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The Learning and Working During the Transition to Adulthood Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

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The Learning and Working During the Transition to Adulthood
Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

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Learning – Working – Learning – Working

Support the movement from student to worker

Examine psychosocial maturation and its implications for interventions

Conduct participatory action research and dissemination

The Learning and Working During the Transition to Adulthood Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (Transitions RTC) conducts research, training, dissemination and technical assistance activities. The aim of these activities is to improve supports for the successful completion of schooling and movement into rewarding work lives in young people, ages 14-30, with serious mental health conditions. The RTC conducts cutting-edge rigorous research that tests or informs interventions that support education, training and working during the transition to adulthood. The RTC’s research and dissemination activities are conducted in partnership with youth and young adults with mental health conditions, and input from family members. The translation of this knowledge speeds capacity building for service providers and the movement of findings into practice and policy. The RTC is funded by a 5-year grant from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.

**PRINCIPLES**

- Support the movement from student to worker
- Examine psychosocial maturation and its implications for interventions
- Conduct participatory action research and dissemination

**PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH**

Jonathan Delman, M.P.H., J.D., Associate Director

Research, training, and dissemination activities are guided by consumer transition age youth and young adults (TAYYA) Project Associates (PAs) working at the RTC. Project Associates will gather the voice of youth across the nation and:

- receive thorough research training and orientation
- advise the RTC research and training staff
- conduct research interviews
- assist in developing and/or conducting trainings
- communicate research findings to young adult consumers

**MISSION**

Research and dissemination activities are singularly focused on developing knowledge for and about developmentally appropriate services that help Transition Age Youth and Young Adults (TAYYA) with Serious Mental Health Conditions (SMHC) successfully complete their schooling and training and launch their adult working careers.

**PROJECT GOALS**

Marsha Ellison, Ph.D., Associate Director

D1: Develop and pilot a curriculum on the transition needs of students with SMHC for masters level secondary special education teachers at the University of Oregon

D2: Use factors that are identified as appealing or inhibiting across the three vocational models in Study B3 to enhance and refine the Clubhouse Young Adult Training Curriculum currently used in a Worcester, Massachusetts clubhouse.

D3: Utilize consumer insight in the design of dissemination activities to deliver our research findings to multiple audiences

D5: Use experiences from our research and training projects to provide technical assistance to various stakeholders.

**RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Charles Lids, Ph.D., Associate Director

Study A1: Making a Difference in High School

Lyn Newman, Ph.D. & Mary Wagner, SRI International

Study A2: Age-Associated Needs, Services, & Outcomes of Participants Enrolled in Supported Education

Kenneth Gill, Ph.D., CPRP., (UMDNJ)

Study A3: Adapting Evidence-Based Supported Employment for Transition Age Youth

Maryann Davis, Ph.D., UMMS

Study B1: Support of Schooling & Early Employment in Justice-System Involved Emerging Adults

Maryann Davis, Ph.D., UMMS

Study B2: Job Seeking Experiences & Employers’ Perceptions of TAYYA with Serious Mental Health Conditions

William Farrow, Ph.D. & Steven Lee, Ph.D., UMMS

Study B3: Appealing Features of Vocational Supports for Latino & Non-Latino TAYYA Consumers

Rosalie Torres Stone, Ph.D., UMMS

Study C1: Improving Child & Adult Mental Health Services Coordination

Maryann Davis, Ph.D., UMMS & Nancy Rosefall, Ph.D., Portland RTC

D1: Develop a Community of Practice where various stakeholders can work together to develop actions that improve rehabilitation services for TAYYA with SMHC

D4: Work with The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law to provide technical assistance to various stakeholders.