How do I get started with a Cross Systems Transition Conference?

Complete a referral form and email it to:

Jessica Chelik at chelikj@lsbhidei.org

AND

Lori Chaffers at chaffersl@lackawannacounty.org.

OR

Fax the referral to Jessica Chelik at 570-963-6435.

Meetings are held monthly. The referral source will receive a confirmation email stating that the referral was received and a follow up email letting you know when and where the CSTC is scheduled.

Lackawanna County Independent Living Collaborative

The Independent Living Collaborative is a group of approximately 30 agencies and organizations including schools, community agencies, intellectual disability, mental health, and substance abuse providers who are serving youth ranging in age from 14 through 21 years old.

The goal of the Independent Living Collaborative is to improve communication and service delivery between providers for youth in transition in order to support successful transitions into adulthood.

For more information about the Cross Systems Transition Conference or the Lackawanna County Independent Living Collaborative, please contact Jessica Chelik or Lori Chaffers.

Need help navigating the transition from adolescence to adulthood?

Not sure how all the pieces fit together?

Are you nervous about what your next steps might be?

Cross Systems Transition Conference

A Collaboration of the Lackawanna County Department of Human Services

What is a Cross Systems Transition Conference?

A Cross Systems Transition Conference is a meeting with a youth who is involved in with multiple systems, their family (if desired) and various service provider representatives from the child and adult systems.

The **goal** of the conference is to identify strengths in the transition process and barriers to a successful transition. The meeting will result in the youth developing a coordinated plan to transition successfully into adulthood. The plan will address a variety of issues and service providers.

Why should I participate, or refer a youth, for a Cross Systems Transition Conference?

A Cross Systems Transition Conference is a way for multiple systems to coordinate services all at the same time. A CSTC can help link youth and their families to providers and services in the adult system such as housing providers, employment opportunities, and community based support services.

When should a CSTC be held?

Don't wait for a crisis! Best practice suggests that the earlier a plan can be developed and the more people communicate and understand the plan, then the better the outcome will be!

Am I Eligible?

Youth are eligible if:

- He or she is 14 years-old or older at the time of the referral.
- The youth is a resident of Lackawanna County.
- The youth is involved in two or more systems to meet their needs.

CSTC provides youth and their families with a place to dream and plan for that often rocky, sometimes scary, transition into adulthood.

Who can refer a youth for a CSTC?

Anyone working with a youth who believes a collaborative effort is needed for a youth to transition successfully into adulthood may refer students. This includes:

- Schools- teachers, guidance counselors, transition coordinators, etc.
- Community-based service providers
- Mental health, intellectual disability, drug and alcohol treatment providers
- Youth & Parents can self-refer

Who are the partners that participate in a Cross Systems Transition Conference?

Standing Partners

- Mental Health/Behavioral Health – Adult and Child Provider Agencies
- Lackawanna/Susquehanna Behavioral/Intellectual Disability Services/ Early Intervention
- Lackawanna/Susquehanna Drug and Alcohol Program
- Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services – Independent Living Program
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Community Care Behavioral Health Organization
- Lackawanna County Juvenile Probation Office
- NEIU 19
- Representatives from local school districts and advocacy groups

Most importantly, you! Youth can identify any specific person or provider that he or she may wish to invite.