

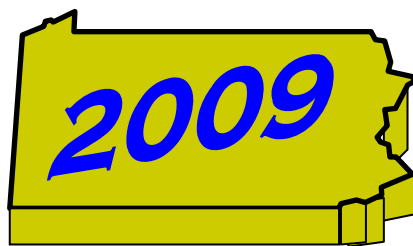
**REGISTER  
NOW!**

Conference  
July 22, 23, 24,  
2009

In collaboration with other  
members of the Pennsylvania  
Community on Transition:

Pennsylvania Office of Vocational  
Rehabilitation; Pennsylvania Youth  
Leadership Network; Transition State  
Leadership Team:

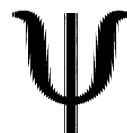
Pennsylvania Department of Education:  
Bureau of Special Education, Pennsylvania  
Training and Technical Assistance Network,  
Bureau of Career and Technical Education;  
Pennsylvania Department of Labor &  
Industry: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;  
Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare:  
Office of Developmental Programs, Office of  
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services,  
Office of Children, Youth & Families;  
Pennsylvania Department of Health:  
Bureau of Family Health, and Bureau of  
Community Health;  
Higher Education: Center for Rehabilitation  
Counseling Research & Education at the  
George Washington University; Pennsylvania  
State University and Temple University;  
Parent/Advocacy Organization: Parent  
Education Network, PA Education &  
Advocacy Leadership Center, PA Families  
Inc., and Abilities in Motion



# Pennsylvania Community on **TRANSITION** Conference

## Success by Design

**Penn Stater Conference Center & Hotel  
State College, PA**



To receive Act 48 and Psych credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the event. Requests for exceptions are to be brought to the attention of the individual's Superintendent or IU Director prior to the event.



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Bureau of Special Education  
Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*

# 2009 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference

## Success by Design

### 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 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 in achieving successful post-school outcomes.

### Audience

Stakeholders supporting post-school outcomes for youth/young adults with disabilities, including:

- Youth & Young Adults
- Families & Caregivers
- Foster Parents
- Youth Served in Foster Care
- Advocates
- Special Educators
- Education Administrators
- Agency Administrators
- Secondary Educators
- Career and Technology Educators
- Vocational Rehabilitation Staff
- Higher Education Professionals
- School Nurses
- Family Health Representatives
- Business/Employers
- Workforce Investment Board Members
- CareerLink Staff
- Local Youth Councils
- Local Service Providers
- Regional Dept. of Public Welfare Staff
- Guidance Counselors
- Psychologists
- Assistive Technology Professionals
- Independent Living Staff
- Drug and Alcohol Program Workers
- Juvenile Justice Affiliates
- Mental Health Services Workers
- Local Government Officials
- Mental Retardation Staff
- Medical Assistance Program Staff

- Social Security Staff/Social Security Benefits Counselors
- Social Workers
- Transportation Affiliates
- Public and Private Child Welfare Workers
- Regional Career Education Partnerships for Youth Affiliates & Staff

### Focus on 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
- Building leadership skills of all transition stakeholders to promote successful outcomes of youth and young adults
- Using transition and career assessment processes to serve as learning intervention and is multidimensional and ongoing
- Linking transition and career assessment with universal design for learning to promote successful post-school outcomes for youth through self-determination and self-advocacy
- Showcasing evidence-based and effective practices with youth outcome data
- Building and supporting community partnerships
- Supporting the use of a standards-aligned system of instruction for all students

The conference will feature:

- *Keynote and feature presentations*
- *Approximately 90 breakout sessions*
- *Sessions and activities designed for youth and young adults by the PA Youth Leadership Network*
- *Family engaging sessions and networking opportunities*
- *Accommodations and Supports Expo, featuring a hands-on assistive technology lab, vendor displays and resource tables*
- *Internet Café featuring [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org)*

### Learner Outcomes

As a result of the conference, participants will be able to:

- Identify and successfully apply the essential elements of effective transition practices, projects, and activities within the following post school outcome areas:
  - ❖ *Employment*
  - ❖ *Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation, and Independent Living*
  - ❖ *Postsecondary Education and Training*
- Foster and strengthen interagency, family/caregiver, and youth/young adult partnerships
- Identify and successfully apply practices that best prepare youth for careers and further education by improving access to the general education curriculum through improved instruction

## 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. Sessions that are considered "Youth Engaging" and/or "Family Engaging" are listed accordingly. These codes are located under each session title.

The major topics of the conference include:

- Aligning Accommodations & Supports
- Employment
- Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources
- Expanding Capacity of Teams Knowledge Building Sessions
- Healthy Lifestyles, Independent Living & Community Participation
- Post-Secondary Education & Training
- Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs of Those Who Are At-Risk and Struggling
- Transition: A Unified Process Series 101
- Transition and Career Assessment
- Universal Design
- Youth Development & Youth Leadership

## Credits Offered

Act 48 hours, CRCC credits, and Psych CEs are offered for all keynote, feature, and breakout sessions. **You must attend the entire conference to receive Act 48 and Psych credit.**

Act 48 –15 hours

CRCC –16.5 credits (includes 1 ethics credit)

Psych – 15.75 hours

## Conference Features

### Keynote and Feature Presentations

Four keynotes will address the important topics of universal design, transition and career assessment, and youth development and youth leadership. Eight feature presentations will focus on healthy lifestyles, understanding today's business climate, Career and Technical Education collaboration, ensuring coordinated measurable IEP goals and transition services utilizing the Indicator 13 process, the importance of working in a community of practice framework, overview and implementation of the Achieving College Transitions Now (ACT Now) and Project SEARCH models, and understanding and utilizing benefits and services for successful post school outcomes.

### Sessions Designed by the PA Youth Leadership Network (PYLN)

A group of youth and young adults with disabilities formed the Governing Board of the PA Youth Leadership Network (PYLN). This group of youth and young adults designed and

will lead a number of sessions throughout the conference. While many sessions are designed for youth only, several will target all transition stakeholders. The purpose of the PYLN is to develop the self-determination, empowerment, and leadership of youth that promotes successful post school outcomes in the areas of education, employment, independent living, and health and wellness among youth and young adults throughout Pennsylvania. This group will foster an open dialogue with youth and young adults to assist them in creating, enhancing, or changing important issues that affect their everyday lives including: transition from high school to adult life; policies and practices that affect individuals with disabilities; and inclusion of youth and young adults with disabilities into all aspects of society at the national, state, and local level.

### Youth Engaging Sessions

Based upon criteria established by the PYLN, sessions have been designed as youth engaging that may be of interest to youth and young adults. Sessions that are considered "Youth Engaging" are identified under the session title in this brochure.

### Family Engaging Sessions

Based upon criteria established by family organizations, sessions have been designed that may be of interest to families. Sessions that are considered "Family Engaging" are identified under the session title in this brochure.

### 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. Participants can visit the poster sessions presented by the recipients of the Bureau of Special Education Performance Grants – Transition from School to Community-Based Employment for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Opportunities will be provided throughout the conference to earn raffle tickets. On Thursday afternoon, items representative of the Keystone state will be raffled off. You must be present to win at the reception!

### Internet Café featuring the [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org) Computer Lab

Please stop by the Internet Café featuring the [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org) interactive website. As a result of our collaboration with the IDEA Partnership, this site is now the hub for the PA Community on Transition. It is a powerhouse of resources and provides an interactive venue to continue our work year-round by sharing resources and working on practice groups. A computer lab staffed with volunteers is available for you to register and tour the site. When you successfully register for the website, you will receive a raffle ticket for the drawing at Thursday's Expo/Reception.

## Youth and Family Lounges

To promote dialogue among families and youth, two separate lounges will be open throughout the conference – a lounge for families and a lounge for youth.

### Contact Information

For questions about registration, contact:

**Mary Gordon** PaTTAN Pittsburgh  
Phone: 800-446-5607 (voice)  
or 412-826-2338 (TTY)  
[mgordon@pattan.net](mailto:mgordon@pattan.net)

If you have other questions about this conference, contact:

**Michael Stoehr** PaTTAN Pittsburgh  
Phone: 800-446-5607 (voice)  
or 412-826-2338 (TTY)  
[mstoehr@pattan.net](mailto:mstoehr@pattan.net)

**Wendy Patterson** Pennsylvania Office of Vocational  
Rehabilitation  
Phone: 800-442-6351 (voice)  
or 717-787-6695 (voice)  
800-233-3008 or  
717-787-4885 (TTY)  
[wenpatters@state.pa.us](mailto:wenpatters@state.pa.us)

**Ken Deitmen** PaTTAN Harrisburg  
Phone: 800-360-7282 (voice)  
or 800-654-5984 (TTY)  
[kdeitmen@pattan.net](mailto:kdeitmen@pattan.net)

**Mark Steciw** PaTTAN King of Prussia  
Phone: 800-441-3215 (voice)  
or 610-768-9723 (TTY)  
[msteciw@pattan.net](mailto:msteciw@pattan.net)

## National Feature Presenters

### Michael Beers, *Motivational Speaker and Humorist*

Michael has been performing as a stand up comic for about four years. He started out doing small "gigs" at open mics in the Missoula Montana area getting stage time between hundreds of college bands. He graduated to more glamorous gigs, playing mostly his own family reunions and some very lucrative performances at retirement homes. A large portion of Michael's act is based on his own life growing up in Montana with his mother and three his sisters, their dogs, and a disability. He also ventures into some social and political commentary.

Michael is currently traveling around the country performing mostly at conferences. He won the Norman G. Brooks comedy competition at the Hollywood Improv in 2005 and was the winner of the 2003 Brickwall amateur comedy competition in Spokane, WA. His humor is based on the subtlety of everyday life and is perfectly paced by his tempered on-stage composure that is hilarious and wholly likeable. Michael has a unique gift of being able to pull out a full set of comedy that is not obscene in its content, but still leaves crowds filled with laughter.

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*Closing Plenary Keynote Presentation: Today's Youth are Tomorrow's Leaders {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Session 1101) – Friday (11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)*

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**Pamela Leconte**, *Assistant Research Professor of Special Education, Principal Investigator and Project Director, The Collaborative Vocational Evaluation Training Program, Department of Teacher Preparation and Special Education, The George Washington University*

Dr. Pamela Leconte coordinates the Collaborative Vocational Evaluation Training program that is sponsored by Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). She partners with community-based organizations in the Washington D.C. metro area and is an assistant research professor in Transition Special Education.

Her professional experiences include work as a vocational evaluator for school and rehabilitation settings, national and international consultant, trainer, grant reviewer, adjunct instructor, and university professor. She is known for her visionary leadership, tireless mentorship to students and colleagues, and constant support to others.

Dr. Leconte co-authored the recently released second edition of "Assess for Success: A Practitioner's Handbook on Transition Assessment". She has contributed numerous publications to the field and spearheaded many changes that transformed the profession.

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*Keynote Presentation 1: Walk This Way: Advocacy and Assessment {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored Session} (Session 501) – Thursday (9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)*

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*Keynote Presentation 2: Effective Practices in Transition & Career Assessment: A National, State, and Local Perspective (Session 802) – Thursday (2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)*

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**Joan Kester**, *Senior Research Associate/Adjunct Professor with the George Washington University Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research & Education, Technical Assistance & Continuing Education Center, Region 3*

One of the founding members of the PA Community on Transition, she is a friend and colleague to many stakeholders across Pennsylvania. In Ms. Kester's current role at George

Washington, she provides training and technical assistance to vocational rehabilitation professionals and their partners across a six-state region. She is also an Adjunct Professor in the GWU Online Transition Certificate Program and the Online Master in Rehabilitation Counseling Program. She has presented nationally and regionally on transition and career assessment.

Ms. Kester received national recognition for her work in the successful transition of youth with disabilities. As the Statewide Transition Specialist with the PA Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Joan played an instrumental role as a long-standing member of the State Leadership Team of the PA Community on Transition. Joan is a key leader in the fourteen-state community of practice on transition, supported by the IDEA Partnership.

Ms. Kester is currently a doctoral student in the Executive Leadership Program at the George Washington University. She graduated sum cum laude from the George Washington University, receiving her master of art degree in rehabilitation counseling. She is a certified rehabilitation counselor. She is the first vice-president of the PA Rehabilitation Association and as volunteer adult ally with the PA Youth Leadership Network to advance youth leadership and youth development efforts at the state and national levels.

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**Keynote Presentation 1: Walk This Way: Advocacy and Assessment {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored Session} (Session 501) – Thursday (9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)**

**Keynote Presentation 2: Effective Practices in Transition & Career Assessment: A National, State, and Local Perspective (Session 802) – Thursday (2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)**

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**Dr. Frances G. Smith, CVE** is Coordinator of Technology and Distance Learning with the Virginia Department of Education's Training and Technical Assistance Center/ Affiliate Faculty Member in the School of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

*Dr. Frances (Fran) G. Smith, Certified Vocational Evaluator (CVE)* has followed the fields of instructional and assistive technology for the past 20+ years and integrated these approaches in her work as a vocational evaluation practitioner in rehabilitations and secondary public schools, assistive technology provider and trainer, staff development trainer, and college instructor. She earned her Ed.D. from the George Washington University in 2008 for her study "*Perceptions of Universal Design for Learning in College Classrooms*". She is the co-author of a national position paper, *Universal design for learning in vocational evaluation and assessment* for the Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment Professionals Association (VECAP). During the summer of 2001, she

attended the Institute on Universal Design for Learning at the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST). In 2006, she was an invited keynote speaker at the international symposium on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) at UNIFE University, Lima, Peru. In 2007 she was a participant at the first national summit on UDL in Washington, DC and, currently represents Vocational Evaluation & Career Assessment Professionals (VECAP) on the National Taskforce on UDL and participates on a UDL workgroup for the IDEA Partnership. Fran serves as the Technology Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Education's Training and Technical Assistance Center and an affiliate faculty in the School of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University. She is also a visiting adjunct professor at the George Washington University where she has taught a graduate course in UDL for the Department of Teacher Preparation and Special Education since 2003 and received a grant towards development of this course from the national Faculty Administrative Modules in Education (FAME) project.

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**Keynote Presentation 1: Promoting Equal Access for ALL Youth through Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning (Session 501) – Thursday (8:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.)**

**Keynote Presentation 2: PA Youth Leadership Network: It's My Life Series - Tools for the Journey (Session 801) – Thursday (2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)**

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**Carlos Ojeda Jr., Educator, Motivator, Communicator, Poet**

He's been called one of the most dynamic speakers under thirty in America today. The remarkable journey of his life began in the streets of Newark, New Jersey and later to Reading, Pennsylvania where his immigrant parents saw opportunities for themselves and for their first generation Puerto Rican children. Growing up proved to be a difficult task for Carlos, particularly school. Not understanding his social, economical and cultural background, many of his high school teachers told him he would never amount to anything. One teacher once called him, "the greatest piece of garbage he had ever seen." Yet his drive, passion, and dreams led him to overcome those obstacles and pursue a career of life learning and educational success. Carlos was the first person in his family to graduate from college with honors. His obsession with living life completely and passionately is only rivaled by his desire to share his message. Because of this he has become a published writer, poet, and speaker. His experiences have led him to always remind youth to, "never, ever, ever let anyone tell you who you are or what you will become. That's your destiny to fulfill, no one else's."

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**Opening Keynote: Achieving Successful Post School Outcomes through Meaningful Youth Engagement and Empowerment (Session 101) – Wednesday (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

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# 2009 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference

## Success by Design

### Agenda

To receive Act 48 and Psych credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the event.

#### Wednesday, July 22, 2009

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast (Continental)
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Opening Keynote Presentation
11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Breakout Session 1
12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch
1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Breakout Session 2
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break
3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Feature Presentation 1
5:00 p.m.	Dinner on Your Own
5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Youth/Young Adult and Family Lounges Open
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Social Event for Youth and Young Adults {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored}

#### Thursday, July 23, 2009

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Keynote Presentation 1
9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Breakout Session 3
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
11:45 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.	Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo
12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Breakout Session 4
1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Break
2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Keynote Presentation 2
3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo Reception & Raffle (4:45 p.m. Raffle)
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Internet Café featuring the <a href="http://www.sharedwork.org">www.sharedwork.org</a> Computer Lab
5:00 p.m.	Dinner on Your Own
5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Youth/Young Adult and Family Lounges Open
7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Social Event for Youth and Young Adults {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored}

#### Friday, July 24, 2009

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Registration
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Full Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Breakout Session 5
9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Breakout Session 6
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Closing Keynote Presentation



**Wednesday, July 22, 2009  
(9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)**

**Opening Keynote Presentation  
(9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

**101. Achieving Successful Post School Outcomes  
through Meaningful Youth Engagement and  
Empowerment**

According to Carlos Ojeda, “every second that you live, every breath that you take, is a second and a breath that you have to turn it all around.” In this thought-provoking and inspiring keynote presentation Carlos Ojeda will expound upon his belief that human progress comes through the determined efforts to promote education, social activism, and entrepreneurship and that youth have the capabilities of guiding their futures and becoming today's leaders.

*Carlos Ojeda, Educator, Motivator, Communicator, Poet*

**Breakout Session I  
(11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)**

**201. Taking the First Step: Welcome to the  
Conference: Youth and Young Adult Orientation  
Session {PA Youth Leadership Network  
Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)  
*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth  
Engaging]***

The PYLN will host this informational session to familiarize the youth and young adults with the conference. This session will include discussions about the youth engaging sessions, the youth and young adult lounge, and other activities. This session will also describe the PYLN and introduce the governing board members and allow youth to check out what's new with their website and healthcare toolkit.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

**202. Overview & Orientation to Secondary Transition  
*Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101)*  
*[Family Engaging]***

This informational session is designed for families and caregivers to familiarize them with the format of the

conference, as well as other “new” conference attendees. This session will provide an overview of the IEP process and transition services. During this time, an opportunity for dialogue will be provided about the family engaging sessions, the family and caregiver lounge, and other activities. This session will also provide family and caregiver resources in Pennsylvania.

*Linda Loar, Parent Education Network*

**203. NETRAC...Real Life...Real Work...Real Pride...  
Priceless!  
*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation &  
Independent Living***

NETRAC, a community-based program in an apartment setting is designed for youth/young adults with significant cognitive and behavioral challenges. Primary focus is development of local communities of practice, independence and self-advocacy.

*Rosemary Barbella, Elwyn*

*Antonio DeRosa, On a Roll Restaurant*

*Carol Lauser, Elwyn*

*Celena Repice, Elwyn*

*Parent & Youth Representatives*

**204. Considering Computer Access when Preparing  
for Transitions  
*Accommodations and Supports [Family Engaging]***

A hands-on opportunity to explore the choices available for operating a computer! Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT) will be shared as resources for individuals with disabilities in our state.

*Amanda Reinsfelder, Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology*

**205. Linking Employment and Transportation  
through Travel Training  
*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation &  
Independent Living [Family Engaging]***

This presentation will provide information on the Partnership Transportation Management Association (PTMA) travel-training program. The PTMA program assists youth and families with transportation training. Participants will learn how to implement a travel training program.

*Peggy Schmidt, The Partnership TMA of Montgomery County*

**206. They're Hiring: Applying Job Readiness Skills that Work!**

*Employment [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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Employers often voice concern about the lack of relevant job related information from young job seekers, i.e. inappropriate applications, no resumes, poor interview skills, and lack of preparation in the job search. These and other employer issues will be examined and information will be provided to participants regarding the hiring process dilemma that youth may experience.

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*David Baum, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Central Office*

**207. Peer Mentoring: Acquiring Self-Advocacy Skills on a University Campus**

*Post-Secondary Education & Training [Family Engaging]*

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This session will explore an innovative peer mentoring program for young adults with intellectual disabilities that is housed on a large, urban university campus. The *Academy for Adult Learning*, located at Temple University, matches participants with current students (mentors) who assist them in the acquisition of self-advocacy skills and planning for adult life. This session will provide specific examples of program activities and suggestions for locating peers in local communities.

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*Titania Boddie, Institute on Disabilities*

*Aja Degroff, Institute on Disabilities*

**208. Direct Your Future Now: Self-Advocates Teach Self-Advocacy**

*Youth Development & Youth Leadership; Disability-specific [Youth Engaging]*

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Hosted by young adults with autism who are self-advocates, this session will teach self-determination and self-advocacy to youth and young adults with disabilities through interactive activities, questions and answers, and a short opening lecture.

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*Joseph Kleppick, Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network (PYLN)*

*Scott Michael Robertson, Autistic Self Advocacy Network*

**209. Effective Partnerships: Sharing Best Practices in Transition Programming**

*Transition and Career Assessment; Youth Development & Youth Leadership*

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This session will demonstrate that a comprehensive intervention and support package, currently utilized at Devereux Cares, leads to meaningful improvements in public school programs for youth and young adults with autism.

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*Brandee El-Attar, Devereux CARES*

*Todd Harris, Devereux CARES*

**210. Directing Your Supports in the MR System: Financial Management Services**

*Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources [Family Engaging]*

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Presenters offer guidance for people who choose to self-direct through the MR system, e.g., ways to exercise control over services and supports; models and services available; rights and responsibilities involved.

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*The Pennsylvania Training Partnership for People with Disabilities and Family Representatives*

**211. Students with Disabilities: High School to College**

*Post-Secondary Education & Training [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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This presentation will compare and contrast the differences in procedures, as well as responsibilities of students, in obtaining auxiliary aids and services at the postsecondary level.

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*Ihor Stefan Bilynsky, US Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights*

**212. Involving is Solving: Achieving Maximum Outcomes through High-Fidelity Wraparound**

*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living; Transition and Career Assessment [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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Get an overview of High-Fidelity Wraparound in Pennsylvania and hear a panel presentation by several of the counties Youth Support Partners who will provide examples of their experiences and answer questions about their roles.

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*Dan DeLucey, Allegheny County Department of Human Services*

*Shannon Fagan, Youth and Family Training Institute*

*John Ray, Allegheny County Department of Human Services Youth Representatives*

**213. It's Time to Let Your Voice be Heard!**

*Promoting Success for All Youth; Youth Development & Youth Leadership [Youth Engaging]*

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This session will demonstrate how all youth with disabilities can learn to speak about their lives, their IEP goals, their successes, their hopes as well as their dreams after graduation.

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*Gordon Allen, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13*

*Julie McMurtrie, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13*

*Jane Walker, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13*



## 214. CHIRP: A National Model to Promote

### Collaboration

*Expanding Capacity of Teams through Leadership Development Strategies*

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The presenters will provide an overview of the project design, including the establishment of a national think tank which included representatives from youth-led organizations. Presenters will review and demonstrate some of the tools and training curricula used. Participants will understand the elements that made the project successful. They will receive copies of the curriculum and will learn how they can work with key partners in the community.

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*Carri George, University of Arkansas*

*Joan Kester, The George Washington University*

**Lunch: (12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.)**

## **Breakout Session 2** **(1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)**

### 301. Step It Up and Be Yourself! {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

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This session will focus on how to socialize and meet new people, and why it's important to know about social cues and appropriate behavior. We will also discuss how to be yourself and not give in to peer pressure.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

### 302. Transition: A Unified Process

*Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101); Agency Information [Family Engaging]*

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The vision of the PA Community on Transition is that all youth and young adults with disabilities will successfully transition to the role of productive, participating, adult citizens. This interagency presentation will provide youth, family members and other stakeholders with a basic overview of the secondary transition process including agency information. Participants will leave this session with an understanding of how transition works, who should be engaged in meaningful transition planning, where transition activities occur and what might be included in a transition plan.

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*Representatives from:*

*Office of Vocational Rehabilitation*

*Office of Developmental Programs Consulting System*

*Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services*

*Office of Children, Youth & Families*

*State Workforce Investment Board*

*Bureau of Workforce Development Partnerships*

*Department of Health, Bureau of Family Health*

### 303. Overview of Pennsylvania's Postschool Outcome Survey (PaPOS)

*Promoting Success for All Youth*

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Pennsylvania has adopted the Pennsylvania Postschool Outcomes Survey (PaPOS), in response to the 2004 Reauthorization of IDEA. This session will provide interested stakeholders information regarding the focus on accountability for results that "ensure a bright and successful future for all youth with disabilities" and will ensure that Pennsylvania meets the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Indicator 14 reporting requirements. Topics of this session include: Indicator 14 requirements; Pennsylvania's five year survey cycle; Pennsylvania's leaver selection process; PaPOS management and support structure; and PaPOS survey completion.

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*John Cica, Educational Consultant*

*Michael Stoehr, Pennsylvania Training & Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

### 304. Ethics: It's Everyone's Business

*Knowledge Building: Ethics*

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This session will provide an overview of ethical situations faced by transition stakeholders when serving youth and young adults with disabilities. We will discuss important topics such as confidentiality, disability disclosure, and youth empowerment. Please come prepared to share and discuss ethical dilemmas you face in your everyday work.

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*Joan Kester, The George Washington University*

### 305. Electronic Resumes: Changing the Face of Competition

*Employment [Family Engaging]*

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Technological shifts continue to alter the methods by which job-seekers compete for employment. Understanding the latest trends offers a universal advantage for all persons seeking employment.

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*Seth Acosta, The Sierra Group, Inc.*

**306. AmeriCorps National Service with Disability:  
Consider the Possibilities!**

*Employment; Healthy Lifestyles & Community  
Participation; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to perform meaningful community service. This session will explain the program opportunities and allow attendees to hear directly from AmeriCorps members with disabilities.

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*Joseph Benish, PennSERVE: The Governor's Office of  
Citizen Service*

*Carol Vogel, Appalachian Intermediate Unit 8*

*Karen Zapp, Butler Memorial Hospital Family Service  
Representatives from AmeriCorps*

**307. Customized Competitive Job Development:  
Tools & Resources**

*Employment; [Family Engaging]*

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Job carving is a viable option for youth who have abilities to work but cannot perform all of the essential duties in a standard job description. The goal of this presentation is to assist educators, work coordinators, counselors, and other interested agency staff who want to venture into nontraditional job carving, the prepare and present job proposals to employers. This will be an interactive session where participants will have guided practice in developing a proposal for an employer to carve out a customized competitive position for a student with specific skills and employment needs.

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*Terry Dailey, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, York District  
Office*

**308. Mentoring: Using Your Torch to Light Another  
Youth Development & Youth Leadership; [Family  
Engaging; Youth Engaging]**

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This interactive session will include dialogue between participants and presenters and provide an overview of mentoring its positive effect on the lives of young people with disabilities, the effects mentoring has on transition outcomes and how mentoring programs can be easily designed and customized to the needs of the young people with disabilities organizations serve.

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*Rebecca Cokley, National Consortium on Leadership and  
Disability for Youth*

*Gary Goosman, National Collaborative on Workforce and  
Disability for Youth*

**309. The Power of Families: PA Families Inc.  
Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition  
Knowledge & Resources; [Family Engaging]**

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The new Pennsylvania Family to Family Health Information Center will share useful tools to assist families and youth making the jump from pediatric medical experience to the world of adult health care.

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*Dianna Brocious, Pa Families Inc.*

*Bruce Decker, Collective Impact*

**310. A Partnership Between Education and  
Transportation in the Transition Process  
Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation &  
Independent Living; Transition & Career Assessment;  
[Family Engaging]**

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A focus on transportation issues of youth who have post school goals that require transportation to achieve them; assessments and tools to assist the IEP process will be provided. A model to develop collaboration between transportation, educational entities, and agencies will be shared.

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*Glenn Michael Beigay, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*

*Susan Grant, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*

*Michelle Holsopple, Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3*

**311. Behaviors in Transition: Real Life Consequences  
Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation &  
Independent Living; [Family Engaging]**

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This session will help families, agencies, and educators differentiate between sex and sexuality and how we interpret the physical contact youth have with others. Safety and social issues will be presented as they relate to a student's expression of emotions and as a part of the transition planning process.

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*Beverly Frantz, Institute on Disabilities, Temple University*

**312. Online Note-Taker Training  
Aligning Accommodations & Supports [Family Engaging;  
Youth Engaging]**

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Providing trained student note-takers for students with disabilities is essential to student success. The online note-taker training is comprehensive, interactive & free! The presenter will explain and demo training.

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*Josie Durkow, PEPNet-Northeast*

### 313. Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities

*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living; [Family Engaging]*

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During this presentation, learn about strategies and resources to prepare the individuals with disabilities that require specific services by the health or emergency response system during emergencies through communicating and collaborating with public and private organizations serving this population.

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*James Messinger, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency*

*Joanne Roth, Pennsylvania Department of Health*

### 314. Project PAS (Promoting Academic Success): Expanded Across the Commonwealth

*Post-Secondary Education & Training; Aligning Accommodations & Supports; [Family Engaging]*

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This session will provide an overview of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's successful partnership with community colleges and local school districts to provide college orientation courses for youth and young adults across the Commonwealth.

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*Dana Hodges, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Central Office*

*Wendy Patterson, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Central Office*

### 315. Trauma Informed Care - Relevance to Youth, Providers & Families

*Transition & Career Assessment; [Family Engaging]*

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This session considers the relevance of new information on trauma and potential benefits of the provision of trauma informed care for transitioning youth, human service professionals working with children, youth, and their families.

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*Gordon Hodas, PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)*

### 401. Walking the Tightrope: Living a Balanced Life {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for All Stakeholders)

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

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Life is chaotic as a young adult with so many things going on – how can you balance it all? This session will discuss how to manage your life including such topics as: stress, time management, rest, diet and exercise, recreation and leisure, etc. This session is designed for youth and young adults. All interested conference participants are welcome to attend.

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*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

### 402. Understanding the Business Climate: What Do Employers Need?

*Employment [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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What do employers look for during the job interview -skill sets, the right answers, grooming, self-confidence, prior experience? What do employers need - willingness to learn new skills, someone who arrives on time, gets along with other co-workers? Employers want all these and more! Don't kid yourself! Hard skills will get you the interview. Soft skills will get you the position!

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*Maureen Fairbanks, Affirmative Action & Diversity Consultant, Highmark, Inc.*

### 403. A Focus Group to Build Collaboration to Benefit Youth Served by Career & Technical Education

*Building Capacity of Teams*

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During this interactive session participants will discuss the priorities and systemic concerns faced by youth and cross-systems stakeholders, with a focus on seamless transition services for youth served in Career & Technical Education settings. Learn about several local effective practices currently being implemented successfully. Session participants will be invited to join a Practice Group affiliated with the National Community of Practice on Transition to address these priorities and develop effective practices, online tools and resources to address priorities identified, through the use of [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org).

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*Joanne Cashman, The IDEA Partnership, National Association of State Directors of Special Education*

*Wendy Chalmers, SUN Area Career & Technology Center*

*Brenda Kauffman, Lancaster Lebanon Intermediate Unit #13*

**Feature Presentation 1  
(3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)**

#### 404. Ensuring Coordinated, Measurable IEP Goals and Transition Services: An Overview of the Indicator 13 Process

*Academic Achievement [Family Engaging]*

In an effort to ensure that all states are implementing the requirements of IDEA 2004, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has established 20 indicators that each state is required to address in evaluating their efforts to comply with IDEA 2004. Indicator 13 is specifically targeted for secondary students receiving special education services. The purpose of Indicator 13 is to ensure that youth with disabilities aged 14, and above, have an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the youth to meet their post-secondary goals. This session will provide an overview of the Indicator 13 process in Pennsylvania including how to incorporate age-appropriate transition assessments and will focus on post-school goals in developing measurable annual IEP goals and transition services. Information from the National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC), including the NSTTAC informational website will be addressed. Also included in this session will be information regarding the outcome data from Pennsylvania's Cohort year # 1 training model as well as details regarding the training plan for Cohort year # 2 targeted local education agencies.

*Larry Korterling, National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC)*

*Rosemary Nilles, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

*Michael Stoehr, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

#### 405. National Community of Practice: New & Exciting Partnerships!

*Expanding Capacity of Teams [Family Engaging]*

Since 2002, states and national organizations have joined forces to improve outcomes of youth with disabilities through the work of the national community of practice on transition. During this session, learn about the exciting partnerships between national organizations and state and local practitioners to expand seamless transition services and how you can make these connections. Participants will also have an opportunity to preview the newly-designed [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org) website.

*Mariola Rosser, The IDEA Partnership, National Association of State Directors of Special Education*

*National Organization Representatives*

*Community of Practice Representatives from Across the Country*

#### 406. Achieving College Transitions Now (ACT Now): Implementation Strategies for Secondary Youth Post-Secondary Education & Training

Presenters will discuss critical topics that support students' transition from high school to college, including the laws, disability services, disability documentation, accommodations, and essential student skills in a postsecondary setting. Participants will learn how to deliver the ACT Now curriculum designed for educators, students with disabilities and their parents to increase successful college transition for students with disabilities.

*Laraine Demshock, Northampton Community College*

#### 407. Project SEARCH 2009: Where We Are Now Employment [Family Engaging]

*Last year OVR was awarded a federal transition grant to grow evidence-based transition models, including the Cincinnati Children's Hospital's Project Search model, to improve employment outcomes of youth. This panel presentation session will showcase three of Pennsylvania's established Project SEARCH sites from Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Allentown. Included in the presentation panel will be partner representatives from the employer, community providers, education, developmental programs and vocational rehabilitation as well as student participants.*

*Dana Hodges, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Team Members from Project SEARCH sites from  
Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Allentown*

#### 408. Maneuvering the Maze: Understanding and Utilizing Benefits and Services for Successful Post Secondary Outcomes

*Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101);  
Agency Information [Family Engaging]*

This presentation will provide an in-depth discussion regarding how to understand, locate, and utilize benefits and services that will assist youth in achieving successful post secondary outcomes. Topics addressed will include: an overview of agency supports in Pennsylvania, tips for maintaining health insurance, locating adult health care providers, understanding and accessing Social Security Administration benefits, Support Services Waivers, and financial and legal concerns as they pertain to youth transitioning to adulthood. Opportunities for questions and answers and discussion will be provided throughout this presentation.

*Representatives from:*

*PA Department of Health*

*PA Department of Labor and Industry*

*PA Department of Public Welfare*

*Social Security Administration Benefits Counseling & Assistance Project*

*Estate Planning Specialists*



**Thursday, July 23, 2009**

**8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

## **Keynote Presentation 2**

**Session 501: 8:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

**Session 502: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

### **501. Promoting Equal Access for ALL Youth through Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning**

*Universal Design [Family Engaging]*

The foundation of Universal Design (UD) and universal design for learning (UDL) offers a framework that opens doors for all learners, regardless of diversity, difference or disability. Through understanding the importance of designing accessible environments, employing flexible applications of technology tools and appreciating the uniqueness of varied learning approaches, transition stakeholders can promote equal access for ALL youth and young adults to achieve successful post-school outcomes. An approach such as UDL celebrates the strengths, intelligences, and unique learning styles each of us brings to the table. During this session, listen to stories and learn about practical application of UD and UDL in our everyday lives. Strategies to infuse UD and UDL into transition and career assessment are of utmost importance as this momentum grows and the opportunities to celebrate an individual's strengths and abilities are highlighted – assuring success for all.

*Dr. Frances G. Smith, Virginia Commonwealth University*

### **502. Walk This Way: Advocacy and Assessment {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)**

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

Assessment is all about learning about what you can do in life. It's a process that you go through to try to map out your future. This session will help young adults take a leadership role and understand how the assessment process can open new doors.

*Dr. Pamela Leconte, The George Washington University  
Joan Kester, The George Washington University*

## **Breakout Session 3 (10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.)**

### **601. You'll Never Walk Alone {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)** *Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

Who do you turn to for support? This session will discuss ways to identify people and organizations that can assist you in your day to day life. Coping and support strategies will be addressed.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

### **602. The Road of Secondary Transition: How It Drives the Assessment Process** *Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101); [Family Engaging]*

During this session, follow the Road Map to learn how transition goals and the assessment process lead to a successful and fulfilling future at home, school, and in the community for youth. Information regarding the IEP process and assessment strategies will be highlighted.

*Joan Kester, The George Washington University  
Michael Stoehr, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh*

### **603. Career Education and Work Standards: Tools for Transition** *Academic Achievement [Family Engaging]*

The goal of Pennsylvania's Standards Aligned System is that "Every student by name regardless of background, condition or circumstance...is proficient in the core subjects...graduates from high school, ready for college and career...and achieves high outcomes." The Academic Standards for Career Education and Work, with their accompanying Toolkit, provide many resources for schools to use to create high quality instructional programs for all students, including students with disabilities. This session will show how effective standards-aligned practices in general education can be used as building blocks for improving transition services for students with disabilities.

*Rosemary Nilles, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, Pittsburgh  
Diane Orloski Luzerne IU 18*



#### 604. Lifesharing: A Lifestyle Option

*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living [Family Engaging]*

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This panel discussion will inform participants of the Lifesharing Option as an alternative living situation that promotes independence, natural opportunities for community participation, and nurturing of birth family relationships.

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*Rebecca Kreischer, Keystone Human Services*  
*Jim Malesky, Keystone Human Services*  
*Sarah Shaw, Skills of Central Pa., Inc.*  
*Carol Turns, Keystone Human Services*  
*Judy Webb, Keystone Human Services*  
*Ann Woods, Skills of Central Pa., Inc.*

#### 605. Beyond Assistive Technology: Essentials for the College Student

*Aligning Accommodations & Supports; Post-Secondary Education & Training; [Family Engaging]*

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This presentation will communicate effective strategies to use today's technology, in an accommodating format, to provide universal access for students in a post school setting. Using a case-study format buttressed with discussion and interactive demonstrations will allow participants to develop a context by which they can replicate these technology aligning solutions.

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*Michael Fiore, The Sierra Group, Inc.*  
*Joan Shindel, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, York*

#### 606. Developing an Effective Individual Support Plan (ISP)

*Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources; [Family Engaging]*

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This interactive session will look at the Individual Support Plan (ISP) as a person-centered planning tool and a contract for supports and services in the Mental Retardation System. As a planning document, the ISP is an effective tool for identifying a person's vision for future life; needed areas and types of services and supports; and developing an action plan. A comprehensive ISP should address medical concerns, finances, and a plan which reflects an individual's preferences.

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*The Pennsylvania Training Partnership for People with Disabilities and Family Representatives*

#### 607. Multi-Sensory Science Activities for Youth who are Blind

*Disability-specific; Universal Design*

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This presentation will demonstrate the Independent Laboratory Access for the Blind tools and illustrate the best

practices for teaching science concepts to students who are blind or have low vision. Discussion regarding persons with disabilities and their role in entering career paths in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) areas will be presented.

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*April Hill, Penn State University*  
*Cary Supalo, Penn State University*

#### 608. PA State Civil Service Employment: Working the System

*Employment; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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This session is an overview of the civil service application, testing, and hiring processes. The presenters will also discuss the relationship between civil service and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

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*David Baum, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, PA Department of Labor & Industry*  
*Paula Marinak, Pennsylvania State Civil Service Commission*

#### 609. Chutzpah & Panache: The "ME" in Empowerment

*Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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This session presents a new approach to understanding the value of family empowerment. The focus will be on working from a cultural basis to determine what empowerment means to individuals and as families and consumers living in communities.

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*Elizabeth Kelly Scanlon, The Question, Inc., Pennsylvania Families Incorporated*

#### 610. Assistive Technology Accommodations in the Workplace

*Accommodations & Supports; Employment; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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Case studies and video interviews presented in a lively interactive format will provide assistive technology considerations for developing appropriate accommodations in the workplace.

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*Barbara Keefe, PEPNet-Northeast*

#### 611. Forecasting Your Future: Strategic Planning for Employment Outcomes

*Employment; [Family Engaging]*

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Pittsburgh Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Placement Counselors will present resources to assist students, transition teams and families in planning for viable

employment goals by considering job market, training, internet resources, abilities and experience.

*Janet Curley, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation,  
Pittsburgh*

*Stacey Matthias, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation,  
Pittsburgh*

### 612. Secondary Transition: Administrators' Perspective

*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the  
Transition Needs of Those Who Are At-Risk and Struggling*

Come learn what have these two presenters have learned about supporting secondary transition in their roles as special education administrators that other administrators might find helpful.

*Carol Clancy, Lancaster School District  
Diane Sobolewski, ARIN Intermediate Unit 28*

### 613. Assessment Resources: Unlocking the Paths to Career Success

*Transition & Career Assessment; Vendor Information*

Looking for assessments? Middle school career portfolios set the stage for career plans of study relevant to career interests of students ages 14-21.

*Roger Klink, Lincoln Intermediate Unit  
Jennifer Lundy, Smart Futures  
Akirah Wyatt, Smart Futures*

**Lunch (11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)**

## Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo (11:45 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.)

**Reception & Raffle: (3:45 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. Participants can visit the poster sessions presented by the recipients of the Bureau of Special Education Performance Grants – Transition from School to Community-Based Employment for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Opportunities will be provided throughout the conference to earn raffle tickets. On Thursday afternoon, items representative of the Keystone state will be raffled off. **You must be present at the reception to win!**

## Breakout Session 4 (12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.)

### 701. Journeying Through the HealthCare Maze {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for All Stakeholders)

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

Young adults face many challenges when transitioning from childhood to adult medical systems. This session will address the importance of HealthCare Transition. An overview of the healthcare toolkit developed by the PYLN will be presented.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

### 702. Accommodations & Supports: Focus on Family Knowledge

*Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101);  
[Family Engaging]*

Universal Design is a part of everyday living and is all around us. During this session, families will learn about their rights to advocate for equal access through accommodations, tools and resources for this sons and daughters. Families will have time to explore assistive technology at the Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo.

*Frances G. Smith, Virginia Commonwealth University*

### 703. Student-Parent Dinner Seminars: Something to Chew On

*Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources; [Family Engaging]*

This presentation will provide information on VITAL House's monthly sponsored student-parent dinner seminars. The VITAL House program provides youth and families with transition information and allows adult service personnel to interact with families in an informal dinner setting. VITAL House is comprised of Hazelton Area School District, Anthracit Region Center for Independent Living, and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

*Bernadette Jespersen, VITAL House  
Susan Kennedy, VITAL House*

**704. Work Incentives for Youth who Receive Social Security Administration (SSA) Benefits**  
*Employment; Agency Information; [Family Engaging]*

This session will provide participants with an overview of available work incentives for youth who receive social security benefits to assist in career planning and employment. The session will include eligibility, access and application of work incentives. Specific examples of schools and individuals utilizing incentives and community resources and strategies recommended for increasing the use of incentives will be provided.

*Michele Leahy, AHEDD*  
*John Miller, AHEDD*  
*Joy Smith, AHEDD*

**705. Early College Experience (ECE) Mentoring Program**  
*Post-Secondary Education & Training; [Family Engaging]*

During this session, learn about a program offered through a partnership of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and high school and college educators, whose high school youth learn the skills needed to succeed in college through attending the Freshman Seminar class. College mentors learn teaching skills while supporting high school youth.

*Christine Fiorina, Westmoreland Intermediate Unit 7*  
*Margaret Frith, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation - Johnstown*  
*Daniel Kirk, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg*  
*Melissa Marks, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg*

**706. Overcoming Obstacles for Court-Involved Youth**  
*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs of those who are At-risk and Struggling; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

This session will explore legal issues facing youth in the juvenile justice and foster care systems, and will collaborate to identify successful advocacy strategies.

*Jessica Feierman, Juvenile Law Center*  
*Jennifer Pokempner, Juvenile Law Center*

**707. Getting & Keeping Assistive Technology After High School**  
*Accommodations & Supports; [Family Engaging]*

This session will provide families and service providers with information they need to understand the systems that can (and cannot) provide assistive technology devices and services after high school.

*Amy Goldman, Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT)*

**708. Partners in Progress: Youth Leadership for Systems Change**  
*Youth Development & Youth Leadership; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

Learn about an adaptable statewide summit model used in Nevada to gain students perspective and cultivate student leadership teams across the state to foster change for Individual Transition Planning.

*Christine Cashman, National Association of State Directors of Special Education*  
*Jennifer Kane, Nevada Department of Education*  
*Youth/Young Adult Members of the National Community of Practice on Transition*

**709. Indicator 13, a Rubric, and Students with Deafblindness**  
*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs of those who are At-risk and Struggling; Disability-specific [Family Engaging]*

During this presentation, learn about the "School and Family Transition Tool" rubric which was developed through a multistate effort as a planning tool for positive transition outcomes for students who are deafblind.

*Juli Baumgarner, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*  
*Molly Black, PA Deafblind Project*

**710. Building Community Partnerships to Promote Positive Work Experiences**  
*Employment*

Our employer panel discussion will highlight the partnership from initial connections through the vocational experiences. Furthermore, the panelists will discuss the components of sustainability through past and present employer experiences.

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

**711. Intermediate Unit 13 College Fair: Empowering Youth and Families**  
*Post-Secondary Education & Training; [Family Engaging]*

This presentation will explain the planning and purpose of the IU 13 College Fair. The Fair helps youth, parents, and educators understand the change in laws and expectations when a young person transitions from high school to post secondary education.

*Christopher Metzler, Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology*  
*John Robbins, Lancaster Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13*

## 712. Preparing to be the Best Job Candidate

*Employment; [Family Engaging]*

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This presentation will provide an opportunity to discuss how to convince a prospective employer that a young person is the most qualified person for the job regardless of his/her disability.

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Susan Hayya, Penn State University

## 713. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation: Focus on Transition Youth and Young Adults

*Agency Information; [Family Engaging]*

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During this session, learn about programs and services available to youth and young adults with disabilities as they transition from school to work.

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Jameson Collins, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, York  
Joan Shindel, PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, York

## Keynote Presentation 3 (2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)

## 801. Tools for the Journey {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

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Universal Design is a part of everyday living and is all around us. During this session, young adults will learn about their rights to advocate for equal access through accommodations, tools, and resources. Young adults will have time to explore assistive technology at the Accommodations, Supports & Resources Expo.

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Frances G. Smith, Virginia Commonwealth University

## 802. Effective Practices in Transition & Career Assessment: A National, State, and Local Perspective

*Transition and Career Assessment [Family Engaging]*

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During this collaborative session, learn about the national trends in transition and career assessment and how research impacts on local practice. Presenters will share diverse perspectives to demonstrate the multidimensional and ongoing nature of transition and career assessment as learning processes. Teams will share locally-designed tools and resources to infuse cross-systems assessment strategies into everyday practice. The audience will participate in a roundtable discussion to collectively identify effective career assessment strategies, as well as a

process for integrating results into a young person's ongoing transition planning. During this session, participants are encouraged to share what is happening in his/her local areas to promote best practices in transition and career assessment.

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Dr. Pamela Leconte, The George Washington University  
Joan Kester, The George Washington University  
Pennsylvania Community on Transition Representatives

**Internet Café featuring  
[www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org)  
(4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.)**

Internet Café featuring the [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org)  
Computer Lab

Throughout the day, please stop by the Internet Café featuring the [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org) interactive website. As a result of our collaboration with the IDEA Partnership, this site is now the hub of the PA Community on Transition. It is a powerhouse of resources and provides us with an ongoing opportunity to continue our work year-round by sharing resources and working on practice groups. A computer lab staffed with volunteers is available for you to register and tour the site. When you successfully register for the website, you will receive a raffle ticket for the drawing on Thursday at the Reception.

**Accommodations, Supports & Resources  
Expo, Reception & Raffle  
(3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)**

**Friday, July 24, 2009**  
(8:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)

**Breakout Session 5**  
(8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.)

**901. A Leap of Faith {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)**

*Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

People with disabilities often struggle with understanding ourselves and our disabilities, and how to fit into the “big picture” of our world. One of the major supports in our communities can be found in faith communities and spirituality. This nondenominational session will address how to better understand oneself and the role of faith and spirituality in our everyday lives. Spirituality and accessible faith communities (non youth specific).

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

**902. My Story: Survival Guide for College-Bound LD Students**

*Post-Secondary Education & Training; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

In this session, 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, LaRoche College*

**903. Hiram G. Andrews Center: A Community Committed to Youth Success**

*Post-Secondary Employment & Training; [Family Engaging]*

This presentation will provide information about transition services offered at the Hiram G. Andrews Center in Johnstown. As a Center operated by the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, comprehensive evaluation, assistive technology, career services and training programs are available.

*Stacie Andrews, Hiram G. Andrews Center*  
*Galen Miller, Hiram G. Andrews Center*  
*Melissa Murray, Hiram G. Andrews Center*  
*Desiree Urick, Hiram G. Andrews Center*

**904. Self Determination: Using 411, PYLN Toolkit and Role Play**

*Post-Secondary Education & Training; Youth Development & Youth Leadership; [Family Engaging]*

This session will highlight the process used by youth in the post-secondary transition program in Pittsburgh Public Schools to develop self-determination and self-advocacy skills. Examples of the use of the 411 Curriculum (from the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability), the PA Youth Leadership Network (PYLN) Toolkit, and role-play will be shared.

*LeeAnn Wagner Cica, Pittsburgh Public Schools*

**905. Independent Living Services in the Child Welfare System**

*Agency Information; [Family Engaging]*

This session will present an overview of independent living services available to eligible transition-aged youth in the child welfare system. This would include youth who have been adopted, adjudicated delinquent or dependent, in foster care, or in substitute care. Specific services such as: service coordination, assessment, employment, prevention/wellness, life skills and career development will be reviewed.

*Stephen Eidson, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work*

*James Wilson, University of Pittsburgh*

**906. Customized Programs to Advance Wellness and Future Success**

*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living [Family Engaging]*

Research demonstrates that people with disabilities can achieve long-term health benefits through participation in health promotion programs. During this session, learn about “ihabAbility”, which believes that people with disabilities can be healthy, active and assertive co-managers of their health.

*Brad Kleinfelter, ihabABILITY*  
*Allison Topper, ihabABILITY*



## 907. Forging Meaningful Transition Partnerships:

### ACT Now

*Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources; [Family Engaging]*

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Parents, youth, schools, and agencies CAN effectively work together to help young people meet their post-high school goals. Learn about the innovative partnership practices of the ACT Now program in Berks County.

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*Lavinia Garcia Ritter, Berks County Intermediate Unit*

*Mary Mazzoni, Berks County Intermediate Unit*

*Jaclyn Kratzer, Abilities in Motion*

## 908. Venango County Transitions Program

*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs of those who are At-risk and Struggling; [Family Engaging]*

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During this session, learn about the program in Venango County based upon the hypothesis that rigorous assessment, ongoing evaluation with measurable outcomes and great communication are the keys to focused, effective, team delivered services. Information will be shared about the program from diverse perspectives.

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*Paul Ceprish, The Regional Counseling Center Inc. Transitions Program*

*Travis Hicks, The Regional Counseling Center Inc. Transitions Program*

*Martin Richards, The Regional Counseling Center Inc. Transitions Program*

*Missy Sweitzer, The Regional Counseling Center Inc. Transitions Program*

## 909. Strong Transition Councils: The Things We Can Accomplish!!

*Building Capacity of Teams [Family Engaging]*

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"It takes a village to raise a child." Learn how a strong Local Transition Council offers an opportunity for collaboration of stakeholders who, together, can accomplish far more than any single person or agency can do on its own.

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*Wendy Chalmers, SUN Area Career & Technology Center*

*Wendy Harris, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Williamsport*

*Andy Hergan, Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit*

## 910. Maintaining Functional Augmentative & Alternative Communication with Transitions

*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living; [Family Engaging]*

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A general overview of augmentative and alternative communication and its importance during transition will be provided. Augmentative and alternative communication is the tool that allows an individual to communicate their wants, needs, desires, fears, and abilities—all of which need to be expressed especially in transitional times.

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*Jennifer Seale, Institute on Disabilities at Temple University*

## 911. Learning to Live the Independent Life

*Disability-specific; Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living; [Family Engaging]*

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Learning to Live the Independent Life chronicles the implementation of a new post high school experience for youth who are blind or visually impaired. This program and the ideas shared could be applicable to any youth who would like the opportunity to learn skills that could improve their potential for success in adult life.

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*Robert Ashbridge, Overbrook School for the Blind*

*Dael Cohen, Overbrook School for the Blind*

*Helene Marano, Overbrook School for the Blind*

## 912. Transitioning Outside the Box: Creatively Utilizing Your Community

*Universal Design; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

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Today, transitioning youth and young adults for life after graduation involves extensive preparation and teaching diversity. This can be accomplished through broadening your resources or "Transitioning Outside the Box" – Creatively Utilizing Your Community.

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*Beverly DiGianvincenzo, Mohawk Area School District*

*Anissa Fracul, Mohawk Area School District*

*Jacob Milke, Student*

*Lauren Seminara, Mohawk Area School District*

*Jamie Stevens, Mohawk Area School District*

## 913. Empowering Young Adults with Asperger's Syndrome/PDDNOS

*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs of those who are At-risk and Struggling; [Family Engaging]*

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The Coffeehouse Center of Bucks County is a community program that supports young adults with Aspergers Syndrome/PDD NOS transitioning into adulthood. The facilitators will share what they have learned when engaging young adults as they negotiate relationships, advocate, and acquire independent living skills.

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*Lorie Brew, The Coffeehouse Center of Bucks County*

*Joyce Harding, The Coffeehouse Center of Bucks County*

## Breakout Session 6 (10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

### 1001. Let's Stay Connected! Youth and Young Adult Wrap-up {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only) *Youth Leadership & Youth Development; [Youth Engaging]*

The Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network (PYLN) Governing Board members will host this wrap-up session for those youth and young adults who are interested in staying in contact with youth they met at the conference. This session is designed for youth and young adults only.

*PA Youth Leadership Network Representatives*

### 1002. What Families Need to Know About Secondary Transition: A Round Table Discussion *Transition: A Unified Process Series (Transition 101 [Family Engaging])*

During this interactive session the Parent Education Network will gather important input from families and caregivers about the key priorities and issues they are currently facing in the transition of their sons and daughters. Families will have an opportunity to debrief with others about their experiences at the transition conference. This information will be used to develop new family resources and educational opportunities in the future.

*Linda Loar, Parent Education Network*

### 1003. Career Classes: Helping Youth Reach Their Full Potential *Employment*

Learn how to implement a Career Class for high school students, set up work training programs in your community, and design vocational seminars geared toward self-determination and employability skills.

*Kristen Lucas, Beavercreek High School*

### 1004. Being Your Own Best Self Advocate *Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

The best advocate is a well-informed, educated and active consumer. This workshop will give consumers the tools they need to be their own best advocate.

*Robert Graves, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living*

### 1005. Community Disability Awareness *Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

This session will present information regarding how to engage all community partners in understanding and supporting individuals with disabilities. Also included in the presentation will be information on how to make an "Information About My Disability" card and Emergency Information Packets.

*Roberta Mack, Indiana Area School District  
Charles (Skip) McGreevy, ARIN Intermediate Unit 28  
Barbara Telthorster, The Arc of Indiana County  
Heather Telthorster, The Arc of Indiana County*

### 1006. Hop Scotching your Way through the Transition Process *Empowering Families & Caregivers with Transition Knowledge & Resources; [Family Engaging]*

"Hop Scotching Your Way through the Transition Process" guides parents of children who are deafblind through the confusing and conflicting array of agencies, processes, and requirements that they face as their children transition to adulthood.

*Molly Black, Pennsylvania Partnership for the Deafblind  
Gordon Boe, Pennsylvania Partnership for the Deafblind  
Gabe Radzik, Pennsylvania Partnership for the Deafblind*

### 1007. If I Can Do It, So Can You! *Youth Development & Youth Leadership; [Youth Engaging]*

Peer support is a vital component to resiliency and recovery for young adults in the mental health system. During this session, learn about the peer support role and ways to utilize the service.

*Beth Solomon, PA Certified Peer Support Specialist*

### 1008. Leisure Coaching & Collaboration: Synergistic Strategies for Inclusion *Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living; [Family Engaging]*

This presentation highlights the first year activities of a collaborative consortium in Delaware County, PA promoting the full inclusion of youth with developmental disabilities in school-sponsored and community-based recreation activities.

*Kathy Agren, Penn Wood High School  
Barbara Burger, Delaware County Intermediate Unit  
Kathy Coyle, Temple University  
Doug Trout, The ARC of Delaware County  
Becky Vandenberg, Penn Wood High School*

**1009. Higher Education: How We Did It!**  
*Post-Secondary Education & Training; [Family Engaging; Youth Engaging]*

Join us as we facilitate a discussion with current and former foster care youth about how they successfully graduated high school and enrolled in post-secondary education and training. We will share strategies, techniques, tips, and resources.

*Justin Lee, University of Pittsburgh, PA Child Welfare Training Program*

**1010. Uncharted Water: Lessons Learned from the Development of the OMHSAS Transition Age Youth Subcommittee**  
*Healthy Lifestyles, Community Participation & Independent Living; Youth Development & Youth Leadership [Youth Engaging]*

Members of the Subcommittee will discuss the challenges and successes of: creating a statewide youth advisory committee; combining youth and professional culture; cultivating meaningful engagement; and youth and adult accommodations. Time will be set aside for a question and answer period.

*Doris Arena, PA Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)*

*Sarah Erickson, Bradford Sullivan Consumer Family Satisfaction Team*

**1011. The Slippery Slope of Substance Use with At-Risk Youth**  
*Promoting Success of All Youth by Addressing the Transition Needs of those who are At-risk and Struggling [Family Engaging]*

This session will facilitate an awareness and recognition of substance use/abuse patterns in youth with disabilities including distinguishing myths from reality and developing strategies for intervention and referral for parents, educators and others.

*Patricia Petrusik, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Pittsburgh*

*Dawn Sokol, Bureau of Blindness/ Visual Services, Philadelphia*

*Lynn Zale, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Reading*

**Closing Keynote Presentation**  
**(11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)**

**1101. Today's Youth are Tomorrow's Leaders**  
**{PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored}**

Join us in closing this year's conference with Michael Beers, a nationally-recognized motivational speaker, comedian and advocate for people with disabilities, who will inspire us all to celebrate diversity and to continue to increase capacity and realize successful outcomes with youth and young adults as they transition to adult life. At the core of this keynote is a message of personal empowerment, academic success and educational revolution.

Michael uses his comedy to help empower and educate people across the country. As an effective leader in the disability community, Mr. Beers will share his perspective on youth development and youth leadership. Participants will be encouraged to draw on and learn from the past to plan their actions in the future to promote youth leadership in their community.

*Michael Beers, Motivational Speaker and Humorist*



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Bureau of Special Education  
Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*

**Registration Deadline:**

**July 6, 2009**

**Registration Fee:**

\$125 – Checks, Cash and Purchase Orders Only –  
No credit cards

**Checks should be made payable to:**

Intermediate Unit I

**Mail registration form and fee to:**

Mary Gordon at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh  
3190 William Pitt Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

## 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.

*You are responsible for calling the hotel directly and making your own reservation and/or following your 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 for each hotel 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  
Conference Rate: \$95.00  
Double  
Reference/Group Code:  
PATRA210708

### Comfort Suites

132 Village Drive  
State College, PA 16803  
Phone: 814-235-1900  
Conference Rate: \$79.00  
Reference/Group Code:  
100886

### Courtyard by Marriott

1730 University Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-238-1881  
Conference Rate: \$99.00  
Reference/Group Code:  
PaTTAN

### Days Inn Penn State

240 S. Pugh Street  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-238-8454  
Conference Rate: \$82.00  
Reference/Group Code:  
CGPATA

### Hampton Inn

1101 E. College Avenue  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-231-1590  
Conference Rate: \$88.00  
Reference/Group Code: PCT

### Ramada Inn & Conference Center

1450 South Atherton Street  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-238-3001  
Conference Rate: \$78.00  
Reference/Group Code: PaTTAN Transition

### Rodeway Inn (by Choice Hotels)

1040 North Atherton Street  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone: 814-238-6783  
Conference Rate: \$55.00  
Reference/Group Code: PaTTAN

### Sleep Inn

111 Village Drive  
State College, PA 16803  
Phone: 814-235-1020  
Conference Rate: \$76.00  
Reference/Group Code: PA Community on  
Transition

### 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

## General Information

### Registration Fee:

Please include a \$125.00 check made payable to Intermediate Unit 1 and send to Mary Gordon, PaTTAN-Pittsburgh, 3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

(Parents of children with disabilities and Youth/Young Adults are exempt from this charge.)

If a check is being sent from a company, agency, school district, etc, for registrant(s), please indicate on the check all the names of the individuals to mark their registration as paid.

If you do not have Internet access, please complete the form below and mail it with a \$125.00\* check made payable to Intermediate Unit 1, to the address above.

Please note that if your registration fee is not received by July 6 you will be required to submit payment at the registration desk prior to registering and receiving your conference materials.

### On-line Registration:

We encourage all participants with Internet access to register for this PaTTAN-sponsored event by visiting our homepage at: [www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net)

By registering online, you can view all PaTTAN-sponsored continuing professional education courses/clock hour activities, receive confirmation via email once you have registered for the course/activity, and keep track of courses/clock hour activities with the online transcript feature.

### For more information:

**Program Content:** Michael Stoehr, 800-446-5607 ext. 6864 or [mstoehr@pattan.net](mailto:mstoehr@pattan.net)

**Registration:** Mary Gordon, 800-446-5607 ext. 6871 or [mgordon@pattan.net](mailto:mgordon@pattan.net)

## Youth/Young Adult/Family Scholarships

Youth/Young Adult/Family scholarships are available for Pennsylvania youth/families. Families can apply for the scholarship by completing the scholarship form and returning it to Marty Rist at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh, 3190 William Pitt Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 by June 23, 2009. The scholarship will include hotel 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 the first week of July.

For additional information about youth/young adult family scholarships, please contact Marty Rist at 800-446-5607 ext. 6830 or [mrist@pattan.net](mailto:mrist@pattan.net).

**2009 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference - Success by Design**  
**July 22, 23, and 24, 2009**  
**Registration Form**

We encourage all participants to register online for this PaTTAN-sponsored event by visiting our homepage at [www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \*E-mail (\*necessary for confirmation): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate your primary role:**

- |  |   |   |                                  |
|--|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech Therapist       | <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Direct Service Staff  | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Educator        | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapist     | <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Administrator         | <input type="checkbox"/> Student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Educator        | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapist | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Coordinator          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Counselor      | <input type="checkbox"/> Paraeducator           | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate                     |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psychologist            | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education       | <input type="checkbox"/> Career & Technical Education |                                  |

**Please check to apply for the following credits**

To receive Act 48 and Psych credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the event.



☐ **Act 48**

Individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the event 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. Fifteen (15) Act 48 hours will be offered for the conference.



☐ **Psychology**

The Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Psychology to offer continuing education for psychologists. PaTTAN maintains responsibility for the program(s). 15.75 Psych CE hours will be offered for the conference.



☐ **Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC)**

Continuing Education credits up to (16.5) for professionals with CRCC credentials will be offered for attendance at this conference, which includes 1 ethics credit.

**ADA Accommodations**

If you require accommodations as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact: Mary Gordon, PaTTAN Pittsburgh, Phone: 800-446-5607 (Voice), or 412-826-2338 (TTY), [mgordon@pattan.net](mailto:mgordon@pattan.net). Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate you if your request is received prior to the registration deadline (July 6, 2009).

**Alternate Format Request**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Sign Language Interpreter | <input type="checkbox"/> Large Print Agenda |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tactile Interpreter                | <input type="checkbox"/> Braille Agenda     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real Time Captioning               |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other              |

**ACT 48 Information**

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

**Social Security Number/  
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.



**2009 Pennsylvania Community on Transition Conference**  
**Success by Design**  
**July 22, 23, and 24, 2009**  
**Registration Form**

Please check the sessions you would like to attend. You can only choose one option per Breakout Session.  
To receive Act 48 and Psych credit, individuals attending this event must arrive on time and stay the duration of the event.

## **Wednesday, July 22, 2009**

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### **Opening Keynote (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 101. Achieving Successful Post School Outcomes Through Meaningful Youth Engagement and Empowerment

### **Breakout Session 1 (11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) Select One Session Only**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 201. Taking the First Step: Welcome to the Conference {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)  
\_\_\_\_\_ 202. Overview & Orientation to Secondary Transition  
\_\_\_\_\_ 203. NETRAC...Real Life...Real Work...Real Pride...Priceless!  
\_\_\_\_\_ 204. Considering Computer Access when Preparing for Transitions  
\_\_\_\_\_ 205. Linking Employment and Transportation Through Travel Training  
\_\_\_\_\_ 206. They're Hiring: Applying Job Readiness Skills that Work!  
\_\_\_\_\_ 207. Peer Mentoring: Acquiring Self-Advocacy Skills on a University Campus  
\_\_\_\_\_ 208. Direct Your Future Now: Self-Advocates Teach Self-Advocacy  
\_\_\_\_\_ 209. Effective Partnerships: Sharing Best Practices in Transition Programming  
\_\_\_\_\_ 210. Directing Your Supports in the MR System: Financial Management Services  
\_\_\_\_\_ 211. Students with Disabilities: High School to College  
\_\_\_\_\_ 212. Involving is Solving: Achieving Maximum Outcomes through High-Fidelity Wraparound  
\_\_\_\_\_ 213. It's Time to Let Your Voice be Heard!  
\_\_\_\_\_ 214. CHIRP: A National Model to Promote Collaboration

### **Breakout Session 2 (1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.) Select One Session Only**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 301. Step It Up and Be Yourself! Conference {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)  
\_\_\_\_\_ 302. Transition: A Unified Process  
\_\_\_\_\_ 303. Overview of Pennsylvania's Postschool Outcome Survey (PaPOS)  
\_\_\_\_\_ 304. Ethics: It's Everyone's Business  
\_\_\_\_\_ 305. Electronic Resumes: Changing the Face of Competition  
\_\_\_\_\_ 306. AmeriCorps National Service with Disability: Consider the Possibilities!  
\_\_\_\_\_ 307. Customized Competitive Job Development: Tools & Resources  
\_\_\_\_\_ 308. Mentoring: Using Your Torch to Light Another  
\_\_\_\_\_ 309. The Power of Families: PA Families Inc.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 310. A Partnership Between Education and Transportation in the Transition Process  
\_\_\_\_\_ 311. Behaviors in Transition: Real Life Consequences  
\_\_\_\_\_ 312. Online Note-taker Training  
\_\_\_\_\_ 313. Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities  
\_\_\_\_\_ 314. Project PAS (Promoting Academic Success): Expanded Across the Commonwealth  
\_\_\_\_\_ 315. Trauma Informed Care -- Relevance to Youth, Providers & Families

### **Feature Presentation 1 (3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.) Select One Session Only**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 401. Walking the Tightrope: Living a Balanced Life {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for All Stakeholders)  
\_\_\_\_\_ 402. Understanding the Business Climate: What Do Employers Need?  
\_\_\_\_\_ 403. A Focus Group to Build Collaboration to Benefit Youth Served by Career & Technical Education  
\_\_\_\_\_ 404. Ensuring Coordinated, Measurable IEP Goals and Transition Services: An Overview of The Indicator 13 Process  
\_\_\_\_\_ 405. National Community of Practice: New & Exciting Partnerships!  
\_\_\_\_\_ 406. Achieving College Transitions Now (ACT Now): Implementation Strategies for Secondary Youth  
\_\_\_\_\_ 407. Project SEARCH 2009: Where We Are Now  
\_\_\_\_\_ 408. Maneuvering the Maze: Understanding and Utilizing Benefits and Services for Successful Post Secondary Outcomes

## Thursday, July 23, 2009

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### Keynote Presentation 2 (8:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.) Select One Session Only

- \_\_\_\_\_ 502. Promoting Equal Access for AL Youth through Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning (9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 501. Walk This Way: Advocacy and Assessment {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)

### Breakout Session 3 (10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.) Select One Session Only

- \_\_\_\_\_ 601. You'll Never Walk Alone {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 602. The Road of Secondary Transition: How it Drives the Assessment Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ 603. Career Education and Work Standards: Tools for Transition
- \_\_\_\_\_ 604. Lifesharing: A Lifestyle Option
- \_\_\_\_\_ 605. Beyond Assistive Technology: Essentials for the College Student
- \_\_\_\_\_ 606. Developing an Effective Individual Support Plan (ISP)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 607. Multi-Sensory Science Activities for the Blind
- \_\_\_\_\_ 608. PA State Civil Service Employment: Working the System
- \_\_\_\_\_ 609. Chutzpah & Panache: The "ME" in Empowerment
- \_\_\_\_\_ 610. Assistive Technology Accommodations in the Workplace
- \_\_\_\_\_ 611. Forecasting Your Future: Strategic Planning for Employment Outcomes
- \_\_\_\_\_ 612. Secondary Transition: Administrators' Perspective
- \_\_\_\_\_ 613. Assessment Resources: Unlocking the Paths to Career Success

### Breakout Session 4 (12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- \_\_\_\_\_ 701. Journeying Through the HealthCare Maze {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for All Stakeholders)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 702. Accommodations & Supports: Focus on Family Knowledge
- \_\_\_\_\_ 703. Student-Parent Dinner Seminars: Something to Chew On
- \_\_\_\_\_ 704. Work Incentives for Youth who receive Social Security Administration (SSA) Benefits
- \_\_\_\_\_ 705. Early College Experience (ECE) Mentoring Program
- \_\_\_\_\_ 706. Overcoming Obstacles for Court-Involved Youth
- \_\_\_\_\_ 707. Getting & Keeping Assistive Technology After High School
- \_\_\_\_\_ 708. Partners in Progress: Youth Leadership for Systems Change
- \_\_\_\_\_ 709. Indicator 13, a Rubric, and Students with Deafblindness
- \_\_\_\_\_ 710. Building Community Partnerships to Promote Positive Work Experiences
- \_\_\_\_\_ 711. Intermediate Unit 13 College Fair: Empowering Youth and Families
- \_\_\_\_\_ 712. Preparing to be the Best Job Candidate
- \_\_\_\_\_ 713. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation: Focus on Transition Youth and Young Adults

### Keynote Presentation 3 (2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.) Select One Session Only

- \_\_\_\_\_ 801. Tools for the Journey Conference {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 802. Effective Practices in Transition & Career Assessment: A National, State, and Local Perspective

## Friday, July 24, 2009

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### Breakout Session 5 (8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.) Select One Session Only

- \_\_\_\_\_ 901. A Leap of Faith {PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored} (Designed for Youth Only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 902. My Story: Survival Guide for College-Bound LD Students
- \_\_\_\_\_ 903. Hiram G. Andrews Center: A Community Committed to Student Success
- \_\_\_\_\_ 904. Self Determination: Using 411, PYLN Toolkit, and Role Play
- \_\_\_\_\_ 905. Independent Living Services in the Child Welfare System
- \_\_\_\_\_ 906. Customized Programs to Advance Wellness and Future Success
- \_\_\_\_\_ 907. Forging Meaningful Transition Partnerships: ACT Now
- \_\_\_\_\_ 908. Venango County Transitions Program
- \_\_\_\_\_ 909. Strong Transition Councils: The Things We Can Accomplish!!
- \_\_\_\_\_ 910. Maintaining Functional Augmentative & Alternative Communication with Transitions
- \_\_\_\_\_ 911. Learning to Live the Independent Life
- \_\_\_\_\_ 912. Transitioning Outside the Box: Creatively Utilizing Your Community
- \_\_\_\_\_ 913. Empowering Young Adults with Asperger's Syndrome/PDDNOS

**Breakout Session 6 (10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.) Select One Session Only**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1001 Let's Stay Connected! Youth and Young Adult Wrap-up (PA Youth Leadership Network Sponsored)  
(Designed for Youth Only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1002 What Families Need to Know About Secondary Transition: A Round Table Discussion
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1003 Career Classes: Helping Students Reaching Their Full Potential
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1004 Being Your Own Best Self Advocate
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1005 Community Disability Awareness
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1006 Hop Scotching Your Way through the Transition Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1007 If I Can Do It, So Can You!
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1008 Leisure Coaching & Collaboration: Synergistic Strategies for Inclusion
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1009 Higher Education: How We Did It!
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1010 Uncharted Water: Lessons Learned from the Development of the OMHSAS Transition Age Youth Subcommittee
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1011 The Slippery Slope of Substance Use with At-Risk Youth

**Closing Keynote Presentation (11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) Select One Session**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1101. Today's Youth are Tomorrow's Leaders

**Registration Deadline:**

**July 6, 2009**

**Registration Fee:**

\$125 – Checks, Cash and Purchase Orders Only – No credit cards

**Checks should be made payable to:**

Intermediate Unit 1

**Mail registration form and fee to:**

Mary Gordon at PaTTAN-Pittsburgh  
3190 William Pitt Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Bureau of Special Education  
Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*