



# 2021 RAISE Summit

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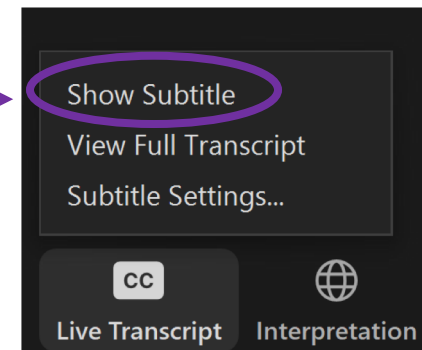
The RAISE Center is a project of the SPAN Parent Advocacy Network and is funded by the US Department of Education's Rehabilitation Service Administration. The contents of this resource were developed under a cooperative agreement with the US Department of Education (H235G200007)). The contents do not represent the policy of the DOE and should not assume endorsement by the federal government.

## Using Closed Captioning (English)

Click the “CC Live Transcript” button

*(If you don't see the “CC Live Transcript” button, click the “More” button, then “Live Transcription”)*

Select “Show Subtitle”

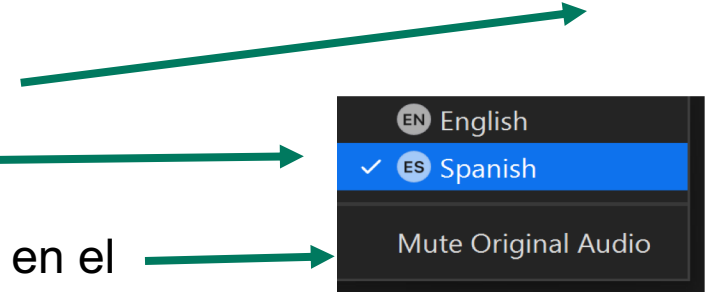


## Uso de la interpretación de idiomas

Hagan clic en el icono de **interpretación**

Seleccionen “**Spanish**”

Después de seleccionar “español”, hagan clic en el icono “**Mute Original Audio**”



## Using ASL

To pin the interpreter, hover over the video of the Interpreter(s) and click the “...”

From the menu, click **Pin**.





# Agenda



**The new look of RAISE**

**Introduction of new RSA Parent Centers**

**Review the 5 Youth Engagement Toolkits**



## RAISE Mission

RAISE works with the 8 Rehabilitation Service Administration Parent Training and Information Centers (RSA-PTI's), Parent Centers, youth with disabilities, families, and other transition organizations to improve transition for youth and families.

## RAISE's Charge

Support RSA-PTI in providing transition information;  
Encourage collaborating;  
Create partnerships

# The RAISE Team has grown:



**Josie Badger**  
*Project Director*



**Lauren Agoratus**  
*Product Development  
Coordinator*



**Myriam Alizo**  
*Assistant Project  
Director*



**Johan Mora Valverde**  
*Virtual Training Coordinator*



**Everett Deibler**  
*Youth Engagement Consultant*

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# RAISE 2.0

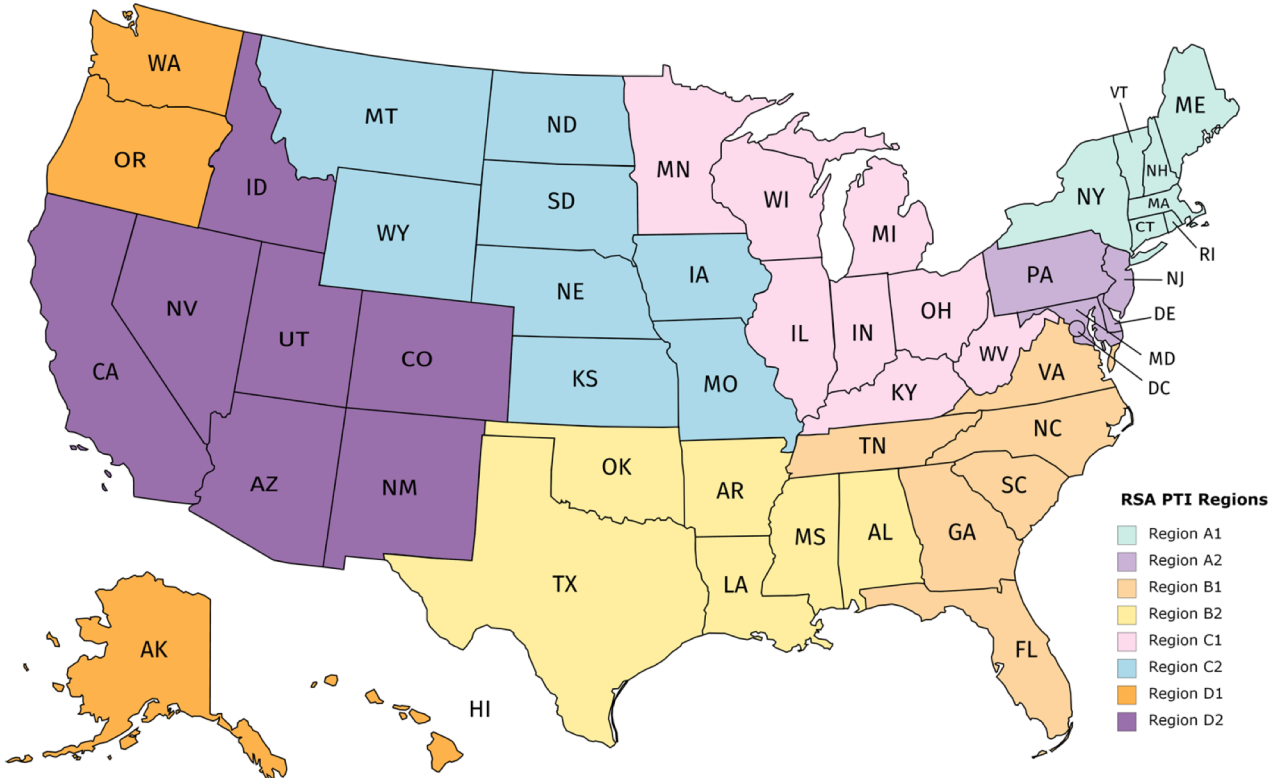
**Serves the entire country through eight regional RSA PTI's:**

REAL Transition Partners (FCSHCN & SPAN) | WAZE to Adulthood (PEATC) | Independent Futures That Work (APEC) | Project Launch (PACER) | Midwestern Collaborative (Pathfinder of ND) } Multi-Cultural Transition TA Project (Open Doors for Multi-Cultural Families) | POWER Project (PEAK)

RAISE is committed to improving employment and independent living outcomes for ALL youth with disabilities through creating a more holistic partnerships with diverse, culturally responsive materials and products. We couldn't do this without our **RAISE Advisory Partnership** :

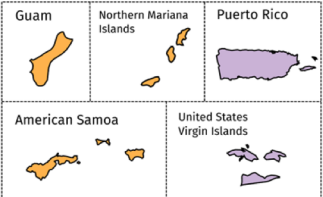
Accessible College LLC | Delaware Client Assistance Program | National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) | National Technical Assistance Center on Transition Collaborative (NTACT:C) | The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health/Got Transition | National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) | Missouri Parents Act (MPACT) | Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF) | TransCen Inc

# Map Of The States Covered by the RSA-PTIs



**RSA PTI Regions**

- Region A1
- Region A2
- Region B1
- Region B2
- Region C1
- Region C2
- Region D1
- Region D2



# Welcome from RSA

Tara Jordan





# RAISE's New Endeavors

## YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

RAISE is working with the RSA PTI's to develop state, regional, and national youth advisory. This fall RAISE will bring together youth leaders representing each region to guide our technical assistance.

## HOLISTIC TRANSITION TA

New materials and products are being developed to address the holistic needs of parent centers who are supporting youth and families during transition.

## BACK TO BASICS: ACCESS & INCLUSION

From the beginning, RAISE is investing in access and inclusion materials. This includes product reviews by youth and cultural responsiveness experts technical assistance on accessibility, and materials on inclusive practices in leadership



# RAISE's 2021 Topics

- January- Inclusion is a mindset
- February – Access in 2021 (virtual and digital access)
- March- MH and Self Care
- April- Covid and Transition
- May- Youth and Collective Empowerment
- June- Emergency Preparedness
- July, August- *Based on results from TA Needs and Strengths Assessment*
- September- Assistive Technology for Independent Living
- October- Employment
- November- Public Benefits and Personal Finance
- December- Making Good Decisions and Addiction



A Sneak Peak  
at the new

**RAISE**

Website

# RSA-PTI Spotlight



# REAL Transition Partners: A-1

*REAL Transition Partners is jointly managed by SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (NJ), Federation for Children with Special Needs (MA), and New York State Transition Partners (INCLUDEnyc, Parent Network of WNY, Starbridge). Providing information, training and technical assistance, and support to youth and young adults with disabilities and their families in Region A.*



## Region A Activities:

- Each center has completed a **Needs Assessment** then developed and began implementing their **Action Plan**
- REAL will develop and facilitate **4 webinars and 4 Train the Trainers** per year on topics such as:
  - Vocational Rehabilitation
  - Independent Living
  - Individualized Plans of Employment
  - Family Engagement.
- **Transition-related resources** developed and translated annually

# REAL Transition Partners: A-2

*REAL Transition Partners is jointly managed by SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (NJ), Federation for Children with Special Needs (MA), and New York State Transition Partners (INCLUDEnyc, Parent Network of WNY, Starbridge). Providing information, training and technical assistance, and support to youth and young adults with disabilities and their families in Region A.*



## Region A Activities:

- **REAL Transition day** each year at the Fall conference and Spring Follow-Up Forum
- REAL will **facilitate 3 virtual/in-person forums** annually with parent center staff, adult system representatives, family leaders and youth.
- **Customizable E-Newsletter** disseminated monthly
- **#TransitionTuesday template** provided that includes resources/stories to share on all social media platforms weekly

# Reporting On Our Progress

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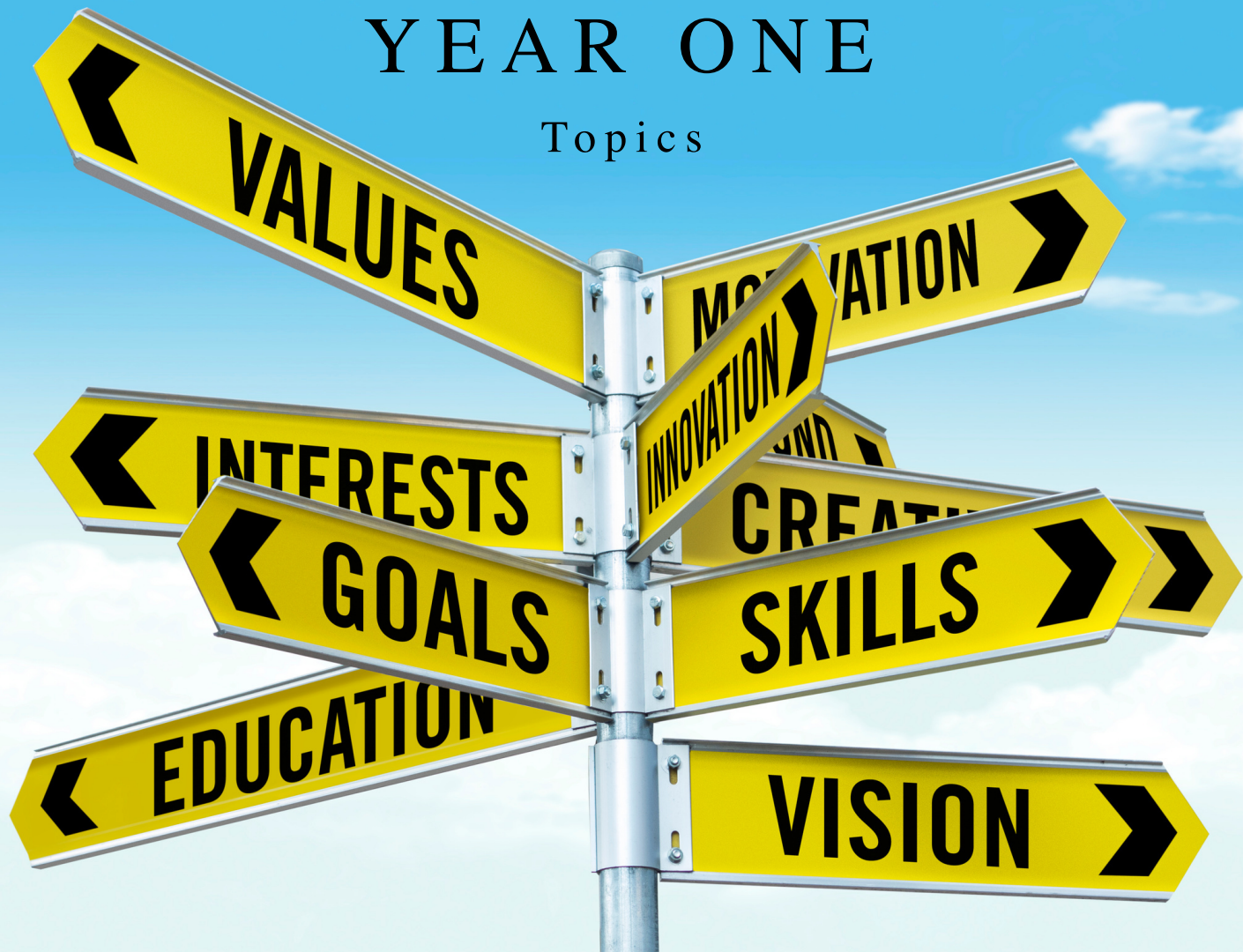
Region B1 – RSA PTI

2021



# YEAR ONE

Topics



**PART 1**

# **Parent & Professional Training**




# video

## Waze to Adulthood - 2021 May - NC - Parents

0% complete

- ☐ Getting Started with Thinkific 0/1
- ☐ Keeping the "End in Mind" 0/17
- ☒ Project Information
  - ☐ AUDIO
- ☐ Welcome
  - ☐ AUDIO
- ☐ ECAC - Exceptional Children's Assistance Center
  - ☐ VIDEO • 10 MIN
- ☒ Where Do We Start?
  - ☐ VIDEO • 28 MIN
- ☐ What You Will See Next
  - ☐ AUDIO
- ☐ Parent Transition Survey
  - ☐ PDF
- ☐ Developing a Vision - Through Person Centered- Planning
  - ☐ VIDEO • 7 MIN

### Where Do We Start?



As students progress through school, his/her special education program is required to focus more intentionally on preparing that student for life after high school.

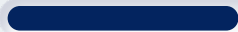
That **TRANSITION** from out of school services and into the adult world can be an overwhelming

[NEXT →](#)



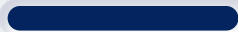
**PART 2**

# **Spanish Trainings**



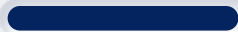
## PART 3

# Student Training

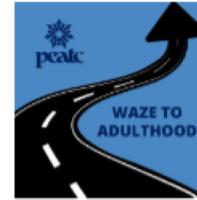


**PART 4**

# **Resources**



<http://peatc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Final-PEATC-Virginia-ParentTransitionSurvey.pdf>



## Parent Transition Survey

This survey is a way for parents to document the transition needs and expectations for their child/youth's future. This survey has 9 sections. Completing this survey before or during a Transition Planning IEP meeting will provide you with important information that can lead to successful transition planning and better outcomes. Not all of the sections or choices in this survey may be directly relevant to your child/youth, but please complete those that best reflect your concerns and thoughts about adult life for your child/youth.

\*\* Adapted from *Parent Transition Survey* Fournier, L.L. (Revised 2014)  
Thank you Kansas University for some of the materials in this survey. \*\*

### Sections

Section 1: Public School Education.....	2
Section 2: Future Postsecondary Education/Training/Lifelong Learning.....	5
Section 3: Employment and Career Training.....	5
Section 4: Future Independent Living Options.....	7
Section 5: Guardianship/Financial Supports/Trusts.....	8
Section 6: Transportation.....	9
Section 7: Recreation and Leisure.....	10
Section 8: Adult Services.....	11
Section 9: Comments/Questions/Concerns.....	12

800-869-6782 | 703-923-0010  
partners@peatc.org  
www.peatc.org

Hablamos Español



### Contact Info:

Tammy Burns –  
[burns@peatc.org](mailto:burns@peatc.org)

Kendra Wormley –  
[kwormley@peatc.org](mailto:kwormley@peatc.org)

800-869-6782

[www.peatc.org](http://www.peatc.org)

# Region B-2 RSA PTI – Independent Futures that Work! Project



Region B-2 States: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas

- Jeana Winter, Project Administrator, [jwinter@alabamaparentcenter.com](mailto:jwinter@alabamaparentcenter.com)
- Cindy Augustine, Project Director, [transition@alabamaparentcenter.com](mailto:transition@alabamaparentcenter.com)

The primary purpose of the project is to build the competence and confidence of young adults with disabilities to access independent living and employment services so they can more successfully transition from the youth entitlement system to the adult eligibility system. We are developing an online resource library so youth with disabilities, their families, and professionals can access print and digital resources, along with trainings and coursework. These resources will address seven identified priority areas: understanding VR and independent living; support for transition and employment; better communication with professionals; developing individualized plans for employment; obtaining information about rehabilitation and independent living; transitioning to competitive integrated employment; and understanding the *Rehabilitation Act*.

# Region B-2 RSA PTI – Independent Futures that Work



Some of our ongoing work includes:

- Forming state specific advisory committees and a regional advisory committee that meet quarterly
- Gathering existing resources related to our seven priority areas from each state and rating them for impartiality, objectiveness, quality, ease of use, and applicability to the rules and regulations of the eligibility systems in each state
- Identifying gaps in resources

Some of our upcoming work:

- Uploading existing resources to an online resource library (website)
- Creating new print and digital materials along with a wide range of learning opportunities to fill gaps identified after review of existing resources
- Evaluating new resources for high quality, ease of use, and accessibility (stakeholders)
- Developing a plan for marketing available information in all six states
- Evaluating “Is anyone better off as a result of using our materials and services?”

# Region B-2 RSA PTI – Independent Futures that Work Accomplishments



What we've accomplished so far:

- All advisory committees have been formed, and will have met twice by the end of June 2021
- Existing resources from each of the six states have been collected and are in the final stages of being rated
- Collaborative relationships amongst agency representatives in each state are developing and growing
- Collaborative relationships among the six PTI Centers have grown stronger
- There is excitement about our project within the advisory teams from each of the six states to see what this project is going to accomplish



# C1: Project Launch: Connecting Youth to Communities, College and Careers



Deborah Leuchovius

[Dleuchovius@pacer.org](mailto:Dleuchovius@pacer.org)

Judith Moses

[jmoses@pacer.org](mailto:jmoses@pacer.org)

## **Updates (work being done, new projects, resources...):**

2 Assistive technology and accommodation trainings scheduled for this summer

- My IEP Owner's Manual for Transition Age Youth <https://www.pacer.org/parent/php/PHP-a55.pdf>
- <https://www.pacer.org/transition/learning-center/employment/finding-career-path.asp>

## **Something worth sharing (resource):**

- PTI Group meeting on PACER's assistive technology lending library
  - Try before you buy
- <https://stclendinglibrary.myturn.com/library/inventory/browse>

## **ISO (looking for resources, info, TA, or experts):**

Youth engagement resources

## **Nailed it (something you did well and maybe willing to share about):**

- Centers of Expertise in partner states



Region C-2, **Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming**

We have a uniquely large amounts of land mass with high rural populations. Our states cover a **land area of 670,629 square miles** and a **population of 17,434,478 people**. (US Census Bureau (2019). We have been in operation for 8 months.

## **Current State**

## **Activities**

- Dedicated Youth Support Specialists
- Transition, IEP & Self- Advocacy trainings & conferences
- Statewide website
- Transition Notebooks
- Family Employment Awareness Training (F.E.A.T.)
- Regional Transition Networks (RTNs)
- State Transition Projects
- Fact Sheets & other resources

Contact: Jodi Webb (Executive Director)    [jodi.webb@pathfinder-nd.org](mailto:jodi.webb@pathfinder-nd.org)



# **Current & Completed Collaborative Efforts**

- PTI Partner Needs Assessments
- Sub-grant Applications & Awards
- 5 states awarded \$20k for 2020-2021 activities
- PTI Partner Community of Practice Meetings
- PTI Peer to Peer Support Specialist Meetings



- Webinars & Resources:  
    **ALL ABOUT VR**  
    **ALL ABOUT CIL**
- Resource Repository (nextcloud)
- Midwestern Collaborative webpage
- PTI Partner State PD training(s)





# Open Doors for Multicultural Families

*“Equity in Action”*



## RSA Project Updates

**Jennifer Stanton**  
**Youth Program Director**  
[jennifers@multiculturalfamilies.org](mailto:jennifers@multiculturalfamilies.org)



# Youth Leadership Council

- **Purpose: to provide input, recommendations, and feedback on the ODMF projects and services which focus on youth**
  - Participants are multicultural youth, ages 14-26
  - Meet 5 times annually
- **The Council will:**
  - Provide opportunity for youth to develop self-advocacy skills
  - Provide opportunity to develop leadership skills
  - Contribute insider perspectives from the intersections of race, culture and disability
  - Present opportunity for youth to envision themselves in new ways within leadership
  - Serves personal and professional goals of youth

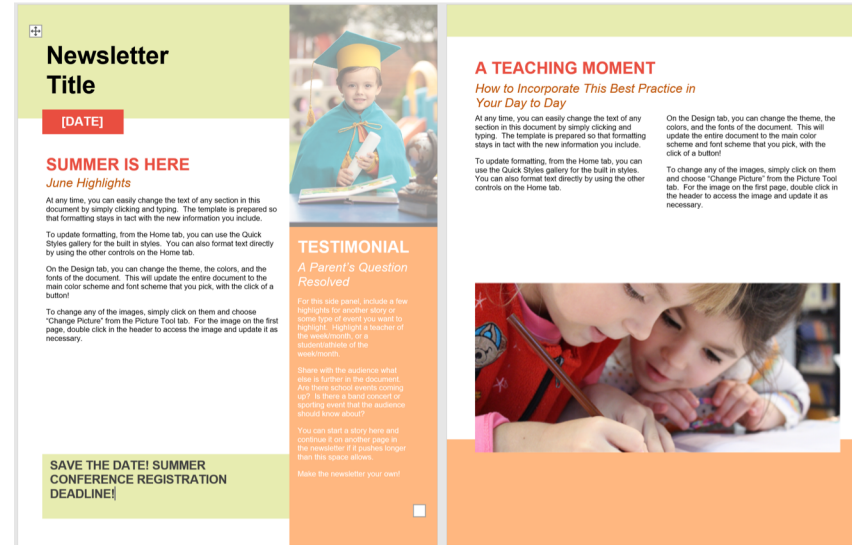


# RSA Project Page

- **Library of region-specific resources for PTIs**
  - **Region D1: Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Guam, Hawai'i, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
- **Website content:**
  - **Translated materials in region specified languages**
  - **Highlight up-to-date information on work from PTIs**
  - **New research on Transition related topics**
  - **Engagement strategies, promising new practices**

# Newsletter

- **RSA project newsletter for PTI's**
  - Frequency TBD
- **Format:**
  - Emailed newsletter, hosted on RSA page (?)
  - Elements inspired by region D1 PTI newsletters
    - 2 column style
    - Earth-based color scheme
    - More white/empty space of information
  - Final design to mimic best practices in accessible web content





# Project **POWER**



Powering transition and living my life my way



## PROJECT POWER'S VISION

- Expand our role as parent centers to provide services and support to leaders of already-existing / established / new youth programs so that they can better include youth with disabilities.
- Parent centers will embrace and see the critical importance of involving youth as leaders in their programs, understand options to do so, and how to do it in ways that are emPOWERing and not tokenizing.



HOW DO WE GET THERE?

## Youth Advisory Community

- Materials developed by youth
- Youth speakers and panelist
- Youth-led TA meetings





HOW DO WE GET THERE?

## Work & Grow with Region D2 Parent Centers

- Technical Assistance and Community of Practice Meetings
- Parent Center Self-Assessments
- Community Needs Assessments



HOW DO WE GET THERE?

## Outreach & Partnerships

- Strengthen and grow the relationships with key agencies
- Explore new possibilities with youth-serving organizations



## UPCOMING WORK

- Implicit Bias Presentation - Torie Weiston -Serdan
  - August 10, 2021
- Chet Quest's Transition Guide to the Future Web Series
  - Late Fall 2021



# Break



# Authentic Youth Engagement:

Tools that can help your organization make it happen

# Today's session will...

- **Explore the New RAISE Center Toolkit Series**
  - How was the series structured?
  - How can the series support your work with youth?
- **Highlight the RAISE Center's Commitment to Youth Engagement**
  - Development of a Youth Advisory Council
- **Breakdown a strategy for engaging youth: Creating Your Sandbox**
- **Take Time for Q&A**

# But First Let's Chat

- **In the chat, please let us know if your organization**
  - Has an existing youth engagement program
  - Has established a youth advisory board for your organization.
  - Is in the planning phase of creating a program or establishing an advisory board.



# Now let's chat about what's been working...

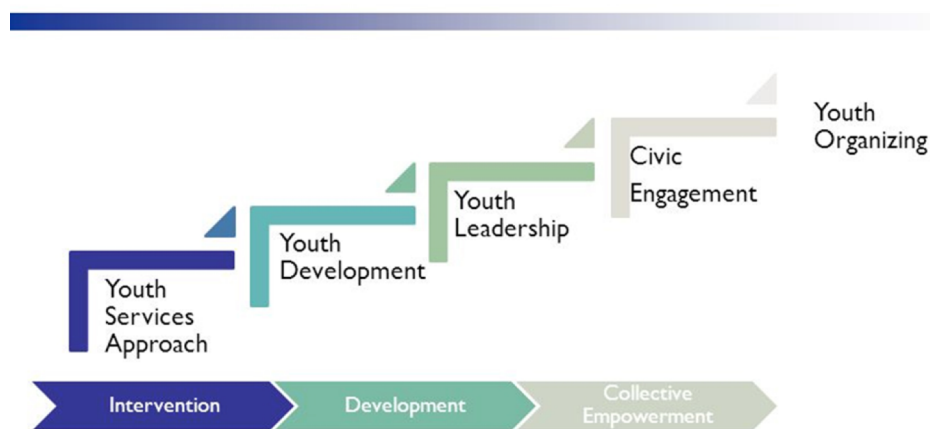
- **For those organizations that have existing programs or what strategies have worked when engaging youth?**
- **Please tell us in the chat now!**

# Youth Engagement Toolkit Series

The series consists of 5 toolkits

1. [The Foundations of Youth Engagement and Parent Centers](#)
2. [Youth Development](#)
3. [Youth Leadership](#)
4. [Youth Individual Empowerment](#)
5. [Youth Collective Empowerment](#)

## Youth Engagement Continuum



# Youth Engagement Toolkit Series

## Details:

### Structure

- **Developed and reviewed by youth and young adults.**
- **Each toolkit connects to the continuum.**
- **It is not a book of activities and worksheets.**
- **Theory is presented in each toolkit, but then advice and tips for implementation are offered.**

### Purpose

- To inform the staff that is supporting youth. But these toolkits could also inform your organization as a whole.
- Provide strategies and tips that help to implement or improve youth engagement practices. Helping create programs and supports that are not doing things “to” or “for” a youth, but “with” them.
- To help organizations avoid tokenism and interrupt the culture of adultism.

# More Resources are on the way!

- **In the fall RAISE will be establishing a national Youth Advisory Council (YAC) that:**
  - **Consists of 1 youth from each RSA PTI region.**
  - **Showcases the power of the youth led, youth driven model.**
  - **Develops materials and products that will support the technical assistance RAISE provides. After all, youth are the experts on youth.**
  - **Has a seat at the table at during all RAISE meetings. Giving youth to give their perspective and advice on all RAISE activities.**
- **Please help us recruit for this effort!**

# Let's Chat again...

- What has been some of the barriers you have experienced with engaging youth?
- Tell us in the chat now!
- Then we will highlight a strategy from Youth Individual Empowerment Toolkit that may offer a new perspective on youth engagement

# Creating your Sandbox



## Why call it a sandbox?

- A sandbox has structure and boundaries, but allows for the possibility of creativity, self-determination, and freedom.

# Creating A Sandbox

Provide a goal

- Help them to identify attainable goals.
- This goal should be meaningful and relevant to your organization.

Give boundaries

- Give details and desired outcomes of the opportunity.
- Show them examples or give context for what is needed.

Ensure inclusivity

- Help to identify various roles that fit all needs.
- Provide different types of opportunities throughout the year.

Be flexible

- Allow youth to work on their timeline, not yours.
- Recognize teachable moments and use them as opportunities for growth.

Encourage all ideas

- Youth know best. Allow them to run with ideas even if they seem out-of-the-box.
- Give them time and encouragement so that they build confidence in what they can come up with.

# A Video-Why is Youth Engagement So Important?





# Any Questions?

Check out the [Youth Engagement Toolkits](#)

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [everett.deibler@gmail.com](mailto:everett.deibler@gmail.com)



# Thank you

Please complete our survey

We hope to see you on the 28<sup>th</sup>

