Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
RTAC Expert Summit Session 3: Pre-employment Transition Services

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DE DVR Transition Services

- Traditional transition services for youth
- Pre-employment transition services for students
- Post employment services
Partnerships: We can’t do it alone

- Dept. of Education (DOE)/Local Education Agencies (LEA)
- Dept. of Labor (DOL)
- Other state agencies
- Businesses
- Post Secondary Education
- Community Providers
Partnership with the DOE/LEA

- Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)
- Identifying students
- Dedicated VR Counselors
- Transition Cadre
- Transition Conference
Transitioning Youth

• How students are identified
• Services Provided Before School Completion
  – Assessment for Competitive Employment
  – Career Pathway Development
  – Participation in community based programs i.e. Project SEARCH, Start on Success and Early Start
Start it Early

• Transition referrals before school completion
• Early Start to Supported Employment
• Project SEARCH
• Summer Programs
DVR Management Structure for Transition

- Statewide Transition Coordinator
- Two Statewide Transition Program Specialists
- Dedicated VR Counselors
- Entire Leadership Team trained and engaged in transition
Business Relationships

• Internal & External Business Relations Staff
• Engage employers beyond placement to provide mentoring and internships
• Delaware Business Leadership Network (DEBLN) & the Workforce Development Board
Collaborate with DOL Partners

- Division of Employment and Training (DET)
  - One Stops & Career Pathway
- Labor Market Information
- DOL Youth Programs
- Business Reps
Leadership is Important

• Directors and Administrators need to lead on transition
• Communicate the message to all stakeholders; it’s complicated
• We are the leaders in employment services for students and adults with disabilities
Communicate via Social Media

• There’s an app for that
  – Facebook, Instagram, YouTube

• Review traditional communication tools for use with students

• Engage students in developing your message
  – Youth project for students with mental illness
Engaging Family Members

• How to support student success
• Avoid helicopters
• Benefits Counseling
Post Secondary Relationships

- Community Colleges
  - Supported Education
- Four year Institutions
- Certificate training
Funding Transition Services

- 110 Dollars
- 15% allocated for Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS)
- Long Term supports
- Shared resources with DOE & DOL
“The Best Way to Predict Your Future is to Create It” - Abraham Lincoln

Let’s help all of the students and young adults we work with create a future that includes employment and independence by providing quality transition services.
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