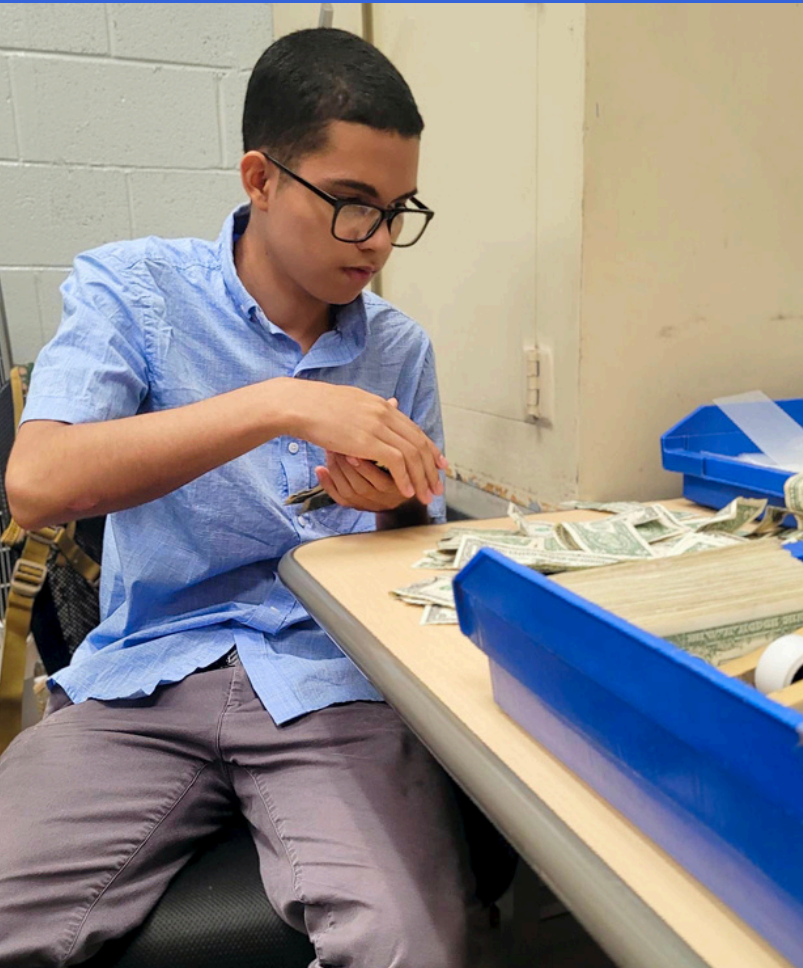


NORWALK NEXT STEPS



EMPOWERING YOUNG ADULTS TO TRANSITION SUCCESSFULLY INTO INDEPENDENT AND FULFILLING LIVES

Norwalk Next Steps is a post-high school transitional program with Norwalk Public Schools that works with young adults (ages 18-22) with varying levels of abilities to effectively become valued members of the community. It offers a range of services for students in need of functional academics, vocational experiences, and independent living skills. Norwalk Next Steps assists in developing the competence to lead successful and rewarding lives.

Strong community partnerships with an expanding list of local businesses provide meaningful employment, volunteer, independent living, interpersonal and social experiences for our young adults.

Setting and implementing goals outlined in the IEP, using strength-based assessments in the community and in the classroom, and creating momentum and planning ahead are all part of the team approach of Norwalk Next Steps. In addition, we provide close collaboration between students, families, and agencies such as the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), Board of Education Services for the Blind (BESB), Abilis, STAR, and Ability Beyond.

Program Highlights:

- Norwalk Next Steps is designed for young adults, ages 18-22, who have completed their high school requirements, but still have continuing transition needs.
- Norwalk Next Steps is community-based, located at the NPS Family Center. The program follows the NPS calendar, running Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.
- Curriculum includes financial literacy/budgeting, meal preparation, shopping for needs and wants, visiting local area restaurants, focus on physical health/fitness, libraries, art opportunities, volunteer, vocational training and travel training.
- In addition to the CT CORE transition skills, programming can include variety of related services that can occur either in the classroom setting or with the community.



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