

THE TRAIN IS LEAVING THE STATION

What track are you on?

FOCUS ON TRANSITION CONFERENCE 2010

Conference Overview

As students with disabilities approach graduation, parents begin worrying about the future: what will my young adult do every day? The services are different, even the terminology changes! If the train left today...what track would you be on?

This conference strives to help families understand the transition process. Professionals will address the various issues and options. Representatives from agencies in the community will be present as vendors. Vendors will provide information about adult services such as supported employment, post secondary schools and more. By networking with transition professionals, community representatives, and other family members, parents will feel empowered to help their young adult reach his or her maximum potential.



About IATC

THE ATLANTA AND FULTON INTERAGENCY TRANSITION COUNCIL is a collaborative effort of Atlanta Public Schools, Fulton County Schools, and agencies that assist in the transition of persons with disabilities from high school to adulthood and independence.



About Focus

FOCUS is a nonprofit organization that offers emotional, informational, and physical support to families with children with disabilities or ongoing medical needs through a variety of programs. FOCUS helps parents deal with the daily challenges through monthly share groups, family activities, respite care, summer day camps, information workshops, and family support.

AGENDA

Date: February 20, 2010

Where: Mercer University Atlanta Administration & Conference Center

Vendor Time 8:30-1:00 pm

Registration 8:30-9:00 am

Keynote Address: Nancy & Carmine Vara 9:00-9:30 am

"Buy Your Ticket Now! What's Your Destination?"

Workshops 9:45-12:35 pm

The Caboose Wrap Up 12:45-1:00 pm

Session 1 Workshops 9:45 -10:35 am	Session 2 Workshops 10:45 -11:35 am	Session 3 Workshops 11:45 -12:35 pm
A. "Model Trains" B. "The Railroad Tie" C. "Full Steam Ahead" D. "Next Stop...College Station" E. "The Box Car"	A. "Railroad Crossing" B. "The Bullet Train" C. "Orient Express" D. "Next Stop...College Station!" E. "Bridges & Trestles"	A. "The Conductor" B. "Orient Express" C. "The Bullet Train" D. "Grand Central Station" E. "The Cannonball Express"
(SELECT ONE)	(SELECT ONE)	(SELECT ONE)

Conference Registration

Registration Fees

Family \$10 _____ Vendor \$25 _____

Exhibitors will have a table and all conference privileges

Please note any special needs, such as access to electricity.

Name of Attendee: _____ Name of Child _____ Disability _____ Age of Child _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Phone: (H) () _____ (O) () _____ School Child Attends: _____

Please register by February 10, 2010. Late registrations accepted, on a space-available basis. To register as a guest or a vendor, please send the completed form with a check payable to Interagency Transition Council/CHS (IATC) and mail to IATC, c/o FOCUS ~ 3825 Presidential Parkway, Suite 103 ~ Atlanta, GA 30340. Call 770-234-9111 with questions. Limited scholarships are available. Please call if interested.

<p>“Model Trains” (College Programs for Students with Developmental Disabilities) Jill Sloan, M.Ed. Program Coordinator KSU Academy for Inclusive Adult Education</p> <p>Can colleges model a program for students with developmental disabilities? This session will detail the Academy for Inclusive Adult Education at Kennesaw State.</p>	<p>“Grand Central Station” (Georgia Career Information System-GCIS) http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu Markita Grant Manager, GCIC Marketing and Training</p> <p>What job best fits my interest? What post secondary school will help me reach my goals? This session will introduce the Georgia Career Information System (GCIS), a great resource for post secondary planning.</p>
<p>“The Railroad Tie” (Medicaid 101) Karen Addams Parent to Parent of Georgia http://www.parenttoparentofga.org/</p> <p>The railroad tie is basic to the train track, much as Medicaid is to services. Do you understand what the Katie Beckett deeming waiver is? Are you confused about the difference between the deeming waiver and the NOW waiver? Have you heard of the waiting lists but you are not sure what you are waiting for? Join Parent to Parent of Georgia and learn the answers to these questions and more.</p>	<p>“Orient Express” (Social Security Work Incentives) Sally Atwell and Curtis Rodgers, Benefits Navigator http://www.bpaoga.com/</p> <p>The Orient Express offered intrigue and luxury...much like working and receiving social security benefits!! This can be confusing to students and their families!! The project directors of Benefits Navigator will provide you with information to assist you in making informed decisions when you work and have social security benefits at the same time.</p>
<p>“Full Steam Ahead” (Obtaining SSI) Linda Worthington, District Manager of Chamberlin Edwards Edmonds Scott Skeens, District Manager of Chamberlin Edwards Edmonds http://www.chamberlinedmonds.com</p> <p>Obtaining Supplemental Security Income (SSI) requires a steam engine and perseverance!! So how does my student obtain SSI? When do I apply? What information is needed? Completion of the initial application is only the first step. This session will cover applying for SSI as well as how important the post-application process and continual follow up is in order to assure approval.</p>	<p>“Bridges & Trestles” (High School / High Tech Initiative) Janie Worton, State Coordinator Georgia High School/High Tech http://www.vocrehabga.org/hsht/ Susan Byers, Vocational Rehabilitation</p> <p>Students need to be supported and connected to the career pathways that build bridges between high school and postsecondary options. Georgia’s High School/High Tech & Vocational Rehabilitation initiatives connect students with valuable transition resources.</p>
<p>“Next Stop....College Station!” (College Panel) Tameeka Hunter, Disability & Support Office, Clayton State College Elissa Jaden , Recruiter, Career Counselor, Atlanta Technical College Mallory Safely, Disability Services, Lanier Technical College Ken Orr, Admissions Counselor, Lanier Technical College</p> <p>The transition from high school to college can be a difficult one. Thankfully, there are supports in place to assist students with disabilities. This workshop will address the admission process and how college disability services coordinators work to help students succeed.</p>	<p>“The Bullet Train” (NOW/COMP Waivers) Heidi Moore http://www.heidijmoore.com/</p> <p>Waivers do not happen at the speed of a bullet train, but you must understand the ins and outs of the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver (COMP). Heidi Moore will discuss the ever changing NOW/COMP waiver. Heidi will discuss how to apply for the waiver, what services are provided by the waiver and how to navigate through the system once you have received the waiver.</p>
<p>“The Conductor” (Interrelated High School Transition) Meredith Makar, Centennial HS Counselor Diane Pittman, Centennial HS –Instructional Support Teacher (IST) Patsy Moss, Langston Hughes- Career Technology Intervention (CTI) Chris Bray, Roswell HS, Transition Services</p> <p>The conductor keeps the train rolling smoothly. To make a smooth transition, you must understand the system. What are the requirements for graduation? What high school courses do colleges value? Are there career technology options that a student can pursue? This session will cover the issues that students interested in post secondary school face during their high school years.</p>	<p>“The Cannonball Express” (Wills and Trusts) Pamela J. Hoppe, Financial Planner/MetDESK Specialist www.specialneedsatlanta.com</p> <p>The Cannonball Express ran fast along dangerous stretches of track with many curves. While nobody wants to think about death or disability, establishing an estate plan is one of the most important steps you can take to protect yourself and your loved ones. Proper estate planning not only puts you in charge of your finances, it can also spare your loved ones of the expense, delay and frustration associated with managing your affairs when you pass away or become disabled.</p>
<p>“The Box Car” (Autism 101) Terah Hohman, Georgia Network for Educational & Therapeutic Support (GNETS)</p> <p>My student doesn’t fit into any box. How does autism impact transition planning? This session will address the unique needs of those with Autism Spectrum Disorders and strategies to maximize success.</p>	<p>“Railroad Crossing” (Guardianship) Mark E. Biernath, Attorney-Estate Planning, Special Needs Planning http://www.biernathlaw.com/</p> <p>You must make a full stop at a railroad crossing...and make some basic decisions! Should a parent obtain Guardianship of a young adult with special needs? This session will explain the pros, cons,</p>

Conference Location and Directions

**Mercer University Atlanta Administration & Conference Center
2930 Flowers Rd. Atlanta, GA. (678) 547-6000**

<p>From I-85 coming south (Gainesville/Lawrenceville) Once you cross under I-285 , take next Exit (#94) on I-85 for Chamblee Tucker Road , at top of ramp turn Left and stay in far right lane, follow signs to Flowers Road which will bear to the Right. The first left, at 2930Flowers Rd., is the Administration and Conference Center entrance. Turn left and continue up the hill to the Parking Lot.</p>	<p>From I-85 going north (from Airport or I-20) Take Exit #94 on I-85 for Chamblee Tucker Road , at top of ramp turn right and stay in far right lane, follow signs to Flowers Road which will bear to the Right. The first left, at 2930 Flowers Rd., is the Administration and Conference Center entrance. Turn left and continue up the hill to the Parking Lot.</p>
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