



July 16, 2002

NCSET in National Workforce Development Collaborative

Many youth with disabilities, especially those with significant disabilities, experience poor education and employment outcomes. According to the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth:

- One-third of students with disabilities do not finish high school.
- Only one-third of young people with disabilities who need job training receive it.
- Only a quarter of young people who need life skills training, tutoring, interpreting or personal counseling receive them.
- More than half of all young people with emotional disturbances are arrested at least once within three to five years of exiting school.
- People with disabilities enroll in post-secondary education at half the rate of the general population.

In response to the need for system-wide attention to these and other issues facing youth with disabilities, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy has established the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth. Through a one-year, \$1.45 million grant (with four additional option years subject to the availability of funds), the Collaborative's 10 member organizations – including the Institute's National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) – are working to ensure that youth with disabilities are provided full access to high-quality services in integrated settings, in order to maximize their opportunities for employment and independent living.

The Collaborative is building the capacity of the nation's workforce development system and its workers in three main

ways: 1) improving the development and implementation of state and local policies that promote full access to high quality services for youth with disabilities within the workforce development system; 2) strengthening the services provided by organizations that are funded by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA); and 3) improving the awareness, knowledge and skills of individuals responsible for providing direct services to youth within WIA-funded programs.

The Collaborative has identified five practice networks to help address the issues involved in actualizing its mission: Policymakers, Employers, Youth and Family, Providers, and Practitioners. Each network consists of representatives from the various network stakeholder groups. As the lead organization for the Provider Network, NCSET is:

- Communicating with members of the Practitioner Network to identify the organizational issues which must be addressed to ensure that youth with disabilities are included in WIA-assisted programs.
- Working with the members of the Collaborative to identify and implement standards of excellence for WIA-assisted programs that will ensure that youth with disabilities receive quality services through WIA, and that the appropriate linkages are made between disability and non-disability organizations.
- Coordinating the literature search activities of the Collaborative.

FFI about the Collaborative and NCSET's involvement, contact Mary Mack (612-624-7579 or mackx012@umn.edu) or Donna Johnson (612-624-1143 or johns042@umn.edu).

Staff Update

- **Staff Arrivals.** Lucy Arias, Training Coordinator, CEED; Edwinna Johnson, Training Coordinator, CEED; Catherine Nienow, GRA, CEED.
- **Staff Departures.** Jennifer Ludewig, Community Program Assistant, School-Age Services; Mary Sinclair, Research Associate, School-Age Services; Roger Stancliffe, Research Associate, Adult Services; Mera Kachgal, GRA, NCSET; Kathy Schwellenbach, Executive Administrative Specialist, NCSET; Thor Berglund, Community Program Assistant, School-Age Services; Donna Patterson, Education Specialist, School-Age Services.
- Roger Stancliffe co-presented a half-day workshop on "Self-Determination and Individual Budgets" at the AAMR conference in Orlando in May. He was also inducted as a Fellow of AAMR at the conference.
- Marijo McBride presented on "Person-Centered Planning" at the Brain Injury Association of Minnesota's 17th Annual Statewide Conference, May 3-4.
- Brian Abery, Angela Novak Amado, Marijo McBride, and Charlie Lakin contributed to articles which appear in *Person-Centered Planning: Research, Practice, and Future Directions*, recently published by Brookes.

Dates to Remember . . .

- **July 26: Pizza Forum**, 12-1 p.m., 118 Pattee.
- **July 31: Discussion of Strategic Planning Priority #3: Leadership and Supervision**, 1:30-3:30 p.m., 118 Pattee. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to gardz001@umn.edu.

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Reminder to PI's and ICI Council Members.** ICI's semi-annual report to ADD for the period January 1-June 30 is due on Friday, July 19. Completed forms should be submitted to Amy Kurowski in 102 Pattee.
- **Reminder to GRA's and Supervisors.** Summer Term appointment letters have been disseminated. If you haven't already done so, please sign yours and return it to Beth Nelson in 107 Pattee.
- **Reminder to P&A Staff.** Contract letters have been disseminated and P&A vacation records for April-June were due at the end of June. If you haven't already done so, please turn these forms and your contract in to Beth in 107 Pattee.
- **Online Pay Statement Reminder.** Effective next payday, July 24, Direct Deposit slips will no longer be distributed. Instead, all pay statement information will be available online at <http://hrss.umn.edu>. A memo regarding how ICI will support this change was recently sent to all staff. If you have further questions, see Amy in 102 Pattee.
- **Updated Phone List, Mailboxes.** Updated phone lists will be distributed by the end of next week. As usual, please let Amy in 102 Pattee (4-6300 or kuro0008@umn.edu) know of any changes to email addresses, phone numbers, room numbers, program areas, etc. Mailbox lists will also be updated during this time.

Miscellaneous

- **Screening of New RTC Film.** The Institute's Research and Training Center on Community Living recently completed a 20-minute promotional video for the Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, a center for artists with disabilities. Come to a special screening on Thursday, July 18 at noon in 118 Pattee. Bring your lunch; popcorn will be provided.
- **AUCD Annual Conference.** The 2002 AUCD Annual Meeting and Conference, "Working with our Partners: Advancing Policy and Practice" will be held October 27-31 in Bethesda, MD. Proposals for presentations are due August 15. All proposals must be submitted electronically at <http://www.aucd.org>. FFI, see the Web site.
- **Kennedy Fellowships 2003.** The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation supports an annual Public Policy Fellowship Program for professionals and parents in the field of mental retardation. Each year, the Foundation brings outstanding individuals to Washington where they observe and participate in public policy development through work on the staff of a congressional committee or for a federal department. Applications for 2003 fellowships are due August 16. FFI visit <http://www.jpkf.org/>.
- **Conference on Aging and Developmental Disabilities.** The 2002 Minnesota Symposium on Developmental Disabilities, "Impact of Aging and Family Caregiver Support," will be held September 13 and 14 at the Four Points Sheraton in St. Paul. The conference will explore how local groups in the aging and disabilities communities can work together to better serve aging adults with mental retardation and related developmental disabilities and their caregivers. Day One of the conference will have a professional focus; Day Two will have a family focus. The conference is \$45 for professionals who are members of Arc or ARRM members, and \$20 for family members who are members of Arc. FFI contact Barb Thompson, Arc Hennepin-Carver, at 952-920-0855.
- **Birthdays.** Barb Polister (7/16), Megan Dotson (7/19), Arly Piri (7/22), Donna Patterson (7/25), Rachel Moreau (7/27), Sheryl Lazarus (7/30), Roger Stancliffe (7/31), Katharine Hill (7/31), Jerra-Lynn Smith (8/4), Natasha Doll (8/5), Dorene Scott (8/8), Ella Petersen (8/9), John Sauer (8/9), Rachel Quenemoen (8/10), Bob Prouty (8/15), Saahoon Hong (8/15). Did we miss your birthday? Let us know! Call 4-6300 or email kuro0008@umn.edu.

Bits & Pieces

Information from the Institute's Web Development Team (110 Pattee, 6-8649) and Publications Office (109 Pattee, 4-4512)

From the Publications Office

- **New NCSET Publications.** The Institute's National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) has two new publications available:
 - *Parent Brief: IDEA 1997 Transition Issues*
 - *Research to Practice Brief: Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR): Improving Secondary Students' Reading Comprehension Skills*
- **New Institute Publications.**
 - *Summer 2002 Publications Catalog*
 - *Impact: Feature Issue on Young Adults with Disabilities and Social Security Administration Employment Support Programs*
 - *Supporting Students with Disabilities in Inclusive Schools: A Curriculum for Job-Embedded Paraprofessional Development*
 - *Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders: The Role of the Paraprofessional (new module in the "Strategies for Paraprofessionals Who Support Students with Disabilities" curriculum series)*
- **Have You Scheduled Your Work Plan Meeting?** Vicki is scheduling meetings with ICI Project Directors and Coordinators to discuss their publications support needs for this coming year, and place project products in the Publications Office work plan. If you will need Publications support this year and have not yet scheduled a meeting, please contact Vicki (4-6347) to do so by August 15.
- **FYI Lead Articles and You.** Each month, we use the lead article of this illustrious staff newsletter to highlight an ICI project or partner, share some institute-wide news, or learn a bit about institute staff. Are there any other topics or subjects that you think would be appropriate for that space? Share any ideas you have with Chris (opsal001@umn.edu, 4-4512).
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next FYI should be submitted to Chris in 109 Pattee or e-mailed to opsal001@tc.umn.edu by Tuesday, August 13.