The 8th Annual Oklahoma Transition Institute is coming November 4 & 5, 2013 To the Embassy Suites in Norman, OK

We are pleased to bring to you the 8th Oklahoma Transition Institute which features two fabulous keynotes! We are excited to be bringing to you Jack McMahan and Cameron Clapp to this year’s institute.

John L. (Jack) McMahan is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Wilderness Matters. Jack is an avid outdoorsman who suffered a serious spinal cord injury following a bicycle accident in 2004. This accident left him without the use of his arms or legs. Despite this injury, Jack continued his love for the outdoors and in April 2012, Jack decided to blend his passion for business with a yearning to return to the outdoors by deciding to build a nonprofit business to tackle many of the obstacles faced by people with physical and developmental challenges.

Cameron Clapp is an American athlete with a disability. Besides being an athlete, Cameron has become an actor, motivational speaker, and mentor.

The OTI offers attendees break out sessions and transition team planning time. Take a look at our great schedule for the two day event, register, and we’ll see you soon!

Monday, November 4
7:00-9:00 Registration, Snacks
8:00 Transition 101
9:00-10:15 Welcome & Keynote
10:15-11:45 Team Meeting 1
11:45-1:15 Lunch on your own
1:15-2:30 Breakout Session 1
2:30-2:45 Break, Snacks
2:45-4:00 Breakout Session 2
4:00-4:30 Facilitator Debriefing
4:00-5:00 OK-Division on Career Development & Transition (DCDT) Chapter Mtg

Tuesday, November 5
7:00-9:00 Registration, Snacks
8:00 The IEP Pages
9:00-9:15 Welcome, Recap
9:15-10:30 Breakout Session 3
10:30-12:30 Team Meeting 2
12:30-2:00 Lunch on your own
2:00-3:00 Keynote
3:00-3:30 Poster Prizes, Closing
3:30-4:00 Council Debrief

Register Today!
https://ntouch.ou.edu/apps/oti
Discover who your students are and their style...

**What it does:** This tool helps explore personal styles and preferences in a particular environment (classroom, cafeteria, work, home, etc.)

**How does it help:** This tool can help identify what works and doesn’t work for a student and the supports a student needs to be successful in school.

**How to use it:** Ask the student (and those close to them) to talk about what usually works well for them in their classes, work, etc. Then ask what doesn’t work.

*Pay attention to what is learned from this information when trying new things in the classroom.*

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**Questions to Ask:**

What usually works well for the student in classes?

How does this create:

- Engagement?
- Pleasure?
- Energy?
- Success?

**Questions to Ask:**

What usually does not work well for the student in classes?

How does this create:

- Disconnection?
- Frustration?
- Boredom?
- Numbness?

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*Adapted from Community Connecting for North Star; HSA Press (10/08; 11/10). ISBN 978 1 906514 05 1*
October 13, 2013 Dale Rogers Training Center Turns 60!

“Save the date” to join Dale Rogers Training Center (DRTC) in celebrating 60 years of blazing trails and promoting abilities on Sunday, October 13th from 2pm-4pm.

DRTC is honored to help carry on the legacy of the Rogers family with a celebration in October, with the Rogers family being a big part of the day’s festivities. Be a part of history, as the “Robin’s Corner” museum exhibit is unveiled in the new DRTC Gift Shop, Prism Place and retail Wyman Frame & Supply building. All exhibit items were donated by the Rogers family and the space is dedicated to Roy and Dale Rogers’ daughter, Robin, who was born with Down syndrome and inspired Dale Rogers to be one of the first famous advocates for people with disabilities.

In addition to the “Robin’s Corner” exhibit, which features items mentioned in Dale Rogers’ book Angel Unaware, vintage Dale and Roy Rogers movie posters and other popular memorabilia items will also be on display for public viewing, along with an open house amongst the campus grounds. Open house highlights will include extraordinary displays created by each of DRTC’s Work Projects, programs and businesses - one display includes a large mock airplane!

This celebration will also include free Papa Murphy’s pizza samples, roping lessons, square dancers, a live radio remote, caricatures and inflatable games for children in the Lil' Buckaroos area. Join DRTC on October 13th from 2-4pm to celebrate their 60 years and the choices that DRTC provides for individuals and families of people with disabilities in Oklahoma.

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Dale Rogers Training Center School to Work

By Ty Beasley, Transition Coordinator

Dale Rogers Training Center is having an exciting year already and more to come! With the opening of our Papa Murphy’s store on NW 23rd Street, we discovered there are work skills that need to be addressed. However, with extra training, three of last year’s Transition students were hired to work at Papa Murphy’s this summer.

In looking at what skills the students were missing, Transition staff have adapted and changed the current year’s curriculum to better meet those needs in the work place. One of those work skills involves communicating with a customer with confidence – customer service. This basic skill is a crucial component in most workplaces. In the classroom and at worksites, staff will support the students as they build customer service skills through communicating with the worksite employees and advocating for themselves.

Another component added involves technology training and working with equipment students might encounter on the job (e.g., a cash register). DRTC is researching grants to buy a cash register system that would allow the students to gain valuable, transferrable experience. Staff and students will also be exploring certifications and/or licenses that would increase the student’s chances of community employment.

The Transition department will hold its Open House on Tuesday, September 24, at 5:00pm, at Dale Rogers Training Center, 2501 N. Utah in OKC. If you have a student interested in more information about the Work Adjustment Training Program, funded through the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, or are a teacher who would like more information on services for your student - please attend. If you have questions, contact Ty at 405-946-4489 ext. 504. We look forward to a fun and productive school year of Blazing Trails and Building Independence!
Tech-Now finished its 14th year this summer with the annual state competition. Over 275 students, parents, teachers, and guests were on hand to witness the students receive over $23,000 in cash, scholarships, and prizes. Students displayed individual and team projects that were scored, and the highest quality projects secured awards for those students. A great time was had by all with free T-shirts and photos for all students, teachers, and volunteers that participated in the event.

Over the last two years, Tech-Now has partnered with The University of Oklahoma on a study to compare students that participate in Tech-Now with their peers that do not participate. With the early data compiled, we are seeing that our participating students are gaining more technology skills and demonstrating greater self-determination versus nonparticipants. If you would like to learn more about the study, contact Dr. Kendra Williams-Diehm at klwd@ou.edu.

The past year was busy and exciting for Tech-Now with multiple national and state presentations, the introduction of new curriculum to address important financial literacy issues, and new sites added to the Tech-Now family. We expect the 2014 program year to be just as exciting! Tech-Now is always looking for new sites to become part of our family; if you want to have the Presidential Award winning technology program that helps address many of the transition needs of students with IEPs and schools, please contact us at tech-now@hotmail.com.

A huge thank you to our partners The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, our school sites, the public/private gifts, and all our volunteers. Enjoy the pictures and always remember that graduation is great, but post-school success is fantastic!

Rick
Audiobooks can be used as the primary format for students with a print disability or to supplement standard print, large print, digital format, or braille. Students using audiobooks may spend less time struggling to read and comprehend written words. When used in conjunction with text, listening to audiobooks can increase word recognition, build vocabulary, and improve understanding.

Oklahoma ABLE Tech can help schools obtain textbooks and other reading materials needed for school in audio format from Learning Ally. With more than 75,000 audio textbooks and literature titles, Learning Ally has what your students need to learn as well as books that make great leisure reading. The Learning Ally library includes textbooks from top U.S. publishers, as well as language arts classics, popular fiction, test preparation, personal growth and more.

The speech is recorded with natural human voices, providing the advantage of natural pronunciation and pacing. Audiobooks can be read on PCs, tablets, and on DAISY players such as the Book Port Plus and the Classmate Reader. Students whose print disability is due to low vision or blindness may qualify for a school-term loan of assistive technology to access audio and/or digital text. Liberty Braille loans iPads, and the AIM Center at the Oklahoma Library for the Blind loans DAISY players and refreshable braille devices in addition to many other devices and learning aids. In some cases, a trial loan through ABLE Tech may be required before equipment is issued for a school-term loan.

If you would like more information about how Accessible Instructional Materials and Assistive Technology can help your students, contact ABLE Tech at 800-257-1705 and ask to speak to the AIM staff.

**Refreshabraille 18… ABLE Tech has several available to borrow!!!**

Measuring only 3 x 5 x 1 inches, Refreshabraille 18 is a braille display and keyboard that connects wirelessly via Bluetooth with mobile devices such as smart phones, PDAs, iPads and other tablet computers as well as PCs. The Refreshabraille’s keys and joystick control the functionality of the connected device. The Refreshabraille 18 battery operates about 30 hours on Bluetooth or up to 100 hours on USB. American Printing House for the Blind, Inc.

http://tech.aph.org/rbd_info.htm

Refreshabraille 18 works with the following configurations and devices:

- Common screen readers like Window-Eyes and JAWS for the PC running Windows.
- VoiceOver for the Mac (with 10.6 and later).
- iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch (versions 4.2 and later).
- Android devices using version 4.1 and later.
- Screen readers like Talks and Mobile Speak for mobile phones and PDAs.
- Accessible mobile managers like Icon™ and Braille+™ work with the display and do not require a screen reader.
- Refreshabraille works under Linux using the BRLTTY program. Version 4.0 or higher is required.

Refreshabraille 18 features:

- 18 eight dot Braille cells
- 18 cursor routing keys
- Forward and Back scroll buttons
- Eight dot braille input keyboard
- Five position joystick
- Aux space bar
- USB Serial and HID protocol support
- Bluetooth connectivity
- Rechargeable lithium-ion battery
- Protected USB connector design
- Reversible operation

For more information, visit okabletech.okstate.edu or call 800-257-1705.

ABLE Tech Device Loan: http://oec.okstate.edu/loan
The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) helps individuals with disabilities prepare for work, obtain work, and maintain work. DRS begins working with youth at the age of 16 and has no maximum age of eligibility. Eligibility is based on having a documented disability (not necessarily an IEP), that the disability creates barriers to employment, and that rehabilitation services would be necessary for and benefit the client in obtaining employment. A critical piece in that is the desire to work independently in a competitive job in the community. There are vocational rehabilitation counselors located all across the state who are assigned to work with each high school. Having students begin the application process around the age of 15 ½ is critical to get them in the system and eligible for services. Once a DRS client, students may have the opportunity to participate in services, such as a vocational evaluation, job readiness training, work adjustment training, Project SEARCH, school work study, special summer programs, and more. Upon completion of high school, there are additional services that may be offered, such as assistive technology, further education, training, etc.

Visit www.okrehab.org, or contact Mrs. Kimberly Osmani, Transition Coordinator, (405) 635-2768 or kosmani@okdrs.gov for more information.

In November 2012, interested individuals established the Oklahoma Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT) Chapter. DCDT is a sub-division under the guidance of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) whose focus is improving career development and transition services for Oklahoma youth with disabilities. The Board of OKDCDT includes President, Marcie Stickney; Vice-President, Amber McConnell; President-Elect, Jennifer Burns; Treasurer, Jim Martin; and Secretary, Kim Osmani. All CEC members, DCDT members, and those interested in transition are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

To join DCDT you must join the parent organization, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and indicate on the application that you would like to join the DCDT division. See the website for costs of joining CEC and DCDT.

Benefits of joining:

- National, regional, state, provincial, and local conferences that offer the opportunity for continuing education units (CEUs).
- Opportunities to network with colleagues and leaders in the field of transition.
- Forums to contribute to the field through publications, conferences, and informal meetings.
- Acquire implementation tools and practical strategies that can be applied in individual settings.
- Receipt of research-based and current publications, including:
  - Career Development of Exceptional Individuals (CDEI) journal providing research-based and practical descriptions of models, programs, and strategies.
  - DCDT Network Newsletter providing latest information on legislation, projects, resources, materials, and model programs.

How to join:

- Visit the CEC New Member Page for complete information on membership categories and benefits. Remember to check the “Division on Career Development and Transition” when you join!

Email Marcie Stickney (Marcie.L.Stickney-1@ou.edu) for more information!
5th Annual Oklahoma Statewide Autism Conference!

Families, agencies, and professionals continue to work to improve the lives of Oklahoma individuals with Autism, their families, and all those who educate and provide services for them. The conference will be held on November 13-14, 2013 at the Sheraton Midwest City Hotel at the Reed Conference Center in Midwest City. This year’s conference features THREE KEY-NOTES!

Dr. Temple Grandin, Ph.D., is a well-known Author and Professor of Animal Science and a person with autism, will deliver our first keynote. Dr. Grandin did not talk until the age of 4. She received a BA in 1970 from Franklin University and a MS in 1975 from Arizona State University. She then received her PhD from the University of Illinois in 1989. She was featured in the Emmy Award winning movie Temple Grandin and named one of Time Magazine’s most interesting people in 2010.

Dr. Ann Turnbull, Ed.D., Distinguished Professor of Special Education and Co-director of the Beach Center on Disability at the University of Kansas will present on “Two Roads Diverged: Creating Enviable Lives for Individuals with Classic Autism” and “Group Action Planning as the Springboard for Enviable Lives.”

Dr. Brenda Smith-Myles, Ph.D., a consultant with the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) and the Ziggurat Group, is the recipient of numerous national awards. She has made over 1000 presentations and written more than 200 articles and books on autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and is acknowledged as the second most productive applied researcher in ASD in the world. She will be discussing the “Hidden Curriculum” and “Anger, Rage, and Meltdowns.”

Register for the conference online: http://okautism.org/conference/registration.asp

Nominations are Open - Deadline is Oct. 18!
The Yes I Can Awards honor children and youth with exceptionalities who shine. CEC has recognized the accomplishments of thousands of students since the program started in 1982. Who should you nominate? Students ages 2-21 are eligible for their achievements in these categories:

- Academics
- Arts
- Athletics
- School and Community Activities
- Self-Advocacy
- Technology
- Transition

All 2014 nominations are due Friday, Oct. 18, 2013; nominees and nominators will be notified in January 2014. More information can be found here: http://www.cec.sped.org/About-Us/CEC-Award-Programs/Yes-I-Can-Awards?sc_lang=en.

Oklahoma Association on Higher Education And Disability (OK AHEAD)

As a professional organization, OK.AHEAD exists to further full participation for individuals with disabilities in Oklahoma postsecondary education through collaboration, information dissemination, advocacy, professional and policy development, and research. It is a state affiliate of the international resource, AHEAD (www.ahead.org).

Useful resources available through OK.AHEAD include a state directory of postsecondary institutions and their Disability Services contacts, documentation practices, and current updates on ‘accessibility’, education, and transition. Membership is available to professionals in or related to services for individuals with disabilities. Information is shared regularly via website/email, with an annual conference in April.

For more information or interest in OK.AHEAD, please visit www.ok-ahead.org.
The Oklahoma Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) is a high school leadership forum for juniors and seniors with a disability. Students come together for five days in June, on the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma campus to improve their leadership skills, meet with government officials, explore their career and postsecondary options, and create a personal leadership plan.

This year, the Oklahoma YLF celebrated its 10th year with a stellar class of young men and women from across our state. This year’s delegates discussed ways to better lead and advocate for themselves and others, role played an IEP meeting, debated and voted on the issue of a new accessibility logo (which passed the YLF congress), successfully navigated through a chocolate river and other team building activities, learned about disability history, and much more.

If you would like information or a presentation at your school, call Jen at 405-521-4964 or 800-836-4470 or use email: YLF@okddc.ok.gov. Applications for YLF 2014 are due March 1, 2014.

The iJobs Summer Work Experience provided by the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) was a huge success! Each student was provided a week of employability skills training at the beginning of the summer and worked on part-time jobs in their communities the remainder of the summer. The students met weekly with iJobs program staff to continue employability skills instruction, develop resumes, work on Key Train, and discuss progress in their jobs. This was a partnership between DRS, Dale Rogers Training Center, GALT Foundation, Norman Public Schools, and Moore-Norman Technology Center. Parents stated in their evaluations that this experience helped alleviate the fears they had of their children working in the community and that working in the community is now their top priority. All students said iJobs helped them narrow down their long-term vocational goals. If you are interested in planning a summer iJobs program in your local area, please contact Kim Osmani, Transition Coordinator, by email at kosmani@okdrs.gov, or by phone at (405) 635-2768.

Amanda working at the Warren Theater.

Kaleb working at the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety.

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Great Websites

Do2learn provides thousands of free pages with social skills and behavioral regulation activities and guidance, learning songs and games, communication cards, academic material, and transition guides for employment and life skills. In addition, we offer premier products including View2do, JobTIPS, FACELAND, books, and apps for purchase. http://www.do2learn.com/index.htm

I’m Determined is an interactive website that will help transition planning. It offers pages specifically for youth, parents, and educators. http://www.imdetermined.org/

iTransition is a free, online transition curriculum to help students who are deaf or hard of hearing prepare for life after high school. There are four separate trainings with activities to help students learn about themselves, their career goals, and the skills they need to be successful in the future. http://pepnet.org/

The ME! Lessons consist of ten units developed for the purpose of teaching critical transition knowledge and skills to high school students with disabilities. http://www.ou.edu/content/education/centers-and-partnerships/zarrow/trasition-education-materials.html

The OU Zarrow Center website is a great secondary transition resource! Not only can you find many resources for transition education, but you can keep up with the Oklahoma Transition Council here. Visit often and add this site to your favorites: http://www.ou.edu/zarrow/

The Casey Life Skills are free and easy to use tools to help young people prepare for adulthood. The life skills assessments provide instant feedback. Customized learning plans provide a clear outline of next steps, and the accompanying teaching resources are available for free or at a minimal cost. http://lifeskills.casey.org/

Useful resources available through OK AHEAD include a state directory of postsecondary institutions and their Disability Services contacts, documentation practices, and current updates on ‘accessibility’, education, and transition. Be sure to visit www.ok-ahead.org!

The Oklahoma Transition Council is on Facebook! Keep up with the Transition Council on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/OklahomaTransitionCouncil.
The Guide to Community Services in Oklahoma, put together by the Center for Learning and Leadership of Oklahoma, is now available to download!

Download your FREE guide here.

Transition Handbook

Do you need information and examples regarding appropriate Oklahoma transition plans or how to write them? Oklahoma’s Transition Education Handbook provides best practices and state requirements for transition services. The information in this handbook is factually supported by the regulations issued in the 2010 Amended Policies and Procedures for Special Education in Oklahoma and approved by the Oklahoma Transition Council.

Download your FREE handbook here.

Free Training

The Transition Coalition provides FREE research-based online training for professionals and others involved in transition planning. These modules are developed using up-to-date research in transition, effective practices in professional development, and are tested by practitioners across the country. Click here to check them out!

Upcoming Events

September is National Preparedness Month http://www.ready.gov/

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month http://www.dol.gov/odep/

Moore Transition Fair, Moore-Norman Technology Center (South Penn Campus) OKC, Oct. 7; 4-7pm


Dale Rogers Training Center Open House, Oklahoma City, Sept. 24; 5:00pm (See page 3)

Dale Rogers Training Center 60th Anniversary, Oklahoma City, Oct. 13; 2-4pm (See page 3)

Yes, I Can Applications are due! Oct. 18 (see page 6 for more info)

Down Syndrome Assoc. of Central OK Buddy Walk & Run for T21, Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark, OKC, Oct. 19

Down Syndrome Assoc. of Tulsa Buddy Walk, Union Central Park, Tulsa, Oct. 20; 1:30-4:00pm

LDAO Conference, Tulsa; November 1 http://www.ldao.org/conference.php

8th Annual Oklahoma Transition Institute, Norman, Embassy Suites, Nov. 4-5

Statewide Autism Conference, Reed Center, Midwest City, Nov. 13-14 (see page 6)
The mission of the Oklahoma Transition Council is to improve transition education, planning, and services that lead to successful post-school outcomes for students with disabilities.

**Oklahoma Transition Council Members**

Ty Beasley  
Claudia Beckner  
Joni Bruce  
Regina Chace  
Emily Cheng  
Traci Cook  
Kathy Curtis  
Rene’ Daman  
Rick DeRennaux  
Doris Erhart  
Theresa Flannery  
Elana Grissom  
Theresa Hamrick  
Rhonda Heller  
John Hilborn  
Cheryl Huffman  
Linda Jaco  
Shellyn Kelly  
Anthony Kibble  
Mike Layne  
Betsy LeFrancois  
Tammie Lore  
James Martin  
Carla McCarrell-Williams  
Amber McConnell  
Denise North  
Kim Osmani  
Judy Pluess  
Jennifer Randle  
Sue Robertson  
Mike Shuttic  
Eva Smith  
Tina Spence  
Marcie Stickney  
Kendra Williams-Diehm

**Affiliations**

C.L. Huffman & Associates  
Broken Arrow High School  
Dale Rogers Training Center  
Jenks Public Schools  
Lawton Public Schools  
Metro Technology Centers, Oklahoma City  
Moore Public Schools, Southmoore High School  
Norman Public Schools  
Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Seretean Wellness Center, Oklahoma State University  
Oklahoma Autism Network  
Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth  
Oklahoma Child Study Center, Sooner Success  
Oklahoma Family Network  
Oklahoma Healthcare Authority  
Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education  
Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services Division  
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council  
Oklahoma State Department of Education, Special Education Services  
Oklahoma National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)  
Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council  
Oklahoma State University—Oklahoma City  
Owasso Public Schools  
Sooner Success  
St. Gregory’s University  
Tech-Now Inc.  
Tulsa County Juvenile Bureau  
University of Oklahoma, College of Education  
University of Oklahoma, Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment