

EUGENE FIELD SCHOOL



TRANSITION PLANNING

Community Resource Guide

MAY, 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	3
TRANSITION TO DO LIST.....	4
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION/PUNS.....	5
EMPLOYMENT AND JOB PLACEMENT.....	6, 7
POST HIGH SCHOOL ADULT SERVICE PROVIDERS.....	8-11
POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.....	12-13
GUARDIANSHIP.....	14
SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING.....	15
RECREATION.....	16-18
HOUSING.....	19
COUNSELING.....	20-21
HEALTH.....	22-23
EMERGENCY SERVICES.....	24
INCOME SUPPORT.....	25
TRANSPORTATION.....	26
FAMILY RESOURCES.....	27

Introduction

The purpose of this resource guide is to support family and student participation in planning for life after high school into adulthood.

Transition Services are a coordinated set of activities for students as part of the IEP, designed to promote movement from school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational training, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, related services, independent living, or community participation. In Illinois, transition planning becomes a part of the IEP process for students at age 14-1/2. The sooner families and students begin to plan for the transition to employment and adult services, the more successful the child will be.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a powerful educational law, which outlines the transition planning process. Students have rights within the special education system. Once the transition to adult services is complete, families will find that a child's rights are different and much less comprehensive.

Special education students are entitled to special education services. Adult services are based on eligibility and availability of funding. Many services and supports readily available in special education are not available in the arena of adult services. Good transition planning is critical to a successful transition to adult services.

When a child exits the special education system, many of the same advocacy skills learned in special education will be needed; but the rules and laws are dramatically different in the adult service system.

Disclaimer: The information contained in The Transition Planning Community Resource Guide is general in nature and may not apply to all individuals. It is not designed to be a substitute for medical decisions, legal advice, future planning or financial guidance from qualified professionals serving individuals with disabilities and their families. Families, consumers and guardians are advised to seek guidance from appropriate professionals at all times regarding individual situations. We recognize that each individual has unique gifts and challenges and therefore, will need an individualized process for transition. Families, consumers and guardians are advised to seek guidance from appropriate professionals at all times regarding individual situations.

TRANSITION TO DO LIST:

Check ✓

1. Students must be invited to the IEP meeting _____
2. Completed an application for placement on *Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services PUNS* *if appropriate _____
3. Annually complete an update for PUNS- *the severity of need is greatest during the year the student exits.* _____
4. Apply for SSI _____
5. Apply for Medicaid *ask your team why this is important _____
6. Discuss the pros and cons of guardianship and share that decision with the IEP team _____
7. Release forms have been obtained and provided for identified transition activities _____
8. Students and/or Guardians must follow up with referrals for services from adult service providers. **Don't wait until it's too late!** _____
9. Families and/or Guardians must become primary advocates for students' post-secondary needs. **Every individual needs an advocate!** _____
10. Families and/or Guardians may have to actively participate in post-secondary vocational services and/or employment _____
11. Identify and access recreation/leisure options _____
12. Investigate and/or confirm day programs _____
13. Investigate preferred living options _____
15. Investigate transportation options _____

Notes:

URGENT

PUNS

Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services

What you need to know:

- PUNS is a waiting list of the people in Illinois with developmental disabilities who need services.
- Placement on the PUNS list is the first step towards receiving Medi-caid waiver services in Illinois.
- An individual may be placed on the list as early as 3 years old and registration must be updated every year.

What you will need:

**A representative will assist you in completing the application for placement on the PUNS list, but you must have the following information:*

- Current IEP with information reflecting the need for services
- Recent evaluation indicating IQ score
- Social security number of the individual in need of services

To begin this registration process, call

**Champaign County Regional Planning
Commission
217.328.3313**

EMPLOYMENT/JOB PLACEMENT

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION (ROE) 17

Emily Kull and Ryan Deason

Transition Specialist

Regional Office of Education 17

201 E. Grove St, Suite 300

Bloomington, IL 61701

www.roe17.org

ekull@roe17.org and rdeason@roe17.org

(309) 888-5120 x 232

Case Managers: Emily Kull or Ryan Deason should be invited to IEPs for students enrolled in VTAP, seniors and Exit IEPs. If they are not able to attend, Marie Yoder will attend in their place.

Official DRS Definition: Transition Specialists (TS) are rehabilitation Counselors, performing established functions and duties prescribed for the general DHS/DRS rehabilitation counselor. TSs serve customers in the Secondary Transitional Experience Program (STEP), or individual customers needing services concurrent with their education or immediately upon exit from school.

Specific TS Duties:

1. Oversee the STEP program and manage the STEP caseload
2. Quarterly contact (via face to face, phone, letter, email, etc.) with each student on the STEP caseload
3. Receive all student referrals for STEP and Transition Services
4. Assess student and open cases on behalf of DRS for those who are eligible for DRS services
5. Attending IEP's
 - a. Priority: Students who are entering and exiting the program. Emily will attend other IEP's if schedule permits.
6. Before student graduates, case will either be put into plan status or closed to DRS.
 - a. Will work with the student, teachers, parents, etc. to determine what option best fits the need of the student
7. Assist students/families with accessing community services before/after graduation from high school. If students need DRS assistance for longer than 3-4 months after graduation, case will be transferred to the appropriate DRS office upon DRS supervisor approval
8. Assist schools with work placements, accessing community resources, assessing student needs, mock interviews, resume reviews and other "as requested" services when possible



**State of Illinois
Department of Human Services - Division of Rehabilitation Services
VR FACT SHEET**

1. WHAT IS THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (VR) PROGRAM?

Every state gets money from the federal government to help people with disabilities who want to get or keep a job. The Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) uses this money to run the VR program to help people get or keep a job.

2. WHAT IS A "PERSON WITH A DISABILITY"?

This is someone who has a physical or mental disability that makes it hard for a person to work and the person needs help from DRS to get or keep a job.

3. WHO CAN QUALIFY FOR VR SERVICES?

You can qualify if you have a disability and need services from DRS to get or keep a job. You do not qualify if your disability makes it too hard for you to work even with VR services. If you do not want to get or keep a job, you don't qualify.

4. WHAT IS A TICKET TO WORK?

If you get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), you may get a Ticket to Work from Social Security. You should talk to a DRS counselor about why the ticket should be given to DRS.

5. HOW DO YOU APPLY?

You need to call a DRS office where someone will help you apply. Your records from doctors, schools, past jobs or other programs will help DRS. When this is done, a counselor will look at all of the information to see if you qualify. If the counselor needs more information, DRS may pay for it. Counselors should do all of this in 60 days unless they cannot get the records or office visits soon enough.

6. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU QUALIFY?

You work with a counselor to see what services you need to get or keep a job. The counselor will help you write a plan of services. You have the right to make decisions and choices.

7. WHAT KIND OF SERVICES CAN DRS PROVIDE?

DRS can provide counseling and guidance, information and referral and job placement assistance. There are other services that you may qualify for to help you get or keep a job.

8. DO YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR VR SERVICES?

Sometimes you have to help pay for services. It depends on your income. The counselor will let you know if there is a need to pay. You do not have to use your SSDI or SSI to pay for services. However, you must pay your own normal living expenses.

9. WHAT ARE COMPARABLE SERVICES AND BENEFITS?

Counselors will help you find out if you qualify for other programs or services. Some programs are Medicaid, scholarships, work-study programs or other benefits. The counselor can help you apply for these services.

10. HOW DOES DRS MAKE SURE YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH SERVICES?

You have the right to disagree with services. You should first try to work it out with the counselor or with the counselor's supervisor. If this does not work, you can file an appeal. You can get information on how to appeal from your counselor or local office. You can ask for help from the Client Assistance Program at any time.

11. WHAT IS THE CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

The Client Assistance Program (CAP) can help you discuss concerns you may have about your case.

CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
100 N First Street 1st Floor West
Springfield, IL 62702
(800) 641-3929 (V/TTY)

12. HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DRS?

The addresses and telephone numbers of the local DRS offices are usually in the phone book under "State Government". Or, contact:

BUREAU OF FIELD SERVICES
PO Box 19429
Springfield, IL 62794-0000
(217) 782-2004 (Voice)
(888) 440-8982 (TTY)
(800) 843-6154 (Voice)

OR

BUREAU OF BLIND SERVICES
PO Box 19429
Springfield, IL 62794-0000
(217) 785-3887 (Voice)
(800) 447-6404 (TTY)

POST HIGH SCHOOL ADULT SERVICE PROVIDERS

DRS OFFICE STAFF Including *HOME BASED SERVICES

***Sherry Benjamin** Sherrilyn.Benjamin@illinois.gov

Dianne Peterson dianne.peterson@illinois.gov

Rebecca Holz Rebecca.Holz@illinois.gov

Kim Eischen Kimberly.Eischen@illinois.gov (Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf, Trainee)

Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)

207 S. Prospect

Bloomington, IL 61704

(309) 662-1347 Voice (309) 662-7219 FAX

Case Managers: Send invites to DRS office staff for exiting seniors who are seeking financial assistance with education or assistance with competitive employment. If staff are not able to attend the meeting, please make sure to give families a copy of this transition packet along with a DRS Brochure.

Description: Services provided to individuals with disabilities including the following: vocational counseling and assessment, job training and placement, education, assistive devices, and short term medical services. Home services are provided for adults with diseases/disabilities to avoid nursing home placement.

BEST BUDDIES JOBS PROGRAM

Visit us at BESTBUDDIES.ORG

Emails: Sunnyperson@bestbuddies.org

Description: Best Buddies Jobs secures employment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and continuously and independently support themselves. The Jobs program places focus beyond the typical jobs in which a person with IDD might be placed. Best Buddies focuses on finding work that matches the job seeker's interests and talents.

BRIDGEWAY

310 Wylie Drive Suite 464, Normal, IL 61761

tailored@bway.org

(309) 808-9073

www.bway.org

Description: Bridgeway's IPS program helps people find employment in a variety of different settings. Services include; Personal Benefits Planning, Vocational Assessments, Job Finding Supports, Job Retention Supports, Job Leaving Supports and Follow Up.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE INSPIRING CAPABILITIES (EPIC)

1913 W. Townline Rd.

Peoria, IL 61615

Visit us at EPICci.org

Phone: 309-205-5503

Kaitlyn McVey, Director of Community Placement

Emails: kmcvey@epicci.org

Phone: 309-689-3724

Description: Through Job Placement Services, EPIC helps match individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to local businesses and organizations to meet their employment needs. We also contract with businesses and government offices to consistently fill long-term positions. We work with you to identify the skills needed for a position and make an appropriate individual match. We then provide the individuals with training and support before and during their employment, depending on your and the individual's needs. Our matching and training processes ensure that your new employee is able to perform their duties effectively and efficiently.

MARCFIRST

1606 Hunt Drive

Normal, IL 61761

Phone: (309) 451-8888

www.marcfirst.org

Marcfirst - Developmental Training (DT) Program

Description: This program utilizes advocacy, ongoing assessment, training, supervision, support, and curriculum-based instruction to assist individuals with developmental disabilities in becoming as independent as possible. It operates Monday through Friday, 9:00am - 2:30pm and meets at 1606 Hunt Drive in Normal. Each participant receives an Individualized Support Plan (ISP), created based on his or her desires, needs, and interests. ISPs include goals addressing adaptive living skills, professional development, and therapeutic interventions. The DT program also has computer labs available to assist participants in learning and improving computer skills.

Eligibility: Individuals interested in this program must be 18 years or older, have proof of DT funding from Central Illinois Service Agency (CISA), and a deficit in one of the following areas: motor development, dress/grooming, toileting, eating, language, or productive capacity as determined by the ICAP.

Marcfirst - Supported Employment Program

Description: In the Supported Employment Program, individuals receive support in all aspects of searching, applying, and interviewing for jobs. When an individual is offered a position, Marcfirst coaches assist, side-by-side, with orientation, on the job training, and helping the individual build professional relationships with his or her coworkers. Throughout this process, individuals receive support in writing and revising resumes and cover letters, practicing their interview skills, and exploring their interests to give individuals the tools necessary to find a fulfilling and appropriate work match. Eligibility: Individuals interested in this program must be 18 years or older, be diagnosed with an intellectual or developmental disability, and have received their high school diploma or GED.

TAZEWELL COUNTY RESOURCE CENTERS (TCRC)

TCRC, Inc
3251 Barney Ave
Pekin, IL 61554
Kensi Ramos, Employment Services Coordinator
309-347-7148
kramos@tcrorg.com
Megan Olt, VP of Community Programs
309-347-7148
megan@tcrorg.com
Breahna Goorie, Job Coach
309-407-0953
breahna@tcrorg.com

Description: TCRC offers a wide array of programs and services that benefit persons with developmental disabilities and visual impairments who live and work in our community. The agency operates ten facilities located in Tazewell County, Illinois. Job training and placement, goal-oriented therapy, case management, day programs, help for the visually impaired, vocational services, homelike residential programs, and more, all have an important place in the TCRC goal of “Caring for Special People...Birth to Seniors” For over 20 years, TCRC has developed strong links with employers, both large and small businesses, who share a commitment to achieving success by matching the skills of the person to the requirements of the job. Successful partnerships have included jobs in administration, customer service, hospitality, retail and manufacturing.

LIFE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (LIFE-CIL)

2201 Eastland Drive, Suite 1
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 663-5433
(888) 543-3245 Toll Free
www.lifecil.org

Description: Advocacy and services for individuals with disabilities. Services include independent living skills training, peer mentoring, information and referral and advocacy. Also available, youth empowerment and peer mentoring for parents of youth with disabilities.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

DHS Benefits Planning Project
Division of Rehabilitation Services
400 West Lawrence Avenue
PO Box 19429
Springfield, IL 62794-9429
(217)558-6826
dhs13210@dhs.state.il.us

CARLE ADULT DAY CARE SERVICES

207 Landmark Drive, Suite C, Normal, IL 61761

Voice (309) 268-3200

www.carle.org/Services/Adult-Day-Services

Description: A structured, comprehensive program for functionally impaired adults who reside in the community. Many families use this program for respite care which gives them a break from 24/7 responsibility. Participants may attend from one to five days a week. Meals are provided.

Eligibility: Primarily for individuals over 60 years of age; those between 18 and 60 will be considered based on need. Maximum Income Guidelines: Determined according to the client's need for assistance through Community care Systems. Documents Needed: Medical information, Living Will, Social Security number, and Power of Attorney, if applicable. Fees: Call for information. Fees are often subsidized by other agencies. Referral Procedures: By phone. Referrals accepted from individual, doctor, social worker, family, and friends.

ENVISION UNLIMITED

Phone: 773-889-6177

Email: respitainfo@envisionunlimited.org

- In-home respite program giving families the opportunity to have temporary relief from their caregiving roles. The program provides families with a trained individual who comes into the home to spend time with their family member with a disability.
- Any person with a documented developmental disability who requires the presence and support of another person to ensure they are safe is eligible for this service.
- Families generally are eligible to receive up to 180 hours of respite services per year.

DHS FAMILY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER IN MCLEAN COUNTY

501 West Washington Street

Bloomington, IL 61701

Phone: (309) 451-6000

TTY: (866) 451-5764

Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday (except state holidays)

Receives applications for Cash, SNAP, and Medical Assistance by fax, mail or in person.

- Jointly funded state and federal government program that pays for medical assistance services for those with low income. Medicaid pays for medical assistance for eligible children, parents and caretakers of children, pregnant women, persons who are disabled or blind. Funds long term care, such as CILA services. Individuals pulled from the PUNS list must be on Medicaid as services provided through the PUNS is a Medicaid waiver program.
- Go to: www.dhs.state.il.us to print a paper application. When filling it out, be sure to boldly print AABD on the application, or somehow document that the person applying for Medicaid should be found eligible based on their disability.
- Go to: www.abe.illinois.gov to complete an on-line application for Medicaid. In the comments section, please document that the person applying has a disability
- To receive assistance filling out Medicaid or Medicare applications:

Community Care Systems.	Carle Adult Day Services
3601 G.E. Road Suite 2	207 Landmark Drive
Bloomington, IL 61704	Normal, IL 61761
309-661-6400	309-268-3200

POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Heartland Community College

1500 W. Raab Rd., Normal, Il, 61761

www.heartland.edu

Student Access & Accommodation Services

(309) 268-8258

(309) 268-8000 Main

(309) 268-8180 Adult Education

(309) 268-8020 Financial Aid Office

HALO: Heartland Academy for Learning Opportunities

309-268-8255

Fax 309-268-7877

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The HALO application process consists of two parts. In the first part, applicants are screened to determine if the program is a good match based on the applicant's current skill and ability levels. After this screening, the applicant may proceed to the next stage, which is an interview with the applicant and parent(s).

Requirements for a complete admission file are as follows.

1. A completed application submitted to:

HALO Program Attn:

Heartland Community College

1500 West Raab Road

Normal, IL 61761

2. An official high school transcript

3. Psychological report including written results and interpretations of the following testing:

Intellectual Assessment within the last 5 years (WAIS-R)

Achievement Testing within the last year (PIAT,K-TEA, or Woodcock-Johnson)

4. Three letters of recommendations using the program recommendation form. At least one reference should be from an individual who can attest to the applicant's educational performance (teacher, principal, guidance counselor, etc). One, if applicable, can be from an employer/work supervisor.

Once all application materials have been received and the screening process is complete, the HALO Admissions Team will arrange a personal interview with each qualified applicant and his/her parents.

Heartland Community College – Essentials Program

1500 W. Raab Road, Normal, Il 61761

(309) 268-8048 Essentials Program Registration

(309) 268-7963 FAX

www.heartland.edu

Services: Business Essentials Program, Entrepreneurship Essentials, Manufacturing Essentials

16 week certificated programs, hands-on work site, no out of pocket expenses, childcare and transportation assistance provided.

Heartland Community College Adult Education Program

1500 W. Raab Road, Suite 1600, Normal, IL 61761

(309) 268-8180 Voice

(309) 268-7783 FAX

www.heartland.edu

Services: Basic skills and GED Instruction with free tutoring, ESL, and no fee.

Referral Procedures: Students may register any time during the semester. New registrations are accepted during class time.

Students may call for class schedules or to set up an appointment with a registration specialist.

Illinois State University

Office of Disability Concerns

350 Fell Hall, Normal, IL 61790-1290

Office of Disabilities Phone: 309-438-5853

Financial Aid Office Phone: 309-438-2231

Illinois State University Main Phone: 309-438-2111

Hours: M–F, 8:00am – 4:30 pm

www.disabilityconcerns.ilsu.edu

GUARDIANSHIP

Todd E. Bugg – Specializes in Guardianship

2205 E. Empire St. Bloomington, IL 61704 (309) 386-1884

Prairie State Legal Services

316 W. Washington, Bloomington, Il 61701
(309) 827-5021 Voice (800) 874-2536 Toll-free
(309) 828-3776 FAX (309) 828-3896 TTY
www.pslegal.org

Free legal aid for low income eligible (below 200% FPL) and elderly
No fees, clients may need to pay filing fees and other costs but they may be waived.
Donations are accepted.
Hours: Contact by phone on Monday-Friday 9:05 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1:05 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or walk-in on
Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Rubin Law - A Professional Corporation

Special Needs Legal & Future Planning
Buffalo Grove - Chicago - Old Orchard
www.rubinlaw.com
email@rubinlaw.com
847-279-7999
Toll Free 866.To.Rubin

Legal and future planning for our fellow Illinois families of individuals with special needs, including intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and/or mental illness, is not **one** thing we do, it's the **only** thing we do; it's not **one** area of our practice, it's our **only** area of practice.

When a child with special needs turns 18, they become an adult in the eyes of the law. At that moment, all rights that a parent ordinarily has to make decisions for their children end. While this is part of the normal course of affairs for most children as they often leave their home to attend college at this age, and thus it makes sense that the law presumes them capable of handling their own affairs, for those with special needs the loss of these parental rights may be a frightening possibility. To forestall the imminent loss of their decision-making rights with regard to their special needs child, parents have a number of [OPTIONS](#).

SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING

[Supported Decision-Making training for Persons with Disabilities - PDF](#)

[Supported Decision-Making Fact Sheet August 2021](#)

[Supported Decision-Making FAQ December 2021](#)

[Supported Decision-Making - Easier to Understand - Updated September 2021](#)

[Supported Decision-Making Agreement Revised February 2022](#)

[Supported Decision-Making Agreement Non-School Release Revised November 2021](#)

[Supported Decision-Making Agreement School Release Revised November 2021](#)

[Supporter Training - Supported Decision Making in Illinois: Your Role in Supporting a Person with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities under a Supported Decision-Making Agreement](#)

[Link to the Supported Decision-Making Act](#)

RECREATION

MARCFIRST

1606 Hunt Drive

Normal, IL 61761

Phone: (309) 451-8888

www.marcfirst.org

Marcfirst - Friendsfirst

Description: Friendsfirst is a program for young adults and adults with developmental disabilities who wish to socialize, meet new friends, learn new skills, share talents, connect with their community, or practice skills needed for greater independence. It meets Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:30am – 12:30pm in Martin Hall at Second Presbyterian Church in downtown Bloomington. Examples of activities offered include crafts, music appreciation, book reading/discussion, games, general health and wellness lessons/activities, and regular discussion about events in participants' lives and current events in the news.

Eligibility: All adults and high school students over the age of 18 are welcome to attend! Families who plan to regularly use the Friendsfirst program are required to pay a one-time registration fee of \$20.00 and program fee of \$7.50 each time the individual attends.

PENGUIN PROJECT

www.penguinprojectmclean.org

For more information email: penguinprojectmclean@gmail.com

- A production put on by children and young adults with disabilities. They are joined on stage by “peer mentors,” a group of people without disabilities, who have volunteered to work with the participants side by side during 4 months of rehearsals.

SOAR – Special Opportunities Available in Recreation

115 East Washington, Bloomington, Il 61701

(309) 434-2260 Voice (309) 434-2483 FAX (309) 829-5115 TTY

www.cityblm.org/soar

Public transportation accessible

Hours: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Other Languages: Can make arrangements for interpreters

Accessibility: Full wheelchair access

Description: A community therapeutic recreation program serving individuals with disabilities who are unable to successfully participate in regular recreation programs.

Eligibility: Individuals, ages four through adult, who are in special education classes, workshops, nursing homes, or who have leisure needs not met by traditional recreation programs are eligible.

Fees: Vary; scholarships and payment plans are available.

The Miracle League

Miracle League of Central Illinois
421 Kays Drive, Normal, IL 61761
(309)451-4500

Description: The Miracle League program provides an opportunity for children with mental and/or physical challenges to play baseball! With a specially designed rubber turf field, The Miracle League makes dreams come true for children with special needs.

Best Buddies

Central Illinois Office
7800 N. Sommer St. Ste 412
Peoria, Illinois 61615
(312)828-9313

Bestbuddies.org/Illinois

Fb.com/bestbuddiesil

Email: isubestbuddies@gmail.com

- Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan have Best Buddy chapters.
- Offers 1:1 Friendship, Integrated Employment, and Leadership Development Programs

Mission

Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive living for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Who We Serve

The IDD community that Best Buddies serves includes, but is not limited to, people with Down syndrome, autism, Fragile X, Williams syndrome, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and other undiagnosed disabilities.

Programs

Best Buddies is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Our programs empower the special abilities of people with IDD by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communication skills, and feel valued by society.

Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department

115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260 Voice (309) 434-2483 FAX
www.cityblm.org/parks

Hours: M-F, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Fees: Many programs are free of charge. There are a limited number of scholarships available for many programs where a fee is charged.

Normal Parks and Recreation Department

611 South Linden, Normal, IL 61761

(309) 454-9540 Office

(309) 454-9701 FAX

www.normal.org

Hours: M-F 8:30am-5:00pm

Fees: Many programs are free of charge.

Programs: Summer, Winter, Spring and Fall program guides are available on line

Boys and Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal

1615 W. Illinois, Bloomington, Il 61701

(309) 829-3034 Club (309) 827-3233 Administrative

(309) 828-7108 FAX-Club

www.bgch-n.org

boys.andgirlsclub@verizon.net

Description: Offers a variety of recreational, educational, cultural, and social development programs for youth 5 to 18 years of age. Leadership and citizenship development are all a part of the Club's objectives for participating boys and girls. The club also offers an after-school program and summer day camp. Transportation is provided to and from most area schools in District 87 and Unit 5, all public housing sites, and other designated points.

Easter Seals

2404 E. Empire, Bloomington, Il 61704

(309) 663-8275 Voice (309) 662-7872 FAX

www.ci.easterseals.com

Western Avenue Community Center

600 N. Western Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 829-4807 Voice (309) 829-3910 FAX

(309) 827-3794 Hispanic Outreach Program (Se habla Espanol)

(309) 827-5428 LINC

www.westernavenuecc.org

Description: WACC program members (grade school children through senior citizens) can participate in a wide range of activities which include a full court gymnasium, basketball leagues, After School Club, aerobics, and special events.

Referral Procedures: Membership applications available at front desk.

YWCA McLean County

1201 N. Hershey Road, Bloomington, IL 61704

(309)662-0461 Voice

(309) 454-1451 Senior Services

(309) 662-7826 Child Care

www.ywcamclean.org

YMCA of Bloomington-Normal

602 S. Main Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 827-6233 Voice (309) 827-0807

FAX

www.bnymca.org

dennism@bnymca.org

Public transportation accessible.

Services: day camps, use of Y facilities, and family programs.

Documents Needed: Proof of income.

HOUSING

Bloomington Housing Authority/Congregate Housing Services Program Subsidized Housing for Moderate and Low-Income Families, Elderly, and Disabled

Jeremy Hayes

Development Director

Housing Authority of the City of Bloomington

104 East Wood Street

Bloomington, Illinois 61701

309-829-3360, ext. 214

jeremyh@bloomingtonha.com

Hours: M–F, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm: closed 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Serves low-income families and physically challenged:

Sunnyside Court, Holton Homes, Evergreen Place, Wood Hill Family Complex

Serves elderly and physically challenged:

John Kane Homes, wood Hill towers (Wood Hill accepts ages 55 & over)

Serves low-income and physically challenged:

Irvin North and South, McGraw Apartments, Nierstheimer East and West

Description: The CHSP program provides training and services to 24 adults with developmental disabilities who are determined eligible for Marcfirst services by Marcfirst intake and for CHSP by the Professional Assessment Committee (PAC). Participants of the CHSP program live in the Irvin Apartment buildings. People who live in the Irvin Apartments must be semi-independent and must have achieved a level of independent functioning which is determined by PAC. All participants are required to be involved in activities that take them out of the Irvin buildings for a total of 20 hours a week. Some participants currently have jobs in the community, and Marcfirst, or volunteer. BHA has an Apartment Manager living at the Irvin South Apartments. BHA is also working on getting a caterer to fulfill the meal requirements through the CHSA grant. The meals will be approved by a registered dietician.

Homes of Hope, Inc.

401 Pine Street #1, Normal, IL 61761

(309) 862-0607 Voice (309) 452-7131 Fax

homesofhope@aol.com

Description: Residences for adults with disabilities.

Marcfirst – Residential Services

1606 Hunt Drive

Normal, IL 61761

www.marcfirst.org

Phone: (309) 451-8888, extension 250

Marcfirst - Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA)

This is an option for individuals with a developmental disability, ages 18 and over, needing 24 hour or intermittent supports depending on a person's needs. People share a home and have their own bed rooms or live in their own apartments. People receive individualized support in all areas of their life. Services concentrate on developing skills in the areas of economic self-sufficiency, independence, and community integration.

Eligibility: Individuals interested in this program must be 18 years or older, have proof of CILA funding from Central Illinois Service Agency (CISA).

COUNSELING

ABC Counseling and Family Service

705 E. Lincoln Suite 303, Normal, IL.

(309) 451-9495 Voice (309) 451-9404 FAX

www.abcounseling.org

Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Services: Counseling for victims of sexual abuse, services for Youth with Sexually Problematic Behaviors, and Adoption services

Agape Counseling

220 N. Eldorado Rd. Suite A, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 663-2229 Bloomington, IL (309) 663-2246 Fax number

Services: Outpatient Pastoral Counseling and Professional Psychological Services

The Center for Youth and Family Solutions

502 Morris Ave., Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 820-7616 Morris Ave. Office

<http://cyfsolutions.org/>

Services: Child Abuse Reporting Hotline, Adoption Services, Comprehensive Behavioral Counseling, Youth, Family Community Outreach, Crisis Prevention Counseling, Intact Family Intervention, Foster Care, New Day Senior Services, Guardian Angel Residential Program for Youth, Organizational Development Consultation for Non-profit.

Chestnut Health Systems Counseling and Family Services

1003 Martin Luther King Drive, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 820-3500 Voice, Counseling and Family Services (309) 820-3501 Voice, Consumer Credit Counseling

www.chestnut.org

Services: Co-Parenting Workshops for Divorced Parents, Family Violence Counseling, Outpatient Mental Health Care for individuals and families, Personal Financial Management Counseling, Support Group for Battered Women, and Substance Abuse Treatment Program for adults and adolescents.

Collaborative Solutions Institute

200 W. Front, Suite 400A, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 828-2860 Voice (309) 827-2637 Fax

www.collaborativesolutions.org

admin@collaborativesolutions.org

Services-Outpatient Mental Health Counseling, Anger Management and Family Violence Counseling

Countering Domestic Violence (CDV)

Mid Central Community Action Director: Deborah White
1301 W. Washington, Bloomington, Il 61701 (309) 827-7070 Voice/TTY
24-hour Confidential Hotline (309) 888-5521 State's Attorney/DVU
(800) 799-7233 Nat'l Domestic Violence Hotline
www.mccainc.org

The Bilingual Court Advocate provides legal, social, and can serve as an interpreter as needed
Fees: All services are free and confidential
Services: Counseling for Domestic Violence, support groups for adults and children, emergency shelter, and outreach advocacy.

McLean County Center for Human Services, INC

108 W. Market St., Bloomington, Il 61701
(309) 827-5351 Voice
(309) 829-2069 Medical Services
(309) 829-6808 Fax
Fee: Sliding scale
Services: Outpatient Mental Health Care and 24 hour emergency crisis intervention team.

Truth in Love Counseling, LLC

Carrie P. Bussmann, LCPC, EMDR Certified
1100 N. Beech St., Bldg. 13A
Normal, IL 61761
(309)585-0241 (o)
www.truthinlove415.vpweb.com
Services: Professional Christian Counseling for Individuals, Couples and Families specializing in addressing Boundaries in personal dynamics especially. Also, Carrie excels dealing with couples struggling to heal after affairs, and providing, individual therapy, EMDR, Pre-Marital Counseling as well as Post-Marital Counseling.

Twin Cities Behavioral Health

403 W. Virginia Ave, Mecherle Hall, Normal, Il 61761 April Brucker, Practice Manager
(309) 451-2910 Voice (309) 451-2913 Fax www.bromenn.org
Fees: Set fees for services unless otherwise indicated, accepts private insurance
Services: Individual and family Outpatient Mental Health Care for a variety of issues, Pastoral Counseling, Assessment for ADHD and Learning Problems

Project Oz

1105 W. Front St., Bloomington, Il 61701
(309) 827-0377 Voice (309) 829-8877
www.projectoz.org projectoz@projectoz.org
Services: Street and School Outreach for High Risk Youth, Juvenile Diversion Program, Transitional Shelter and Counseling for Homeless Youth, Runaway/Youth Shelters, and Drug Prevention and Education.

HEALTH

All Kids & Family Care

P. O. Box 19122, Springfield, Il 62794-9122

(866) 255-5437 Toll-free

(877) 204-1012 TTY

www.allkidscovered.com

Description: All Kids is complete health insurance for Illinois children.

Eligibility: Health insurance for all children if they live in Illinois; is age 18 or younger; and they meet the insurance.

Access the All Kids program through internet or apply at DHS.

Fee: free or co-pay, depending on family income.

Children's Health Care Council of McLean County

P.O. Box 3384, Bloomington, Il 61702-3384

(309) 828-1892 Voice

(800) 437-8256 Toll-free

(309) 828-0526 FAX

www.ccrn.com

info@ccrn.com

Fees: No fees

Description: A non-profit, charitable, and educational organization that primary purpose is to provide financial assistance for children's medical bills. Any individual age 18 and under living in McLean County may apply for assistance in the area of testing, medication, dressing, and professional services (doctors' fees included).

Maximum Income Guidelines: Varies based on family size, income, and need.

Referral Procedures: Contact the Children's Health Care Council representative at the phone number listed above or walk-in assistance is available at the Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Illinois House Building, 207 W. Jefferson #307, Bloomington.

Community Health Care Clinic

902 Franklin Ave, Normal, IL 61761

(309) 888-5531 Voice

(309) 888-5530 Fax

(309) 888-4653 Medication Refill Line

www.chcchealth.org

Services: Provides primary health care of the medically underserved and/or uninsured residents of McLean County.

Eligibility: To be eligible for clinic services, a client:

- Must not be eligible for any entitlement programs
- Must have an income level at or less than 185% of the current federal poverty guidelines
- Must be a resident of McLean County
- Must not have Health Insurance

Fees: No set fees. \$5.00 donation requested for each medication dispensed.

Referral Procedures: Exams are provided by appointment only. Individuals are asked to pick up an eligibility application at the clinic. Once returned, the application will be reviewed and the individual will be contacted for an appointment, if eligible.

Division of Specialized Care for Children

510 Devonshire, Suite A

Champaign, IL 61820

(217) 333-6528 phone

(217) 244-4212 <http://uic.edu/hsc/dscc/>

Description: The Core Program is the major focus of DSCC and offers care coordination and cost-supported diagnosis and treatment for children with chronic health impairments determined eligible for program support. DSCC supports non-investigational treatment recommended by physician specialists, such as therapy, medications, specialized equipment, and supplies. Application forms are available on the Core Program page of our website.

McLean County Health Department

200 W. Front St., Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 888-5450 Main Number

(309) 452-8479 Fax

(309) 888-5060 Animal Control

(309) 888-5482 Environmental Health

(309) 888-5517 Family Case Management/Teen Parent Services

(309) 474-0800 Toll-free for Family Services

(309) 888-5455 Immunization Clinic & Records

(309) 888-5435 STD Clinic/HIV/AIDS Services

(309) 888-5457 WIC

(309) 888-5480 Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)

Dental Clinic 888-5479

www.mcleancountyil.gov/health

Services: AIDS/HIV Prevention Counseling, Anonymous HIV Testing, Sexually Transmitted Disease Treatment, Animal Control, Family Case Management, Teen Parent Program, Childhood Immunizations, Dental Care, Medical Reserve Corps, Eye Glasses Clinic, Health Education, Lead Poisoning Screening, Environmental Health Division, Public Health Nursing, Tuberculosis Control, WIC, Mclean County Prescription Drug Discount Card

Referral Procedures: Call for appointment

Scott Health Resources Center

Township Center, 607 S. Gridley St., Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 823-4224 Voice

(309) 827-3667 Fax

(309) 829-5115 TTY

www.cityblm.org

Services: Dental Referrals, Eye Care Referrals for Public Aid, Medical Equipment and Supplies, Medical Transportation, Prescription Expense Assistance,

Eligibility:

- Household assets must be below \$1,000 per person up to a maximum of \$2,000 per household (not including house).
- Must be a resident of McLean County (for at least four months).
- Must be 18 years old or older
- Maximum Income Guidelines: 185% of poverty level.

Interviews by appointment only; can call or walk-in to request information or schedule an appointment

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PATH - Providing Access to Help

201 E. Grove St., Bloomington, IL 61701

Dial 211 for Crisis Intervention and/or Agency Referrals

(309) 827-4005 Voice

(309) 828-1022 Business

(800) 570-7284 Toll-free

(309) 827-7485 Fax

www.pathcrisis.org

Fees: No fee

Referral Procedures: By phone or appointment

Services: 24 hour Crisis, Information & Referral Service, Elder Abuse Program, Outreach for Homeless, Caregiver Counseling support and networking, Geriatric Counseling, Information and Referral, Money Management for Older Adults, Warm Neighbors Utility Assistance, Path Directory and Seminars.

Salvation Army, Bloomington Corps

611 West Washington, Blm, 61701

(309) 829-9476 Voice

(309) 829-8997 FAX

www.usc.salvationarmy.org

Services: Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter and Social Service Center, Food Pantries, Holiday Programs, Homeless Drop in Center, Transitional Housing, Grooming Supplies, Utility Assistance, Nicor Gas Assistance Program, and Rent Payment Assistance.

Home Sweet Home Ministries, Billy Shelter Center

303 E. Oakland Ave, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 828-7356 Voice

(309) 828-1530 Mission Mart

(309) 827-6415

Fax www.hshministries.org

Services: Homeless Shelter, Threshold Program, Mission Mart, Food Pantry

Community Action, Mid Central

1301 W. Washington, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 829-0691 Main Office

(309) 828-8811 Fax

(309) 827-7070 CDV Hotline

(309) 827-2967 Mayor's Manor

Mayor's Manor, 504 W. Washington, Bloomington, IL 61701

www.mccainc.org

mcca@mccainc.org

Fees: No fees Referral Procedures: Phone or walk-in for appointment

Services: Automotive Repairs, Credit Repair, Countering Domestic Violence Shelter, Foreclosure Assistance, Affordable Housing Development, Mayor's Manor-Homeless Permanent Supportive Housing, Rent Payment Assistance

INCOME SUPPORT

Social Security Administration

207 N. Williamsburg Drive, Bloomington, IL 61704

(309) 662-1836 Voice

(800) 772-1213 Toll-free

(309) 662-9194 TTY

(800) 325-0778 TDD Toll-free

(309) 662-6893 FAX

(800) 663-4227 Toll-free Medicare Hotline

www.socialsecurity.gov

Description: A federal income maintenance program with supplemental state funds administered by the Social Security Administration that provides basic financial assistance in the form of monthly checks for people.

Eligibility: Supplemental Security Income eligibility is based on financial need as well as being age 65, blind or disabled.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

501 W. Washington St., Bloomington, IL 61702

(309) 451-6000 Voice

Refer to information under “Health” category

KTB Financial Services, Inc

1301 W. Washington Street. Suite #3

Bloomington, IL 61701-4700

309-200-8664

www.ktbfinancialservices.org

Contact us by phone, email or via our Social Media channels. We deliver personalized financial services (office and in-home) with our tailored blend of compassion, flexibility and professionalism. We work with our clients keeping them involved and informed in financial decisions. We create channels of ongoing communication with adult children. We help sort out your financial affairs so you don't have to. If you find yourself overwhelmed with stacks of paperwork, bills to pay, or a hectic work/travel schedule, we can help. We save you money by avoiding unwanted penalties and fees accompanied by late payments or poorly managed accounts. We will assist with the following:

- Create budgets and spending plans
- Develop credit card debt consolidation and reduction plan
- Open, sort, review, organize and protect clients from official-looking solicitations and junk-mail fraud
- Monitor on-line bill pay system
- Review and/or balance checkbooks
- Reconcile bank statements
- Review credit card statements
- Negotiate with creditors
- Write creditor letters
- Review medical insurance papers -- bills, Explanation of Benefits
- Organize and maintain financial files
- Pay bills (preparing checks for client/relative signature or online bill pay)
- Prepare and make bank deposits
- Talking with Social Security and establishing Representative Payee
- Interacting with other agencies/providers to secure benefits for client
- Going to the bank with or for the client

TRANSPORTATION

First Transit

(877) 725-0569 Voice, must have DHS Medical Card to use this service.

(630) 873-1449 TTY

(630) 873-1450 FAX

www.netspap.com

Eligibility: Medicaid and All kids recipients.

Description: DHS' Medical Assistance (Medicaid) will pay for rides to and from non-emergency medical care appointments for individuals who have a current medical card, if the ride is approved by First Transit.

Referral Procedures: The DHS participant, medical provider, or transportation provider may call to receive prior approval for single trips, but requests for standing orders must be made in writing to First Transit and can only be made by the medical provider. Medical providers may fax the standing order requests to First Transit (number above)

CONNECT TRANSIT (BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM)

351 Wylie Dr.

Normal, IL 61761

General Services Information: 309-828-9833

Connect Late-Night (Formerly Nite Ride) 309-438-7433

Connect Mobility (Formerly Special Services) Information: 828-7511 (door to door)

MACROBUTTON HtmlResAnchor www.b-npts.com

SHOW BUS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Ford, Livingston & McLean County (door to door)

1-800-525-2454

Description: Offer rural public transportation by reservation.

FAMILY RESOURCES

Autism Program of Illinois

928 South Spring Street, Springfield, Il 62704-2725

(217) 525-8332 Voice

(217) 789-1420 FAX

www.theautismprogram.org

theautismprogram@thehopeinstitute.us

Description: The Autism Program is a network of services and supports for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. The Autism program's three centers and two affiliates (one is located at Illinois State University) offer unique services and supports in each region of Illinois. All of the services and supports model best practice standards for diagnosis, treatment and support for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ADC), based on current leading research and expert consensus.

The Autism Program's web site has a wealth of information developed and designed to offer resources related to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ADS) in the form of research, training, special events, trips and techniques and other information intended for use and application by families affected by autism and professionals in the field.

Autism Society of McLean County

2404 E. Empire, Suite, 231, Bloomington, Il 61704

(309) 661-9440 Voice

www.autismclean.org

Description: The purpose of this organization is to promote the general welfare of children and adults with autism and provide support for their families; to support the education, vocational training and recreation of those with autism and to aid in the collection and dissemination of information.

Marcfirst - Transition Program

Kayleigh Ortega

Associate Director of Transition

Marcfirst

1606 Hunt Dr.

Normal, IL 61761

Phone: (309) 451-8888 ext 265 E-mail: kayleighortega@marcfirst.org

Description: The Transition Program will provide assistance with accessing and applying for government programs, filling out paperwork, and ensuring the students gain experiences in high school that will assist him or her in adulthood.

Students/families may request tours of adult services available at Marcfirst in order to become familiar with opportunities after they graduate. Staff is also available to attend students' IEP meetings. The Transition Program offers Transition Club for students, ages 16-22. Transition Club provides experiences and information on transition in a community setting in the areas of life skills, self-advocacy, general health and wellness, and volunteerism. The Transition program also offers a spring break program, referred to as STAR, and a 6-week School to Work summer program. Both of these programs offer students the opportunity to learn bus routes, job shadow and prepare for life after high school.