

SST8 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 8

Transition Edition

March 2016

Transition Process

Transition is an ongoing experience for all people. We are constantly transitioning in different areas of our lives. Transition from the school setting to life as an Adult, is another major life experience. Transition is the concept of why one enters school, for the outcome after the school years. It isn't enough to simply be aware that teenagers need guidance to transition successfully from high school to the next phase of young adulthood; concrete action steps must be taken to prepare teens for college and/or a career, and independent living. Without this guidance, students often flounder, especially students with disabilities. They often flounder and fail in high school and beyond.

Transition services, provided by knowledgeable educators and community resources, can be tailored to a student's goals and strengths and provide him/her with options and plans for the future. Transition services offer students with disabilities hope for the future.

The student and the family need to begin thinking about future goals and plans prior to the first transition meeting taking place. This provides an opportunity for the student and family to take an active role in planning the education and making

school relevant to the future. This is a time for the student to propose dreams and set goals for achieving them. It is an avenue to prove what one can accomplish, identify interests and feel competent about setting a path of their choosing. At the same time, realistic goals and accommodations need to be discussed while pursuing an education and vocation. In general, the transition plan will emphasize a student's preferences, interests, needs, and strengths (PINS).

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The transition plan is the section of the IEP that outlines the transition goals, services and course of study for the student. The student needs to be invited to his/her transition meeting, in Ohio, at the age of 14. Transition planning can never start too early. Students need to become self-advocates, self-determined and as independent as possible. The planning and provision of services based on individual

needs can be challenging in our complicated systems of education, service agencies and limited resources.

Providing families and students with agency connections, community resources and other pertinent information for post-secondary education, employment and living beyond high school can be overwhelming. The earlier the transition process and collaboration can begin, the better the outcomes for all.



Agency Spotlight

Medina County Workforce Development Center

They help job seekers identify and overcome employment barriers.

Below are some of the services offered:

1. OhioMeansJobs.com
2. One-on-one counseling
3. Free use of Resource Room—computers.
4. Job matching services
5. Workshops and classes offered, along with other services.



3721 Pearl Road, Medina, OH 44256

330 723-9675 info@medinacountyworks.com

Youth Services are available for ages 14-21, and is Located Next Door to The Workforce Development Center at: 3711 Pearl Road, Medina Ohio 44256

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449 South Meridian Street
1st Floor, Room 134
Ravenna, OH 44266
330 296-2841

Open Monday-Friday 8:00 am—4:25 pm



Portage
County

Closed all major holidays

OhioMeansJobs Portage County offer the following services:

Employment related services include: Job Fairs, fax machine, resume assistance, resume paper, envelopes, postage, internet access, computers, printers, job board, books, DVD's, newspapers, telephone, Workshops, and copier.

Ohio Workforce Education Network (OWEN) can take you on a guided tour of OhioMeansJobs.com and offer you step-by-step instructions to get you registered.

Online Services include: virtual backpack, local career fair information & workshops, free practice testing, ACT, SAT, GED, Work Keys Assessment, Information on apprenticeship programs and internships, a budget calculator with cost of living calculations, Labor Market Information, and In Demand and Green Careers.



Summit
County

OhioMeansJobs Summit County is offering a one-of-a-kind in the region program. Next Step is available to assist Teens and Young Adults in navigating a career path, writing a resume, finding training and search current job openings. Next Step provides a job postings board, computer with internet access, full time staff assistance, and much more!

Find guidance and support in the following areas when visiting the Next Step Resource Room:

Job Search Skills, resume writing, interviewing skills and preparation, referrals to other programs, and career counseling.

Hours of operation: Monday - Friday 8:00 am –4:00 pm, and Tuesday until 7:00 pm. No appointment necessary! For ages 14-24 years.

OhioMeansJobs Summit County

1040 E. Tallmadge Ave., Akron, OH 44310

Phone: 330 630-4640 www.summitomj.org

PAC Meeting

The SST8 PAC Meeting for this month is on March 9, 2016 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. The Topic is: **The Early Years** - Presentation will focus on preschool services, Help Me Grow Program, and ODE's focus on Early Literacy.

To attend a meeting, please email Alice Doyle at: aliced@cybersummit.org.



Upcoming Events

- **SST8 Camp Book** to be released mid-March.
- **April 16, 2016—Summit County Transition Expo at Ohio Means Jobs**, 1040 E. Tallmadge Ave., Akron, OH. 9:00 am—2:00 pm. Admission is free.
- **April 20, 2016—PAC Meeting** 9:30 am—1:30 pm **What's New in Ohio?** In this open forum you will learn about legislative issues, waivers, scholarships, Medicaid and DD services and so much more.
- **SST8 Awards Luncheon** by Invitation to be held on May 6, 2016.

State Support Team Region 8

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330 929-6634

sst8.org