

CTR FOR INDEPENDENCE OF THE DISABLED

Youth Transitions Program: Preparing for The Future

The Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York's youth transition program for youth with disabilities helps high school or college students plan their transition into adult life. We use the Next Step program, a six to nine week curriculum to teach students the soft skills needed for success. These include effective communication, managing a budget, and how to advocate for themselves as they continue on to college and the working world.

For students who want to work right after high school, we help them prepare their resumes, learn how to interview, and give them an opportunity to interact in a work environment. We treat the classroom like a workplace, with teachers as bosses or supervisors and classmates as fellow co-work-

ers. Students are taught how to speak and act with different people.

For youth with disabilities who see college as an option, we provide information on how to prepare for it. Activities create an awareness of the laws that exist to protect people with disabilities. This is critical for successful independent living.

In the 2016-2017 school year, we delivered the Next Step program workshops to 126 youth with disabilities in nine different high schools, including a residential school in Queens. We also helped 18 college students at two Queens area colleges. With the help of ASL interpreters, the Next Step program was also delivered to a group of six Deaf students during the summer.

For more information, please contact Shireen Khan.

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NY Connects can help people with disabilities...

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY
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- Understand care options
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- Learn about supports in caregiving
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- Apply for benefits
- Find housing



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