

National Conference on Effective Transitions in Adult Education

Helping Adults Succeed in Postsecondary Education & Training

N O V E M B E R

15-16, 2010



CROWNE PLAZA
AT THE CROSSINGS,
PROVIDENCE, RI

PRESENTED BY NATIONAL COLLEGE TRANSITION NETWORK

NOVEMBER, 2010

Dear Conference Participant:

Welcome to the fourth national conference on Effective Transitions in Adult Education. The number of registrants continues to exceed our expectations. We look forward to learning about innovative and effective practices and policies from each other again this year.

We are pleased to offer you a selection of high quality professional development by presenters from around the nation. We appreciate all of the presenters for sharing their time and expertise. Thank you.

One of the goals of the National College Transition Network (NCTN) is to support adult and college educators and administrators, professional developers, researchers, and policy developers – bringing together the full compliment of knowledge and skills needed to build this bridge for adults. Right now, we have over 2,000 members and we hope you are one of them!

We wish to thank Nellie Mae Education Foundation, GED Testing Service, and Citizens Bank for helping to make this conference possible and for their understanding about the importance of improving preparation and access to college and career pathways for adults, surely one of the largest underserved populations in our country.

We hope that you leave this conference energized, with new ideas and new professional relationships. We invite your constructive feedback. Please complete the conference evaluation form in your packet.

Sincerely,

Ellen Hewett, NCTN Director

Cynthia Zafft, NCTN Senior Advisor

Priyanka Sharma, NCTN & Conference Coordinator

Sandy Goodman, Director of Career Pathways

Silja Kallenbach, US Division of World Education Director

Ben Bruno, New England Literacy Resource Center Program Associate



CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Grand Foyer

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2010

7:30 AM – 5:00 PM

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Grand Foyer

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

WORKSHOP SESSION I

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

WORKSHOP SESSION II

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

LUNCH - CONFERENCE OPENING

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier

Keynote Presenter: Cynthia Zafft

Salon III

2:15 PM – 3:45 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION III

3:45 PM – 4:30 PM

EXHIBITS AND REFRESHMENTS

Grand Foyer

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

POLICY PANEL

Salon III

REGISTRATION HOURS

Sunday, November 14, 2010

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Monday, November 15, 2010

7:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

7:30 AM – 3:00 PM

EXHIBIT HOURS

Monday, November 15, 2010

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2010

7:30 AM – 3:00 PM

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Grand Foyer

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM

BREAKFAST

PLENARY SESSION: GED 21ST CENTURY INITIATIVE

Salon III

8:45 AM – 10:15 AM

WORKSHOP SESSION IV

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

EXHIBITS AND REFRESHMENTS

Grand Foyer

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION V

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCH - PLENARY SESSION

Keynote Speaker: John Neal

Salon III

1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION VI

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE MONDAY 11.15.10

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM SESSION I

1. Algebra Word Problems

Krista Young
Tiverton

2. “It Takes a Village” Tales from a Workplace College Transition Program

Margaret McPartland and Amy Zydanowicz
Bristol B

3. Designing Instruction for Career Pathways

Christopher M. Coro and Laura C. Lanier
Salon V

4. CityLab Academy: A Multifaceted Approach to Student Success in Biotechnology

Rachel Weiss and Sophan Sok
Bristol A

5. Online Tools for Learners

Mary Lou Friedline
Patriots

6. Using Counseling Skills to Build Resilience, Motivation & Engagement

Amy Mazur
Rhode Island

7. Opening Doors (A Transition Consortium Model)

Lance Jyo and Gordon Lum
Narragansett

8. Bridges to College: An Industry - Education Partnership

Lynn Watterson and Nan Quinlan
Rhode Island

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM SESSION II

1. Effective Transition Math Teaching for GED Students and Graduates

Steve Hinds
Salon IV

2. Adult Literacy for the Workforce in Iowa - Partnerships and Collaboration

Colleen Hunt and Helene Grossman (not attending)
Tiverton

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE MONDAY 11.15.10

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM SESSION II

- 3. Understanding & Applying Motivational Interviewing Skills with Students in Transition**
Craig N. Piso and Ellen Richer
Bristol B
- 4. Lessons Learned: Study of Most Promising GED to College Programs around the Country**
Terry Grobe and Mamadou Ndiaye
Salon V
- 5. Peer Mentors: Former AE Students Planting Postsecondary Seeds**
Angelica Garay and Joana Valles
Bristol A
- 6. Partnering for Success: GEDs to Ph.D.s**
Julie Scoskie and Venita Dobson
Narragansett
- 7. Wait! Don't Put Down Your Cell Phone!**
Ali Mageehon
Patriots
- 8. Using Counseling Skills to Build Resilience, Motivation & Engagement**
Amy Mazur
Rhode Island

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM PLENARY SESSION

Lunch

Conference Opening

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier

Keynote Presenter: Cynthia Zafft

Salon III

2:15 PM – 3:45 PM SESSION III

- 1. An Introduction to the Adult Transitions Longitudinal Study (ATLAS)**
Cristine Smith
Bristol A

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE MONDAY 11.15.10

2. **Building a Higher Skilled Workforce: Results and Implications from the BridgeConnect National Survey**

Julian Alssid and Whitney Smith

Salon V

3. **Crossing the Bridge: From GED Credential to Postsecondary Education/Careers**

Margaret Patterson

Rhode Island

4. **Developing Academic Readiness Skills from the Start**

Kimberly Johnson and Betsy Parrish

Bristol B

5. **We Cross the Bridge Together: Building Learning Communities**

Donna Miller-Parker, Sara Baldwin and Barbara Silas

Patriots

6. **Maine College Transitions: Student Voices**

Nancy Dionne, John Neal, Patty Harmon and Patricia Daugherty

Tiverton

7. **Let's Talk about that Four-Letter Word: Math**

Donna Curry

Narragansett

8. **Transitioning and Contextualized Curriculum: It's Here to Stay**

Bevan Gibson, Linda Cox, Colleen Potter and Sarah Goldammer

Salon IV

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

POLICY PANEL

PANELISTS:

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, United States Department of Education

Jeffery Gove, State Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) director, Ohio

Jeff Fantine, Adult Education State Director, Maine

Josephine Reed-Taylor, Assistant Commissioner Adult Literacy Programs, Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education

MODERATOR:

Cynthia Zafft, Senior Advisor, National College Transition Network

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE TUESDAY 11.16.10

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM PLENARY SESSION

GED 21ST Century Initiative

CT Turner, GED Testing Service

8:45 AM – 10:15 AM SESSION IV

- 1. First Steps in Preparing Students for College Level Math**
Pamela Meader
Rhode Island
- 2. The LINC'S Resource Collections: Online Transitions Resources**
Beth Ponder and Gail Cope
Bristol A
- 3. Writing for Transitions: What Students Need, What Instructors Can Teach**
Peggy McGuire
Salon IV
- 4. From Court to College: Structured Peer Mentoring in a Reentry Context**
Michael Carey
Salon V
- 5. Maine College Transitions: Lessons Learned**
Larinda Meade and Jeff Fantine
Narragansett
- 6. Using Educational Biographies in the Teaching of Writing**
Lindy Whiton
Patriots
- 7. Strategies and Materials for Engaging Young Adult Learners**
Jane Greiner
Tiverton
- 8. Lessons Learned from the Program Evaluation of the College-Yes Project**
Alisa Belzer and Renita Ragan
Bristol B

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM SESSION V

- 1. This Won't Be Your Mother's GED Test**
CT Turner
Salon IV
- 2. Aligning Curriculum for Postsecondary Success**
Steve McFarland, Kelly Heath, Theresa MacDonald, Maggie Scholl and Larinda Meade
Bristol B
- 3. MECA – Tools for the Tipping Point (vendor session)**
Art Janowiak, The Conover Company
Patriots

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE TUESDAY 11.16.10

4. **Policy to Performance: Transitioning Adults to Opportunities**

Laura C. Lanier, Chrys Limardo and Christopher M. Coro

Salon V

5. **Connecting to College: Initiatives of the New York State Educational Opportunity Centers**

Eric Neutuch, Amy Conley and Angel Calderon

Tiverton

6. **Preparing for College Math: Skills for the GED-Plus Classroom**

Bonnie Goonen and Susan Pittman-Shetler

Rhode Island

7. **Integrating English Language Development and Career Education**

Suma Kurien, Tania N. Ramírez and Beth Godley

Bristol A

8. **Organizations Don't Collaborate, People Do!**

Steve Bender and Christine Howard

Narragansett

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

PLENARY SESSION

Lunch

Keynote Speaker: John Neal

Salon III

1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

SESSION VI

1. **Vermont's High School Completion Program**

Thomas Alderman and Frank Gerdeman

Rhode Island

2. **The Learner Web: Transition to College with Blended Learning**

David Rosen

Patriots

3. **Transitions through Empowerment**

Cynthia Peters, Ricky Silvestre and Elizabeth Pabon-Szebeda

Bristol A

4. **Innovative Dual Enrollment: Collaboration at Work**

Connie Patton, Lorraine Robida and Carol Despres

Tiverton

5. **Online Tools for Learners**

Mary Lou Friedline

Bristol B

6. **Adult Learning in the 21st Century: Literacy for Successful Transitions**

Federico Salas-Isnardi

Narragansett

AGENDA

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

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SESSION I

1. Algebra Word Problems

Krista Young
Tiverton

Using hands-on activities and discussion, participants will review the steps for problem solving and examine the types of algebra word problems that are on the current GED exam, and will be seen on the future GED exam and on college placement exams.

Krista Young is currently the GED Coordinator and a teacher for Abilene, TX and also a facilitator and master math trainer for the Texas Adult Education Math Initiative.

2. “It Takes a Village” Tales from a Workplace College Transition Program

Margaret McPartland and Amy Zydanowicz
Bristol B

Presenters will share best practices for blending academic coaching and instruction to support working adult learners to successfully transition to college.

Margaret McPartland has been teaching adult students transitioning into college for 16 years. **Amy Zydanowicz** has been a trained Personal and Professional Coach since 2005. Both Margaret and Amy work for Jewish Vocational Services in Boston.

3. Designing Instruction for Career Pathways

Christopher M. Coro and Laura C. Lanier
Salon V

The U.S. Department of Education has recently launched a new national activity that will support state and local adult educators' efforts to provide high quality “bridge” and integrated education and training instruction for low-skilled adults seeking to progress along career pathways. Learn how your program and students can benefit from this new adult education national activity.

Christopher M. Coro, Ph. D. is an Education Program Specialist who oversees adult education national activities at the U. S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE). **Laura C. Lanier**, is the Education Director at DTI Associates, Inc. where she oversees the Policy to Performance project as well as other national adult education initiatives.

4. CityLab Academy: A Multifaceted Approach to Student Success in Biotechnology

Rachel Weiss and Sophan Sok
Bristol A

Participants will learn a multifaceted approach to student success in a college-level program in biotechnology at Boston University called CityLab Academy.

Dr. Rachel Weiss is a counselor, mentor coordinator, and instructor at CityLab Academy. **Sophan Sok** is the recruiter and career coach for CLA and coaches students on professional etiquette.

5. Online Tools for Learners

Mary Lou Friedline
Patriots

The Internet provides a wealth of complementary learning resources and materials in a variety of formats. We will explore efficient search terms and phrases; available textbook resources; and sites for sharing and storing documents online. (This presentation is also offered in Session VI.)

Mary Lou Friedline has taught ABE, GED, ESL, and Transitioning since 1983 in Southwest PA. She coordinates professional development projects and provides academic and technical trainings.

6. Using Counseling Skills to Build Resilience, Motivation & Engagement

Amy Mazur
Salon IV

This workshop will focus on honing everyday counseling skills such as empathy and compassion to establish rapport, build and strengthen relationships, and foster students' growth and change. (This presentation is also offered in Session II.)

Amy Mazur, Ed.M., NCC, MCDP, is a Career Development Specialist/Counselor Educator assisting individuals with career transitions by using the counseling relationship to foster growth and change.

7. Opening Doors (A Transition Consortium Model)

Lance Jyo and Gordon Lum
Narragansett

Join the journey of a consortium of four Oahu Island Community Schools that have successfully implemented a variety of programs to support adult learners seeking to transition to postsecondary education and/or employment.

Lance Jyo is the Assistant Principal at Moanalua/Aiea Community School for Adults.

Gordon Lum is the Assistant Principal at Waipahu Community School for Adults.

Both Lance and Gordon have been employed by the Hawaii Department of Education for more than 20 years.

8. Bridges to College: An Industry - Education Partnership

Lynn Watterson and Nan Quinlan

Rhode Island

This presentation will highlight how a successful partnership between Taco, Inc. and the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) was developed to initiate a Bridges to College program for Taco employees. Participants will develop plans to implement key learnings in their programs.

Lynn Watterson is the Employer Liaison for Workforce Solutions, a program of CCRI's Center for Workforce and Community Education. **Nan Quinlan** is the Manager of Training and Development at Taco, Inc. in Cranston, RI.

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

SESSION II

1. Effective Transition Math Teaching for GED Students and Graduates

Steve Hinds

Salon IV

This interactive session will focus on student-centered teaching practices that have proven most effective for GED students and graduates who aspire to enter The City University of New York (CUNY). Activities from the CUNY College Transition Initiative math curriculum and classroom video footage will be used to demonstrate these practices.

Steve Hinds is the Mathematics Staff Developer for The City University of New York (CUNY) College Transition Initiative and a Mathematics Education Specialist for the CUNY New Community College Initiative.

2. Adult Literacy for the Workforce in Iowa - Partnerships and Collaboration

Colleen Hunt and Helene Grossman (not attending)

Tiverton

This interactive session is a “how-to” for states and local programs interested in learning about Iowa’s innovative and varied approach to implementing integrated basic and workplace skills. Participants will begin their own planning process with access to experienced Iowa leaders who will share experiences and guide the discussion.

Colleen Hunt is the Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Community College Services in the Iowa Department of Education. **Helene Grossman** is Iowa's State Director for Adult Literacy and brings years of experience as an educator and coordinator to her role with expertise in ESL and professional development.

3. Understanding & Applying Motivational Interviewing Skills with Students in Transition

Craig N. Piso and Ellen Richer
Bristol B

This workshop will present the theory and effective application of Motivational Interviewing with students in both academic skill-building and educational/career readiness activities. The approach helps students make more successful educational transitions through increased intrinsic motivation for behavioral change.

Craig N. Piso, Ph.D. is President of Piso and Associates, LLC, in Pennsylvania. **Ellen Richer** is the Director of the New York State Education Department Regional Adult Education Network in New York City.

4. Lessons Learned: Study of Most Promising GED to College Programs around the Country

Terry Grobe and Mamadou Ndiaye
Salon V

Jobs For the Future (JFF) conducted a national scan of most promising program models that are achieving above average postsecondary completion rates. The presenters will share key elements that these programs have in common and implications for the field as we work to help students realize their postsecondary aspirations.

Terry Grobe has several years of experience in providing technical assistance in adult learning, programs /interventions for high school age and older youth and school-college partnerships. **Mamadou Ndiaye** has led or guided efforts of two Boston programs to adopt a GED to College models. Both of them work for Jobs For the Future in Boston, MA.

5. Peer Mentors: Former AE Students Planting Postsecondary Seeds

Angelica Garay and Joana Valles
Bristol A

This interactive session will provide an opportunity for participants to experience the Peer Mentor Workshop as a “student”. Former adult education students will facilitate the workshop and share insights about addressing the postsecondary concerns of adult learners.

Angelica Garay is LEAP Peer Mentor and Clerk with the LEAP Program, and student at El Paso Community College. **Joana Valles** is LEAP Peer Mentor and student at El Paso Community College, El Paso, TX.

6. Partnering for Success: GEDs to Ph.D.s

Julie Scoskie and Venita Dobson
Narragansett

Learn how an adult education program partnered with a local community college in Louisville, Kentucky to concurrently enroll students, creating success for at-risk students. It looks like a college class, it feels like a college class, but it is free of charge and provided by adult education.

Julie Scoskie is Director of Adult Education in Louisville, KY. **Venita Dobson** is Instructor in an adult education transition program and at a community college.

7. Wait! Don't Put Down Your Cell Phone!

Ali Mageehon
Patriots

This workshop will examine how Web 2.0 applications can be used to support students as they transition to postsecondary education. The presenter will share some of the pilot efforts going on in her program. Participants will also develop ways they might utilize Web 2.0 in their programs.

Ali Mageehon is Director of the Adult Basic Skills Development Program at Umpqua Community College in Oregon.

8. Using Counseling Skills to Build Resilience, Motivation & Engagement

Amy Mazur
Rhode Island

This workshop will focus on honing everyday counseling skills such as empathy and compassion to establish rapport, build and strengthen relationships, and foster students' growth and change. (This presentation is also offered in Session I.)

Amy Mazur, Ed.M., NCC, MCDP, is a Career Development Specialist/Counselor Educator assisting individuals with career transitions by using the counseling relationship to foster growth and change.

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

PLENARY SESSION

LUNCH

CONFERENCE OPENING

Salon III

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, United States Department of Education

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier is the Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education at the United States Department of Education. Prior to coming to the United States Department of Education, Dr. Dann-Messier served for a decade as the President of Dorcas Place, a community-based adult education agency based in Providence, RI. Dr. Dann-Messier has been a tireless advocate for the adult learner, serving on numerous state and local boards. Brenda has frequently presented at national and international conferences and forums, including the National Commission on Adult Basic Education, Council for Opportunity in Education, National Center for Family Literacy and the European Access Network.

Keynote Presenter: Cynthia Zafft, Senior Advisor, National College Transition Network

College and Career Readiness: Beyond Academic Preparation

While increasing students' academic preparation is important, we know that many things come between students and their education and career goals. A four part model of adult readiness will help you and your students identify what is needed for true readiness.

Cynthia Zafft is Senior Advisor for the National College Transition Network (NCTN) and the Educational Director of the Health Care Learning Network (HCLN). Both are located at World Education, Inc. in Boston. Ms. Zafft is the Founding Director of the National College Transition Network (NCTN), an educator and stakeholder network with over 2200 members. The Health Care Learning Network (HCLN), begun in 2007, is a model of college preparation using healthcare-contextualized, online learning and workplace supports for entry-level employees in Massachusetts.

2:15 PM – 3:45 PM

SESSION III

1. An Introduction to the Adult Transitions Longitudinal Study (ATLAS)

Cristine Smith
Bristol A

The Adult Transitions Longitudinal Study (ATLAS), funded by Nellie Mae Education Foundation, tracks 225 adult students who participated in a New England ABE-to-College Transition program over five years. This session will share insights from this ongoing study that seeks to increase our understanding of the educational trajectories of transition students.

Cristine Smith is an Associate Professor at UMass Amherst, Principal Investigator of the ATLAS study, and former Deputy Director of the National Center for the Study of Adult Learning and Literacy.

2. Building a Higher Skilled Workforce: Results and Implications from the BridgeConnect National Survey

Julian Alssid and Whitney Smith
Salon V

This workshop will present the findings and implications from a national survey of bridge programs. Bridge programs assist students in obtaining the academic, employability, and technical skills required to enter and succeed in postsecondary education, training, and careers. The survey findings capture a myriad of efforts underway in 515 programs.

Julian L. Alssid is the Founder and Director of Workforce Strategy Center and a nationally recognized expert in workforce development strategy and policy.

Whitney Smith is the Employment Program Manager at the Joyce Foundation where she oversees a \$15 million system reform effort to improve employment outcomes of low-skilled adult learners in five Midwest states.

3. Crossing the Bridge: From GED Credential to Postsecondary Education/Careers

Margaret Patterson
Rhode Island

This session will share findings and applications from the GED Testing Service's 2009 study that found that 43% of GED credential recipients transitioned to postsecondary education. What are their characteristics? When and where do they enroll and how do they persist?

Margaret Patterson is Director of Research at GED Testing Service.

4. Developing Academic Readiness Skills from the Start

Kimberly Johnson and Betsy Parrish
Bristol B

This session will focus on key ESL academic areas and share practical strategies and activities that can be used at all levels to prepare students for academic success.

Kimberly Johnson is ATLAS (ABE Teaching and Learning Advancement System) Director and Assistant Professor at Hamline University in Minnesota. Her teaching and research focuses on adult and postsecondary teacher professional development.

Betsy Parrish is Professor and Coordinator of the Adult ESL and Teaching English as a Foreign Language programs at Hamline University in Minnesota.

5. We Cross the Bridge Together: Building Learning Communities

Donna Miller-Parker, Sara Baldwin and Barbara Silas

Patriots

Learn about specialized approaches developed at South Seattle Community College to help non-traditional students achieve their educational goals, including an integrated language/science course, nursing support classes, and an open basic skills lab. The presentation will emphasize the important role that community plays in student success and ways to build those communities.

Donna Miller-Parker is Dean for Basic & Transitional Studies at SSCC in Washington State. **Sara Baldwin** is ESL instructor at SSCC and serves as the division's Pathways Coordinator and a member of the Curriculum and Transitions Committees. **Barbara Silas** is ESL instructor at SSCC where she developed and coordinates the WALL (Writing and Learning Lab) and serves on the Curriculum and Transitions Committees.

6. Maine College Transitions: Student Voices

Nancy Dionne, John Neal, Patty Harmon and Patricia Daugherty

Tiverton

Maine College Transitions supports adult education students to be successful in college. Hear directly from some of our successful graduates what worked and what have the challenges been. The session will also provide an overview of Maine College Transitions.

Nancy Dionne is Professional Development Specialist for the Maine Department of Adult Education and was the Coordinator of the Franklin County College Transition Program and EvenStart program. **John Neal** is a former paper industry worker and graduate of Franklin County College Transitions program, currently working towards a business degree at Central Maine Community College. **Patty Harmon** earned her GED from Bonny Eagle Adult Education in 2007 and is a graduate of its college transition program currently enrolled at Southern Maine Community College. **Patricia Daugherty** earned her GED from Sanford Community Adult Education in 2009 and is a graduate of its college transition program, currently enrolled at York County Community College in Maine.

7. Let's Talk about that Four-Letter Word: Math

Donna Curry

Narragansett

This interactive presentation will focus on the math students need to be college ready. The session will focus on the GED (and students' difficulty passing the math portion) vs. the national Common Core Math Standards and strategies to help teachers feel better prepared to help their students.

***Donna Curry** has extensive experience as a teacher, facilitator, and curriculum developer. She has helped states develop and implement adult numeracy standards.*

8. Transitioning and Contextualized Curriculum: It's Here to Stay

Bevan Gibson, Linda Cox, Colleen Potter and Sarah Goldammer
Salon IV

A key element in transitioning adult learners to postsecondary education and/or the workplace is the integration of contextualized instruction within the basic skills (reading, math, and writing) curriculum. This presentation will focus on how these concepts will impact adult education programs, adult educators, and adult education students.

***Bevan Gibson** has been active in the Illinois Shifting Gears Initiative since its beginning and has worked with 3 programs to write curriculum for the Illinois Bridge Program Initiative. **Linda Cox, Colleen Potter, and Sarah Goldammer** are Training Specialists at the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center*

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

POLICY PANEL

Salon III

What policies and practices are states putting in place to foster college and career readiness for adult learners? In a study funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and conducted by the NCTN, seventeen state directors of adult education let us know. Come join us to hear examples from three states and how activities and actions at the federal level are helping to move the agenda forward. We'll leave ample time for questions!

PANELISTS:

***Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier**, Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, United States Department of Education*

***Jeffery Gove**, State Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) director, Ohio*

***Jeff Fantine**, Adult Education State Director, Maine*

***Josephine Reed-Taylor**, Assistant Commissioner Adult Literacy Programs, Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education*

MODERATOR:

***Cynthia Zafft**, Senior Advisor, National College Transition Network*

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM

PLENARY SESSION

GED 21st Century Initiative

CT Turner, GED Testing Service

This session will explore the shifting national landscape that prompted GED Testing Service, developer of the GED Tests, to explore significant changes to the future course of the nation's high school equivalency credential. Participants receive a brief overview about the vision that lead to what is being called the GED 21st Century Initiative, the background information and research that brought forth its three primary components, and the current status of developing the plan for the path forward.

8:45 AM – 10:15 AM

SESSION IV

1. First Steps in Preparing Students for College Level Math

Pamela Meader
Rhode Island

This workshop is based on NCTN's Promising Practice #4: Preparing Students for College Math to help promote the successful transition of students from ABE/ESOL to postsecondary education.

***Pam Meader** has taught Mathematics in adult education for over 20 years and has presented nationally on Math and Transitions.*

2. The LINCS Resource Collections: Online Transitions Resources

Beth Ponder and Gail Cope
Bristol A

This session will provide an overview of the updated LINCS website and online Resource Collections, and will highlight the latest resources dealing with transitions topics in the areas of program management, workforce competitiveness, and basic skills.

***Beth Ponder** is Director of the LINCS Region II Resource Center and Program Management Resource Collection. **Gail Cope** is Project Coordinator for the LINCS Program Improvement Collection and works through the LINCS Region II Resource Center to provide professional development and technical assistance.*

3. Writing for Transitions: What Students Need, What Instructors Can Teach

Peggy McGuire
Salon IV

Workshop participants will experience activities geared toward developing the effective writing skills that adult students need to transition to postsecondary education and employment, such as, identifying writing purposes, audiences, and tasks.

Peggy McGuire is a Training Specialist at Center for Literacy Studies, University of Tennessee.

4. From Court to College: Structured Peer Mentoring in a Reentry Context

Michael Carey
Salon V

This session offers lessons from College Initiative, which employs a collaborative, reflective, and evolutionary approach to student mentoring that aims to build pathways from court involvement to college in New York City.

Michael Carey is the College Initiative Director. He is also the leader of the InterDependence Prison Project.

5. Maine College Transitions: Lessons Learned

Larinda Meade and Jeff Fantine
Narragansett

Presenters will share the successes and challenges of the Maine College Transitions model, a statewide, systematic approach to preparing adult education students for postsecondary success.

Larinda Meade is the Coordinator of Maine College Transitions. **Jeff Fantine** is the State Director of Adult Education and Family Literacy at the Maine Department of Education and is currently serving as Vice President of COABE (the Commission on Adult Basic Education).

6. Using Educational Biographies in the Teaching of Writing

Lindy Whiton
Patriots

This workshop will engage participants in drawing and writing their educational histories and model a classroom activity that illustrates what students need to know about writing to be successful in college.

Lindy Whiton is the Coordinator of The Next Step Up, the Greenfield Community College transitions to college program.

7. Strategies and Materials for Engaging Young Adult Learners

Jane Greiner
Tiverton

This session will focus on what adult educators can do to provide quality instruction to accommodate the learning needs of younger adult students who are entering adult education classrooms at an unprecedented rate.

Jane Greiner is the Professional Development Coordinator for ProLiteracy's Programs and Professional Services Division.

8. Lessons Learned from the Program Evaluation of the College-Yes Project

Alisa Belzer and Renita Ragan

Bristol B

This workshop will present findings from a summative evaluation of a transitions program for youth (ages 18-24). The evaluation focused on participant outcomes and the program's evolution over the course of the grant.

Alisa Belzer is an associate professor at Rutgers University. Her research focuses on adult literacy policy, professional development, and adult reading development. **Renita Ragan** is the Director of College Yes program at Essex Community College in New Jersey.

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM SESSION V

1. This Won't Be Your Mother's GED Test

CT Turner

Salon IV

Learn what GED Testing Service is doing to develop a new type of GED assessment as one component of its bold vision for an integrated approach to career and college readiness that aligns with emerging national standards like Common Core.

Christopher "CT" Turner, Associate Director of Marketing and Public Relations for the GED Testing Service, is a leader in integrated marketing and branding for higher education and nonprofits.

2. Aligning Curriculum for Postsecondary Success

Steve McFarland, Kelly Heath, Theresa MacDonald, Maggie Scholl and Larinda Meade

Bristol B

Join this discussion to learn about the process and resources Maine College Transitions programs are using to develop math and language arts curriculum aligned with the postsecondary level.

Steve McFarland brings 20 years experience designing, developing, and delivering programs focused on workplace specific training, college preparatory, and entry-level college coursework. **Kelley Heath** teaches college transitions math at Bonny Eagle Adult Education and developed CORE- College Readiness Program. **Theresa MacDonald**, Assistant Director of Sanford Community Adult Education, has a background in Accounting, Business and Education. **Maggie Scholl** is a Reading and Language Arts Instructor at Mt. Blue RSD Franklin County Adult Basic Education in Farmington, ME. **Larinda Meade** is the Coordinator of Maine College Transitions.

3. MECA – Tools for the Tipping Point (vendor session)

Art Janowiak, The Conover Company

Patriots

Learn about MECA (Microcomputer Evaluation of Careers and Academics), a technology-based, career exploration and assessment system that helps users to create a fast track for learning by connecting basic skills instruction to career success.

***The Conover Company** has over thirty years of success in connecting academics to the workplace. Our technology based programs, including our new iPod/assistive technology tools make it possible to guarantee workplace success.*

4. Policy to Performance: Transitioning Adults to Opportunities

Laura C. Lanier, Chrys Limardo and Christopher M. Coro
Salon V

The U.S. Department of Education has funded eight states to develop policy that will support adults transitioning into postsecondary and employment. Learn about the seven components of a transition system and how one state is approaching the development of a comprehensive system through testing, implementing and developing state policy.

***Laura C. Lanier**, is the Education Director at DTI Associates, Inc. where she oversees the Policy to Performance project as well as other national adult education initiatives.*

***Chrys Limardo** has significant experience in education policy, evaluation, and research. She has worked on several critical education reform initiatives collecting data, analyzing effectiveness, and providing consulting. **Christopher M. Coro**, Ph. D. is an Education Program Specialist who oversees adult education national activities at the U. S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE).*

5. Connecting to College: Initiatives of the New York State Educational Opportunity Centers

Eric Neutuch, Amy Conley and Angel Calderon
Tiverton

This workshop will provide an overview of the statewide network of Educational Opportunity Centers in New York and showcase two programs: the Pre-Freshman Academy, offered at the Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center and the College Knowledge Course, offered at the Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center.

***Eric Neutuch** is the Coordinator for Strategic College Initiatives at the Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center. **Amy Conley** is the Program Coordinator of the College Connections Initiative at the Capital District Educational Opportunity Center.*

***Angel Calderon** is College Connections Advisor at the Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center in New York City.*

6. Preparing for College Math: Skills for the GED-Plus Classroom

Bonnie Goonen and Susan Pittman-Shetler
Rhode Island

This session will focus on the mathematical skills necessary for students to move successfully into postsecondary training and the workplace, as well as sample syllabi from GED Plus math programs and materials to use in the classroom.

Bonnie Goonen is a veteran educator and has provided training in over 22 states for adult education teachers and administrators. **Susan Pittman-Shetler** is an experienced adult educator who trains teachers and administrators in more than 22 states.

7. Integrating English Language Development and Career Education

Suma Kurien, Tania N. Ramírez and Beth Godley
Bristol A

This workshop will explore the challenges of “integrated” English language instruction and career education and share promising practices developed through our Medical Office Clinical Technician Training.

Suma Kurien, Ed.D., is Director of the Center for Immigrant Education and Training at LaGuardia Community College and has presented on ELL workforce education at regional and national forums. **Tania N. Ramirez** is the Educational Case Manager for the Center for Immigrant Education and Training (CIET) at LaGuardia Community College. **Beth Godley** is the Education Coordinator at the New York City Welcome Back Center in the Healthcare Career Center at LaGuardia Community College.

8. Organizations Don't Collaborate, People Do!

Steve Bender and Christine Howard
Narragansett

Join us for a candid discussion of the evolution of a successful collaboration between Vernon Regional Adult Based Education and the 1199 New England Training and Upgrading Fund. Together, they offer Transition to College and Careers Project to unionized healthcare workers in Connecticut.

Steve Bender has been the Executive Director of the 1199NE Training Fund since 2000. **Christine Howard** is the Coordinator for the Transition to College and Careers program.

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCH

PLENARY SESSION

Salon III

Keynote Speaker: John Neal

John Neal graduated from high school in 1977 and spent the last twenty five years employed in the paper industry. On June 5, 2009 the facility that he had spent all those years employed at closed its doors for good. The day before the mill closed he attended his last college transition class at Franklin County Adult Education in Farmington, Maine.

Now he is currently attending college at Central Maine Community College. He is working towards a degree in Business Management.

He enjoys motivational speaking and is hoping to become a Nashville song writer. He feels strongly that all people should follow their dreams and live to ones highest potential in achieving their desired goals. He would like to become the best he can be at helping people become the best they can be.

1:45 PM – 3:15 PM SESSION VI

1. Vermont's High School Completion Program

Thomas Alderman and Frank Gerdeman
Rhode Island

Learn about Vermont's High School Completion Program, a model for secondary school transformation that has proven to be successful in reengaging young adult learners to complete a diploma while preparing for college and career.

***Thomas Alderman's** tenure as Vermont's Director of Adult Education has coincided with the implementation of the High School Completion Program. **Frank Gerdeman** is the Learning Center Manager for Vermont Adult Learning in Chittenden County/ Burlington, VT and oversees the delivery of basic adult literacy skills, credentials and transition programs.*

2. The Learner Web: Transition to College with Blended Learning

David Rosen
Patriots

This is an introduction to the Learner Web, an adult learner and college-level student learning support system that uses a blended model of online and face-to-face learning resources to help adults prepare for college. Participants will see a Transition-To-College Learning Plan developed by the National College Transition Network.

***David Rosen** has been a staff member with the Learner Web since 2003.*

3. Transitions through Empowerment

Cynthia Peters, Ricky Silvestre and Elizabeth Pabon-Szebedo
Bristol A

Learn about a college transitions program located in an affordable housing community and how it utilizes Change Agent lesson plans that nurture empowerment, confidence, and agency while teaching basic skills.

Cynthia Peters is the editor of *The Change Agent*. **Elizabeth Pabon-Szebeda** is the Program Director of Pathway Technology Campus of Bunker Hill Community College. **Ricky Silvestre** is majoring in Psychology at Bunker Hill Community College in Boston, MA.

4. Innovative Dual Enrollment: Collaboration at Work

Connie Patton, Lorraine Robida and Carol Despres
Tiverton

Learn how a college transitions program in Southern Maine partners with a Seacoast New Hampshire community college to offer dual enrollment to students. The innovative thinking, evolution of the partnership, and next steps will be explored.

Connie Patton is a Career Pathways Consultant in Maine Adult Education. She wrote and received her program's first College Transitions grant almost a decade ago. **Lorraine Robida** is the Director of Marshwood Adult Education in South Berwick, Maine. **Carol Despres** is the Developmental Education Services and Tutor Coordinator at Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth, NH.

5. Adult Learning in the 21st Century: Literacy for Successful Transitions

Federico Salas-Isnardi
Narragansett

Successful transitions to higher education and high-demand jobs start at the lowest levels of ABE and ESL focusing instruction on skills employers want and students need to succeed in college. Thirty years of research supports the teaching of 21st century skills including new literacies. How can we do it?

Federico Salas-Isnardi is an adult literacy specialist, author, diversity trainer, and adult education leadership consultant in Texas.

6. Online Tools for Learners

Mary Lou Friedline
Bristol B

The Internet provides a wealth of complementary learning resources and materials in a variety of formats. We will explore efficient search terms and phrases; available textbook resources; and sites for sharing and storing documents online.

Mary Lou Friedline has taught ABE, GED, ESL, and Transitioning since 1983 in Southwest PA. She coordinates professional development projects and provides academic and technical trainings.

We would like to thank the exhibitors for their support.

Cambridge Stratford Study Skills Institute

It is an international organization of learning and study skills specialists and tutor training professionals dedicated to helping students of all ages to study smarter, read faster and score higher on tests, key ingredients for success in school as well as in life.

Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE)

COABE promotes adult education and literacy programs. Join adult education professionals and students from across the country for the joint national conference between COABE and California Council for Adult Education (CCAЕ), April 17-21, 2011 in San Francisco, California.

Citizens Bank

Citizens Financial Group, Inc., through its banking subsidiaries, is guided by the belief that the strength of our company is tied to the strength of the communities where we do business. Citizens takes seriously its commitment to the communities it serves and its responsibility to respond to changing community needs.

Conover Company

MECA is a transition assessment system linking career interest to academic/basic skills curriculum helping your adult learners see the connection between personal interest and academic skills.

GED Testing Service

Developing, delivering, and safeguarding the GED Tests is the responsibility of GED Testing Service located in Washington, D.C. A Program of the American Council on Education®, GED Testing Service works to support broader awareness of the GED Tests, credential, and its recipients.

HMH/Steck Vaughn

Steck Vaughn is an imprint of the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Company. We combine a tradition of excellence with a commitment to innovation to provide comprehensive best-in-class adult education and workforce solutions. We distribute the National Work Readiness Credential assessment, the Official GED Practice Tests and the new GAIN (General Assessment of Instructional Needs).

National Center for Developmental Education

The National Center for Developmental Education provides instruction, training programs, research, and other services consistent with the purpose of developmental education.

Nellie Mae Education Foundation

In order for our region and nation to prosper, all students must be equipped to seize the opportunities of the new century. The Foundation is committed to student-centered learning approaches to accomplish these goals.

Pearson Longman

Pearson Longman is the leading publisher of English Language Learning materials for K-12, higher education, and adult education institutions. We publish texts that focus on all skill areas including preparing students for 21st Century Success and Career Readiness.

ProLingua Associates

ProLingua Associates has been publishing ESL, FL, and cultural orientation materials for 30 years. Our emphasis has been on teacher resource materials for young adults and adult learners.

University of Tennessee – Center for Literacy Studies

The University of Tennessee Center for Literacy Studies works with literacy providers nationwide to strengthen their capacity to help individuals build knowledge and improve skills needed to be life-long learners.

World Education, Inc. – US Division

World Education/US strengthens the effectiveness of educators, organizations, and systems to support adults, older youth, and communities.



**The National Council for Workforce Education
is proud to support the work of NCTN.
We wish you a productive and engaging
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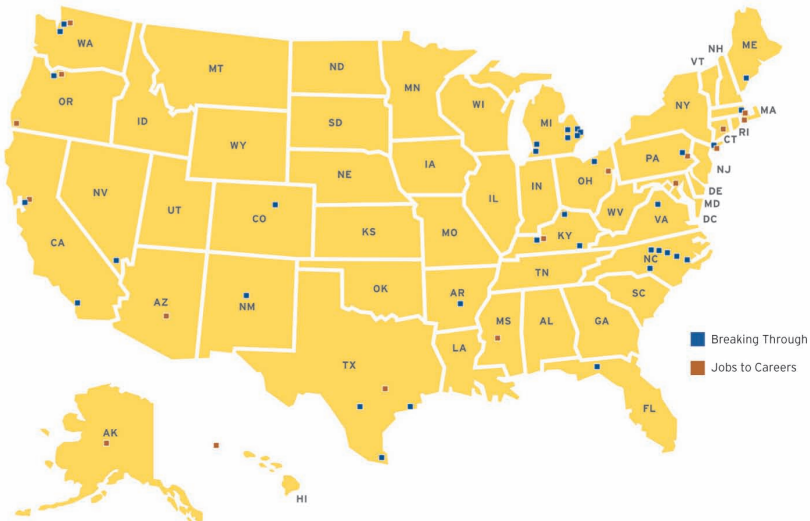


- > Enabling adults with little education to get into and through college technical programs in **35 community colleges nationwide**

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The Nellie Mae Education Foundation would like to thank the National College Transition Network and all of the conference participants for their work on behalf of adult learners. Your tireless efforts have provided countless program participants with the postsecondary education and training necessary to succeed in the 21st Century and raised awareness of the importance of this critical sector of the adult basic education system.

For more information on the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, please visit www.nmefdn.org.



Nellie Mae
Education
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Opening Doors to Tomorrow

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National College Transition Network

TRANSITION WEBSITES: Our National College Transition Network website (www.collegegetransition.org) and student website (www.collegeforadults.org) are always available to you. By joining our practitioner's network, our eNewsletter will notify you when new resources are added to the sites.

ONLINE LEARNING: Try our facilitated courses, *Research-based Strategies and Models of Adult Transition to Postsecondary Education*, *Assessing College Readiness for Adults: Looking Beyond Academic Preparation* and *Introduction to College Transition Math*, offered this winter and spring through the World Education portal. Our online courses prepare practitioners and administrators to create and strengthen college transition services.

The *NCTN Transition Toolkit* is a comprehensive guide to program planning and implementation that draws on the expertise from practitioners from around the country. In an easy-to-use electronic format, it covers: program models, relationship building, program planning and data collection, curriculum development, and student recruitment, assessment, and counseling.

Integrating Career Awareness Curriculum is a ready-to-use, flexible curriculum that prepares adult educators to incorporate career awareness and planning into their instructional and counseling activities. The lessons and handouts can be adapted for a range of students and skill levels.

Mapping Your Financial Journey: Helping Adults Plan for College booklet provides financial planning information and skill building exercises for adults intending to go to college.

Planning and model development, coaching and training for system-wide change, and developing instructional content and support services are among the ways the NCTN.





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