



**Family Support  
Network™ of WNC**

**10th Annual Regional Transition into Adulthood Conference  
What happens next? Post-secondary Education, Work?  
A Journey toward Independence: Positive Outcomes for Youth  
With Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities**



Sessions will be held throughout the month of  
**October 2020**

**Monday's 12pm-1:30pm or 6:30pm-8:00pm  
Thursday's 12:00pm-1:30pm or 6:30pm-8:00pm  
Registration will be required to attend!**

<https://rb.gy/dqtpyg>

*Need Assistance:*  
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The vision of Mission Family Support Network for this conference is that all WNC youth and young adults with disabilities will successfully transition to the role of productive, participating adult citizens. Youth will be empowered to recognize their talents, strengths, and voice and have equal access to resources that promote full participation in the communities of their choice.

Title of Session	Date/Time
<p><b><u>DID YOU KNOW YOUR ADULT CHILD WITH DISABILITIES CAN LIVE ON THEIR OWN</u></b> Does your young adult dream to live on their own or at least out of their parents' home? This session will provided information on what options are available for that dream to come true. Greta Byrd, Liberty Corners Janet Price-Ferrell, My FIRST Key Program Cameron Kempson, M.Ed., SimplyHome, LLC</p>	<p><b>Monday, October 5, 2020 6:30pm – 8:00pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>WHAT IS THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR MY YOUNG ADULT GUARDIANSHIP OR AN ALTERNATIVE OPTION</u></b> Often guardianship is not necessary to meet the needs of an individual who is having difficulty handling his or her personal and financial affairs. There are alternatives that provide supports for the person or for substitute decision making authority in specific areas, and these should be used instead of guardianship whenever possible: Jean Farmer-Butterfield, Senior Director, LIFEguardianship, The Arc of North Carolina</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 8, 2020 12:00pm-1:30pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>BENEFITS COUNSELING</u></b> If your son or daughter are receiving Social Security Benefits (SSI or SSDI). And they want to work but you are concerned about what will happen to their benefits and health care if they do work? This session is for you! Did you know in most cases, people on Social Security Disability benefits are financially better off if they work – as long as they understand the work incentives? Amy Upham, Owl Eye Counseling</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 8, 2020 6:30pm – 8:00pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>VOTING 2020</u></b> This presentation will cover basic information and issues about voting in the (very soon!) November 2020 election. Topics covered include access to voting, voting advocacy, and mail-in voting vs. in person voting. Melinda Plue, MSW, LCSW, Director of Advocacy and Chapter Development, The Arc of NC</p>	<p><b>Monday , October 12, 2020 12:00pm-1:30pm</b></p>

<p><b><u>ARE YOU THINKING COLLEGE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?</u></b>  This session will give you an overview of different programs that are available in our regions. Along with students sharing their experiences in the programs.  Angela Biggs, Coordinator, UP Western Carolina University  Maria C.G. Hofman Hernandez, M.F.A., Assistant Director, Scholars with Diverse Abilities Program (SDAP)</p>	<p><b>Monday, October 12, 2020 6:30pm-8pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>NC ABLE ACCOUNTS</u></b>  NC ABLE is a tax-advantaged savings program that allows people with disabilities to save and invest without jeopardizing SSI or Medicaid benefits. This program is truly a first-step, not available before, for many individuals with disabilities to gain financial independence. Now, thanks to NC ABLE, up to \$100,000 is excluded from countable resources, allowing individuals to save more than ever before. Best of all, account owners have access to their money when they need it most. <a href="https://www.nctreasurer.com/divisions/nc-able">https://www.nctreasurer.com/divisions/nc-able</a>  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NCABLEProgram">https://www.facebook.com/NCABLEProgram</a>  Mary Buonfiglio, Director, Supplemental Savings Programs, NC Treasurer Department</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 15, 2020 12:00pm-1:30pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>CONNECTING TO MEDICAID IDD SERVICES AND SUPPORTS</u></b>  The Medicaid Innovations Waiver supports Individuals with I/DD to live the life they choose. Waiver services are administered by a local management entity/managed care organization (LME/MCO) which facilitate services and oversee a network of community-based service providers. Join us to learn more!  Julie Davis, NCPSS, Family Partner, Member Relations Team, Vaya Health</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 15, 2020 6:30pm-8:00pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>NO MEDICAID: NAVIGATING INSURANCE – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW</u></b>  Most parents feel like navigating health care insurance is a big, complicated job. Is this YOU? Joins us and let's break down the process together. To Be Announced</p>	<p><b>Monday, October 19, 2020 12:00pm-1:30pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>GUARDIANSHIP AND ESTATE PLANNING/ SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS</u></b>  When should I consider guardianship for my child?  When planning my estate, when should I consider a Special Needs Trust?  Join us to get the questions answered and more!  Cynthia Alleman, Attorney at Law</p>	<p><b>Monday, October 19, 2020 6:30pm-8pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FOR THE BLIND</u></b>  If you are blind or visually impaired Vocational Rehabilitation services can help you find a job, keep a job or return to work. You will work with a Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Counselor who can help you obtain the services you need to find work or continue working.  Gordon DeMarco, MS, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor  Division of Services For The Blind</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 22, 2020 12:00pm-1:30pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>ADULTHOOD HAPPENS. START PLANNING FOR IT NOW!</u></b>  Beginning at age 14, your youth's IEP will include a plan for their Transition to Adulthood. Learn how you and the school can work together to prepare your youth for life after high school. Doreen Bryd, Parent Educator, Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC)</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 22, 2020 6:30pm-8:00pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>PREPARING FOR THE TRANSITION FROM PEDIATRIC TO ADULT HEALTH CARE:</u></b>  Parents are familiar with the many transitions their children experience as they grow. But what about the last visit to the pediatrician or the first visit to an adult doctor?  Many parents and youth do not consider this transition until it is suddenly upon them. Join us to start the planning process for this important transition in your youth's life.  Rebecca T Putnam, MD, Director – MAHEC Adult IDD Clinic</p>	<p><b>Monday, October 26, 2020 6:30pm-8:00pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>ARE YOU THINKING WORK/EMPLOYMENT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?</u></b>  Join Us to learn how The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) helps people with disabilities achieve their goals for employment and independence. If you have a disability that prevents you from achieving career success or independence in the community of your choice, DVRS can connect you to services and resources to help you meet your goals.  Scott W. Smiles, M.Ed. Rehabilitation Counselor Supervisor, DVRS, Asheville Unit Office  Mindy McCormick, Transition Coordinator, Asheville High School</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 29, 2020 12:00pm-1:30pm</b></p>
<p><b><u>ARE YOU THINKING WORK/EMPLOYMENT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?</u></b>  Supported Employment Funding, Internship Options, Skill-Building Programs  Tim Blekicki, Project SEARCH  Carla Hill, Transylvania Vocational Services (TVS)</p>	<p><b>Thursday, October 29, 2020 6:30pm-8:00pm</b></p>