

April 2021



WEST VIRGINIA PARENT  
TRAINING & INFORMATION

## 'Bits & Pieces'

Transition Edition

April



### Our Mission

Our mission is to empower families as advocates and partners in improving education, health, and transition outcomes for their children and youth with disabilities and special health care need with a commitment to diversity and equity. We are committed to providing parents and families the tools to ensure that children, youth, and young adults with special needs lead enriched lives as full members of their schools and communities.



Welcome to WVPTI Transition Newsletter! We are offering trainings, information resources with Project Launch. Please check out of Facebook page for other resources:

<https://www.facebook.com/Wvpti/>

Brenda Lamkin,  
Executive Director of  
WVPTI

## Tips for Transitioning For Transition-Age Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities 2021

The West Virginia Training and Information, Inc. has partnered with PACER Center to offer information and training about transition for youth and young adults with disabilities through PROJECT LAUNCH. Project Launch works in partnership with parent centers such as WVPTI to help youth, adults, families, professionals, and employers to understand how these laws can help individuals with disabilities create a positive future. WVPTI's focus is to increase support in the underserved and unmet areas of West Virginia.

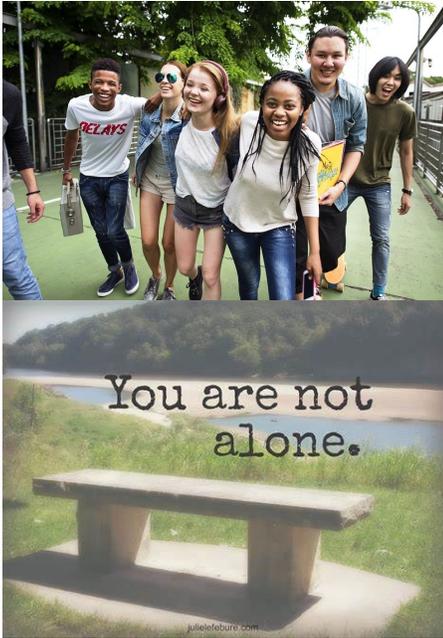
Through our workshops, resources, and online trainings, we are working to help youth and young adults with disabilities pursue meaningful careers, live independently as possible, and enjoy inclusion at work and in the community.

In this edition, we will inform you about our upcoming trainings and personalized information and resources for you.



Remember, we are here for you. Just contact us at 304-472-5697.

## Transition Resources



West Virginia Parent Training and Information in partnership with the PACER Center through Project Launch will provide the following resources:

- Help exploring future options, including transition to employment, on-the-job training, technical training, or college and university programs
- Resources for independent living skills
- Transition and career exploration workshops for high school students and young adults with disabilities and their families or advocates
- Individual assistance on transition planning, employment, and rehabilitation services provided by state agencies, and gives referrals to appropriate service agencies that can help.

### Employment Resources

- Works with professionals to develop more effective strategies for team building among students and young adults with disabilities, their families, and families.

### *Message from the Director...*

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Brenda Lamkin, Ex. Director of WVPTI

### *Greetings,*

**We are excited to begin our new partnership with the PACER Center, the regional Parent Technical, Assistance Center (PTAC) for West Virginia, working through PROJECT LAUNCH. We want to encourage parents/caregivers to become informed and active with the knowledge of transition services available to their youth after graduation. Students have various choices and opportunities today such as post-secondary options and career exploration. Parents and caregivers assist with creating clear expectations, and providing exposure to careers and occupations. There will be a wealth of resources in our training to use in supporting your youth or assist young adults with disabilities.**

**I hope you will plan on joining us,**

***Brenda Lamkin, Executive Director***

**Upcoming Training—Please join us!**

# TIPS FOR TRANSITIONING



WV Parent Training and Information Workshop

WV Parent Training Center, in partnership with the PACER Center, is offering training on Self-Advocacy Strategies for parents/families of transition-age youth and young adults with disabilities. This training is part of the Project Launch initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Education, and OSERS.

**DATE** April 28, 2021 1:00 pm  
**SUBJECT** Self-Advocacy Strategies for Parents of Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities

Online Zoom Meeting Call: 304-472-5697 to register.



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The **West Virginia Parent Training and Information, Inc. (WVPTI)** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit parent organization committed to improving the lives and education of ALL children through a special emphasis on children and youth with all disabilities and special healthcare needs. We serve WV as the federally funded Parent Training Center and we are also the Family Voice State Affiliate Organization (FVSAO).



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<https://www.pinterest.com/>

## Self— Advocacy is our strength!

- Speaking up for yourself,
- Asking for what you need,
- Negotiating for yourself (working with others to reach an agreement that will meet your needs),
- Knowing your rights and responsibilities,
- Using the resources that are available to you,
- Being able to explain your disability either by the use of written words, pictures.
- Being able to explain your disability

either by the use of written words, pictures or gestures.

For the full article; <http://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/tool-kits/transition-tool-kit/self-advocacy>



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