WHAT IS OUR VISION?

For all customers to gain the academic, occupational, and employability skills needed to make a smooth transition from their current position in life to the workforce.
MEANS OF IMPROVING TRANSITION SERVICES

- Conduct quarterly partner meetings to make everyone aware of transition services and to identify ways in which offices can work together.
- Develop a communication plan that will educate both employees and customers on transition services provided.
- Recruit new partners to assist with transition services.
- Build stronger relationships with business & industry throughout the state.
- Create a means to collect, analyze, and disseminate follow-up data.
ESSENTIAL PARTNERS IN FULFILLING THE VISION

- Postsecondary Institutions
- Adult Education Centers
- Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority
- Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
- Kentucky Association of Manufacturers
- Local Trade Unions
- Economic Development Offices
- Kentucky Counselors Association
- Local Government Agencies (Fiscal Court or City Council)
TASKS THAT WILL HELP ACHIEVE THE VISION

- Have agency representatives provide information on services provided by their respective offices during new employee orientation.
- Invite partners to attend staff meetings and steering committees of the offices.
- Use agency websites to share information.
- Develop a brochure of ONE STOP services, and distribute the brochure to parents and students.
- There must be better utilization of the Individual Learning Plan (ILP) at the secondary level. Provide parents with information about the ILP during open houses and in registration materials.
TASKS CONTINUED...

- Develop a mentoring program (Adults and older students can mentor younger students).
- Each office could use more counselors. Provide area technology centers with at least a part-time college/career coach.
- Build a co-hort with local businesses to provide apprenticeships, job shadowing opportunities, mock interviews, and job readiness training.
Within the next three months
1. Each office will develop a simply list of transition services it provides. This list will be shared with other offices to use in new employee orientation.
2. Each office will invite representatives from the other three offices to attend quarterly staff meetings/steering committees.

Within the next six months
1. Each office will create web-pages on their websites in regards to transition services. Links to the transitions services pages on partnering websites will be provided.
2. A brochure on ONE STOP services will be created and distributed to parents and students attending area technology centers and postsecondary institutions.
3. Area Technology Centers will provide parents with information about Individual Learning Plans (ILP) at open houses or Close the Deal events.
CRITICAL PATH CONTINUED...

Within the next twelve months
1. The department will create a team for the sole purpose of developing a mentoring program.
2. The department will identify potential business partners and begin the discussion of creating work-based learning activities for customers.
3. The department will secure funds to provide a part-time college/career coach at every area technology center.
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation – examples of current transition services

- **Targeted Employment Guidance & Counseling to students with disabilities**
  - Counselors assigned to provide outreach to all 174 public school districts for students who are beginning their transition into the workforce.
  - Vocational Assessments and Plans for Employment are developed prior to exiting high school.

- **Community Based Work Transition Program**
  - Collaboration with KDE to provide a two year Exploration, Evaluation & Job Training program for students with significant disabilities
    - Career assessments, job carving, job placement, weekly individual training with Job Coach/Employment Coordinator during final two years of high school
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, con’t

- **Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center**
  - Mission of the Center is to provide services to individuals with disabilities so they may transition into suitable employment and independence.
  - The Perkins Center's Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF)- a private, non-profit organization that promotes quality rehabilitation services through a consultative accreditation process.
  - The Perkins Center operates several different types of training programs that assist consumers achieve their vocational goals. Some programs may be designed to help consumers learn specific job skills while others may be focused on helping consumers live more independently.
  - Examples: Cosmetology, Custodial/Building Maintenance, GED, Industrial Truck Operator, Life Skills Enhancement
OFFICE FOR THE BLIND-INNOVATIVE TRANSITION SERVICES

○ Insight Program

- The result of a partnership between the Kentucky Office for the Blind, Morehead State University, Kentucky School for the Blind, Big East Special Education Cooperative, the Kentucky School for the Blind Charitable Foundation, and the University of Louisville.
- 10 day college preparation program at Morehead State University for students that have completed at least the 10th grade.
- Students get the experience of being a college student. They live in dorms and sit in on college courses. Students then take what they have learned and use it to develop a plan of what they need to do to be better prepared for college.
OFFICE FOR THE BLIND- CONT.

- **Summer Work Program**
  - A collaboration between the Kentucky Office for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Blind, and the Louisville Zoo.
  - Students have to apply for and interview for a place in the program.
  - If selected, they complete a part-time two week paid work experience at the zoo combined with classroom instruction on job readiness skills.
  - School staff and zoo staff work together to evaluate the student’s work performance, work habits, and soft skills.
WHAT ARE OUR NEXT STEPS?