

Why is “Bridges to Transition” Important?

Many transition youth who have a disability have limited access to vocational resources. Often it may have included training in a workshop or months or years waiting for services that eventually *might* result in a job.

The Bridges to Transition initiative assists youth from between the ages of 14 and 22 as they transition from school to employment. This project focuses on supporting students to obtain employment in the community and/or post-secondary training prior to leaving school in order to bypass the traditional workshop or continual “readiness” assessment and training route.

What Are Our Goals for 2010/2011?

- 25 students in Wood County between the ages of 14 and 22, will be identified and determined eligible for RSC services
 - 75% (minimum) of the students will be identified and determined eligible for county board of developmental disabilities services
 - 75% (minimum) of the students will be receiving educational services under an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
 - 25% (maximum) do not need to be eligible for county board services or have an IEP, but must meet RSC eligibility criteria
- 75% of the participating students will successfully complete and participate in one vocational service included in the Individual Plan for Employment (IPE)
- 55% (minimum) of the students will obtain a job prior to graduation
- Project partners will establish agreements with local school districts that identify agency-specific responsibilities
- 80% of the students will express satisfaction with services

What About the Bridges to Transition Sustainability?

In 2010, Ohio’s County Boards of DD will continue to support the program through local levy dollars as well as continued access to Medicaid Home and Community Based Services waiver funds for long-term supports, called follow-along services, needed to ensure individual success in obtaining and maintaining a job in the community.