CECY E-NEWS
The California Employment Consortium for Youth and Young Adults with Intellectual and Other Developmental Disabilities

NEWSLINKS
Sheltered Workshops Offer Little Benefit, Studies Find
The differences between sheltered workshops and supported, competitive employment were analyzed. Researchers found that people who spent time in sheltered workshops were no more likely to be employed, but earned less and were more costly to support than their peers who did not start out in segregated environments.

ARTICLES AND INFORMATION BRIEFS
Actors with Down Syndrome, An EW Report
In 2011 three primetime series featured actors with Down Syndrome in prominent roles. That might not sound like much but for a growing number of actors in the community it was a major break through.

Real People, Real Jobs – New Stories
Run by the Institute for Community Inclusion, Real People, Real Jobs is a growing catalogue of employment success stories. The site features individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities working in paid jobs in their communities. Our mission is to show what's possible for people with disabilities, their families, and front-line employment-support professionals.

Understanding the Role of Individualized Learning Plans in Transition Planning for Youth with Disabilities
This InfoBrief explains how schools and families can supplement the required Individualized Education Program (IEP) by using an optional Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) as a tool to help youth successfully transition from high school to employment and postsecondary education.

Using Braided Funding Strategies to Advance Employer Hiring Initiatives that Include People with Disabilities
This report profiles four employer-responsive programs in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, and Connecticut that have implemented braided funding strategies to support hiring initiatives with key employer partners. These in-depth summaries demonstrate clear advantages to braided funding strategies, particularly where participating employers are able to deal with a single point of contact for funding and disability employment services.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRANSITION RESOURCES
Helping Youth Develop Soft Skills for Job Success (Podcast)
This podcast series provides ideas for parents and families on activities they can do at home and include in their child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) to ensure he or she develops skills needed for job success by the time he or she completes high school.
• Podcast Episode #1: “Helping Youth Develop Soft Skills for Job Success,” explains what soft skills are, why they matter to employers, why teaching soft skills is especially important for youth with disabilities, and how families can help youth develop these skills.
• Podcast Episode #2: “How to Build Communication Skills for Job Success” explains what communication skills, including verbal and nonverbal skills, matter to employers and shares practical ways that families can help youth develop them.
• Podcast Episode #3: “How to Build Interpersonal Skills for Job Success” explains what interpersonal skills matter to employers, including working well with others and dealing with challenges and conflicts, and shares practical ways that families can help youth develop them.
• Podcast Episode #4: “How to Build Lifelong Learning Skills for Job Success” explains what lifelong learning skills matter to employers, including taking initiative and decision making skills, and shares practical ways that families can help youth develop them.

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To receive a copy or contribute information, resources or events about youth and transition to integrated, competitive employment, please e-mail Olivia Raynor at oraynor@mednet.ucla.edu
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