

## ADULT AGENCY LINKAGES

### **Department of Developmental Services**

[www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dds](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dds)

### **Massachusetts Commission for the Blind**

[www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcb](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcb)

### **Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing**

[www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcdhh](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mcdhh)

### **Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission**

[www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mrc](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/mrc)

## WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

### **Federation for Children with Special Needs**

[fcsn.org/ptic/events](http://fcsn.org/ptic/events)

### **Multicultural Community Services**

[www.mcsnet.org/training](http://www.mcsnet.org/training)

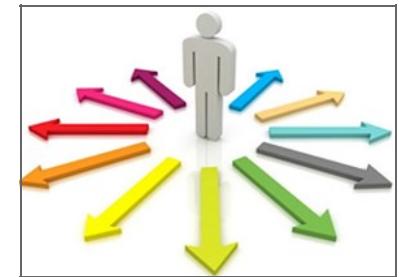
### **Department of Developmental Services**

Annual Transition Event. Ask your Transition Coordinator for date and location.

These Services/ Organizations are resources for you to explore. They have not been endorsed by MCS. Please contact Michael Romanovitch at: (413) 782-2500 or [michaelro@mcsnet.org](mailto:michaelro@mcsnet.org) to comment on these listings or to suggest additional resources .



## Transition Turning 22



Resources to improve the future of youth transitioning from high school to employment, day programs, individual living or supported living.

### MCS Office Locations

Springfield Office  
1000 Wilbraham Road  
Springfield, MA 01109  
Tel : 413-782-2500

Westfield Office  
3 State Street  
Westfield , MA 01085  
Tel: 413-562-4885

Holyoke Office  
260 Westfield Road  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
Tel:413-534-3299

Visit our website at [www.mcsnet.org](http://www.mcsnet.org)

 Follow us on Facebook at:  
[facebook.com/MCSofthePioneerValley](https://facebook.com/MCSofthePioneerValley)

## **Transition...**

### **It's a Process**

*“Transition is a bridge between the security and structure offered by the school and the opportunities and risks of adult life. Any bridge requires both a solid span and secure foundation at either end. The transition from school to work and adult life requires sound preparation in the secondary school, adequate support at the point of school leaving, and secure opportunities and services, if needed, in adult situations.”*

- Madeline Will, parent

### **What are Transition Services?**

Transition services are the services school districts must provide to transition-age students in special education to prepare them for post-secondary education, employment, and independent living. The necessary transition services vary from student to student according to their own unique needs. Transition services start at age 14 and conclude at the 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

Often times, this is a period of anxiety and confusion for families. There are many new rules to understand, new people and agencies to get to know and form relationships with, and unknown situations to face. Your DDS Transition Coordinator will work with your family throughout the transition process.

## **Transition Topics**

- Age of Majority (Representative Payee/Health Care Proxy/Power of Attorney/Conservatorship/Guardianship)
- Community Day Planning
- DDS Eligibility
- Employment and Transportation
- Futures Planning
- Jury Duty and Selective Service
- Living Situation
- MCAS Testing
- Medical transition
- Post secondary education
- Public Benefits (Social Security / SSI, MassHealth, Food Stamps)
- School to work
- Self-advocacy and determination
- The Individual Transition Plan (DDS)
- Transition Planning Form (TPF)
- 688 Referral — Transition Planning Law

## **TRANSITION RESOURCES**

### **Federation for Children with Special Needs**

[A Family Guide to Transition Services in Massachusetts](http://www.fcsn.org/transition_guide/english.pdf)  
www.fcsn.org/transition\_guide/english.pdf

### **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education**

#### Transition Planning Form

www.doe.mass.edu/sped/links/transition

### **Department of Developmental Services** The Road Forward, A Guide to Transition Planning

www.mass.gov/eohhs/consumer/disability-services/services-by-type/intellectual-disability/turning-22.html

## **LOCAL RESOURCES**

### **Stavros - Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP)**

www.stavros.org/tap-program.html

### **Center for Human Development - Making Health Connections**

www.chd.org