

The Independent Futures that Work! project

OK State Advisory Committee Meeting

March 24, 2021

Latisha Coats, Oklahoma Project Lead

Sharon Long, Executive Director

Oklahoma Parents Center, Inc.

lcoats@oklahomaparentscenter.org

877-553-4332



Disclaimers

The RSA PTI Independent Futures that Work! Project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, Rehabilitation Services Administration and is a project of the Alabama Parent Education Center.

This Zoom meeting will be recorded for use later by participants unable to attend the meeting. Your participation in this meeting implies your consent to be recorded.

Recording:

https://youtu.be/iLP5gr0Yz_o

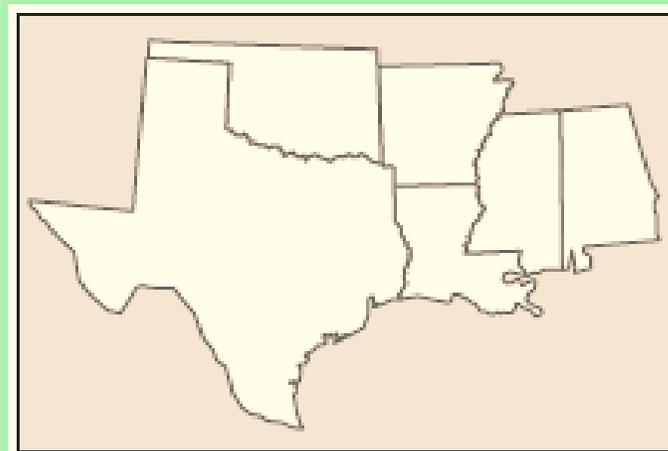
Our Agenda for today's meeting

- Welcome
- Overview of Project
- Introductions of Members
- Purpose of Committee
- Roles and Responsibilities of Members
- MOUs
- Seven Priority Areas of Project
- 1st Project - Resource Collection
- Next Meeting – June 2, 2021

The Independent Futures that Work! Project – Who are we?

A project of the Alabama Parent Education Center serving 6 states with Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) partners in each respective state:

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- Oklahoma
- Texas



Primary Purpose of the Project

- + Build the competence and confidence of young adults
- + Increase access to independent living and employment services
- + Successfully transition from the youth entitlement system to the adult eligibility system



Additional Purpose of the Project

To disseminate training and information resources to:

- youth and young adults with disabilities
- family members and professionals



Welcome to the OK State Advisory Committee

- Please introduce yourself
- Tell the committee a little about yourself:
 - Who you are representing?
 - How you support transition and independence of youth and young adults with disabilities?



Purpose of the OK State Advisory Committee

An advisory role to support the project staff in the development, implementation, and distribution of an effective plan to help young adults with disabilities and their families participate more effectively with professionals.



Roles and Responsibilities – Organization or Agency Representatives

- Attend meetings quarterly
- Assist in inventorying and evaluating existing materials
- Assist in identifying gap areas in service, materials, and trainings
- Assist in effectively disseminating print materials and information
- Assist in developing an outreach plan for our state
- Share information with your stakeholders and provide feedback

Roles and Responsibilities – Young Adults with Disabilities and Families

- Attend meetings quarterly
- Assist in inventorying and evaluating existing state materials
- Assist in identifying gap areas in service, materials, and trainings
- Providing feedback to project staff
- Serve as a member of a focus group to review new materials



Memorandum of Understanding

Agencies and Organizations only

This document serves as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Alabama Parent Education Center's RSA PTI Region B-2 "Independent Futures that Work!" project and [REDACTED]. Within this document, APEC's RSA PTI Region B-2 "Independent Futures that Work!" and [REDACTED] will be referred to as the partners.

As parties to this agreement, the partners clearly understand that building the competence and confidence of young adults with disabilities to access independent living and employment services so they can more successfully transition from the youth entitlement system to the adult eligibility system is the responsibility of both partners. The partners agree that this building of competence and confidence occurs when appropriate transition planning resources and trainings that relate to independent living and employment are available. The partners agree that those resources and trainings should be available for these young adults with disabilities in an easily accessible and available format. As well, resource and trainings for family members and professionals should be also be available in order to improve the capacity of these individuals to support these young adults with disabilities on their journey.

As part of this Memorandum of Understanding, the partners agree to collaborate on the "Independent Futures that Work!" project. This collaboration will occur through a sharing of available resources as well as assisting the project staff in creating new materials and trainings to address identified gaps in resources for our state and the B-2 Region. The partners agree to meet on a quarterly basis to review and evaluate current materials and trainings, to provide project staff with input and expertise, and provide feedback and input on newly developed materials and trainings as they are developed.

Seven Priority Areas of Project

1. Understand Voc. Rehab. and Independent Living
2. Support for Transition and Employment
3. Better Communication with Professionals
4. Develop Individualized Plans for Employment
5. Obtain information about Rehabilitation and Independent Living
6. Transition to Competitive Integrated Employment
7. Understand the Rehabilitation Act

First Major Project – Collect existing resources and materials

- Compile a list of existing information that they know of, or have access to, related to the seven priority areas which have been created in and for Oklahoma
(not National resources...those are being compiled by the project lead)

- Complete Columns A-D for each resource in the Google Sheet

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fBHTYHFdYnniA_9zf94lZFevPD3f-uYd/view?usp=sharing

First Major Project – Deadlines

- If you cannot complete the Google Sheet, please email Latisha Coats, lcoats@oklahomaparentscenter.org
- **UPDATED:**
Timeline for completion of this task is corrected to:
4 weeks, April 21st, for adding resources and
6 weeks, June 1st, for review and rating resources
more information will follow about rating resources

Next Meeting Date
Wednesday, June 2, 2021

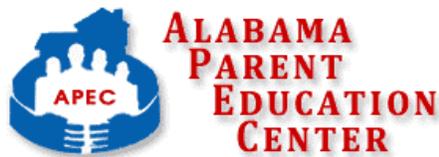
MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

Poll results:
First Wednesday of each quarter at 9:00 am

THANK YOU for Attending
The Independent Futures that Work! project
OK State Advisory Committee Meeting



Oklahoma Parents Center, Inc.
www.oklahomaparentscenter.org
877-553-4332



Alabama Parent Education Center
www.alabamaparentcenter.com
866-532-7660