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

ARTICLES AND BRIEFS

*Beyond Segregated & Exploited: Update on the Employment of People with Disabilities*

The report, Beyond Segregated and Exploited, is a follow up to a report released last year that examined the issue of segregating working people with disabilities in sheltered workshops and the use of the sub-minimum wage to exploit their disability for the financial gain of employers. The new report is an update on progress to end those practices and move toward a system that encourages integrated employment options that pay competitive wages. The report also provides insight into the complex and confusing system that pumps millions of dollars into sheltered work despite good national public policy meant to encourage integration and competitive employment.

*Feds: Sheltered Workshops May Violate Disabilities Act*

The Obama administration is coming out in support of a group of adults with developmental disabilities who say they’re being relegated to sheltered workshops even though they’re capable of working in the community. Attorneys for the U.S. Department of Justice filed a statement of interest in late April in a class action lawsuit pitting some 2,300 people with developmental disabilities against the state of Oregon.

CONFERENCES and WEBINARS

*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.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRANSITION RESOURCES

*An Introduction to Soft Skills: Skills to Pay the Bills*

The United States Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy recently released Skills to Pay the Bills: Mastering Soft Skills for Workplace Success, a wide-ranging collection of activities and exercises to help youth, including youth with disabilities, develop and sharpen their soft skills during career development. This Webinar will introduce the curriculum, explain the different methods in which it can be delivered, and demonstrate some of the engaging and unique activities.

*Next Round of the Citizen-Centered Leadership Introductory Webinar Series*

The Employment and Disability Institute at Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations has announced the Introduction to Citizen-Centered Leadership Development webinar series. The series is comprised of six 90 minute webinar sessions designed to provide an up-to-date overview of the theoretical foundations of best practices in promoting community participation and citizenship for people who are determined to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities. This resource is fee-based; however, scholarships and fee reductions are available. (Fee based)
Preparing Individuals for Employment Module: Transition to Adulthood Guidelines for Individuals with ASD web-based booklets

The OCALI Transition to Adulthood Guidelines for Individuals with ASD has been revised and formatted into a series of free web–based booklets. Each booklet focuses on one aspect of the transition from school to adult life. Four booklets are now available on the OCALI website:

- IEP Components of the Transition Process
- Considerations for School Programming
- Age-Appropriate Transition Assessment
- Employment

Each booklet offers information about the subject area, implications for individuals with ASD, examples, and resources. Many direct links to more in-depth information are available in each booklet. While these guidelines discuss issues surrounding ASD and transition, much of the information is appropriate for any transition-age youth served through the IEP process.

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