

May 1, 2013
Clinton/Jackson TAB
Meeting Notes
(Meeting held at TCs in DeWitt, Iowa)

TAB MISSION: To build community and educational partnerships that will empower youth with disabilities to develop and achieve their life goals.

Present:

Ellen Secor, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Jean Simpson, Mississippi Bend AEA
Deb Meyne, Mississippi Bend AEA
Mary Beth Kokjohn, Clinton High School
Renee Green, Central DeWitt High School
Chris Meier, Clinton County Case Management
Tina McQuiston, Community Care Inc.
Bethaney Conklin, Genesis VNA
Debra Christiansen, DAC Inc.
Kathy Anson, Mississippi Bend AEA
Jane Rock, Mississippi Bend AEA

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- This Saturday, Scott County Kids is sponsoring a Mental Health Conference.
- A new educational consulting firm, Field Educational Consulting, has been started by Erin Field, M.B.A. to assist students with disabilities to explore and locate post-secondary educational options that will best meet their needs.
Contact Information: (563) 275-4114
- The IME is planning to transition the management of HCBS Habilitation services to the Iowa Plan for Behavioral Health on July 1, 2013. Effective July 1, 2013 Magellan Health Services will be responsible for service authorization for all persons receiving Habilitation services. Also on July 1, 2013 the Iowa Plan will begin implementing Integrated Health Homes (IHH) for Medicaid members with serious mental illness. Most members who are receiving Hab services will be eligible for an IHH, so the care coordination transition will be integrated with the IHH implementation. IHHs will be phased in across the state throughout 2013 and 2014. For more information see: <http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Initiatives.html>
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services still has a waiting list. Referrals are encouraged sophomore year in high school.
- Information was shared on the new DayHab Program offered by DAC. It is located in the former Aldi Grocery Store location in Maquoketa. The TAB is interested in visiting and it was agreed we will meet there in early August.

FAVORITE TAB PROJECTS FROM THE PAST (brainstormed by all present):

- Person-Centered Futures Planning Team Training – Several success stories were shared from PCFP Teams that continued to work together to support transition planning following the TAB-sponsored training a few years ago.
- Transition for College Success workshop (held at Mississippi Bend AEA)
- Transition Fairs with agency representatives sharing information with students, families and teachers in various communities.
- Tours of various vocational programs in different high schools throughout Clinton and Jackson counties (Welding, Culinary, etc)
- Flowcharts and Brochures – resource information for students, families and teachers
- Networking and improved connections between schools and community agencies was noted as a positive result of TAB

CONCERNS AROUND TRANSITION (brainstormed by all present):

- 8th grade transition into high school – Students have greater needs coming into the high school.
- Utilizing IEP information in a more thoughtful way, for transition planning.
- Transportation Challenges for non-driving and/or rural students, plus cost of driver's education, insurance, gas, etc. Also – transportation barriers in crossing county lines
- Frustrated parents not getting information WHEN they need it. Teachers are “go-to” person and need to have up-to-date information to share with families when they need it and when they are ready for it.
- Balancing core curriculum/academic requirements with “transition” needs, career, work experience, college readiness and life skills.
- Maintaining meaningful social relationships with peers AFTER high school.
- Too much last-minute transition planning and last-minute linkages still occurring. Some families are not ready (or willing/able) to begin earlier transition planning/linkages.
- Vocational Services – Funding changes. Service changes. Reduction in school-based vocational and work experience services.
- Students with multiple needs, especially those “in between” who may not be waiver eligible or college bound. Including students on autism spectrum and mental health needs. Families overwhelmed.
- Families don't know where/how/when to start the application process for Medicaid-based Waiver services. Agency representatives ARE WILLING TO HELP!

THEMES AND IDEAS IDENTIFIED:

1. Addressing transition issues earlier in high school.
2. Developing transition information that could be shared with families regularly, frequently throughout high school years.

TAB HOMEWORK! - 2 Steps:

1. Please review the concerns, ideas, and past project information contained in these meeting notes. To go back further and review TAB minutes, visit the transition website: www.aea9.k12.ia.us/tab
2. Go to this link and complete a very brief survey (should take 3-5 minutes) so that we can gather input from all TAB members about priorities for next year: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LWGJBR2>