

# **ODEP/HSCF and Got Transition/Center for Health Care Transition Improvement Alliance**

Alliance Report/ April 25, 2014-April 25, 2016

## **I. Alliance Background**

Date Signed: April 25, 2014

This report describes the purpose, scope of the Alliance between the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), the HSC Foundation and the Center for Health Care Transition Improvement, a list of the team members and contributors, events, products and results achieved.

### **Overview**

#### **Summary of Purpose of the Alliance**

#### **Alliance Partners**

The HSC Foundation is dedicated to improving access to services for individuals who face social and health care barriers due to disability, chronic illness, or other circumstances that present unique needs. The Youth Transitions Collaborative is a powerful community of more than 45 organizations that share a common mission: to empower youth and young people with disabilities as they enter adulthood and the world of work.

Got Transition/Center for Health Care Transition Improvement is a cooperative agreement between the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health. Our aim is to improve transition from pediatric to adult health care through the use of new and innovative strategies for health professionals and youth and families.

#### **Alliance Purpose**

ODEP, the Youth Transitions Collaborative and Got Transition recognized the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to promote the employment of youth and young veterans with disabilities, including those who have chronic health conditions. This Alliance was formed to provide the Collaborative's members and other stakeholders with information, technical assistance, and access to resources to help build the capacity of regional and national

organizations to empower youth and young veterans with disabilities to create a self-directed path to integrated employment and optimal health and well-being.

Specifically, under this Alliance, all parties agreed to work together to demonstrate linkages between health-care transition and employment transition. This Alliance set out to accomplish the following activities:

- Leverage Alliance members' networks and websites to disseminate career planning and health care transition resources.
- Identify and develop resources regarding the interdependence between health and well-being, career exploration, and employment.
- Increase education and outreach opportunities to engage health care providers and other youth service professionals, youth, and families in health care and employment transition planning.

## **Implementation Team Members**

**ODEP:** Laura Ibañez, Policy Advisor, Workforce Systems Youth Policy Team (\*note: Laura served as Alliance Coordinator from April 25, 2014-September 21, 2015/Nathan Cunningham of the Youth Team was appointed to replace her), Cherise Hunter, Research Analyst. **ODEP Contributors:** Rhonda Basha, Supervisory Policy Advisor, Youth Policy, Meredith DeDona, Policy Advisor, Employment-Related Support Policy Team and Carol Dunlap, PC&O Business Development Specialist.

**Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) Members:** Curtis Richards, Director, Center for Workforce Development, NCWD-Youth, Frances Vhay, Program Associate, Center for workforce Development, NCWD-Youth.

**HSCF:** Jessie MacKinnon, VP Program and Partnership HSCF and COO NYTC, Ryan Easterly, Manager, National Youth Transitions Initiative (Note: Ryan left HSCF during this alliance and Jessica Queener replaced him);

**GOT TRANSITION:** Margaret McManus, President, The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health, Daniel Beck, Research Assistant and Program Assistant, Lindsey Toler, Assistant and HSC Foundation Fellow. **Got Transition Contributor:** Marie Mann, HHS/HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau Health Resources and Services Administration.

## **Evaluation Period**

This report covers the period: April 25, 2014 – April 25, 2016.

## II. Implementation Team Meetings

The team met face-to-face quarterly with agency updates and outside presenters and held monthly check-in conference calls.

### Meetings

#### Highlights

- 2.26.14 Alliance signing and first quarterly Implementation Team Meeting
- 3.25.14 Big Think Discussion
- 5.30.14 Monthly call: Introductions, Updates, Next Steps
- 6.9.14 Got Transition shared their 6-point checklist of Health Care Transition Milestones.
- 6.12.14 Article on role for school nurses in health care transition, particularly at the high school level:  
<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2014/June/10/Andrews-school-nurse-access-to-health-records.aspx>.
- 7.2.14 NDEAM Posters (English and Spanish pdfs) sent to team following call.
- 7.25.14 Quarterly Meeting: ODEP's Shaun McGill presented *Employer Engagement Strategies That Work*  
YouthACT participation forms were shared with all Alliance participants.
- 10.8.14 DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy sponsoring roundtable on pregnancy prevention and youth with disabilities announced.
- 10.17.14 Quarterly Meeting: ODEP's Rhonda Basha gave a presentation on WIOA
- 12.2.14 The [Texas Transition and Employment Guide](#) was shared.
- 2.5.15 Reminder of RTC webinar on 2.10.15: The Employment Market for Young Adults with Serious Mental Health Conditions: Barriers and Solutions
- 4.28.15 Webinar announced: *Improving Employment Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities*
- 8.2.15 Webinar on *Work Based Learning Strategies in Postsecondary Education* announced.
- 9.22.15 and 10.6.15 Planning and walk through for October 13, 2015 Alliance Webinar.
- 10.8.15 Federal Partners in Transition's first webinar announced: *Connecting Partners*

*and Resources to Prepare Youth for Careers (11.10.15/1-2:30 pm)*

10.13.15 Alliance webinar held October 13, 2015: *Career and Health Transitions: Take Charge of Planning and Managing Your Own Health and Career Goals*. Guidance, tools and resources were shared on the importance of career and health transition planning.

**Sampling of additional articles shared:**

*Training Aims to Tackle Autism Knowledge Gap Among Doctors*

*IOM & NRC Release New Report on Health and Well-Being of Young Adults*

*Addressing Chronic Conditions in Schools*

*Changing Trends of Childhood Disability*

*NYT Addressing a Gap (people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are medically underserved) 10.28.14*

*HHS Announces \$99 Million in New Grants to Improve Mental Health Services for Young People*

*Birth Control Options Stressed for Teens with Disabilities*

*Support Urged for Families Weighing Out-of-Home Placements*

*Doctor Ignorance Stands in the Way of Care for the Disabled (NPR)*

*The Challenges After Surviving a Childhood Disease*

*Women with Disabilities Tackle Reproductive Health*

*The Informed Patient: More Hospitals Tailor Cancer Care to Teens and Young Adults*

### **III. Outcome Summary**

Under this Alliance, a quick guide was created and widely disseminated: *Youth Transition: Career and Health Checklist for Youth and Young Adults*:

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/pdf/HealthCareCareerTransitionQuickGuide.pdf>

The guide includes pertinent information on health insurance, self-care, transition to Adult Health Care, Decision-making and Guardianship, Career and seven specific resources. It was released during July 2015--ADA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary month.

The second major outcome from this Alliance was a robust webinar entitled *Career and Health Transitions: Take Charge of Planning and Managing Your Own Health and Career Goals* held October 13, 2015, [http://www.thenytc.org/Take\\_Charge](http://www.thenytc.org/Take_Charge). Youth presenters with chronic health conditions shared personal stories of their healthcare and employment transition. This webinar reached 73 participants including students with chronic health conditions, parents and providers.

### **IV. Results--Capacity Building**

During this Alliance, ODEP, HSCF and the Center for Health Care Transition shared and cross-promoted resources that link healthcare transition and employment transition. This collaboration provided stakeholders with information, technical assistance and access to resources to build the capacity of regional and national organizations to empower youth and young veterans with disabilities to create a self-directed path to integrated employment and optimal health and well-being.

## **V. Beyond the Alliance**

ODEP and the partners under this alliance will continue to communicate and work together. The close working relationship that was formed during the two years of this Alliance has allowed each organization to understand each other and build an ongoing supporting network.