

Their last day of School, should look like the first day of the rest of their life!!!

Vol. 1 No. 3 August 15, 2022

KTCC Newsletter

Kansas Transition Coordinating Council

Resources & Upcoming Professional Learning Events

A quick highlight of Secondary Transition upcoming professional learning events, supports, and resources in Kansas sponsored by [Kansas State Department of Education \(KSDE\)](#), [Kansas Vocational Rehabilitation](#), [Families Together Inc.](#), [Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators \(KASEA\)](#), [Kansas Technical Assistance System Network \(TASN\)](#), [Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities \(KUCDD\)](#), [Kansas Department of Health and Environment \(KDHE\)](#), [Kansas Department of Corrections](#), [Kansas Youth Empowerment Academy \(KYEA\)](#)

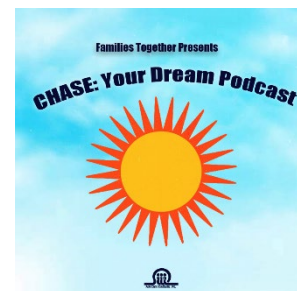
Chase Your Dream Podcast Series



*Leia Holley,
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Families Together is excited to share our new **Chase Your Dream** podcast series. The goal of our **CHASE Your Dream** podcast series is to help youth and others, learn skills and strategies for developing positive mental health and well-being. Each podcast provides great information and activities for supporting mental wellness. [Audio | Families Together, Inc. \(bandcamp.com\)](#)

The first episode is about self-talk or how to speak to ourselves positively in our own mind. [Episode 1: Self-Talk | Families Together, Inc. \(bandcamp.com\)](#)



The second episode is about the benefits of connecting with nature. [Episode 2: Connecting to Nature | Families Together, Inc. \(bandcamp.com\)](#)



Kansas Rehabilitation Services: Pre-ETS and VR

Pre- Employment Transition Services: Ages 14-21

Empowering youth with disabilities to achieve their highest employment potential is one of the major goals of Rehabilitation Services (RS). To help achieve this goal, RS is providing Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), designed to provide job exploration counseling, self-advocacy, workplace readiness training, counseling on comprehensive transition or post-secondary education and work-based learning experiences (paid and non-paid) to help young people prepare for employment and self-reliance.

- (1) **Job Exploration Counseling:** Provides students with disabilities the opportunity to explore how their skills and interests match with jobs available in the labor market.
- (2) **Self-Advocacy:** Empowers students with disabilities to express their needs and goals in a variety of settings such as school and work.
- (3) **Workplace Readiness Training:** Supplies students with disabilities with the opportunity to learn power skills necessary for success on the job, such as customer service, how to interact with co-workers, supervisors, being on time, etc.
- (4) **Counseling on Comprehensive Transition or Post-Secondary Education:** Provides a clear path to an employment future for students with disabilities.
- (5) **Work-Based Learning Experiences (paid and non-paid):** Provides work-based learning experiences where youth can learn the skills necessary to succeed in the workplace and experience the benefits of earned income. To participate in a Paid Work-Based Learning Experience students must be enrolled in at least their second semester Junior (11th grade) year and above.

Students must meet the following criteria in order to participate in Pre-ETS:

- Must be 14 – 21 years of age (not younger than age 14 and not older than age 21)
- Must be participating in a secondary, post-secondary or other recognized education program. Educational programs include secondary education programs; non-traditional or alternative secondary education programs including home schooling; post-secondary education programs; and other recognized educational programs, such as those offered through the juvenile justice system.
- Meets one of the following criteria to verify disability: The student is eligible for and receiving services under an Individual Education Plan (special education) OR the student is an individual with a disability as defined under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
 - An individual with a disability as defined in Section 504 means: any person who:
 - (1) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
 - (2) Has a record of such an impairment; or
 - (3) Is regarded as having such an impairment.Major life activities include walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks.
Services are designed to be an early start at job exploration and to assist students with disabilities in making the transition from secondary to post-secondary education/training and competitive integrated employment.

For referral to the Pre-ETS Transition Specialist serving your community, please call the Rehabilitation Services toll-free Customer Service Line: 1-866-213-9079.

Kansas Rehabilitation Services: Pre-ETS and VR

Vocational Rehabilitation Services: Ages 14 and Up

Designed to help Kansas citizens with disabilities meet their employment goals, Rehabilitation Services offers a variety of vocational rehabilitation (VR) services.

VR services are customized according to each person's unique needs, skills, interest, and abilities. Services which may be provided to help you become employed include:

- Vocational assessment to help you identify your skills
- Vocational counseling and guidance
- Physical and mental restoration services, including artificial limbs, psychotherapy, and physical therapy
- Training and education to learn new vocational skills
- Rehabilitation technology, telecommunication aids and other adaptive devices
- Job placement services
- Services to help students with disabilities get a job after finishing high school
- Supported employment
- Referral to other services

Who can receive VR Services?

We work with people with all types of physical and mental disabilities. To receive VR services, you must meet all three parts of the following eligibility requirements:

- (1) You must have a physical or mental impairment or disability; and
- (2) Your disability must result in a substantial impediment to employment; and
- (3) You must require VR services to prepare for, secure, retain or regain employment.

Please Note: Individuals who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) are presumed to be eligible to receive services.

Are there any Fees?

The assessment services needed to determine if you are eligible, vocational counseling, guidance, referral and job placement will be provided at no cost. Our payment for most other services will depend on whether you meet financial need guidelines.

If employment is your first priority, please call our toll-free Customer Service Line for referral to the office serving your community: 1-866-213-9079

Upcoming Activities and Events

Empowering Families Workshop Series – Virtual



Date of Events: August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15 - 2022

Target Audience: Families, Transition Age Youth, and Professionals

Description: Join Families Together and KUCDD as we explore ways to create an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that truly reflects your youth's vision for a good life. Parents and professionals will walk away understanding parent rights and with ideas, strategies, and resources for using person-centered planning, self-determination, and supported decision-making to help youth transition successfully.

For more Information & Register, visit [Empowering Families 2022 Workshop Series Registration, Thu, August 18, 2022 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

SHIFT Transition to Adulthood- Hays, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: August 27, 2022

Target Audience: Families, Transition Age Youth, and Professionals

Description: Join us as we explore person-centered planning and learn about the transition process, Vocational Rehabilitation services, Independent Living Centers, Medicaid waivers and so much more. Families and youth will leave with a plan outlining next steps for their transition from high school to adult life.

For more Information & Register, visit [SHIFT Transition to Adulthood - Hays Registration, Sat, August 27, 2022 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Topeka Education Advocate Training- Topeka, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: September 8, 2022

Target Audience: Families, Transition Age Youth, and Professionals

Description: This training is required for persons wishing to serve as an education advocate in Kansas. The Kansas State Department of Education has contracted with Families Together, Inc. to coordinate the Education Advocate Program. Education Advocates "step into the role" of the parent in special education matters and advocate for the child/student. Advocates should be willing to assert their rights as the legal educational decision maker and effectively advocate for the student while working to build a strong school team around the student.

For more Information & Register, visit [Topeka Education Advocate Training Registration, Thu, Sep 8, 2022 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Upcoming Activities and Events Continued

Together We Can Learning Conference- Overland Park, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: September 17, 2022

Target Audience: *Families, Education Advocates, Youth and Young Adults, Schools Personnel, Teachers, and Community Partners*

Description: This conference is an outstanding opportunity for family members, professionals and others to gain invaluable information and network! Make sure to review the sessions being offered.

For more Information & Register, visit [Together We Can Learn | Families Together, Inc. \(familiestogetherinc.org\)](https://www.familiestogetherinc.org)

Wichita Education Advocate Training- Wichita, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: October 6, 2022

Target Audience: *Families, Transition Age Youth, and Professionals*

Description: This training is required for persons wishing to serve as an education advocate in Kansas. The Kansas State Department of Education has contracted with Families Together, Inc. to coordinate the Education Advocate Program. Education Advocates “step into the role” of the parent in special education matters and advocate for the child/student. Advocates should be willing to assert their rights as the legal educational decision maker and effectively advocate for the student while working to build a strong school team around the student. **For more Information & Register, visit [Wichita Education Advocate Training](#)**

Registration, Thu, October 6, 2022 at 9:00 AM | [Eventbrite](#)

KSDE Secondary Transition Regional Workshop Wichita, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: October 6, 2022

Target Audience: *Administrators, Educators, Family/Community*

EDUCATION Description: Do you want to learn about strategies that meet IDEA requirements but also help enrich the post-school outcomes process for students? In this half-day professional development, participants will learn how to ensure that all components of the transition planning process are aligned to create a meaningful secondary transition plan, along with learning about resources and planning tools. This professional development opportunity is designed for secondary teachers and transition specialists/coordinators.

For more Information & Register, visit [TASN Events](#) | [KSDE TASN](#)

KSDE Secondary Transition Regional Workshop Topeka, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: October 11, 2022

Target Audience: *Administrators, Educators, Family/Community*

EDUCATION Description: Do you want to learn about strategies that meet IDEA requirements but also help enrich the post-school outcomes process for students? In this half-day professional development, participants will learn how to ensure that all components of the transition planning process are aligned to create a meaningful secondary transition plan, along with learning about resources and planning tools. This professional development opportunity is designed for secondary teachers and transition specialists/coordinators.

For more Information & Register, visit [TASN Events](#) | [KSDE TASN](#)

Upcoming Activities and Events Continued

KSDE Secondary Transition Regional Workshop Hays, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: October 13, 2022

Target Audience: *Administrators, Educators, Family/Community*

Description: Do you want to learn about strategies that meet IDEA requirements but also help enrich the post-school outcomes process for students? In this half-day professional development, participants will learn how to ensure that all components of the transition planning process are aligned to create a meaningful secondary transition plan, along with learning about resources and planning tools. This professional development opportunity is designed for secondary teachers and transition specialists/coordinators.

For more Information & Register, visit [TASN Events](#) | [KSDE TASN](#)

Olathe Education Advocate Training- Olathe, KS- In-Person Event



Date of Event: November 15, 2022

Target Audience: *Families, Transition Age Youth, and Professionals*

Description: This training is required for persons wishing to serve as an education advocate in Kansas. The Kansas State Department of Education has contracted with Families Together, Inc. to coordinate the Education Advocate Program. Education Advocates “step into the role” of the parent in special education matters and advocate for the child/student. Advocates should be willing to assert their rights as the legal educational decision maker and effectively advocate for the student while working to build a strong school team around the student.

For more Information & Register, visit [Olathe Education Advocate Training Registration, Tue, November 15, 2022 at 9:00 AM](#) | [Eventbrite](#)

Resource Highlights

Kansas State Department of Education Secondary Transition – This website aims to increase the understanding of *what* must be done for transition planning and *how* transition planning can be accomplished.

KanCare- Working Healthy Medicaid Buy-in Program- *Working Healthy* employment supports and programs are KanCare programs, and eligibility includes Medicaid coverage and assistance with the costs of some Medicare programs.

Working Healthy Fast Fact Sheet- Employment incentive program fact sheet.

Transition Alliance Greenbush – Breaking Down Silos. Building Bridges- The Transition Alliance at Greenbush works with professionals of all backgrounds to ensure that they have the skills and training to improve practices and provide comprehensive wraparound support for students with disabilities transitioning from public education to adult service providers.

KSDE Secondary Transition Webinars, Materials, and Resources- This webpage, you can locate all previous KSDE Secondary Transition Webinars recordings, handouts, and materials. This webpage will also have a schedule of all the upcoming webinars scheduled and links to register.

Secondary Transition Reset- Secondary Transition Reset focuses on the IEP and Indicator 13 requirements for secondary transition. This is a great resource for Administrators, Educators, and Related Service/Support Staff.

Secondary Transition FAQs- This resource contains answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) about IEP requirements related to secondary transition. This is a great resource for Administrators, Educators, and Related Service/Support Staff.

Transition Assessment Links- This document contains hot links to websites with information about secondary transition assessments.