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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment announced the official theme for October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month: "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What Can YOU Do?" The theme promotes the benefits of a diverse workforce that includes workers with disabilities, who represent a highly skilled talent pool.

ARTICLES AND BRIEFS
Expanding Economic Self-Sufficiency For People with Disabilities
Maine hosted an Asset Summit to create greater awareness of the options for economic self-sufficiency for people with disabilities. Panel members included representatives from One-Stop Career Centers, vocational rehabilitation, Bangor Savings Bank, Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community, Maine's Community Work Incentive Planning and Assistance Program, and Penquis CAP/CASH Coalition. A consumer also shared her experiences accessing many of these economic programs. Through small group participation, attendees were able to identify opportunities for community collaboration, additional partners to call to the table, and outreach strategies.

South Dakota Center for Disabilities Uses Innovative Trainings in Technology for Autism Spectrum Disorders
South Dakota's Center for Disabilities Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Program is initiating innovative new training programs across the state using iPads and other computer-based interventions for students with ASD. The Center for Disabilities' Autism Program Director, Eric Kurtz, Ph.D., explains, "These technologies, along with selected applications, have provided a more flexible, accessible, portable, and cost-effective way to intervene with individuals with ASD and individuals with developmental disabilities. They provide alternative modalities of instruction, response, and communication between a student with autism who has difficulty interacting, and their parents and teachers."

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS
Association of University Centers on Disabilities 2012 Conference Proposal
Proposals are now being accepted for the 2012 AUCD Conference: Innovating Today; Shaping Tomorrow. The 2012 AUCD Conference is a unique forum to share innovations and promising practices across a broad array of topics that ultimately impact the quality life for people with disabilities and their families in their communities. Join AUCD on December 2-5, 2012 at the Washington Hilton in Washington, DC, to learn and share today's promising practices and innovations that shape the lives of people with disabilities and their families through research, policy, education, and service. Deadline for proposal submission is June 11, 2012.

A New Day 2012: Working Toward A Positive Future
Pasadena Hilton: September 18 & 19, 2012 in Pasadena, CA. CECY SPONSORED.
This year’s conference theme centers around collaboration and working together towards a positive future. New Day 2012 will provide a forum for sharing knowledge and expertise on the promising practices and innovations that make employment and housing a reality for persons with developmental disabilities. CECY will be sponsoring the luncheon and 2 workshops.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRANSITION RESOURCES

“Navigating College: A Handbook on Self Advocacy”
The Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) has published, "Navigating College: A Handbook on Self Advocacy" a guide for autistic students written by autistic adults. The handbook provides first-person insights from current and past college students on the autism spectrum on the higher education experience including disclosure, classroom accommodations, dorm life, and sexuality.

College Bound
July 8 -13th, 2012 Weeklong Campus Based Experience at the University of San Diego for Students with Developmental Disabilities. Contact David at ddrazenovich@ucpsd.org.

Employment First
This manual covers 40 key elements needed to support Employment First, from agency-level restructuring to policy, funding incentives, and technical capacity. It includes a Self-Assessment tool and an appendix of Sample Policies from around the US Employment First refers to having community employment be the primary expected goal for working-age adults with disabilities in government-funded day services, and for those services to support that realization of that goal. It is currently being embraced in many US States as a policy initiative. Employment First presents a great opportunity for advancing more jobs for people with disabilities, but there is a real concern that new initiatives, while well-intentioned, will be developed incompletely and ultimately will do little to change a largely segregated and entrenched vocational system. Cost of the book is $30.00.

Griffin-Hammis Associates Customized Employment Podcast with Laura Owens of APSE
Laura Owens, Executive Director of APSE, who also runs the employment agency CEO in Wisconsin, joins Cary Griffin for a discussion covering the topics of School Transition outcomes, the recent Oregon Lawsuit against segregation, the Employment First movement, and the annual APSE conference on community employment.

New Website Shows Employment Outcomes in Washington
The state of Washington is a leader in employment of people with developmental disabilities. In a cooperative effort between the University of Massachusetts Boston and the Aging and Disability Services Administration, Washington's employment data is now accessible to the public via a new website: the WA-DDD Employment Supports Performance Outcome Information System. The site summarizes data collected on employment supports funded by the Division of Developmental Disabilities. Users can create summary and trend reports and graphs based on characteristics including county or region of residence, residential setting, service type, acuity of support need, and provider.

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