The Family Reference Guide

A Guide to Transition Services



Post-Secondary Education/Training

Employment Opportunities

Community Living

To Access the CLIU Transition Resource Information on the web, follow the directions below.

Go to: www.cliu.org

Click: Special Programs and Services

Scroll down: left hand side to

Family Resources,

Topic: Family Support Services

or

Transition

LEHIGH/CARBON TRANSITION COORDINATING COUNCIL

What is the Carbon Lehigh Transition Coordinating Council (CLTCC)?

The mission of CLTCC is to promote effective transition for students with disabilities from school to adult life.

Who Serves on the Local TCC?

It is comprised of parents, representatives from agencies and employers, and educators from the Intermediate Unit, School Districts, Vocational and Special Education, and Higher Education.

What Are Some of the Services Provided by the Local TCC?

The local TCC disseminates transition information, provides training for students, parents, educators, and service providers on transition issues, and develops and maintains local transition interagency agreements.

Why Are Transition Services Provided?

Congress and the Pennsylvania legislature have recognized the needs of young people with disabilities by developing and passing a series of laws and regulations to mandate and facilitate transition services, such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and others.

Who is Eligible for Transition Services?

IDEA of 1990 and its reauthorizations, IDEA of 1997 and IDEA '04, mandates that the IEP's include a transition plan "beginning no later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns 14 and then updated annually."

Who Do I Contact to Become a Member of the Transition Council?

To become a member of the Carbon Lehigh Transition Coordinating Council contact:

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21

Donna Hibshman or Wendy Smith, Educational Consultants 4210 Independence Drive Schnecksville, PA 18078 800-223-4821, 610-769-1098 (Fax)



WHAT IS TRANSITION?

- Services mandated in 1990 by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and reauthorization 1997 and IDEA 2004.
- A coordinated set of activities that are designed to be within a results-oriented process that is focused on improving academic and functional achievement to facilitate movement from school to post-school activities.
- Includes post secondary education, vocational training, integrated employment, continuing and adult education, adult services, and independent living or community participation.
- Driven by the student's... Needs, Interests, Preferences, and Strengths.
- A "bridge" between school-age programs and adult life.
- Involves parents and students working together with teachers, schools, and the community to maximize adult life potential.

The Transition Coordinating Council (TCC) is a collaborative effort that involves educators, families, agencies and community representatives so all students can make a successful transition from school to adult life.

Participate in Transition Council meetings. A schedule of meetings is available from the:

Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 4210 Independence Drive Schnecksville, PA 18078 (610) 769-4111

THE ROLE OF THE FAMILY

- Share information and goals, complete parent and student survey.
- Decrease student's dependence on the family by increasing participation in the community.
- Attend and participate in Individualized Education Planning (IEP) meetings for transition. Areas being addressed include: community living, recreation and leisure, employment and education/training, and daily living skills.
- Become familiar with agencies that provide recreational, financial, social, employment, and residential opportunities for their young adult.
- Due to potential waiting lists, referrals to agencies need to be made in a timely manner.



INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN

- The Transition Plan is integrated into the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and developed by team members at the IEP meeting.
- Components of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) related to transition:
 - Post-school goals
 - Career Assessment(s)
 - Instructional Areas to support outcome(s)
 - Person(s) responsible for coordination
 - Interagency responsibilities and linkages
- Required members of the team include:
 - the student
 - parents and/or guardian
 - special education teacher
 - regular education and/or vocational teacher
 - Local Education Agency representative (LEA)
- Optional team members include:
 - the District Transition Coordinator
 - Transition Specialist
 - Job Coach
 - Guidance Counselor
 - Psychologist
 - Community Agency representatives

DEVELOPING A TRANSITION PLAN

Transition Planning considers:

- Student interest, abilities and aptitudes.
- Instructional, ecological and/or vocational profile.
- Post-school goals in post-secondary education or training, employment, adult services, community living, and community participation.
- Specific activities supporting the development of post-school goals.
- Person(s) responsible for implementation of each specific goal.
- Support services, such as transportation, vocational counseling, case management, and medical services.
- An agency or person responsible for continuation of transition planning and exchange of information following graduation. This person or agency must be identified in the plan during the final school year.

The Transition Plan should:

- Represent the decisions of the student and parents, educators, and other service providers.
- Include information provided by the student concerning his/her career plans.
- Incorporate data from the student's formal career assessment and/ or informal assessments.
- Encourage the participation of representatives from education, and community service agencies.
- Address the needs of the student seeking post-school employment or post-secondary education.
- Provide information to families so that the student/parent has the appropriate information necessary to link the student to the adult service providers.
- Be reviewed and modified at least annually as part of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP).



TRANSITION CHECKLIST

The following is a checklist of transition activities that you and your son or daughter may wish to consider when preparing transition plans with the IEP team. Your student's skills and interests will determine which items on the checklist are relevant. Use this checklist to ask yourself whether or not these transition issues should be addressed at IEP transition meetings. The checklist can also help identify who should be part of the IEP transition team. Responsibility for carrying out the specific transition activities should be determined at the IEP transition meetings.

Four to Five Years Before Leaving the School District

Identify personal learning styles and the necessary accommodations to be a successful learner and worker.
Identify career interests and skills, complete interest and career inventories, and identify additional education or training requirements.
Explore options for post-secondary education and admission criteria.
Identify interests and options for future living arrangements, including supports.
Learn to communicate effectively your interests, preferences, and needs.
Be able to explain your disability and the accommodations you need.
Learn and practice informed decision making skills.
Investigate assistive technology tools that can increase community involvement and employment opportunities.
Broaden your experiences with community activities and expand your friendships.
Pursue and access local transportation options outside of family.
Investigate money management and identify necessary skills.
Acquire government-issued identification card and the ability to communicate personal information.
Identify and begin learning skills necessary for independent living.
Learn and practice personal health care.

Two to Three Years Before Leaving the School District

Identify community support services and programs (Vocational Rehabilitation, County Services, Centers for Independent Living, etc.).
Invite adult service providers, peers, and others to the IEP transition meeting.
Match career interests and skills with vocational course work and community work experiences.
Gather more information on post secondary programs and the support services offered; and make arrangements for accommodations to take college entrance exams.
Identify health care providers and become informed about sexuality and family planning issues.
Determine the need for financial support (Supplemental Security Income, state financial supplement programs, Medicare).
Learn and practice appropriate interpersonal, communication, and social skills for different settings (employment, school, recreation, with peers, etc.).
Explore legal status with regards to decision making prior to age of majority.
Begin a resume and update it as needed.
Practice independent living skills, e.g., budgeting, shopping, cooking, and housekeeping.
Identify needed personal assistant services, and if appropriate, learn to direct and manage these services.

One Year Before Leaving the School District

Ш	Apply for supportive service programs. (Supplemental Security Income, Independent Living Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Personal Assistant Services).
	Identify the post-secondary school you plan to attend and arrange for accommodations.
	Practice effective communication by developing interview skills, asking for help, and identifying necessary accommodations at post secondary and work environments.
	Specify desired job and obtain paid employment with supports as needed.
	Take responsibility for arriving on time to work, appointments, and social activities.
	Assume responsibility for health care needs (making appointments, filling and taking prescriptions, etc.).
	Register to vote and for selective service (if a male).
	Determine the need for financial support (Supplemental Security Income, state financial supplement programs, Medicare).



PARENT/STUDENT CHECKLIST GETTING READY TO GRADUATE OR LEAVE SCHOOL

To prep need:	pare for the transition from school to adult life, the young adult will
	A social security number for work and registration with most agencies. Contact your local social security office for an application.
	Draft Registration is required for males when they reach their eighteenth birthday. Contact your local post office.
	The Office of Social Security Insurance Benefits application is available to children and adults with serious disabilities. Call (800) 772-1213 for the SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE (www.ssa.gov) in your area and information on applying. It is important to understand these benefits as they relate to work, and eligibility prior to work, while working, and in the event of loss of job.
	The OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (OVR) (www. dli.state.pa.us/) should be actively involved if your son/daughter expects to pursue employment. If you have not been referred to OVR, please request an application from your teacher or guidance counselor, or call OVR at (610) 821-6441 (Allentown); (800) 922-9536 (Carbon); (800) 442-0949/(610) 916-2316 (Schuylkill/Berks). If individuals with disabilities are currently unemployed and worked with OVR in the past, they may reapply to OVR.
	Registration with the OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH/ MENTAL RETARDATION (MH/MR) (ODP) (www.pacounties.org/MH/MR/site/default.asp) is essential prior to accessing services designed for individuals with mental retardation or a mental health diagnosis. Contact the county information and referral unit, (610) 782-3200 (Lehigh County); (610) 377-0773 (Carbon County); (570) 628-1520 (Schuylkill) to begin the enrollment process. *It is important to fill out a PUNS (Prioritization of Urgency of

The most important area to consider when your child is leaving school is finding the right agencies. We are encouraging you to become an informed consumer by contacting the agencies and asking about the specifics of their programs and services. The following questions will help you to research critical information:

- What populations does the educational facility/agency serve?
- What services are provided?
- How are the services accessed?
- What are the eligibility or admission requirements?

Needs for Services) form once your child is enrolled.

- Are there specialized programs or services?
- What are the family costs for the services?

A DIRECTORY OF SERVICES



EMPLOYMENT/WORK OPPORTUNITIES

AGENCY	PHONE NUMBER
Bucks Association for Retarded Citizens (BARC), Quakertown	(215) 536-4048
2nd Floor, Rt 202, Holicong, PA 18928	
Carbon County Career Link, Jim Thorpe (OVR)	(570) 325-2701
Carbon County Workforce Training, Jim Thorpe	(570) 325-2915
Good Shepherd Work Services, Allentown	(610) 776-8350
Human Resources Center, Inc., Jim Thorpe	(570) 325-9960
Impact Systems, Inc	(610) 435-1561
Lehigh County Career Link, Allentown	(610) 437-5627
NHS Human Services of Lehigh Valley Center, Bethlehem	(610) 866-8331
Private Industry Council, Supported Employment Program, Lehigh Valley	(610) 841-1040
VIA of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem	(610) 317-8000

DAY PROGRAMS

AGENCY	PHONE NUMBER
Access Service, Bethlehem	(610) 866-6667, Ext. 239
Bucks Association for Retarded Citizens (BARC), Quakertown	(215) 536-4048
Community Services Group, Bethlehem	(610) 866-7600
CTC Manufacturing, Inc., Beaver Meadows	(570) 454-3754
Good Shepherd Work Services, Allentown	(610) 776-8350
Keystone Community Resources, Lackawanna County	(570) 702-8028
Lehigh University: Community Choices, Bethlehem	(610) 758-3229 or
	(610) 758-3260
Lifepath, Bethlehem	(610) 264-5724
NHS Human Services of Lehigh Valley Center, Bethlehem	(610) 866-8331
SPARC Program, Bethlehem	(610) 849-8076
Tamaqua Area Adult Day Care, Tamaqua	(570) 668-6556
The ReDCo Group, Lehighton	(610) 377-6730, Ext. 10
Via of the Lehigh Valley, Lehigh Valley	(610) 317-8000

CARBON COUNTY JOB COACHING PROVIDERS

AHEDD, Inc. (Schuylkill)

101 North Centre Street Pottsville, PA 17901-2949

Kathy Couch

Phone: (570) 622-9711

Good Shepherd Work Services

1901 Lehigh Street

Allentown, PA 18103-4790

Cheryl Garr - Director of Rehabilitation

Phone: (610) 776-8350 Fax: (610) 776-8381

Timothy Hayes - Administrator

Phone: (610) 776-8352

Human Resources Center, Inc.

103A Gypsum Road Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Ulises Medina

Phone: (570) 402-4961 Fax: (570) 402-4963

E-Mail: Ulises.Medina@hrcinc.org

Human Resources CTR Inc

Carbon CareerLink

69 Broadway

Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

Oscar Santizo - Employment Specialist

Phone: (570) 325-9960

Transitions Unlimited LLC

1101 West Hamilton Street, Suite 529

Allentown, PA 18101-1403

Damon McCaulley Phone: (484) 788-0270 Fax: (484) 788-0272

United Rehab Services Inc

48 West Broad Street Hazelton, PA 18201 Gerry Tomassacci -

Employment Training Specialist

Phone: (570) 459-0728 Fax: (570) 459-0728 E-Mail: urs@intergrafix.net

LEHIGH COUNTY JOB COACHING PROVIDERS

AHEDD

1150 Berkshire Boulevard - Suite 160

Wyomissing, PA 19610

Serving: Amy Mayer

Phone: (610) 375-7692

E-Mail: amy.mayer@ahedd.org
(Or – depending on caseload –

they share duties)

Kathy Couch

101 North Center Street, Suite 405

Pottsville, PA 17901

E-Mail: kathy.couch@ahedd.org

Website: www.ahedd.org

Spanish speaking coach - Mauricio

Community Options, Inc.

678 Louis Drive

Warminster, PA 18974

Serving:

Phone: (215) 956-0853

Fax: (215) 956-0857

Julie Sozio

E-Mail: Julie.Sozio@comop.org

Mark Haumesser

E-Mail: Mark.Haumesser@comop.org

Website: comop.org
No specialty services

LEHIGH COUNTY JOB COACHING PROVIDERS (CONTINUED)

Community Skills Program

Counseling & Rehabilitation, Inc. 1150 Berkshire Boulevard, Suite 245

Wyomissing, PA 19610

Serving:

Sally Kneipp, Director (610) 376-3380-Direct Line

Phone: (610) 376-3390 E-Mail: CSPNJPA@aol.com

Website: www.communityskillsprogram.com

No Spanish speaking

Specialties: Brain Injury, Autism

Good Shepherd Work Services

1901 Lehigh Street Allentown, PA 18103

Serving: Cheryl Garr

Phone: (610) 776-3365 E-Mail: <u>cgarr@gsrh.org</u>

Goodwill Industries of NE PA

925 Prospect Avenue Scranton, PA 18505

Serving: Kathy Reiter

Phone: (570) 343-1166

E-Mail: kathyreiteratgoodwill@yahoo.com

Human Resources Center (HRC)

103-A Gypsum Road Stroudsburg, PA 18360 Phone: (570) 402-4961 Glenn Brauchli

E-Mail: glenn.brauchli@hrcinc.org

Website: www.hrcinc.org

Spanish speaking coach in Carbon County

No new CIE brochure(s)

Living Unlimited Program

4601 Locust Lane, Suite 202 Harrisburg, PA 17109

Serving:

Teresa M. Stickle

Phone: (717) 526-2111, Ext. 224 or

1-800-310-7776

E-Mail: tstickle@living-unlimitedinc.com Website: www.living-unlimitedinc.com (or) Website: edsilivingunlimitedinc.com

No specialty services

Main Line Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.

668 Exton Commons Exton, PA 19341

Serving:

Meghan Cahalan Phone: (610) 280-0180

E-Mail: mcahalan@mainline-rehab.com
Website: www.mainline-rehab.com

No specialty services

Provides cognitive rehab therapy

Private Industry Council of Lehigh Valley

(Agency Name)

Private Industry Council (Program Name)

1601 Union Boulevard P.O. Box 20490 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

Serving:

Nancy Johnson

Phone: (610) 439-1123, Ext. 254 or (610)

841-1040

E-Mail: njohnson@piclv.org
Website: Currently has no website

No specialty services

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LEHIGH COUNTY JOB COACHING PROVIDERS (CONTINUED)

The Burnley Workshop

4219 Manor Drive

Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Serving: Monroe County and only Slate Belt area Northampton County

Carla Robinson

Phone: (570) 992-6616 E-Mail: jobs@burnley.org

Transitions Unlimited

1101 W. Hamilton Street Allentown, PA 18102

Serving: Todd Patnaude

Phone: (484) 788-0270 E-Mail: todd.transitions@gmail.com

Website: Currently has no website Spanish speaking coach - Noemi Via of the Lehigh Valley

336 West Spruce Street Bethlehem, PA 18018

Serving: Corey Smith

Phone: (610) 317-8000, Ext. 496 E-Mail: c.smith@vianet.org Website: www.vianet.org No speciality services

COMMUNITY LIVING RESIDENTIAL/LIVING

AGENCY Access Service, Bethlehem.	PHONE NUMBER . (610) 866-6667. Ext. 239
Anthracite Region Center for Independent Living, Hazelton	
Bucks Association for Retarded citizens ARC (BARC), Quakertown	. (215) 794-0800, Ext. 324 . (610) 377-9375
Extended Family Care, Allentown	. (610) 432-6766, 1-800-431-6522 . (610) 776-3148
Good Shepherd Supported Independent Living	. (610) 378-0481
Human Resources Center, Inc., Snydersville	. (610) 435-1561
Lehigh County Dept. of Human Services, Allentown	
Lehigh County Housing Authority and Valley Housing Development Corp Lehigh Support for Community Living, Bethlehem	

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COMMUNITY LIVING RESIDENTIAL/LIVING (CONTINUED)

AGENCY	PHONE NUMBER
Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Allentown	(610) 770-9781, 1-800-495-8245
	& info@lcil.org
Liberty Resources, Allentown	(610) 432-3880
Lifepath, Bethlehem	. (610) 264-5724, Ext. 260
Maximum Care, Whitehall	. (610) 264-2353
Mentor of Lehigh Valley, Wescosville	. (800) 825-7014, Ext. 207
Northwestern Human Services of the Lehigh Valley (formerly COPE)	. (610) 866-8332
Nurse Finders, Whitehall	. (610) 776-4111
Pediatric Services of America, Allentown - PSA Health Care	. (610) 439-5700
Rau Residential Care, Inc., Jim Thorpe	. (570) 325-2038
Spectrum Community Services Inc.	. (610) 372-0776
Step by Step, Bethlehem	. (610) 867-0688
The ARC of Lehigh & Northampton Counties Inc. (Advocacy Support)	. (610) 849-8076
The ReDCo Group, Lehighton	. (610) 377-6730, Ext. 10
Via of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem	. (610) 317-8000
Visiting Nurses of the Lehigh Valley & Hospice, Allentown	. (610) 871-2802

COMMUNITY LIVING RESOURCES

Access Services	
Association for Retarded Citizens of Carbon County, Lehighton (610) 377-6671	
Club House of the Lehigh Valley: Adult Support Services for Individuals	
in need of Mental Health Support(610) 433-9910	
Deutsch Institute, Luzerne County, Recreation Activities	
Keystone Community Resources, Inc., Lackawanna County (570) 702-8028	
Via of the Lehigh Valley(610) 317-8000	

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Mental Health/Mental Retardation Programs	www.pacounties.org/MH/MR/site/
Ç	default.asp
OVR: PA Dept of Labor and Industry	. www.dli.state.pa.us/
Pennsylvania Career Guide	. Google - PA Career Guide
Pennsylvania Career Link	. www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us
Pennsylvania Respite Programs	. Google - PA Respite Programs,
Click Chapel H	ill Training-Outreach Project Inc.
Parent Education Network	. www.parentednet.org
1-800-522-582	7 V/TTY or 1-800-441-5028 (Spanish)

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (CONTINUED)

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTES

PA State System of High Education (PASSHE), Services for Students with Disabilities www.passhe.edu/ 1-717-720-4000

- 1. Type: SharedWork.org
- 2. Click: National Community of Practice on Transition
- 3. Click I agree Continue to sign in
- 4. Complete Take a minute to register
- 5. Click Submit

When you have submitted the information, you can now access <u>SharedWork.org</u>. Each time you go to SharedWork, you need to follow the directions below to access any information on Transition for the State of Pennsylvania.

- 6. In the green area, type in your User name, email address, and password.
- 7. Click Login

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- 8. Click National Community of Practice on Transition
- 9. In the blue area, click Pennsylvania
- 10. In the green area, click Post-Secondary Education and Training
- 11. Scroll down to Repository
- 12. Click OVR Grant College Planning
- 13. Click List of Colleges and University Websites & Contacts

TRANSPORTATION

AGENCY	PHONE NUMBE
Carbon County Community Transit, Nesquehoning	(570) 669-6380 or
	1-800-990-4287
Easton Coach Company, Metro Plus Services	(610) 253-8333 or
	1-888-253-8333
Lanta Metro, Allentown	(610) 776-7433 or
	(610) 776-RIDE
Metro Plus, Allentown	(610) 432-3200





Mr. Robert J. Keegan, Jr. Executive Director



CARBON LEHIGH INTERMEDIATE UNIT #21

Education Park 4210 Independence Drive Schnecksville, PA 18078-2597 (800) 223-4821/(610) 769-4111

Revised November 2008

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