

MORNING CONNECTIONS

TRANSITION RESOURCES THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First

Welcome to Morning Connections



- Please sign-in....thank you!



Today's Agenda



Time	Topic
8:00	Welcome & Introductions
8:05-8:30	<i>Myeshia Miller, Program Manager</i> In Community
8:30-8:55	<i>Huda Hassan, Transition Liaison</i> Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)
8:55-9:00	Q&A + Closing Remarks



Supporting Individuals & Families Through Community-Based Services

Myeshia Miller, Program Manager

02/18/26



InCommunity

WELCOME



Photographed: Resident Bill L., NFGH president Ginny R., Resident Russell H., accept gift from Equifax's Chuck Weiksner

InCommunity, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit agency headquartered in Atlanta, GA, provides community-based services and meaningful support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Our offerings include residential support, employment services, respite care, family support, community living support, and day programs. Since 1979, InCommunity has provided support and service to more than 10,000 Georgian community members.

MISSION

“InCommunity provides meaningful support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live safe, healthy, and joyful lives in their communities.”





WHO WE SERVE

InCommunity serves individuals with I/DD and their families through the following programs and services:

- 38 Residential Homes (CRA)
- 4 Adult Day programs
- 2 Crisis Homes
- 49 HOST Homes
- Supported Employment
- Family Support Services
- Behavior Supports
- Nursing
- Community Living Support (CLS)



RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

InCommunity's residential options are available to individuals whose goal is to live more independently within the community in small group settings of four or fewer or in life-sharing arrangements.

Housing options include:

- Group homes
- Apartments with staff
- Independent living with on-going support

There is something for everyone!



CRISIS HOMES

Crisis Support Services provides community-based crisis services that support individuals with developmental disabilities in their communities as an alternative to institutional placement, emergency room care and /or law enforcement involvement including incarceration.

InCommunity provides-

1. Intensive in home services which are behavioral interventions provided in the home of the individual.
2. Intensive out of home services

As a measure of last resort on a time limited basis to alleviate the presenting crisis.



HOST HOMES

Homes Offering Support and Training (HOST) for Adults provides participants with the opportunity to thrive in a family setting by choosing the host family of their preference. With the help of host families, participants strive to reach their full potential by becoming members of a larger community.



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

A program known as EmployAbility, that assists Post-High school adults with Developmental Disabilities to seek, secure, train, and maintain competitive employment in their community.

This program ensures:

- On the job training
- Individually tailored supervision (job coach)
- A successful partnership with the employer is in place for training and completion of essential job functions



FAMILY CARE SERVICES

Family Support Services- assists families in obtaining goods and services necessary to ensure the best possible care for their loved one. Goods and services we help your family obtain may include, but are not limited to:

- Equine Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Music Therapy
- Summer Camp
- Specialized Medical Supplies
- Dental Care
- Nutritional Supplements

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Individuals 3 years of age and older who have been diagnosed with a developmental disability may be eligible.



FAMILY CARE SERVICES

Respite Care- is the provision of short-term, temporary relief to those who are caring for family members who might otherwise require permanent placement in a facility outside the home. Respite provides planned short-term and time-limited breaks for families and other unpaid care givers of children and adults with developmental disabilities in order to support and maintain the primary care giving relationship.

Respite providers are trained, experienced care givers who come to your family's home to provide respite for your loved one. Out-of-home care is also available in providers' homes or group respite homes. Service options include but are not limited to a few hours a week, weekend respite, or for up to a week at a time. Emergency Respite is also available for those who qualify.

NEED TO KNOW

1. How the process works
2. Funding & Eligibility
3. How to get started...





THANK YOU!!!

Q&A

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Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)

GVRA Supporting Transitioning High School Students



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Presentation Objectives

- Learn how GVRA supports high school students
- Understand how a student qualifies for services
- Explore the services a student may receive



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

What is GVRA?

- We are a government agency that supports individuals with disabilities with the ultimate goal of employment
- Our mission is to serve Georgians with disabilities to empower them to live independently.



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Types of VR Services

Pre-
Employment
Transition
Services

Transition
Services

Employment
Related
Services



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Who Qualifies for Services?

Potentially Eligible Student- *PTS Case- Pre-ETS*

- Between the ages of 14-22 (up until their 22nd birthday)
- Eligible and receiving services under an IEP or Section 504
- Is participating in a recognized academic setting (Public , private, homeschool, post secondary training)

GVRA Client -*VR Case- VR Client*

- Permanent physical or mental disability
- Poses a substantial impediment to employment
- Can benefit from Vocational Rehabilitation services in terms of competitive integrated employment outcome



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

What are Pre-Employment Transition Services

1. Job Exploration Counseling - Assists students in discovering career opportunities in their fields of interest.

2. Counseling on Post-Secondary Opportunities - Information and guidance on a variety of post-secondary education and training opportunities.

3. Workplace Readiness Training – Teaching workplace readiness traits to include soft skills that employers seek from employees.

4. Work Based Learning - An educational approach or instructional methodology that uses the workplace or real work practices to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will help them connect school experiences to real-life work activities and future career opportunities.

5. Self-Advocacy Instruction – Developing an ability to effectively communicate, convey, negotiate or assert his/her own interests and/or desires.





Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

How Many Pre-ETS?

- None of the provisions mandate that all five Pre-ETS activities be provided to each qualifying student by GVRA.
- There is no requirement that any one type of Pre-ETS precede another type.
- There is no requirement that a person receive a prescribed number of Pre-ETS.
- Pathful is an online career exploration and job readiness platform that allows students being served by GVRA for Pre-ETS to have their own account for completing a wide variety of transition activities.



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Getting Ready for Opportunities in Work (GROW)

- GROW is available to students looking for an opportunity to explore work and post-secondary education opportunities in a 4–5-day camp-like structure.
- GROW is typically during the **summer months**, but sometimes is scheduled during **school breaks**
- Sites include Roosevelt Warm Springs and Cave Spring campuses
- GROW is also offered through private providers across the state
- During GROW, students will join peers in work-based learning, career exploration, workplace readiness, post-secondary counseling and self-advocacy



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

VR Transition Services



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Applying for VR Services

- GVRA Receives **Referral** (or the student is already receiving Pre-ETS and **requests to apply** for VR Services).
- The student completes a **VR Intake** with a VR staff member and signs an **application for services**.
- GVRA Counselor will begin **eligibility process**, which includes assignment of priority category.
- Once eligibility is determined, then GVRA will conduct a **needs assessment**.
- Utilizing information collected during the needs assessment an **Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)** will be developed, reviewed and agreed upon by both GVRA and the Client.



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Common Transition Services

- Community Work Adjustment Training
- Assistive Work Technology
- On-the-job training
- Specific Vocational training
- GVRA Residential Services Pathway Training Programs
- Supported Employment
- Customized Supported Employment
- Individualized Job Placement Services



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Transition Services

Roosevelt Warm Springs (RWS)/Cave Spring Center (CSC)



RWS Pathway Options

- Light Electrical & Carpentry
- CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant)
- Logistics-Forklift/Warehousing
- Hospitality
- Auto Detailing
- CVS/Retail
- Heavy Equipment Operation
- Landscape Maintenance & Design

CSC Pathway Options

- * Hospitality
- * Blind Vendor Training

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Bud McCall Post Secondary Vocational Rehabilitation Grant

Eligibility Requirements:

Meet GVRA eligibility

Provide an acceptance letter to an accredited school

Complete FAFSA

Grant Amount:

Tuition: \$7,395 per year

Maintenance: (room, board, and meals) \$9,430 per year

Books: \$900 per year

Students may qualify for other services such as assistive work technology, or other tools and equipment needed for training.



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Transition to Inclusive Post-Secondary Education IPSE

What is IPSE/CTP?

Which colleges have the programs?

<https://gaipsec.org/colleges-and-universities>

Georgia has 9 this year, currently 8 are Certified Transition Programs

Important Considerations

Housing/Transportation

Financial Barriers

If approved, GVRA support of up to \$3000 per semester may be sent to the program. GVRA contracts with them to provide Pre-ETS and/or work readiness services qualifying students.

Eligible for federal financial aid?

Private and school scholarships?

Educational loans?



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Transition Services

Georgia Inclusive Postsecondary Education Programs

1. Kennesaw State University - [Academy for Inclusive Learning and Social Growth](#)
2. East Georgia State College - [CHOICE Program](#)
3. Georgia Tech - [Excel Program](#)
4. Columbus State University - [GOALS Program](#)
5. University of Georgia - [Destination Dawgs](#)
6. Albany Technical College - [LEAP Program](#)
7. Georgia State University - [The Inclusive Digital Expression and Literacy \(IDEAL\) Program](#)
8. Georgia Southern University - [EAGLE Academy](#)
9. **Berry College - Program for Inclusive Learning** - [Berry IPSE](#)
10. **Georgia College & State University** - [GC THRIVE](#)

GVRA can support of up to \$3000 per semester by contracting with the Certified programs to provide Pre-ETS and/or work readiness services to qualifying students.

***Newest programs not yet Certified
Transition Programs**

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

VR Post-secondary Service and Funding

Services

- ❑ Postsecondary Training
- ❑ Inclusive Postsecondary Training
- ❑ Vocational Training, Supported Employment, & Job Placement Services

Funding

- ❑ Financial Aid, Need-Based Scholarships, Bud McCall Grant
- ❑ Georgia Student Finance Commission Grants (IPSE Grant), GVRA supports programs up to \$3000 per semester for Pre-ETS per student for up to 4 semesters
- ❑ GVRA funded – no cost to individuals and families.



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Employment Related Services



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Transition to Employment Common Services

- Work Readiness Training
- Job Search/Placement Assistance
- Supported Employment or Short-Term Job Coaching
- Job Accommodation and Support Guidance
- Job Retention Strategies
- Job Follow-Up/Follow Along



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Resources

- [GVRA Website](#)
- [Referral- How to get started](#)
- [Parent Permission Form](#)
- [Pathful](#)
- [RWS Pathways Flyer](#)



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Website



[Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency](https://www.gvra.ga.gov)

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Questions



Contact Information

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**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENDING —YOUR
PRESENCE MADE A
DIFFERENCE!**



Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First

We Value Your Insight!



THANK
you
for making a
DIFFERENCE
EVERY DAY!

**Please share your feedback to
help us improve:**



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