – 715
- Current LVCIL staff – 55
- Current T&E staff – 26

Why Transition Services?

- Inundated with phone calls. “My son or daughter just graduated and they are sitting at home.”
- Lost skills they had gained in school.
- “We don’t know where to begin!”
- Limited Expectations
- Future consumers
- A perfect fit for our CIL!

Transition Services

LVCIL Transition and Employment Services

- LVCIL has seen significant growth in transition and employment services over the past 9 years.
- Has helped to develop other parts of LVCIL.
- State-wide and national work.
- Pre-Employment transition services – has taken things to another level.

Learning Collaborative

- IL-NET collaboration between NCIL, ILRU, LVCIL and 12 CILs from around the country.
- CILs looking to start or enhance transition programming through collaborative work and developing a program centered plan.
- Kickoff event
- Monthly meetings
- Collaborative regular support

WIOA and Pre-Employment Transition Services



- WIOA – Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act
- OVR – Pre-employment Transition Services
- ❖ VR – Has to put 15% of their budget to young adults still in school – Ages 14-21
- ❖ "Students with Disabilities who are eligible or potentially eligible for VR services."
- ❖ Not meant to replace school services.
- ❖ Promotion of collaboration

Pre-Employment, cont'd.

- Assessment and experience
- Self-Advocacy, Post-Secondary, IL Skills
- Paid Work Experience
- Group presentations
- Numerous innovative programs nationwide
- Examples from PA

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

- Relationship with local and state office
- I&E grants
- Fee-for-service

Schools

- Collaborations – Project SEARCH
- Presentations
- IEP work
- Provide Information and Resources
- Contract to do IL Skills
- Cyber schools

Post-Secondary

- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Post-Secondary based programs popping up everywhere
- Interns
- Professors
- Sensitivity training to would-be teachers
- Other opportunities to collaborate on a college campus

Other Funding/Partnering Options

- Social Clubs – Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis
- Foundations
- Grants – DDC
- Businesses
- Other non-profits
- Fundraising
- Legislative

Questions & Discussion

LVCIL Transition and Employment Programming



- S2L
- RWLV
- Have you thought about ... Life?
- Career Path
- Skills Training
- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- VIP
- LIFE
- SEED
- Others

The S2L Group

- A yearlong program for young adults with disabilities ages 14-25 who have independent living, employment, advocacy, and leadership goals.
- The group meets 2-3 times a month either at LVCIL or in the community.
- Seminars , team building , social opportunities, volunteering, community involvement
- Youth Led / Youth Driven
- Parents meetings on a regular basis (guest speakers, information, support & advocacy).
- <http://www.lvcil.org/s2l/>



A program of LVCIL

Summer Program

- Real World Lehigh Valley (RWLV)
 - Fee-for-service
 - A 6-week, 3 days-a-week program for young adults
 - Focused on employment with various speakers, volunteer opportunities, and employment-related activities that promote independent living, employment & leadership goals.
 - RWLV hosted at Dorney!



The Real World
Lehigh Valley

Have you thought about...LIFE?

- Interactive Presentation
- Conferences

Career Path

- In Partnership with Voc Rehab and the PA's Office of Developmental Programs (ODP).
- For adults with disabilities who are out of school and have the goal to get a job.
- Person-Centered Planning
- Career Exploration
- Community-Based Work Assessments (CBWAs)
- Job Mentoring
- Job Development / Job Coaching
- Extended Services

careerpath 

A PROGRAM OF LVCIL

Skills Training

- 3 days per week for 8 weeks, multiple times per year
- 16 – 28ish years old
- Available for students and young adults who have graduated.
- Curriculum focused on employment – How to get a job / How to keep a job.
- Soft skills / Hard skills
- Community-Based
- Person-Centered Planning
- Individual time
- Working on a post-secondary version

Pre-Employment Transition Services: Fee-for-Service



- Community-Based Work Assessments (CBWAs)
- Development and support for summer or part-time, paid work experiences
- Development and support for job shadowing experiences
- Travel training
- Group presentations on work-essential skills, self-advocacy, and independent living

Pre-Employment Transition Services: Vocational and Independence Program (VIP)



- Fee-for-service
- Partnership between VR, IU21 and LVCIL
- Work-essential and independent living skills training, hands-on work experiences, independent community travel training, and person-centered planning
- Provided on site at Cedarbrook Nursing Home and in the community during the academic year. Limited availability (13 slots per year), but open to high school students in last or second-to-last year of school.



Pre-Employment Transition Services: Coming Soon!



- The S2L Group: A year-long program for young adults with disabilities who have independent living, employment, advocacy and leadership goal
- Individual Workplace Readiness Training
- Independent Community Travel Training
- Person-Centered Planning (stand alone service)

School-Based Services

- In partnership with school districts
- Person-Centered Planning
- Supplement services provided by school to meet IEP goals
- A la carte Menu of Services including: Skills training, job development, job coaching, transition house skills, independent living skills, travel training, etc.
- Individual and group
- ESY



- Success, Engagement, Education, Determination
 - In partnership with the Developmental Disabilities Council and Lehigh Carbon Community College.
 - LVCIL and LCCC staff provide support services for students with disabilities participating in either an academic or career track program providing the soft and/or hard skills, mentoring, socialization, and independent living skills necessary for postsecondary success.



Person-Centered Planning

- Person-Centered Planning is one of the most important and effective parts of LVCIL's transition services!
 - Exploration, brainstorming and planning session
 - Young adult invites who they want – Stakeholders
 - All positive – different from IEP
 - Goals and actions
 - A living document with a clear vision
 - Meet regularly – Things may change!
 - “Person-Centered Planning has been the most important transition-related activity that my family has done.”

Other LVCIL Transition Doings!

- Transition Councils and Employment Coalition
- Research
- Consultation
- Transition Options Team
- Youth on LVCIL Board
- PYLN
- Adaptations
- Autism Waiver Supports Coordination
- Partnership for Disability Friendly Community
- Medical Home Project
- Groups, trainings , outreach , boards, etc.

What We've Learned

- Much to be learned in the group dynamic.
- Positive Peer Pressure
- Transition takes a village!
- Parents are transitioning as well.
- Young adults at LVCIL everyday.
- Youth have their own culture – be open to it.
- “Do you have to use the potty before we go?”
- Young adults can learn a lot from failure.
- “How can you do youth programming and not do evenings and weekends?”

We've Learned a Lot

- Outreach, outreach, outreach!
- Blend of financial and programmatic – Dreamical!
- Be willing to put in the time.
- Take young adults wherever you go!
- Parents and young adults want to hear about successes.
- Parents are the experts.
- Take some risks!
- Work in transition can lead to other opportunities for your CIL.

Even More

- Transition is as individual as the person is
- There's money out there!
- Collaborate! Sometimes you have to give a lot to get what you want, but it'll pay off in the long run!
- Sometimes another program is the best option for the consumer and that's okay.
- Training, Training, Training!

We Keep Learning!

- Be positive yet real with young adults – Use natural consequences and learning moments.
- Employment is big, but what do young adults want?
- Live outside the box!
- Have fun with it all!
- Young adults are your future consumers, staff, and board members.
- CILs are a perfect fit for doing transition work.

Questions & Discussion

Final Questions and Evaluation Survey

Any final questions?

Directly following the webinar, you will see a short evaluation survey to complete on your screen. We appreciate your feedback!

https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5C30f5sG4clg_hBH

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