

# Transition Planning

An Introduction to  
Adult Services

With

## The Division of Developmental Disabilities

*contacts with variety of agencies for services*



## Transition Planning

### An Introduction to Adult Services in



### The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

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## What Does DDD Do?

"This office is responsible for planning, providing, and administering supports for adults in Rhode Island with developmental disabilities and their families, by safeguarding the well-being of people with developmental disabilities and protecting them from abuse, neglect and mistreatment; ensuring equitable access to, and allocation of available resources; and enhancing the quality of support so that people with disabilities can identify and move toward personal futures of inclusion and participation in community life".

[http://www.dhhs.state.ri.us/developmental\\_disabilities.htm](http://www.dhhs.state.ri.us/developmental_disabilities.htm)

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## Leaving the familiarity of special education.....



and going where?

and doing what?

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## What Will Happen When A Student Leaves High School?

A brief guide to  
Adult Services within  
The Division of Developmental  
Disabilities (DDD)

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## Who Is Eligible For Services?

- Persons 18 years or older who have demonstrated a significant developmental disability as defined by RI statutory law "developmental disability means a severe, chronic disability which is manifested before the person attains age twenty-two (22) and is likely to continue indefinitely."

<http://www.dhhs.state.ri.us/oseh.htm>

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## What is a Developmental Disability?

- "A severe, chronic disability, other than mental illness, which is
- (a) attributable to a cognitive or physical impairment or combination of cognitive and physical impairments;
- (b) is manifested before the person attains age 22;
- (c) is likely to continue indefinitely;
- (d) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following major areas of life activity: self care; receptive and expressive language; learning; mobility; self-direction; capacity for independent living; economic self-sufficiency; and, reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special, inter-disciplinary, generic care or other services which are of life-long or extended duration."

<http://www.dhhs.state.ri.us/oseh.htm>

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### What Are The Important Timeframes While Still In School ?

- Transition planning within the IEP process should begin by no later than age 14.
- Vocational experiences should begin as early as possible.
- Referral to DDD can occur as early as age 18 but should occur at least 6 months before services are needed.

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### What Services Are Available From DDD?

Assistance and support can be obtained in the following areas as needed

- Service Coordination
- Family Support
- Adaptive Equipment
- Vocational Services/ Supported Employment



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### And There are More Services!

- Community Integration Activities
- Emergency Assistance
- Referral Services to other Agencies
- Environmental Adaptations and Home Modifications
- Residential Supports



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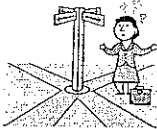
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## How Do They Begin?

- By age 14 the family should begin discussion at the IEP about transition planning and adult services.
- By age 18 the family can apply to DDD.
- A DDD social caseworker will be assigned to the individual after the application process is completed and they have been found eligible for services.



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## What Happens Next?

- Once they are assigned a social caseworker the service assessment process will begin.
- The family will work with the social caseworker to complete a situational assessment.
- Based on this very important information a Personal Capacity Inventory (PCI) and Situational Assessment (SA) will be completed.
- This will be used to determine the "Funding Level."

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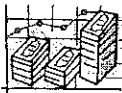
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## What is a Funding level?

- A funding level is an estimate of what the cost of support services will be for a year.
- It is based on the average of what the support costs are for persons with similar needs abilities and situations.
- With this funding level determined, the family can begin the process of finding the supports that the individual will need.



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### What Do They Do With Their Funding Level?

- They may purchase services to meet individual needs from any of the service providers approved by DDD.
- Or, with DDD approval, they can choose to manage their own supports through "Options".
- It should be clear that funds are not 'cash' to an individual. Funds are to be used to purchase services indicated in the ISP.



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### How Do They Know What Services Or Supports Are Needed?

- For some people it is easy to know what supports are needed, others need assistance.
- The social caseworker will work with the individual or family to help determine their service needs.
- There are several support agencies in the community that can also help. Some of these include, RIPIN, PAL, UAP, and Advocates in Action.



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### Now What?

- With the funding level determined, they will be able to develop a **Support Agreement** with their selected service provider to meet their service needs.
- Within 90 days an Individual Support Plan (ISP) will be developed to show how they will be using your supports to reach their personal goals.
- This will be reviewed with the individual or family annually and changes made as needed.

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