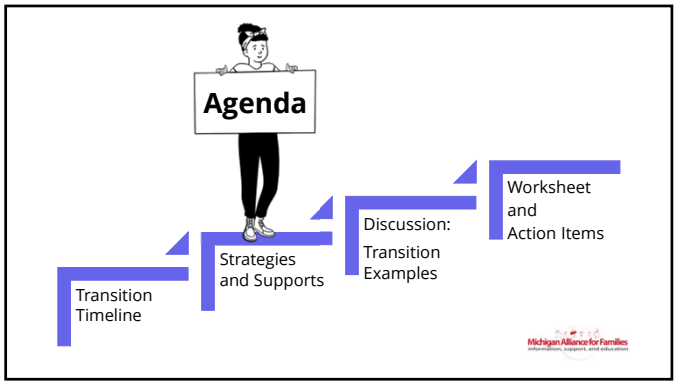
Transition Pathways into Adult Life

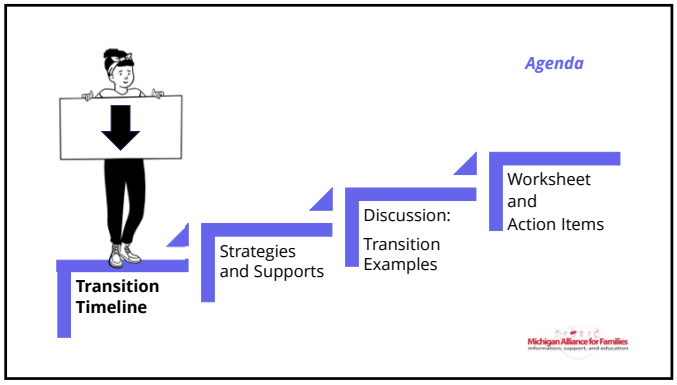
Karen Wang, Transition Specialist

Michigan Alliance for Families
information, support, and education

1



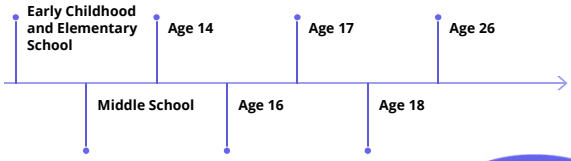
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3

Transition Timeline

Where are YOU on this timeline?



Transition to Adulthood - Michigan Alliance for Families

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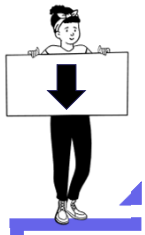
IEP Transition Planning

Transition Assessments	• Formal • Informal
Postsecondary Goals	• Education and Training • Employment • Independent Living
Course of Study	• Diploma or non-diploma • Career and Technical Education (CTE) • Personal Curriculum • Classes lead to postsecondary goals
Transition Services	• Education and Training • Employment • Independent Living
Coordination of Adult Services	• Vocational Rehabilitation • Centers for Independent Living (CILs) • Social Security + Medicaid + Community Mental Health

Required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (The IDEA)

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Agenda



- Transition Timeline
- **Strategies and Supports**
- Discussion: Transition Examples
- Worksheet and Action Items

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Strategies and Supports



- Self-Advocacy and Communication
- Community Participation
- Career Exploration

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Self-Advocacy



I speak up

I understand

I make things right



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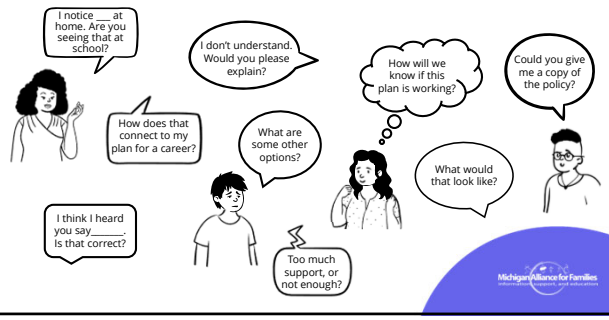
Before IEP Transition Planning...

Practice self-advocacy =

- Share input with IEP team +
- Request evaluation copies in advance +
- Request copy of draft IEP +
- If draft is not ready, request team input

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During the IEP Meeting...



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Notetaking Template

Concern	✓	Action	Who is Responsible	Date for Next Update

Placeholder for handout link

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After Exiting School...

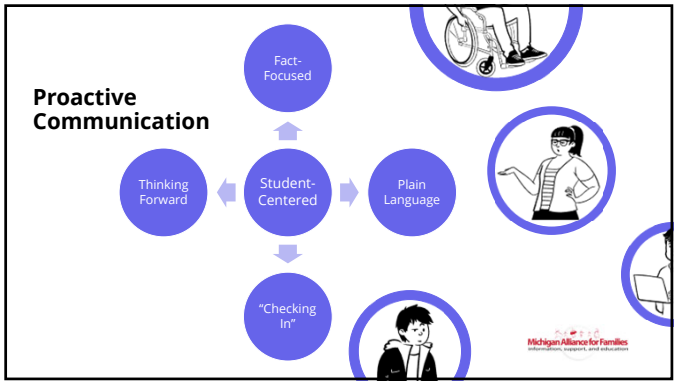






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Proactive Communication



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Proactive Communication: Examples

"Noah wants to become a video game designer, but he's still having difficulty passing Algebra. Could he add a transition service to his IEP for developing a strength-based career plan?"

"Bella is struggling to complete assignments on time. Is the school team able to give her additional guidance on time management?"



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Advocacy and Communication Skills

Michigan Alliance for Families

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Life Skills and Daily Routines

- Transition Assessments
- IEP Goals
- New Skills
- Managing Daily Schedule
- Community Participation



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Benefits and Services: Before Age 18



Review and update IEP transition plan

Gather documents for adult services, including college

Plan for Supported Decision-Making (SDM)
- Power of Attorney or SDM agreement
- Patient Advocate
- Representative Payee (Social Security)

Michigan Supported Decision-Making Toolkit

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Benefits and Services: Age 18

- ✓ Transfer of rights at age of majority (18)
- ✓ Males register with Selective Service (military draft), sss.gov
- ✓ Consider applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at ssa.gov

- ✓ Medicaid comes with SSI
- ✓ After Medicaid, enroll in Community Mental Health
- ✓ Request accommodations
  - ✓ Postsecondary education
  - ✓ Employment

Job Accommodation Network: **askjan.org**
Michigan Alliance for Families video: Transition Beyond IDEA

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Secretary of State Information

Ages 14-16



Plus: Segment 1 of driver education
Age 14 years and 8 months
New drivers (under 18)

- Schedule appointment online: Michigan Department of State e-Services
- Click box "I need a sign language interpreter or other accommodation"
- Request accommodations for appointment
- State-issued photo identification
- Submit request for parking permit, if appropriate: Disability Parking Placard Application
- Bring required documents to the appointment

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Vocational Rehabilitation

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Age 14+

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS)

Michigan.gov/mrs

1-800-605-6722

Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP)

Michigan.gov/bsbp

1-800-292-4200



Michigan Alliance for Families:
Self-Advocacy Tips for Vocational Rehabilitation

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Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program



- Federal program
- Youth ages 14-24
- Youth with barriers to employment
- Tutoring, mentoring, training, work-related experiences
- Michigan Works! 1-800-285-9675

LEO - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program

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More Work-Related Agencies

Supported Employment

- Community Mental Health (for Medicaid beneficiaries): Find your county's Community Mental Health agency **here**

Other Programs

- **Apprenticeships**
- **JobCorps.gov**
- **Project SEARCH**
- **Career One Stop**

HOW do I pursue employment?



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Work-Related Programs

Social Security Administration

www.ssa.gov

WIPA – Work Incentives Planning & Assistance - Michigan

Disability Rights Michigan

www.drmich.org
517-487-1755

Free legal advice about Social Security and Vocational Rehabilitation

Michigan Dept. of Treasury

Achieving a Better Life Experience accounts (MiABLE)

Michigan ABLE Plan

Video: Transition Employment Expectations

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Career and Technical Education (CTE)

- Begins in middle school
- For all students with and without disabilities
- Classroom instruction and student leadership
- Laboratory and work-based learning
- At neighborhood school or at CTE center program
- Find your local CTE online at CTE Programs Offered
- Include CTE in the Educational Development Plan (EDP)



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College or Trade School?

Degree or Non-Degree
Associate, Bachelor's, or Master's | Certificate or Credential

Financial Aid
Federal and State: studentaid.gov | Scholarships

Federal Laws
Americans with Disabilities Act | Rehabilitation Act of 1973

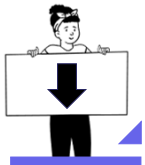
Request Supports
Accommodations | Transportation



Thinkcollege.net

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Agenda



Transition Timeline

Strategies and Supports

Discussion: Transition Examples

Worksheet and Action Items

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Discussion: Transition Example #1



Noah: age 17
- Cognitive Impairment (CI)
- Medium to high support needs, but wants to be independent

Assessments:
- Adolescent Autonomy Checklist
- Noah needs help creating realistic life goals

Transition Services:
- Pre-ETS
- Financial Literacy
- Planning session with social worker
- Certificate of Completion

Postsecondary Goals:
- Wants to work at a game shop or related business
- Wants to share an apartment with a friend

Adult Services:
- Apply to MRS
- Will apply for SSI, Medicaid, and Community Mental Health services

Transition Examples Worksheet

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Discussion: Transition Example #2



Yasmin: age 19
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Communicates non-verbally
- High support needs

Assessments:
- Adaptive Behavior Assessment
- Needs direct instruction in life skills
- Enjoys art and being with animals

Transition Services:
- Speech therapy
- Volunteer at animal shelter
- Preparing meals
- Certificate of Completion

Postsecondary Goals:
- Self-advocacy training
- Skill building program
- Work part-time
- Self-care

Adult Services:
- Already has SSI and Medicaid
- Will apply for Community Mental Health services

Transition Examples Worksheet

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Discussion: Transition Example #3



Assessments:
- Career Profile Assessment
- Taking classes for a technology career

Postsecondary Goals:
Career credentials
College
Work full-time
Accessible apartment

Bella: age 14
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Highly motivated, but needs daily supports
- Prosthetic limb

Transition Services:
- Visit Early Middle College program
- Apply for MRS
- Technical skills
- Diploma

Adult Services:
- Early Middle College
- MRS

Transition Examples Worksheet

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Discussion: Transition Example #4



Assessments:
- Work Samples
- Standardized Transition Assessment
- Needs more life skills and career exploration

Postsecondary Goals:
- CPR/AED/First Aid training
- Community College
- Work in healthcare
- Share apartment with best friend

Jack: age 15
- Other Health Impairment (OHI)
- Cancer survivor
- Ongoing healthcare needs

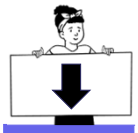
Transition Services:
- Pre-ETS
- Career exploration
- Driver Education
- Diploma

Adult Services:
- MRS
- Community College

Transition Examples Worksheet

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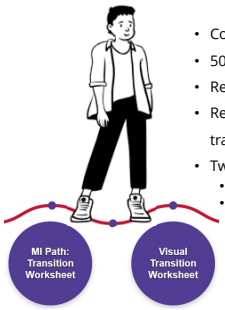
Agenda



- Transition Timeline
- Strategies and Supports
- Discussion: Transition Examples
- **Worksheet and Action Items**

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MI Path Transition Worksheets



- Completed by youth with assistance from adults
- 50+ questions about living, working, and learning
- Responses become the self-advocacy statement in the IEP
- Responses inform postsecondary goals, course of study, transition services and coordination of adult services
- Two versions:
  - Text-only online form
  - Picture-based printable form

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Summary: What is Your Action Plan for Transition?

Health and Safety

Community Participation

Vocational Rehabilitation

Skill-Building

Career and Technical Education

Transportation

Self-Advocacy



Career Exploration

Photo ID card

Student-Led IEP

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Michigan Alliance for Families
information, support, and education

800-552-4821 www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org

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We are here to support you!



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For more information visit
www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org

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En Español 313-217-1060
248-963-0607 للغه العربيه
info@michiganallianceforfamilies.org

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Michigan Alliance for Families

In collaboration with The Arc Michigan

Michigan Alliance for Families is an IDEA Grant Funded Initiative of the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education (MDE-OSE); the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP); and Michigan's Federal Parent-Training and Information Center (PTIC) funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs(OSEP).

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