

## Transition Services

### State Sponsored Career/Employment Readiness and Exploration

- Pre-Employment Transition Services (PreETS)-Program engages students with disabilities in purposeful activities to help them reach their education and career goals through job exploration, work-based learning experience, Counseling for post-secondary education, workplace readiness training, and instruction in self-advocacy. This program is in collaboration with Mizzou and our service partner, Amanda Webb visits once per month with juniors and seniors who opted into the program.
- Missouri Connections-One stop platform for college and career readiness. A free web-based career system which provides comprehensive information for students developing college and career plans. It includes tools that encourage self-assessment, exploration, research, goal setting and decision making. (With fiscal responsibility in mind, we plan to replace Naviance with Missouri Connections.)
- Missouri Rehabilitation Services (Vocational Rehabilitation)-VR helps eligible students who are at the age of employability obtain, maintain or advance in employment. VR assist students obtain employment the summer prior to their senior year for summer work and seniors are eligible to participate for post-secondary services if their disability constitutes a substantial impediment to employment and they require services to assist in preparing, securing, engage in in and retaining employment. Representative meets with students once per month.

### External/Private Referral Partnerships

- Dream Big-Supplemental after school transition program designed to empower youth with disabilities who are college and or technical school bound to explore different career paths and understand the steps necessary to successfully live independently. There are three components- Career Camp (meets monthly via zoom with a different topic each month, Career Camp (a three week that combines curriculum on various topics such as reasonable accommodations and disclosure with visits to leading companies in the area.
- Pathways to Independence-Supplemental transition after school social activities coupled with a coach to build social and life skills. Families chose from a calendar of events and participate at their convenience.

- St. Louis Arc-Launch-Supplemental program where students attend sessions weekly to enhance interpersonal and self-management skills in order to achieve goals in the areas of relationship development, education, employment and independent living. Services are during school year as well as post-secondary experiences. Transition Workshops, Self-Advocacy Workshops and Life Course Connect Missouri are offered throughout the year at St. Louis Arc.

### Partnerships within Miriam

- The Switching Post- Students have opportunity to learn skills helping customers, staffing the cash register, stocking, answering phones, processing donations, cleaning and polishing donated items, and keeping the shop tidy and clean. Shifts are as little as three hours during the summer. We would like to expand to 1-2 students volunteering during the school year in years to come.
- Enrichment-After school enrichment program two evenings during school year which includes music and cooking classes offered through the Learning Center.
- Young Adult Services (YAS)-offers socialization and a place to feel emotionally supported. YAS also offers services year-round which include: In-person help with online college courses, In-person and Zoom homework help, organized recreational & sports activities, fun monthly community outings, supported volunteer opportunities, open gym time and free coffee bar, video gaming, ping pong, foosball, and a relaxation area to hang with friends.

### Post-Secondary Training

- Access Point-Program which focuses on computer technology skills in various domains. The program begins in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of student's senior year and continues post-graduation with a paid internship and placement into a position with a competitive salary in St. Louis' areas top companies.
- Lafayette Industries-Lafayette Industries offers workshop for workers who were unable to be serviced by VR. Lafayette Industries provides employment for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID & DD) within its contract packaging business.
- Step UP-A competitive employment training program for adults with ID and or Autism which combines a professional classroom setting and an internship within a practical worksite. Currently Pioneer Bakery Café is the partnering worksite.
- STLWorks-STLWorks is a resource for learning about all the benefits of skilled careers (the jobs that don't require a Bachelor's degree), the different paths available to students, and the resources in our city that can help individuals gain the skills needed to get employment. A resource for training, apprenticeships and more.

### College Planning Information

- Journey to College-Free information packets were distributed to every student. We assist Seniors individually in applying for college as opposed to having an Apply Day event. FAFSA Frenzy will be an event where we invite an experienced college financial aid representative to meet via Zoom with interested parents to answer questions about FAFSA.
- A+ Scholarship-Students who receive a 16 on the Math sub score, have 95% attendance rate, and plan to attend a community college or technical school in Missouri may qualify for tuition paid scholarships for two years.

- College Financial Planning Webinar – Webinar offered to parents to assist in navigating paying for college.

#### Post-Secondary College Support for Unique Learners

- University of Missouri-St. Louis, Succeed-Program designed to encourage and develop pathways towards student independence. And provide an opportunity for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to develop the skills necessary to be a part of the larger community through inclusion in university life. Students earn the Chancellor's certificate after completing a two-year residential or commuter program.
- University of Missouri-Columbia, Strive- Program designed to improve the employment outcomes of students diagnosed with Autism through direct instruction, peer mentoring and work experiences. STRIVE participants will receive 300 hours of skill instruction, 60 hours of mentorship and up to 300 hours of work experience during the 10-month program.
- Ranken Technical College-Ranken is focused on preparing students to succeed at every level. With a commitment to hands-on training, programs for only the most relevant, in-demand careers, and strong relationships with employers, Ranken is ranked as one of the best technical schools in the Midwest.
- St. Louis Community Colleges-The STLCC system offers a variety of options for students that desire to gain skills, but do not wish to go to a traditional college or university. The programs that are offered give students a career centered focus for their future.

#### Additional Opportunities

- St. Louis County Pet Adoption Center- Opportunity for students to volunteer after school or weekends helping with care of animals, cleaning stalls and preparing treats for the animals.
- PreACT 8/9, PreACT and ACT WorkKeys- We provided a school wide testing day for students to experience what testing might look like if they were applying for a job and practice for students who would take the ACT. Seniors and a few juniors took the WorkKeys which assesses job readiness skills in applied math, work documents and graphic literacy.
- Schnucks-Part time employment opportunities for junior and seniors who desire to work 16-20 hours per week as a bagger or stock clerk. Enhances social and independent living skills.