



WORKGROUP REPORT

September 27, 2013, In-Person Meeting

AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODELS

CORE INFORMATION:

Workgroup Members: **Leads:** Mike Clark and Olivia Raynor

Members: Wilbert Francis • Katharine Hayward • Tom Heinz • Bree Kennedy • Susan Mathers • LaCandice McCray • Linda O'Neal • Richard Rosenberg • Gina Semenza • Vicki Shadd • Debi Silenicks • LaJuana Thompson

Workgroup Description/Purpose: Demonstrating and documenting best practices for youth/young adults in integrated competitive employment. Goal is document so other agencies can adopt similar practices.

WORKGROUP PROGRESS SUMMARY (covering April 1 – Sep 30, 2013):

- 1) The work of CECY is to increase the number of youth and young adults with ID/DD in integrated competitive employment. **America's Next Top Models** contributes to this overall goal by illustrating positive specific practices that exemplify the CECY mission; demonstrating that there is no one mold, but instead lots of unique pathways of meeting the goal of integrating competitive employment; and, finally, by creating and marketing frameworks for replication.
- 2) Toward this purpose, we have accomplished the following between April 1 and Sep 30, 2013:
 - a) Workgroup Meetings and Call:
 - 6 (Monthly) Workgroup Meetings showcasing work of the LECTs:
April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, Aug 21, Sep 18
 - 2 In-Person Workgroup Meetings: June 18 and Sep 27
 - b) Progress and Activities:
 - Continued discussion of model programs
 - Continued LECT T.A. presentations and program updates
 - Development and discussion about various demonstration products by LECT programs
 - Discussed program documentation process that will optimize replicability
 - Identified and discussed innovative program funding models (e.g., braided funding)
 - 3 LECT Presentations at CECY Member In-Person Meeting on June 18
 - Project Lead Transition in June 2013
 - Discussion with YAC about ways it can be of influence to work of the LECTS and vice versa.
 - Decided to host Community Conversations events and identified pilot LECT location
 - LECT program recognized at national PIE meeting as model strategy to achieve ICE
 - One-on-one calls made with each LECT to verify progress and discuss future work.
 - c) Completed Key Accomplishments:

One-on-one calls with LECTS completed. Each LECT has made a presentation to the LECT Group about their program and accomplishments. Each of the LECTs has agreed to move forward within the funding constraints of the next year.
 - d) Update on Status of Product(s) to be Disseminated:

Many products and/or best practices have been mentioned in the discussions with the LECTs. Now we need to formalize the set of products/best practices and move forward. ANTM is set to work on dissemination/distribution as products/best practices are ready.

e) Systemic Barriers Uncovered/Encountered in Our Work:

- Lack of shared data systems or employment outcomes.—will be sharing information about how to collect data, --look at data, --setting benchmarks from high performing data, at on how to collect data on programmatic and what to do it.
- Youth with ID/DD placed in traditional programs rather than x
- Lack of support for job development for ICE.— addressing this by TA and best practices
- Youth wait months to begin ICE because there are significant
- Trailer Bill changes prevent the funding of work related activities priori to age 22.— looking at best practices
- Many youth receive little or no transition services in public schools.
- Transition often directs youth into traditional programs—not ICE.
- Pervasive low expectations all results in youth rarely going into ICE.
- Fear of loss of benefits by youth and families if they pursue ICE.
- Curriculum does not adequately prepare youth for employment (i.e. certification).
- Best or promising practices are not widely shared.
- Key components of success of promising practices have not been well documented.
- Insufficient interagency transition planning, coordination and collaboration.
- Youth may not receive adequate support in ICE as job coaching hours are reduced

- 3) List the names of any individuals and/or agencies from outside your workgroup that you contacted to assist with your workgroup activities. This may include other members of CECY or external individuals or entities. For each instance, please list PERSON, AGENCY, PURPOSE & OUTCOME. Each of the seven LECTs has been asked to help in holding a Community Conversation in its area. All have agreed to do so. Taft has agreed to pilot the first one.

LOOKING AHEAD (covering Oct 1 – Dec 31, 2013):

1) **KEY OUTCOMES:**

Identification of best practices & products of LECTs. Development of plan for conducting Community Conversations.

2) **MILESTONES:**

- Get letter out to each LECT clarifying expectations for the LECT for its October 1, 2013—September 30, 2014 activities and commitments.
- Completion of revised briefs so information is current, accurate and shares a common format for each LECT. Brief will also link work of LECT to policies and barriers concerning the employment of youth and young adults with ID/DD.
- Get examples of HPS activities/progress from each LECT.

3) **ACTIVITIES TIMELINE:**

- Complete LECT clarification letters by Oct. 15.
- Complete revision of Briefs by Dec. 15.
- Accumulate HPS examples from each LECT by Dec. 31.

WORKGROUP/JOINT MEETING SUMMARY:

Please list participating workgroup members and guests for your Sep 26-27, 2013, group meeting(s).

- Michal Clark
- Olivia Raynor
- Richard Rosenberg
- Tom Heinz
- Linda O'Neal
- Katharine Hayward
- Bree Kennedy
- John Kimura
- Gina Semenza
- Susan Mathers
- Catharine Campisi
- LaCandice McCray
- Krystal Zanel
- Janis White
- Maura McDonnough (guest)

Please summarize your work during your for workgroup meeting(s).

- Discussion of ANTM working with LECTs, taking products and moving them forward. Interest in tying them in to policy and barriers. Committee charged to gather what we are doing with LECTs and put the information into "final" products. We need to help move "wins" forward. We need to identify and delineate processes for what is working and get those ideas and products out.
- We also had a discussion of "Community Conversations". We agreed that the LECTs communities should be the initial focus for community conversations. ANTM members are each expected to attend at least one Community Conversation. These conversations are to start with a positive view but push innovation. We need to bring the C-2-Cs into the Community Conversations. We must keep accessibility in mind as we work on details.

What key decisions or agreements did you make at your meeting(s)? What tasks did you complete?

- Get summary of LECTs and potential products (best practices) out soon.
- Agreement on two discussion points (focus of ANTM and Community Conversations) as discussed.
- Support for idea of web site as a distribution hub/source for best practices—in short term might want to consider creation of a wiki page.
- Krystal, LaCandice, Bree, Linda, Tom and Richard volunteered to be involved in planning for Community Conversations.
- Keep to currently scheduled meeting pattern.

If you had a JOINT MEETING ... Please summarize the benefit of your joint meeting, your outcomes, next steps, and any plans to meet again.

ANTM was not involved with any joint meetings. It does seem as though we might need to have one or more joint meetings with The Outreachers and The Unbroken Chain at some time in the future

How will you use what you learned from HPS panel presentation & group discussion w/in your group?

We are asking LECTs to provide examples of activities/products/outcomes related to HPS model.

Any additional information would you like the CECY Coordinating Team to know about?

- ANTM seems to be comfortable with its focus, but they want to move ahead which means we need to get products/best practices from LECTs to them so they can begin that dissemination/distribution work.
- LECTs are moving forward.
- All are enthused about Community Conversations.