

Resources for Youth with Disabilities

Career Planning Begins with Assessment: A Guide for Professionals Serving Youth with Educational and Career Development Challenges

This guide serves as a resource for multiple audiences within the workforce development system. Youth service professionals will find information on selecting career-related assessments, determining when to refer youth for additional assessment, and additional issues such as accommodations, legal issues and ethical considerations. Administrators and policymakers will find information on developing practical and effective policies, collaboration among programs and interagency assessment systems.

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/career-planning-begins-with-assessment>

The 411 on Disability Disclosure

This workbook is designed for youth and adults working with them. It helps young people make informed decisions about whether or not to disclose their disability and understand how that decision may impact their education, employment and social lives. Based on the premise that disclosure is a very personal decision, it does not tell a young person what to do; rather, it helps them make informed decisions.

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/411-on-disability-disclosure>

The 411 on Disability Disclosure: A Workbook for Families, Educators, Youth Service Professionals and Adult Allies Who Care about Youth with Disabilities

This adult-focused workbook is a companion to The 411 on Disability Disclosure: A Workbook for Youth with Disabilities. It was written for adults supporting youth with disabilities, and introduces numerous examples of young people struggling with the question of “to disclose” or “not to disclose.”

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/411-on-disability-disclosure-for-adults>

Jan – The Job Accommodation Network

JAN is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Working toward practical solutions that benefit both employer and employee, JAN helps people with disabilities enhance their employability, and shows employers how to capitalize on the value and talent that people with disabilities add to the workplace.

<http://askjan.org>

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth (ncwd/youth)

NCWD/Youth assists state and local workforce development systems to better serve all youth, including youth with disabilities and other disconnected youth. Created in 2001, it brings together partners with expertise in education, youth development, disability, employment, workforce development, and family issues. Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), it is housed at the Institute for Educational Leadership in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>

Making the Move to Manage Your Own Personal Assistance Services (Pas): A Toolkit for Youth with Disabilities Transitioning to Adulthood

This guide assists youth in strengthening some of the most fundamental skills essential for successfully managing their own PAS: effective communication, time-management, working with others and establishing professional relationships. Such skills are key to not only enhancing independence, but also thriving in the workplace and growing professionally.

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/PAS-Toolkit>

ODEP – The Guideposts for Success

Developed by the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), in collaboration with NCWD/Youth, the Guideposts for Success reflect what research has identified as key educational and career development interventions that can make a positive difference in the lives of all youth, including youth with disabilities.

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/categories/youth/>

Pacer Center

PACER Center is a parent training and information center for families of children and youth with all disabilities from birth through 21 years old. Located in Minneapolis, it serves families across the nation, as well as those in Minnesota. Parents can find publications, workshops, and other resources to help make decisions about education, vocational training, employment and other services for their children with disabilities. PACER designs materials for parents and families, but also educators and other professionals who work with students with or without disabilities.

<http://www.pacer.org/>

Universal Design for Learning

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a set of principles for curriculum development that give all individuals equal opportunities to learn. UDL provides a blueprint for creating instructional goals, methods, materials and assessments that work for everyone— not a single, one-size-fits-all solution but rather flexible approaches that can be customized and adjusted for individual needs. Teacher friendly tools can be found at: <http://www.udlcenter.org/implementation/examples>

<http://www.cast.org/udl/index.html>