



## P2P Partners with GVRA

There is clearly a tremendous need to improve education and training services as well as supports for job seekers. To try to meet this need, Parent to Parent is partnering with Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) on a project focused on improving employment outcomes for youth with disabilities. The Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) was formed in 2012 with a mission to maximize employment opportunities and independence for individuals with disabilities. This project is called Career Pathways to Work: Explore, Engage and Employ or the “E3 Project”. Project funding is from the US Department of Education. Georgia was only one of four states to receive such a grant. Georgia’s grant award is \$4.7 million over 5 years. This project will work to increase the high school completion rate for students with disabilities, increase career pathways for students, increase the number of youth with disabilities who achieve competitive integrated employment, and increase the average weekly wage and employer benefits.



The project will initially be piloted in five school districts in Georgia; Troup county, Hall county Paulding county, Decatur county and the three state schools (the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf, the Georgia School for the Deaf, and the Georgia Academy for the Blind). The program will expand to other school districts in the following 3 years.

Parent to Parent is hiring Transition Partners to work in each of these districts. Transition Partners are available to assist families with transition, education and healthcare issues. In addition to providing one-on-one assistance, they will be able to match families to a Supporting Parent, connect them to providers from our database and provide reading and resource materials from our Virtual Library. They will also be coordinating training and educational sessions on transition topics throughout the year. Parent to Parent is excited to be a part of the E3 project!