



## Y-TAC Peer Mentoring

Missouri, 2019

In collaboration with the Workforce Innovation National Technical Assistance Center (WINTAC), Y-TAC is assisting Missouri's vocational rehabilitation (VR) agency in developing their first ever peer mentoring program for students with disabilities in the foster care or juvenile justice systems. In August and September, Y-TAC provided training to Missouri VR staff and community partners in Springfield and Kansas City by introducing them to a national peer mentoring model called RAMP. The [Ready to Achieve Mentoring Program](#) (RAMP) is a federally funded initiative developed specifically for providing peer mentoring to youth in the juvenile justice system.



Participants at the Peer Mentoring Training



Two RAMP trainers engaged participants in a full day of learning about the foundation, structure, and implementation of RAMP and guided discussions around how peer mentoring will work in Missouri. Over 40 participants attended the training and will continue to develop the structure for their own peer mentoring sites. As students are selected for participation in the peer mentoring program, they will have the opportunity to engage in various pre-employment transition services (Pre-ETS) provided by the VR agency through partnership with centers for independent living (CIL) or local universities.

For more information about this innovative partnership, contact Kim Osmani, Technical Assistance Liaison, at [kosmani@cornell.edu](mailto:kosmani@cornell.edu).