



St. Luke's House, Inc. Career Transition Program

Program Description

Some Statistics ...

- 5.4M youth, ages 16-24, are out of school and out of work; almost one in eight have a disability

US Census Bureau

- The national graduation rate is 68%

Urban Institute 2004

- Only 56% of youth with emotional or behavioral challenges complete high school

National Longitudinal Transition Study 2 (NLTS2)

- 30-40% of youth in foster care attend special education classes

NCWDY 2005

- 36% of high school dropouts have a learning disability and 59% have emotional or behavioral disorders

Blackorby & Wagner, 1996

- 75% of youth in the juvenile justice system have some type of disability

DOJ, PACER 2005

Career Transition Program (CTP) History

- Expansion of St. Luke's House in 1993 to include services for transitioning youth
- Collaborative partnerships with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
- Funding for SLH services comes from public grants and other public and private supports

Transition from Adolescence to Adulthood

Adolescence

*Support is provided
“automatically”*

- Education
- Entitlement
- IDEA

(Individuals with
Disabilities Education
Act)



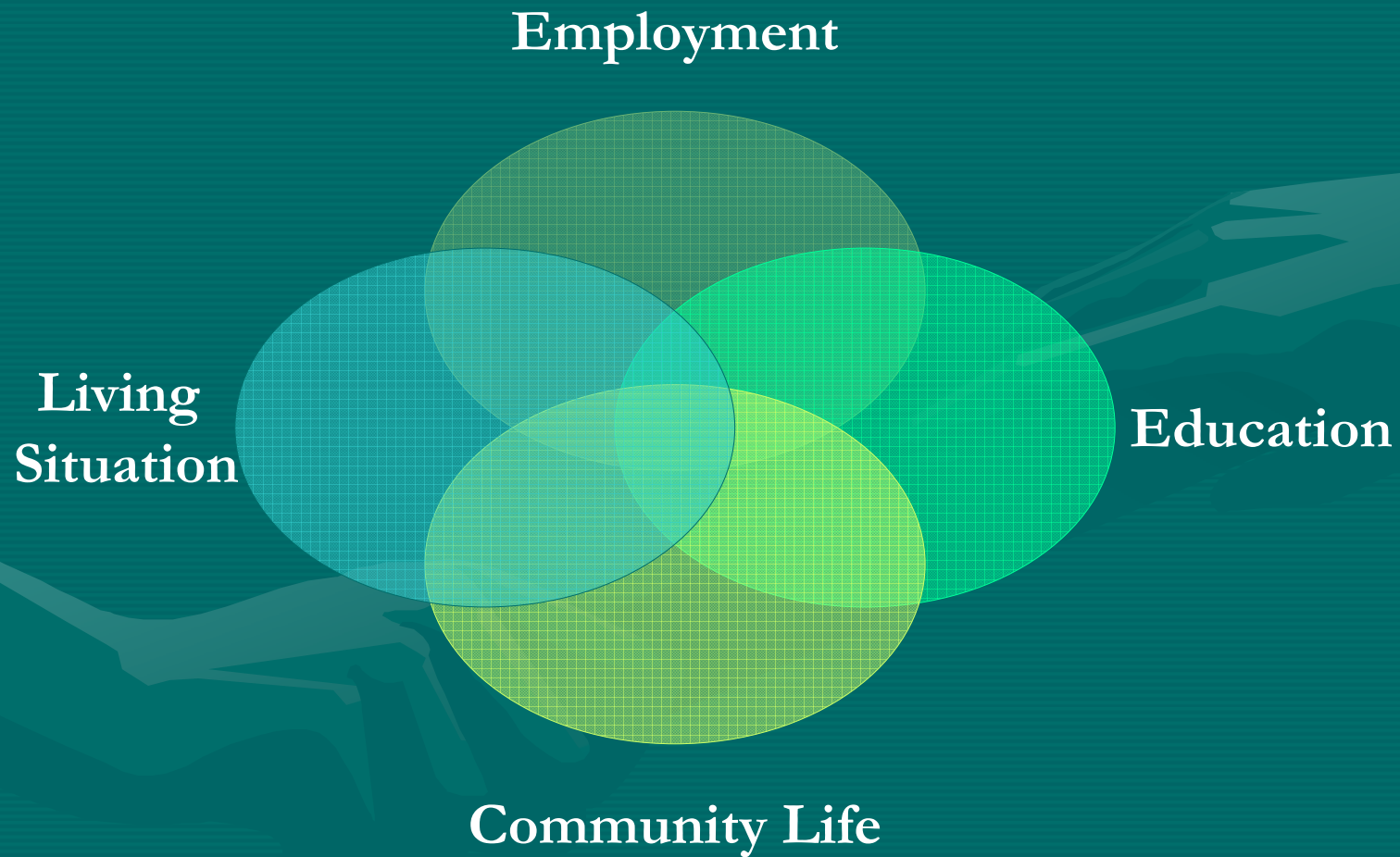
Adulthood

*Have to take initiative to
get services*

- Employment
- Eligibility
- American Disability Act
(ADA)



Transition Areas



CTP Core Principles - *RESPECT*

- We *R*each out to make transition services available to youth
- We believe that *E*veryone can be employed
- We *S*upport our clients' choices
- We take a *P*erson-centered approach = focus is on the individuals' skills rather than on their deficits
- We *E*ngage youth to create and utilize a support system
- We *C*oordinate efforts prior to graduation – the earlier the better!
- We *T*reat employers as customers

CTP - Population Served

- Voluntary program = students who desire to work with the program
- Montgomery County high school juniors and seniors
- Age 16 – 22
- Mental health disability (06 code and/or mental health diagnosis)

CTP – Program Referral Sources

- Public and private schools
- Transition teachers
- Therapists & psychiatrists
- Parents
- Community organizations
- Students

CTP – Support and Assistance

- Support completion of current education plan
 - Graduate from high school
- Provide interest and skill assessment
 - Interest and skill inventories
 - Informational interviews, etc.
- Support career exploration
 - Vocational assessments in form of vocational inventories and/or informational interviews)
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Job shadowing
 - Work trials

CTP – Support and Assistance

- Assist with career preparation
 - Resume assistance
 - Mock interviews
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Internships and apprenticeships
 - Trade schools
- Assist with job search and placement
 - Job development, networking
 - Job search strategies (paper, internet, walk-in, family/friends, etc.)
 - Applications
 - Job coaching and initial on the job training

CTP – Support and Assistance

- Provide linkages for other paths to employment
 - Job Corps
 - Conservation Corps
- Job keep assistance
 - Management of employer-employee relationship (*directly* or *indirectly* depending on disclosure)

There are benefits and risks associated with disclosing a disability to an employer. CTS will discuss with the client individually the benefits and risks of disclosure. However, it is the client's choice whether to disclose.

CTP – Support and Assistance

- Support secondary education goals
 - College search and application
 - College placement testing
 - Financial aid application
 - Scholarship search
 - Provide linkages with disability support services (DSS) at colleges
- Provide other rehabilitation services and/or service referrals as needed
(i.e., DORS, DHHS, travel training, housing, case management, etc.)

CTP – Support and Assistance

Active participation in the program is typically 9 to 18 months.

- Discharge from program:
 - Goals set have been achieved
 - Referral to adult services if continued support is needed
 - Client moves out of the service area (Montgomery County)
 - Client no longer wants to work with CTP
- After care services available for a period of 2 years after discharge:
 - Periodic follow up calls to client
 - CTP available for client calls for assistance with employment, education, and other life issues

CTP – Program Philosophy

- One-on-One relationship = one Career Transition Specialist (CTS) per student
- Weekly meetings between CTS and student at school, at home or in the community
- CTS assists with individualized services (i.e., individual goals, housing, travel training, etc.)

CTP – Program Philosophy

- 50/50 responsibility = student and CTS together carry responsibility to achieve goals
- Support goals and motivations
- No Strike-Out rules!

CTS will continue to support student as long as student wants to continue with the program and is willing to meet with CTS on regular basis

CTP – Youth Transition Demonstration Study (YTD)

- Social Security Administration approved a 4-year study that allows CTP to serve more students in Montgomery County.
- Study is focused on the benefits of receiving transition services.
- Study requirement: Assignment of students into treatment and control groups via randomization.
 - Treatment group receives full CTP services.
 - Control group receives technical assistance services only from CTP (i.e., referrals).

CTP funded through contract # SS00-05-60084 with the Social Security Administration

CTP – YTD Study

What does this mean to the student?

The student could end up in the control group.
However, even if the student is selected to be in the control group it is still a Win-Win situation!

Why?

Any support, even technical assistance only, is better than no support at all!

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CTP – Program Referral and Logistics

- Call a CTP supervisor for referral/consent form
- Assist client in filling out consent form and submit to a CTP program supervisor.
- CTP will contact client and assist client with the phone interview necessary to participate in the study.
- Client will be informed via letter whether s/he has been assigned to the treatment or control group.

CTP – Program Referral and Logistics

- If client has been assigned to the control group, s/he can contact CTP for technical assistance at the phone number indicated in the letter.
- If client has been assigned to the treatment group, client will be contacted by a CTS who will schedule individual face-to-face interviews with the student, parents/guardians and other referral sources (i.e., teacher, therapist, etc.) to gather additional information.

CTP – Program Referral and Logistics

- Once interviews have been concluded a CTS will be matched to the student.
- Assigned CTS will contact the student to schedule the first meeting during which two goals will be defined.

(Goals can be adjusted or changed during the course of the transition program.)

CTP – Contact Information

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CTP – Questions & Answers

Thank you for your assistance and support!