Indiana Cadre of Transition Leaders

Capacity-Building Institute

April 22, 2015

Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel
At Keystone Crossing
8787 Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis, IN 46240

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CENTER ON COMMUNITY LIVING AND CAREERS
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Indiana Institute on Disability and Community
Welcome to the Cadre of Transition Leaders Capacity-Building Institute!

Building statewide capacity to implement evidence-based practices and resources promotes positive post-school outcomes. It’s essential to the success of students with disabilities leaving high school as they begin college, careers, and community life.

The state of Indiana and those who educate Indiana’s children have an opportunity to go beyond compliance. Simple compliance will not guarantee quality transition education and services that ultimately lead to positive post-school outcomes. The ultimate goal for each Cadre of Transition Leaders is to build capacity to improve transition planning, services, and outcomes within their own district as well as serve as resources across their region.

We hope that today will provide you a place and time to reflect, recharge, discuss, meet new people, connect with old friends, and return home feeling more prepared to implement quality transition education and services.

On behalf of the Indiana Secondary Transition Resource Centers team, we thank you for being here and for your commitment to improving transition outcomes for students.

Teresa Grossi, Mary Held, Susan Henning-Harris, Joni Schmalzried and Faith Thomas
Staff of the Indiana Secondary Transition Resource Center
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00-8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Clearwater A &amp; B</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Cadre Report</td>
<td>Clearwater A &amp; B</td>
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<td>Teresa Grossi, Center on Community Living &amp; Careers</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-10:20 a.m.</td>
<td>Transition for Students with Mental Health, Emotional, and Behavioral</td>
<td>Clearwater A &amp; B</td>
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<td>Challenges: Providing Unique and Creative Supports for a Vulnerable, Diverse, and Awesome Population</td>
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<td>George Tilson, Tilson &amp; Diaz Solutions, Inc.</td>
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<td>A “one size fits all” intervention, curriculum, or approach is not effective for our students with serious emotional disturbances, behavior disorders, mental illnesses, or psychiatric disabilities. In this keynote, George Tilson will give us food for thought on the importance of stepping back – and taking the time to find out what these youth can teach us about how to best support them.</td>
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<td>10:20-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Clearwater A &amp; B</td>
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<td>10:30-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Mental Health and Transition</td>
<td>Clearwater A &amp; B</td>
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<td>David Berman, Mental Health America of Indiana</td>
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<td>In this presentation David Berman and his colleagues, will share with us critical information regarding depression/suicide, traumatization, and mood disorders in adolescents and adults. How these mental health issues impact transition will be discussed. Resources to support students with mental health needs will be shared.</td>
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<td>11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Working Lunch &amp; Team Time</td>
<td>Clearwater A &amp; B</td>
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Implementing Self-determination with Student Involved/Led Case Conferences
Ryan Thompson, Adams Wells Special Services
Kristie Schlemmer, North Adams Community Schools

Involving students in transition planning may sound daunting at times. Local practitioners will tell us how they got started, integrated teaching self-determination into everyday activities, and how they are engaging students in meaningful transition planning.

Discovery Assessment
George Tilson, Tilson & Diaz Solutions, Inc.

Discovery of what each student has and wants to offer the world in terms of talent, temperament, and aspiration is central to transition planning. Advocates for students need a full picture of each student’s strengths as well as his/her needs for creative and effective support strategies. This session will introduce a new tool to help you identify meaningful—and personalized—postsecondary goals and services for the Transition IEP!

Middle School: Choosing Intentional, Meaningful Transition Services & Activities
Angie Brown, Elkhart County Special Education Coop
Victoria Toney, Elkhart Community Schools

We often struggle to write individualized and meaningful transition services and activities at the middle school level. This session will focus on making the connection between transition assessments, postsecondary goals, and transition services and activities.

Understanding Disability Benefits and How They Impact Students and Families
Brianne Lott, Center on Community Living and Careers

In this presentation Brianne Lott will answer common benefits questions: How much money can my student earn? Can my student work and still receive supports? What’s the difference between SSDI and SSI?

Updates from Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services, BDDS, & DOE
Kylene Hope, Director, Indiana Bureau of Rehabilitation Services
Julie Reynolds, Director of Special Projects, Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
Pam Wright, Director, Office of Special Education, Indiana Department of Education

Applications, eligibility, diplomas, oh my! Updates and information from our state agencies on transition services and supports that may be available to students through Medicaid waivers and Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services.
George P. Tilson, Ed.D.
Tilson & Diaz Solutions, Inc.
Career and Workforce Development Redefined
georgetilsonjr@gmail.com

Since 1976, Dr. George Tilson has dedicated his career to the mission of helping communities build or enhance programs that support youth and adults with disabilities and other challenges in achieving their life goals for employment, education, and full community membership.

He joined TransCen, Inc. in 1989, where he assisted the Marriott Foundation in creating its signature program Bridges from school to work--subsequently directing that program in seven cities across the country. To date, Bridges has assisted more than 15,000 inner-city youth with disabilities find jobs and paid work experiences.

Dr. Tilson has co-developed and directed 14 innovative demonstration and research projects and written extensively on topics ranging from career counseling, job development, creative teaching, and accommodation. He is co-author of the popular book Working Relationships: Creating Career Opportunities for People with Disabilities Through Employer Partnerships. Nationally and internationally, he has conducted training to corporations, human service organizations, school systems, self advocate and parent groups, and government agencies. His diverse corporate clients have included Marriott International, Hewlett Packard, Kroger Foods, and The World Bank.

Dr. Tilson has appeared on PBS and CNN to address commonsense approaches to workplace accommodation, and served as a technical assistance advisor to the Social Security Administration on its Youth Transition Demonstration research study. At The George Washington University and the University of Maryland he serves as adjunct professor and visiting lecturer.

In the early years of his career, Dr. Tilson was an English and Special Education teacher, at elementary, middle and high school levels. He received his advanced degrees from The George Washington University where his fields of study included secondary education transition, career counseling, and program evaluation. His undergraduate degree in education is from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.

In May of 2013, Dr. Tilson launched an independent consultation business, with a focus on Career and Workforce Development. Working with a variety of stakeholders, he specializes in professional development and training, policy analysis, strategic planning, and program evaluation. In addition, he continues to assist individuals and their families with career planning and job seeking.

On the avocation side, he is an avid hiker and playwright/composer. His plays have been presented in New York, Baltimore, and Washington, DC.
Angie Brown, Coordinator for Students with Emotional Disabilities and Coordinator for Mild Disabilities at Fairfield Community Schools, Elkhart County Special Education Cooperative
Angie Brown is a coordinator at Elkhart County Special Education Cooperative. She has worked with teachers on transition IEPs for the past 5 years, specifically at the middle school level for 3 years. She has worked with Dr. Grossi on quality Transition IEPs while working at a middle school in Indianapolis. She has attended meetings at the Northeast Indiana Cadre of Transition Leaders. Angie earned her undergraduate degree at Ball State University and Master of Education degree from Indiana University-South Bend. She has also completed her post-masters coursework for licensure for Director of Exceptional Needs from Indiana University, Bloomington.

Brianne Lott, MRC, Project Coordinator, Center on Community Living and Careers, Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, Indiana University
Brianne has over sixteen years’ experience working with individuals with various types of disabilities. She is a certified Community Work Incentives Coordinator and is a member of the Work Incentive Advisory Group (WIAG) in Social Security Region V. Ms. Lott coordinates the Benefits Information Network, a state-wide initiative in Indiana that trains Employment Consultants and other professionals in SSDI/SSI work incentives, Medicaid, Medicare, Ticket to Work, and Financial Literacy & Asset Development. Other projects she’s currently involved with include Employment Services and Innovations with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, and the Vocational Rehabilitation Leadership Academy.

Kristie Schlemmer, Teacher, Bellmont High School, North Adams Community Schools
This is Kristie’s tenth year of teaching special education. Her first six years of teaching were in a middle school self-contained Emotional Disability classroom with the last four being in a high school mild interventions classroom. She has worked with a variety of special education teachers and general education teachers to ensure the success of students both with and without disabilities. Her passion has become helping students understand how their disability impacts their learning, the accommodations and modifications they might need to be successful in school and out, and how to help prepare them to enter their post-secondary lives so they can be successful at all they do. She obtained her bachelor’s degree in special education from Indiana University, Bloomington and her master’s in special education from Ball State University.

Ryan Thompson, Assistant Director and Transition Coordinator, Adams Wells Special Services Cooperative
Ryan Thompson is an assistant director and transition coordinator at Adams Wells Special Services Cooperative. He began his career as a high school resource teacher at Adams Central High School before moving into his current administrative position in 2011. For the past three years, Ryan has been a facilitator for the Northeast Indiana Cadre of Transition Leaders and continues to be actively involved in this groups efforts to develop resources for teachers throughout Indiana. Ryan earned his undergraduate degree and Master of Education degree from The Ohio State University. He has also completed post-masters coursework for licensure in the areas of Exceptional Learners and Building Level Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University.

Victoria Toney, Supervisor/Special Education Secondary Mild Interventions, Elkhart Community Schools
Victoria Toney relocated 3 years ago from Indianapolis to join the special education district team at Elkhart Community Schools. Prior to her current position as supervisor, she worked in various special education positions for 15 years. She earned her undergraduate, graduate, and director's license from Indiana University. She has been involved in the Central and Northeast Transition Cadre for four years.
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