

Transition Training Institute

PASSPORT TO THE FUTURE

Holiday Inn Executive Center • Columbia, Missouri

June 27-29, 2022



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

▶ FEES AND ONLINE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

If your online registration is received on or before June 10, you will receive the early registration rate of \$150. If your online registration is received after June 10, your registration fee will be \$200.

Please register early. **Registration will close when the conference registration reaches maximum capacity.** No on-site registrations will be accepted. To register, please complete the online registration process located at na.eventscloud.com/2022tti.

Make the vendor name on purchase orders and checks payable to Custom Meeting Planners. The purchase order must be faxed to **573-447-0102** or emailed to tammy@custommeetingplanners.com within five business days of receipt of the online registration confirmation.

A confirmation email for your registration and session assignments will be sent to you immediately after completion of the online registration. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact Tammy Bagley at **573-881-4849** or tammy@custommeetingplanners.com.

▶ REFUND POLICY

Registration fees, minus a \$25 administrative fee, may be refunded if a request is emailed to Custom Meeting Planners at tammy@custommeetingplanners.com no later than June 10.

No refunds will be authorized after this date, but substitutions will be permitted. No cancellations will be accepted after this date, and any subsequent registrations are not eligible for refund. **Full payment of fees will be expected from registrants who are unable to attend the conference but fail to notify Custom Meeting Planners in writing on or by June 10.**

▶ LODGING

Lodging is open, and conference participants are responsible for making their own reservations.

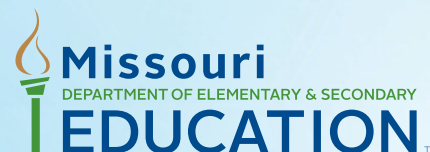
A block of rooms has been reserved for the Transition Training Institute at the discounted rate of \$102.05 per night. A tax-exemption letter must be provided to the hotel in order to receive this rate. This rate is available until June 13 based on availability. **Please reserve your room early as the hotel will sell out quickly.**

Conference Hotel:

Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia
2200 I-70 Drive S.W.
Columbia, MO 65203

Click here to reserve a room. The nightly group rate is available after you enter your check-in and check-out dates.

The 2022 conference kicks off at 1:00 p.m. on June 27 and closes at 12:15 p.m. on June 29.



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CONFERENCE AGENDA

▶ MONDAY, JUNE 27

- 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Transition and Compliance Plans 1**
- 3:00 - 3:15 p.m. **Break**
- 3:15 - 5:15 p.m. **Transition and Compliance Plans 2**

▶ TUESDAY, JUNE 28

- 8:00 - 8:15 a.m. **Welcome**
- 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. **Keynote Speaker**
Darrion Cockrell, 2021 Missouri
Teacher of the Year
- 9:15 - 9:30 a.m. **Break**
- 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. **Breakout Session 1**
- 10:45 - 11:00 a.m. **Break**

- 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Breakout Session 2**
- 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:30 - 2:45 p.m. **Breakout Session 3**
- 2:45 - 3:00 p.m. **Break**
- 3:00 - 4:15 p.m. **Breakout Session 4**

▶ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

- 8:00 - 9:15 a.m. **Breakout Session 5**
- 9:15 - 9:30 a.m. **Break**
- 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. **Breakout Session 6**
- 10:45 - 11:00 a.m. **Break**
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Closing Session**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DARRION COCKRELL is Missouri's 2021 Teacher of the Year, a 2021 Horace Mann Friend of Education award winner, and the recipient of a 2020 National BoxTops for Education Twilight Award from Chance the Rapper. Cockrell also created the Crest-Fit fitness program that has reached thousands of people. "Mr. DC" teaches physical education at Crestwood Elementary School and is a role model for his students who focuses on creating relationships that support the importance of staying active and healthy.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

► TRANSITION AND COMPLIANCE 1-2 MONDAY, JUNE 27 1:00-5:15 P.M.

Destination Compliance

Pack some transition IEPs, and journey with RPDC Consultants and DESE Compliance staff to the island of exciting transition plans. Discover how a well-written transition plan with a coordinated set of activities can assist students in reaching postsecondary goals. This session's discussion and activities will demonstrate how to use transition assessments to determine students' strengths, preferences, and interests along with how to incorporate these aspects into students' present level of performance. Our sightseeing escapade will explore ways to document and develop appropriate, measurable goals and transition services related to employment, education and training, and independent-living skills.

LEAD PRESENTERS: RPDC Consultants and DESE Compliance Staff

► BREAKOUT SESSION 1 TUESDAY, JUNE 28 9:30-10:45 A.M.

1A: St. Louis Job Corps Information Session

In this session, participants will learn about the Job Corps program from a representative of the St. Louis center. Come learn about the enrollment process, who is eligible, what trades are offered, and the overall benefits of the program.

LEAD PRESENTER: Brian Mosby, OA/CTS Director, St. Louis Job Corps

1B: Teaching Students With Vision Loss Expanded Core Curriculum and Transition

This session will examine the nine areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum. Participants will discover available online resources that can help determine skill levels in some of these areas.

LEAD PRESENTER: DJ Butcher, Blindness Skills Specialist, Agency for Teaching, Leading and Learning/Springfield

1C: Social-Emotional Learning Academy

Learn about self-paced professional development on social-emotional learning available through DESE's Virtual Learning Platform. Participants in this session will receive a brief overview of developing social-emotional learning from a recognized trainer in self-efficacy, self-regulation, and assertiveness from the Social-Emotional Learning for All project. Discover how to incorporate these lessons into your existing curriculum.

LEAD PRESENTER: Mary Beth Scherer, Special Education Improvement Consultant, Central RPDC

1D: Self-Determination in Action (Repeated from 2D)

The Self-Determination in Action Project is an innovative program that has engaged individuals with disabilities in curriculum development, teaching courses, and evaluating how courses have impacted the lives of people with disabilities who participate in the program. All courses are taught by two self-advocates in the role of self-determination instructors. This has provided opportunities for sharing life experiences and for modeling self-advocacy skills to all participants.

LEAD PRESENTER: Mollie Mattingly, Vice President Quality and Organizational Learning, Easterseals Midwest

1E: Immersive College Experiences – THRIVE, SUCCEED, and Bear POWER

Come learn about postsecondary programs in Missouri that help students with disabilities transition to independent living and find employment that fits their individual goals and abilities.

LEAD PRESENTER: Michael Brunkhorst, THRIVE Director, University of Central Missouri

1F: How to Help Students Win the Digital World

The students of today are dealing with a much different world from the students of five, 10, and 20 years ago. The pressure to put their best foot forward at school and on social media is a heavy responsibility. Digital wellness is needed more than ever. Participants in this session will learn how to educate and empower their students to embrace social media and to become digital role models.

LEAD PRESENTER: Kim Karr, Executive Director and Co-Founder, #ICANHELP

1G: A Student's Perspective on Using Structured Discovery to Teach

A Native American saying expresses "Tell me and I will forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I will learn." This is the guiding principle of Structured Discovery, which teaches by guided exploration and structured questions and allows students to learn for themselves the task presented. Structured Discovery can be utilized not only with orientation and mobility for students with visual impairments but also for technology instruction, ADL, and general education. When this technique is applied, students not only become more proficient quicker and with greater retention, but they also develop problem-solving skills, confidence, and self-advocacy.

LEAD PRESENTER: Svetlana Ehlers, High School Student

1H: Centers for Independent Living Services and Programs

In this session, participants will learn about how to prepare for independent living after high school and how to access support services for individuals with disabilities from a presenter who has benefited personally from these services.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lauren Lynch, Case Manager/CDS Specialist, MERIL

1I: Re-Made for a Purpose (Repeated from 2I)

Re-Made for a Purpose trains and employs adults with disabilities in meaningful endeavors through a resale boutique and an upcycled-creations shop. Adults with disabilities are able to utilize their unique gifts in purposeful, respectful, and gainful employment. Come learn about this amazing organization!

LEAD PRESENTER: Barb Reid, Co-Founder, Re-Made for a Purpose

► BREAKOUT SESSION 2 TUESDAY, JUNE 28 11:00 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

2A: Movement and Wellness With Mr. DC

In this session, we will stretch, move, and discuss the importance of being attuned with ourselves mentally, physically, socially, and emotionally. We also will talk about the power of connections and about better understanding the students we serve.

LEAD PRESENTER: Darrion Cockrell, Physical Education Teacher, Crestwood Elementary School, Lindbergh School District

2B: Employment First

Employment First is a national systems-change framework centered on the premise that all individuals, including those with the most significant disabilities, are capable of full participation in competitive integrated employment and in community life.

LEAD PRESENTER: Duane Shumate, Director of Youth Transition/Employment, Missouri Department of Mental Health

2C: The Graduation Handbook

The Graduation Handbook for students in Missouri's public and charter schools offers students, parents, and teachers a road map to make sure they are staying on track with plans to graduate high school. This rich resource describes how many (and in what areas of concentration) credits must be earned to receive a diploma, different ways to earn credits, and what school districts must do to support students in attaining their diplomas.

LEAD PRESENTER: Cheryl Thompson, Mentor Coordinator, MPACT

2D: Self-Determination in Action (Repeated from 1D)

The Self-Determination in Action Project is an innovative program that has engaged individuals with disabilities in curriculum development, teaching courses, and evaluating how courses have impacted the lives of people with disabilities who participate in the program. All courses are taught by two self-advocates in the role of self-determination instructors. This has provided opportunities for sharing life experiences and for modeling self-advocacy skills to all participants.

LEAD PRESENTER: Mollie Mattingly, Vice President Quality and Organizational Learning, Easterseals Midwest

2E: Secondary Career and Technical Educators – Disability Awareness and Modifications

Come learn about teaching students with disabilities in the context of career and technical education. Discover how placement happens, how to apply accommodations and modifications, and how teachers can share specific classroom examples to benefit other educators and the students they teach.

LEAD PRESENTER: Amy Herrman, Educational Consultant, South Central RPDC

2F: Making the Most of Your Resources Virtually

This hands-on session will focus on gathering resources to build a digital map as an innovative approach to facilitate postschool success. Participants will learn how to connect to the community in order to build their own virtual resources for students, parents, and other residents. Participants also will be guided through a live demonstration and will work through the first few steps of creating their own resource map.

LEAD PRESENTER: Susan Hekmat, Special Education Improvement Consultant, Southeast RPDC

2G: Amplify Your Vibe – Go From Surviving to Thriving

How do we achieve true balance? By taking time to focus on ourselves. This session will offer examples of the art and science of action-planning with purpose, provide tools to increase productivity, teach strategies to get more done in less time, show how to amplify focus while building confidence to take action, and help build the drive to keep going when you feel like quitting. Walk away with the momentum to keep your vibe high and your soul on fire.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lisa Toebben, Special Education Teacher, Troy R-III School District

2H: Transition Assessments and Activities

In this session, participants will learn about formal and informal transition assessments. Receive several free resources, available to all teachers and districts, along with sample reports and write-ups to make your life easier.

LEAD PRESENTER: Mary Beth Scherer, Special Education Improvement Consultant, Central RPDC

2I: Re-Made for a Purpose (Repeated from 1I)

Re-Made for a Purpose trains and employs adults with disabilities in meaningful endeavors through a resale boutique and an upcycled-creations shop. Adults with disabilities are able to utilize their unique gifts in purposeful, respectful, and gainful employment. Come learn about this amazing organization!

LEAD PRESENTER: Barb Reid, Co-Founder, Re-Made for a Purpose

► BREAKOUT SESSION 3 TUESDAY, JUNE 28 1:30-2:45 P.M.

3A: Bridging the Gap – Helping Students With Disabilities Prepare for College

When it comes to accessing accommodations, there are big differences between high school and college. In order to prepare, high school students must be aware of these changes so they can begin developing the skills and knowledge they will need to be successful. In this session, three leaders in postsecondary education disability services will share information on the supports and processes available to college students along with suggestions on how to support students in preparing for this next step in their academic journey.

LEAD PRESENTER: Ashley Brickley, Director, University of Missouri Disability Center

3B: Accessible Educational Materials and Transition – What’s Your Role? (Repeated from 6B)

It is important to consider accessible educational materials (AEM) during the transition process. When students with disabilities exit special education, they are no longer entitled to services under IDEA. As a result, they must advocate on their own behalf in postsecondary education and in the workplace. As part of the transition-planning process, we must help students understand their future needs for AEM and supporting technology.

LEAD PRESENTER: David Baker, Director, Missouri Assistive Technology

3C: Ticket to Work

The Ticket to Work program is a free voluntary Social Security initiative that helps individuals who receive disability benefits return to work or start working for the first time.

LEAD PRESENTER: Steven Schenck, Ticket to Work Specialist, Paragad

3D: Earning While Learning – The Value of Apprenticeships

In this session, participants will learn about apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships as a gateway to an expanding number of career options. Apprenticeships equal employment, and graduates of apprenticeships have a 91-percent retention rate. Come discover the different types of apprenticeships, youth-focused apprenticeships, where to find apprenticeships, and potential funding options.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lesa Barber, Director of Business Services, Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation

3E: Using Missouri Connections for Transition Assessments (Repeated from 4E)

Missouri Connections is a comprehensive online career-development and planning program provided free to all Missouri citizens. Funded by DESE, this program supports the career-development efforts of schools, community organizations, and adult job-seeker programs. In this session, participants will explore the components used to determine students' interests, aptitudes, and capabilities for future education, employment, and community living. Educators can apply this information in IEPs to ensure positive postsecondary outcomes.

LEAD PRESENTER: Samantha Cole, Missouri Connections State Trainer, Northwest RPDC

3F: MO ABLE – Saving and Investing for Individuals With Disabilities (Repeated from 4F)

In this session, participants will learn more about MO ABLE and the benefits of opening an account. MO ABLE accounts are investment accounts available to eligible individuals with disabilities. These accounts allow individuals with disabilities to save and invest money without losing eligibility for certain public-benefits programs like Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income.

LEAD PRESENTER: Kim Baughman, Director of Program Administration, Missouri State Treasurer's Office

3G: Exploring Decision-Making Options for Transition-Age Youths

Come explore the options for decision-making as youths are preparing for the transition to adulthood. This session will discuss Supported Decision-Making, other alternatives to guardianship, and the 2018 changes to Missouri's guardianship state statute.

LEAD PRESENTER: Jane St. John, Senior Research Assistant, UMKC Institute for Human Development

3H: More Than Just Food Stamps

In this session, participants will receive a brief overview of the benefits offered by the Family Support Division along with the employment and training opportunities that accompany these benefits.

LEAD PRESENTER: Samantha King, Work Engagement Benefit Program Specialist, Family Support Division, Missouri Department of Social Services

3I: Social-Emotional Learning – Now More Than Ever

Education is at a pivotal point. The social-emotional needs of our students today are significant, and the work is harder than ever. Aligning all stakeholders to a meaningful purpose, while widening teacher tool belts, is the birthplace of staff resiliency. Addressing these needs of our students will provide a safe and positive learning environment and will transform the climate of our schools. In this session, participants will acquire strategies that can be used tomorrow to meet the social-emotional needs of today's students.

LEAD PRESENTER: Rachael Wilcox, Director of Social-Emotional Learning, Washington School District

► BREAKOUT SESSION 4 TUESDAY, JUNE 28 3:00-4:15 P.M.

4A: Raising the Bar – Work-Ready Behavioral Expectations for Students With Significant Disabilities

This session will explore the work of the Horizons Pre-ETS team in creating a guiding document for developing work-readiness with students with significant disability-related barriers to employment. We will examine the development of foundational work-ready behaviors, explore the need for higher expectations, discuss the approach and philosophy for doing so, and provide supplemental activities and examples for how to facilitate these expectations.

LEAD PRESENTER: Anna Azevedo, Pre-ETS Specialist, University of Missouri

4B: Developing Vocational Skills in the Classroom and Generalizing to Successful Community Involvement and Employment

This session will cover ways to incorporate transitional activities, including prevocational and vocational training, into your classroom's

daily routines. Receive hands-on examples including vocational task boxes, vocational academic tasks, school and classroom job experiences, and social skills needed for successful postsecondary employment. This session also will discuss how to transfer and generalize skills into the community through volunteer, supported, and competitive work opportunities.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lindsey Lovekamp, Autism Resource Specialist/ Associate Director, Project ACCESS

4C: Transition Connections, Expectations, and Planning

The Lee's Summit R-VII School District's Special Services Department has been actively engaged with the Career Education Department to focus on transition. Ideally, our expectation is that all students are general-education students first, and some might require additional support and/or specialized instruction to prepare for postsecondary transition plans. We have focused on connections with Real World Learning and with area businesses and resources that provide access to opportunities for students and families in employment, education, training, independent living, recreation, and leisure.

LEAD PRESENTER: Staci Mathes, Executive Director of Special Services, Lee's Summit R-VII School District

4D: Positive Behavioral Interventions – Tools That Challenge the School-to-Prison Pipeline

More often than not, behaviors are a form of communication. In this session, participants will learn the significance of using interventions to prevent problem behaviors before they occur, the benefits of a Functional Behavioral Assessment, and how to use simple and basic behavior-management techniques across various educational settings to reinforce positive behaviors.

LEAD PRESENTER: Nakatia Clay, Southeast Regional Coordinator, MPACT

4E: Using Missouri Connections for Transition Assessments (Repeated from 3E)

Missouri Connections is a comprehensive online career-development and planning program provided free to all Missouri citizens. Funded by DESE, this program supports the career-development efforts of schools, community organizations, and adult job-seeker programs. In this session, participants will explore the components used to determine students' interests, aptitudes, and capabilities for future education, employment, and community living. Educators can apply

this information in IEPs to ensure positive postsecondary outcomes.

LEAD PRESENTER: Samantha Cole, Missouri Connections State Trainer, Northwest RPDC

4F: MO ABLE – Saving and Investing for Individuals With Disabilities (Repeated from 3F)

In this session, participants will learn more about MO ABLE and the benefits of opening an account. MO ABLE accounts are investment accounts available to eligible individuals with disabilities. These accounts allow individuals with disabilities to save and invest money without losing eligibility for certain public-benefits programs like Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income.

LEAD PRESENTER: Kim Baughman, Director of Program Administration, Missouri State Treasurer's Office

4G: Using Charting the LifeCourse Tools to Provide Effective Transition Planning for K-12

In this session, participants will learn how Charting the LifeCourse tools can be used effectively to plan transition services for K-12 students. Participants will receive various resources that can be used along the K-12 life stages and will discover how backward-design principles can be used to support students and their families.

LEAD PRESENTER: Jeff Schneider, Effective Practice Specialist for Transition, Special School District of St. Louis County

4H: Creating and Sustaining Regional Transition Networks

Regional transition networks (RTNs) create partnerships in the community that help to improve outcomes for youths with disabilities after high school. These local sustainable groups of like-minded people are focused on increasing access to independent living, employment options, and the continuum of resources available to improve transition outcomes. This session will discuss the foundations of establishing a new RTN and will help stakeholders understand the functional aspects to creating and sustaining these unique networks.

LEAD PRESENTER: Sally Knox, Program Coordinator, MPACT

4I: Transitioning From Pediatrics to Adult Health Care

Fewer than 30 years ago, many children with developmental disabilities and special health-care needs were not expected to live to adulthood. Thanks to recent medical advances, this has changed. However, the medical system that serves adults is not yet well-versed in pediatric conditions. This makes the medical transition from pediatric to adult

health-care systems extremely important. This session will discuss planning for the future, organizing documents and medical history, and addressing guardianship issues. Participants will receive information and products to help ease this transition.

LEAD PRESENTER: George Gotto, Director, UMKC Institute for Human Development

► BREAKOUT SESSION 5 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 8:00-9:15 A.M.

5A: The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and Postsecondary Transition

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum is one of many programs that aim to help transition-age youths learn about self-advocacy, leadership, and resources that are available during postsecondary transition. During this session, participants will learn about the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and will hear from youths who have gone through the program. These young adults will share their postsecondary transition stories, provide details on which supports helped them along the way, and suggest what might have made their transitions smoother.

LEAD PRESENTER: Rachel Rackers, Senior Program Specialist, Governor's Council on Disability

5B: Preparing Students for the Future – VR Pre-ETS Services

Join this session to learn about Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation's Pre-ETS services and how they can help students prepare for the future. These services include the VR Summer Work Experience Program, the Centers for Independent Living Summer Experience, the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum, Dream Big, the Virtual Leadership Summit, the Leadership Development Program for Deaf/Hard of Hearing, peer mentoring, Wonderland Camp, and the University of Missouri's Pre-ETS services.

LEAD PRESENTER: Amy Siekerman, Assistant Director of Transition and Section 511 Services, Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation

5C: Assistive Technology and Transition – Are You Prepared?

Of the many elements that go into a transition plan, assistive technology (AT) is often overlooked. The AT that students with disabilities use in high school often does not go with them to work or college, and AT needs often change in the postsecondary and employment settings.

Helping students anticipate and understand what their AT needs will be after high school is a priority that should receive greater attention and emphasis in transition planning.

LEAD PRESENTER: David Baker, Director, Missouri Assistive Technology

5D: Sheltered Workshops

Sheltered workshops provide a controlled, safe, and highly supervised work environment designed for enabling individuals with disabilities to progress toward normal living. These programs also work to develop their employees' capacity, performance, and relationships with other individuals.

LEAD PRESENTER: Dan Gier, Director of Sheltered Workshops, DESE

5E: Creating a Districtwide Transition Program

This session will describe several districtwide initiatives from one of the largest school districts in Missouri. These initiatives include transition internship classes, a community-based vocational transition program, parent-education events, ongoing collaboration with outside agencies, and professional development for teachers that takes place throughout the year.

LEAD PRESENTER: Krista Robbins, Transitions Coordinator, Springfield R-XII School District

5F: MO HealthNet Benefits

This session will provide an overview of the MO HealthNet Division. Come learn what types of coverage are available to Missouri residents through this program.

LEAD PRESENTER: Amanda Fahrendorf, Constituent Education Representative for MO HealthNet, Missouri Department of Social Services

5G: No Wrong Way – A Discussion With Current Regional Transition Networks

Regional transition networks provide parents, teachers, and service providers a framework to empower youths with disabilities to be strong self-advocates with the necessary skills to achieve their goals. These localized networks work with students and young adults to identify and understand their needs and to offer support, training, and information to help them make connections for vocational, independent-living, and employment needs. This session will discuss how these groups work to ensure successful transitions based on each student's individual needs.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lisa Bowles, Regional Coordinator, MPACT

5H: Language Matters (Repeated from 6H)

Our language can influence whether people view substance-use disorder as a moral issue that requires punishment rather than needing treatment like any other medical condition. Research conducted by recovery scientists proves that the language we use can increase stigma, which already acts as a major barrier to accessing care, and can negatively influence the care that people receive. In this session, participants will look at changing the language we use in order to support individuals instead of reinforcing unhealthy stereotypes.

LEAD PRESENTER: David Stoecker, Substance Use, Prevention and Recovery State Advisory Council, Missouri Department of Mental Health

5I: Vocational Skills-Development Programs – Building a Model for Success

During this session, participants will learn how to develop and implement a vocational skills-development program that produces successful outcomes. Come learn how the model used at Boone County Family Resources on the Life & Work Connections team has evolved over the years to better replicate community employment. Participants also will discover ways to make accommodations and to measure skill acquisition.

LEAD PRESENTER: Renee Carter, Program Manager, Boone County Family Resources

► BREAKOUT SESSION 6 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 9:30-10:45 A.M.

6A: How to Develop a Successful Summer Work Experience

The VR Summer Work Experience program is a work-based learning opportunity in a competitive integrated setting for students with disabilities. This program is provided in collaboration with approved community rehabilitation programs. In this session, participants will learn about eligibility criteria for the program, examples of work sites, how to refer students, and the step-by-step process once a student has been referred.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lisa Warner, Pre-ETS Specialist, University of Missouri

6B: Accessible Educational Materials and Transition – What’s Your Role? (Repeated from 3B)

It is important to consider accessible educational materials (AEM) during the transition process. When students with disabilities exit special education, they are no longer entitled to services under IDEA. As a result, they must advocate on their own behalf in postsecondary education and in the workplace. As part of the transition-planning process, we must help students understand their future needs for AEM and supporting technology.

LEAD PRESENTER: David Baker, Director, Missouri Assistive Technology

6C: Developing Work-Experience Opportunities

This session will focus on the development of appropriate on-site and off-site work experience opportunities that benefit both students and their school districts as well.

LEAD PRESENTER: WaWanna Nehr Korn, Special Education Process Coordinator, Twin Rivers R-X School District

6D: Promoting Inclusion – A Culturally Responsive Tool Kit

Cultural responsiveness, cultural competency, cultural sensitivity – there are a lot of terms used to describe the practice of acknowledging and responding to different backgrounds, worldviews, and lived realities. As professionals working with youths and young adults, we know that addressing the entire identity of young people is critical to earning their trust and providing the most competent care. In this session, participants will learn about a tool kit and an implementation guide that can help us enhance our practices and policies so we can become more culturally responsive to the youths that we serve.

LEAD PRESENTER: Britt Grindstaff, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, Behavioral Health Network of Greater St. Louis

6E: 988 – Building the Ideal Crisis System of Care

In July 2020, the Federal Communications Commission designated 988 as the new three-digit crisis number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. By July 2022, all telecommunications companies will have to make the necessary changes and be ready to activate 988. 988 will transform our current crisis system of care nationwide, and Missouri is actively preparing its system to align and provide the most evidence-based practices for a comprehensive continuum of care.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lauren Moyer, Vice President of Clinical Innovation, Compass Health Network

6F: Where Can I Get Help Understanding How Work Will Affect My Benefits?

Did you know the Social Security Administration (SSA) offers Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA), a service tailor-made to help individuals understand how paid employment will affect any benefits they receive? WIPA programs are local organizations authorized by SSA to provide free benefits counseling to beneficiaries of Social Security disability programs to help these individuals make informed choices about work. WIPA was created to promote employment and financial independence among disability beneficiaries, and beneficiaries ages 14 through 25 are a high priority for WIPA programs.

LEAD PRESENTER: Miranda Root, WIPA Specialist, Paraquod

6G: Transition Planning Is Not the End...It's the Beginning

Are you struggling with transition planning? Transition is coming, and a new way of life is fast approaching students who are leaving school. In this interactive session, participants will explore conversational tools used to guide transition planning and to set expectations in all areas of life. While this session will focus on support for students with developmental disabilities, participants will walk away with universal tools that can be used with all students.

LEAD PRESENTER: Kim Buckman, Director of Support Coordination, County Connections

6H: Language Matters (Repeated from 5H)

Our language can influence whether people view substance-use disorder as a moral issue that requires punishment rather than needing treatment like any other medical condition. Research conducted by recovery scientists proves that the language we use can increase stigma, which already acts as a major barrier to accessing care, and can negatively influence the care that people receive. In this session, participants will look at changing the language we use in order to support individuals instead of reinforcing unhealthy stereotypes.

LEAD PRESENTER: David Stoecker, Substance Use, Prevention and Recovery State Advisory Council, Missouri Department of Mental Health

6I: Short-Term Employment and Training Options

Missouri Department of Social Services employment and training options can help individuals find family-sustaining employment through short-term training and support. The SkillUP program is open to SNAP recipients ages 16 and older and provides career identification, training, and other supportive services that lead to rewarding careers. The Workforce Initiatives Team funds the Jobs League program in partnership with Missouri workforce boards, and Jobs for America's Graduates offers high school students options to explore and obtain great jobs. In this session, participants will discover how these career programs operate and what the programs' participation requirements are.

LEAD PRESENTER: Lindsey Thomas, Workforce Initiatives Team Program Specialist, Missouri Department of Social Services

